

Protest



O1APR
17:00 UTC

France Tactical: Unionized education workers to hold nationwide 24-hour strike, protests on April 2; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation

- Unionized education workers associated with multiple trade unions, including the Syndicat
 National des Enseignements du Second degre Federation Syndicale Unitaire (SNES-FSU) will hold
 a 24-hour strike on April 2.
- Associated demonstrations will be scheduled at multiple locations nationwide on the same day.
- Schools nationwide will be closed during strike hours.
- In Paris, a demonstration is scheduled at Gare du Luxembourg at 14:00 (local time).
- Demonstrations are also scheduled in Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes, and Toulouse.
- The strike is being held in opposition to the government's new education reforms, as well as to call for wage increases.



Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on precedent, the slated labor action is anticipated to be widely adhered to. With that, disruptions to education-related services, including at primary and secondary schools, can be expected throughout the strike period. Disruptions to other sectors are also likely, as parents will be required to look after children at home or seek alternative care.
- 2. Given the mobilizational capacity of the organizers, the protest in Paris is likely to attract a turnout in the high hundreds to low thousands. Additionally, teachers and students are expected to demonstrate outside schools and other educational institutions in Paris and nationwide.
- 3. Considering the heightened sentiments over the protest issues, the protest carries a potential for localized unrest in the form of clashes between protesters and the police. As such, a bolstered security presence is likely to be deployed in the vicinity of Gare du Luxembourg as a precautionary measure. In the event of escalating unrest, police are likely to resort to forcible dispersal methods, including conducting mass arrests and using tear gas.
- 4. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement, including possible road closures, can be anticipated along the protest route during the afternoon hours.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in France, including Paris, on April 2 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance in the vicinity of all education protests due to the potential for unrest.
- 2. Allot for disruptions to education services and other sectors nationwide on April 2 due to the labor action.