

Protest



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18:07 UTC

Serbia Tactical: Education workers to hold blockade protest near Usce roundabout, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina, in Belgrade from 16:00 (local time) on October 12: avoid nonessential travel

Current Situation

- Education workers associated with the Siroki Front Zastite Nastavnika (SFZN) educator's association and the Nezavisnog sindikata prosvetnih radnika Srbije (NSPRS) teacher's union will hold a protest at the Usce roundabout on Bulevar Mihajla Pupina in Belgrade beginning at 16:00 (local time) on October 12. Protesters will hold a blockade of the roundabout from 16:00, although the exact duration of the blockade is not available as of writing.
- The protest is being held to denounce alleged retaliation against educators participating in ongoing student-led anti-government protests in recent months. Moreover, protesters will demand more favorable working conditions and salaries for educators.
- Organizers have called for student protesters, as well as other unionized groups, to join the protest.



Source: [Direktno](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. Given the mobilizing capabilities of the participating groups, the protest in Belgrade is expected to garner a turnout in the high hundreds to low thousands, with the turnout expected to increase should other unions or student groups participate.
2. Given heightened anti-government sentiments, the protest carries an elevated potential for unrest in the form of clashes between protesters and the police. This is particularly so given the likely participation of student anti-government protesters, who have previously engaged in confrontational tactics, including vandalism and throwing projectiles at police. This risk is also heightened should police attempt to disperse the blockade. Moreover, the potential for counter-protests by pro-government groups remains, with clashes between protesters and counter-protesters liable to take place in this event. Additionally, the protest carries a heightened risk of attacks by pro-government actors or disgruntled commuters, including in the form of vehicle ramming.
3. As such, authorities are expected to deploy a bolstered security presence in the vicinity of the protest location to monitor proceedings. Should unrest escalate, authorities are likely to deploy forcible crowd dispersal measures, including conducting arrests.
4. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement, including road closures and traffic diversions, should be anticipated in the vicinity of the Usce roundabout, particularly on Bulevar Mihajla Pupina, from the afternoon hours onwards.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in Belgrade on October 12 are advised to avoid nonessential travel in the vicinity of the Usce roundabout due to the elevated potential for unrest at the slated anti-government protest.
2. Allot for disruptions to travel in the vicinity of the planned protest location during the afternoon hours onwards.

