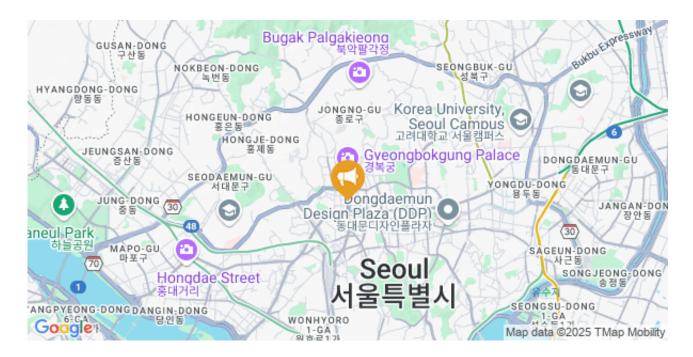


Protest



17 MAR 11:40 UTC South Korea Tactical: Anti-Yoon demonstration slated at Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul at 11:00-17:00 (local time) on March 19; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- Activists are slated to hold a "Democracy Protection Day" of action at Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul from 11:00-17:00 (local time) on March 19.
- The day will host various programs and is being held to call for the immediate dismissal of impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol for the attempted imposition of Martial Law in December 2024.



Source: X/Twitter

Assessments & Forecast:

- 1. The turnout at the slated action day is liable to reach low thousands based on the precedent witnessed at past events held by the organization, as well as considering the group's combined mobilization capabilities. As a matter of protocol, the authorities are expected to bolster security measures in the vicinity of Gwanghwamun Square to control and monitor crowds. This will likely manifest in the deployment of additional police personnel and the setting up of barricades.
- 2. There is a latent risk of unrest given ongoing political tensions, especially should pro-Yoon protesters hold ad-hoc gatherings on the day. The risk of clashes between anti-Yoon and pro-Yoon groups cannot be ruled out. In the event of unrest, the authorities will employ forcible dispersal measures, including temporary detentions of individuals. Localized disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic are anticipated in the vicinity of Gwanghwamun Square during the demonstration on March 19.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Seoul on March 19 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the planned action day and associated risk of clashes, while allotting for travel disruptions.