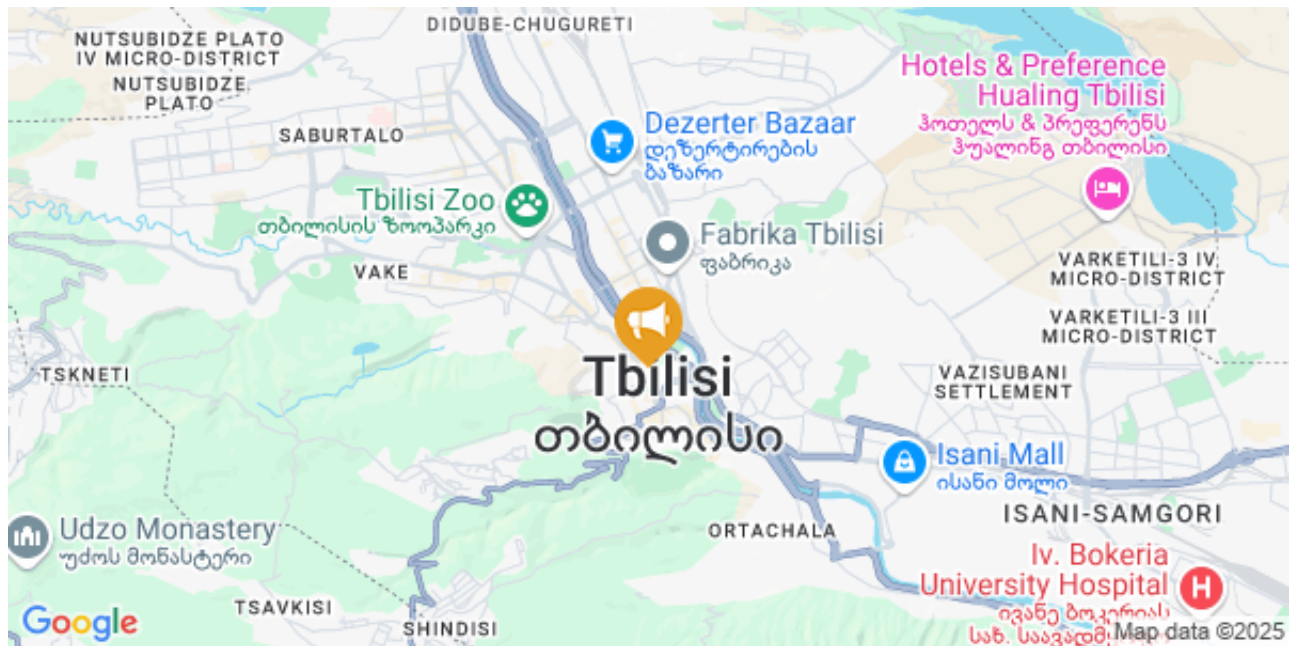


Protest



14

MAY
14:13 UTC

Georgia Tactical: Anti-LGBTQ+ rally slated from St. George Cathedral in Kashueti, Tbilisi at 13:00 (local time) on May 17; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- A rally marking the Day of Sanctity of Family is slated from St. George Cathedral, Kashueti, to the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Tbilisi at 13:00 (local time) on May 17.
- This rally will be held to counter the International Day against Homophobia, which is also commemorated on May 17. The participants will reject LGBTQ+ community rights.



Source: [Interpress](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. The turnout at the slated gathering is likely to range in the low-to-mid hundreds, based on the resonance of the issue among the religious communities. The participation can be further bolstered given the likely participation of ruling Georgian Dream (GD) Party parliamentarians, given the party's reported support for the rally alongside conservative and religious circles. Heightened security measures are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations in accordance with the standard security protocols. These measures are likely to include the deployment of police and the placement of barricades to monitor proceedings.
2. While the risk of clashes between the police and the protesters remains low, considering the likely participation of GD lawmakers in the gathering, there remains a risk of inter-group clashes should pro-LGBTQ+ groups engage in impromptu counter-protests, since May 17 also marks the International Day against Homophobia. In case of unrest, the police are liable to use crowd control measures such as temporary detention. Significant travel disruptions are anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations on May 17 due to the anticipated turnout and associated security measures.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Tbilisi on May 17 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated rally and the associated risk of localized scuffles while allotting for travel disruptions.