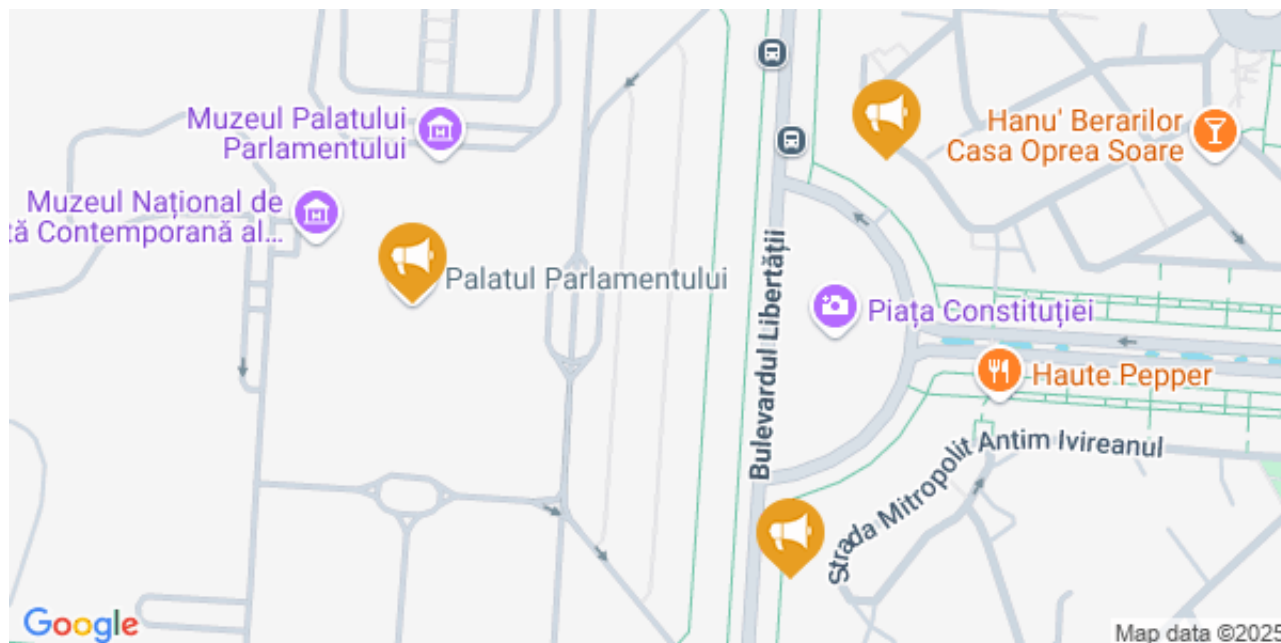


Protest



09

JUL
6:03 UTC

Romania Tactical: Multiple protests scheduled in Bucharest on July 9-15; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation

