

Protest



27 MAR 5:12 UTC Indonesia Tactical: Anti-TNI demonstration slated in front of DPR building in Jakarta at 13:30 (local time) on March 27; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation:

- The Indonesian Student Executive Board (BEM SI) People's Representative Council has called for a demonstration in front of the House of Representatives (DPR) building in Central Jakarta at 13:30 (local time) on March 27.
- The Central Jakarta Metro Police Chief stated that at least 1,824 personnel were deployed in the vicinity of the location as of the morning hours on March 27.
- The demonstration is being held to condemn the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) law that is set to increase the role of the military in the government.



Source: CNN Indonesia, Antara

Assessments & Forecast:

- 1. The turnout at the slated protest can be anticipated to reach the mid hundreds, given the elevated sensitivities surrounding the issue. Participation may also be bolstered should other groups extend support, given the symbolic significance of the protest location. The heavy security presence deployed in the vicinity of the DPR building is likely a precautionary measure given its sensitive location. Installation of barricades and measures to divert and manage the traffic are also likely in the vicinity during the protest hours.
- 2. There remains a possibility of clashes between protesters and the police, should the former breach any security protocols. Such clashes were recorded during a similar demonstration in Surabaya on March 24. The risk will further elevate should the protesters engage in vandalism or use Molotov cocktails to target the police, as witnessed in Surabaya. The authorities are expected to deploy forcible crowd dispersal measures, including the use of water cannons, baton charges, and temporary detentions, in case of such unrest. Localized disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic can be expected in the vicinity of the parliament building due to the potential turnout and related security measures during the protest hours on March 27.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Jakarta on March 27 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance outside the DPR building due to the slated demonstration and associated risk of unrest while allotting for travel disruptions.