

Protest



21

MAY
6:04 UTC

South Korea Tactical: Candlelight Action Group to protest outside National Investigation Headquarters in Seoul at 15:00 (local time) on May 22; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- The Candlelight Action Group will demonstrate outside the National Investigation Headquarters, near Seodaemun Station in Seoul, from 15:00 (local time) on May 22.
- The protest will include a complaint press conference against Presidential candidate Kim Moon-Soo, and National Assembly members Choo Kyung-ho and Na Kyung-won for their alleged complicity in former President from People Power Party (PPP) Yoon Suk Yeol's imposition of martial law in December 2024.



Source: [Facebook](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. The expected participation at the slated gathering is likely to range in the high dozens to low hundreds, based on recent participation trends, and the sustained anti-PPP sentiment among locals. Security is expected to be heightened in the vicinity of the National Investigation Headquarters, including the deployment of police personnel and setting up barricades, as part of standard security measures.
2. There remains a risk of localized scuffles between the police and protesters, should participants defy police orders or breach security barricades. A risk of inter-group clashes remains should pro-PPP bystanders engage in ad-hoc counter-protests. The authorities will likely detain protesters in case of unrest. The possibility of the police using excessive force against protesters remains low, considering the heightened public scrutiny over police action and to avoid negative optics before the upcoming presidential elections on June 3. Travel disruptions are anticipated in the vicinity of National Investigation Headquarters due to the expected turnout and associated security measures during the protest hours on May 22.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Seoul on May 22 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the National Investigation Headquarters due to the slated protest and associated risk of scuffles, while allotting for travel disruptions.