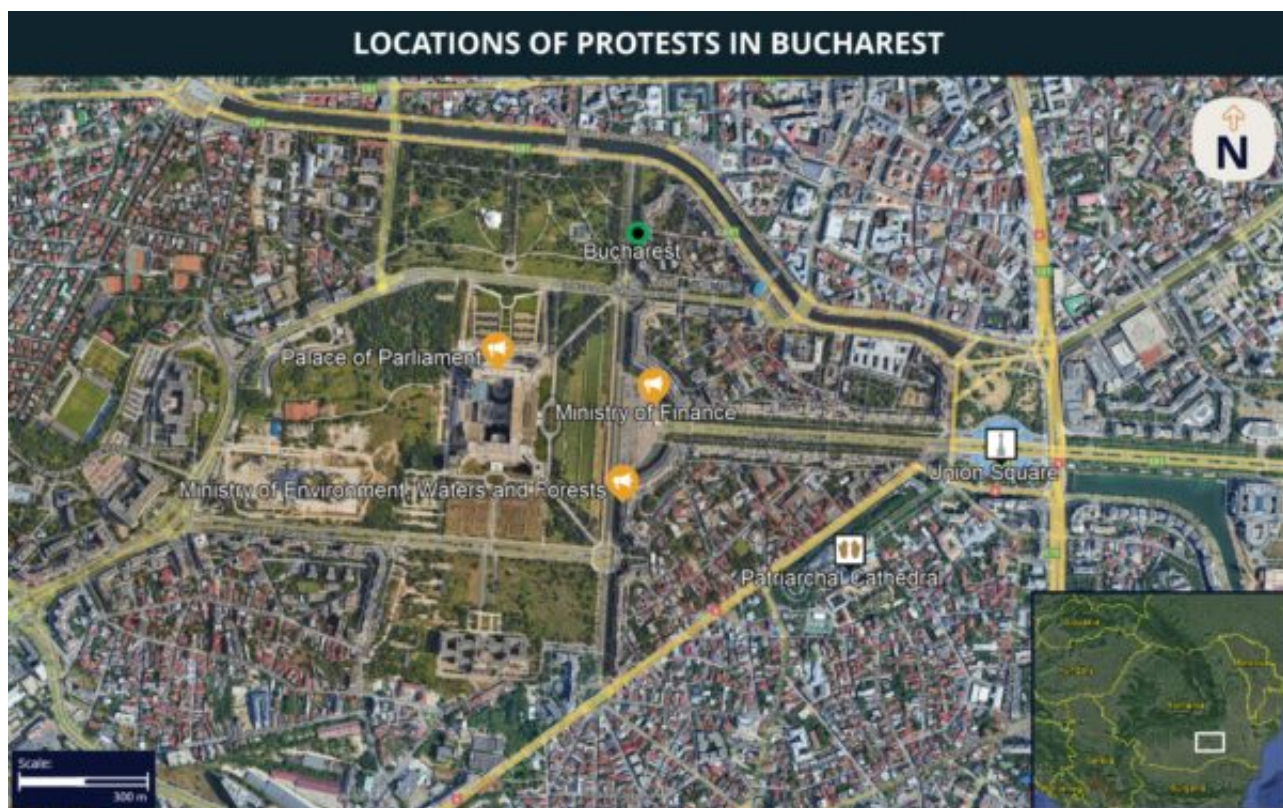
- Multiple protests are expected to take place in Bucharest from July 9 to 15.
- The protests are being held to denounce the government's proposed tax hike that calls for cuts in public spending. This includes salary cuts and a halt to other beneficiary payments for public sector employees.
- On July 9, education unions are expected to stage protests outside the Palace of Parliament in Bucharest as well as outside the headquarters of political parties in Bucharest. However, the exact timings of the slated protests remain unconfirmed as of writing. Moreover, details regarding which political parties will be targeted also remain unconfirmed.
- Similar protests are also slated to be held on July 10, 14, and 15, with the protest locations expected to remain the same.
- The protest is being organized by education unions, including Federatia Sindicatelor din Educație "Spiru Haret" (FSE) and Federatia Sindicatelor Libere din Invatamant (FSLI).

Source: [Facebook](#)

- Separately, members associated with the Blocul Național Sindical (BNS) trade union will stage a protest outside the Ministry of Finance in Bucharest, located at Bulevardul Libertatii from 10:00 (local time) onwards on July 10. BNS announced that similar protests will take place every Thursday.

Source: [Organizer's Website](#)

- On July 11, BNS members will stage a protest outside the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, located on Bulevardul Libertatii, from 11:00 onwards.



Source: [Organizer's Website](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. Based on precedent, coupled with the mobilization capabilities of the organizing groups, the July

9-15 protests organized by FSE and FSLI are likely to garner turnouts ranging in the mid hundreds to low thousands. Meanwhile, the July 10-11 protests by BNS are likely to witness turnouts in the low-to-mid hundreds each.

2. Given the anti-government nature of the protests, the FSE/FSLI demonstration is likely to be held outside the headquarters of parties in the ruling coalition. These include center-right Partidul National Liberal (PNL), center-left Partidul Social Democrat (PSD), ethnic Hungarian Uniunea Democrata Maghiara din Romania (UDMR), and center-right Uniunea Salvati Romania (USR).
3. While recent protests have not recorded unrest, there remains a latent potential for localized scuffles between protesters and the police, amid heightened sentiments over the protest issue. Moreover, the infiltration of far-right elements, including supporters of the far-right Alianta pentru Unirea Romanilor (AUR) party, cannot be entirely ruled out. This is especially so considering the AUR party has also filed a no-confidence motion against the ruling coalition.
4. As such, a bolstered security presence can be expected in the vicinity of the abovementioned locations to monitor proceedings. In the event of escalating unrest, authorities are likely to respond with forcible dispersal measures, including conducting arrests.
5. Disruptions to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic should be anticipated in the vicinity of the abovementioned locations during the slated timings.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in Bucharest on July 9 – 15 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance in the vicinity of the abovementioned locations due to the latent potential for unrest.
2. Allot for travel-related disruptions during the slated timings.