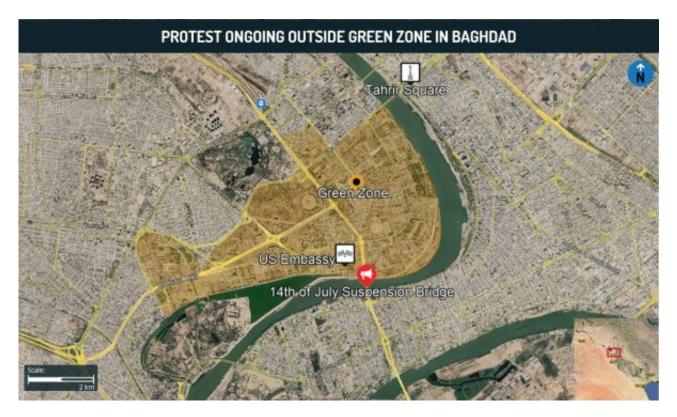


Protest

19 OCT 13:24 UTC Iraq Tactical: Anti-election protest ongoing outside Green Zone in Baghdad during late afternoon hours of October 19; avoid nonessential travel

Please be advised:

- Reports indicate that hundreds of protesters coming from the direction of the 14th of July Suspension Bridge have gathered in front of the Green Zone during the late afternoon hours of October 19.
- The protesters are denouncing the Iraqi Parliamentary elections that took place on <u>October 10</u> and are asking for a recount of the votes.
- Emerging reports indicate that protesters are attempting to set up tents in front of the Green Zone to participate in a sit-in.
- At the time of writing, no confrontations between security forces and the protesters have been recorded.
- Security forces have increased their protocols around Baghdad's Green Zone, whose entrances are currently closed. Only certain authorized persons are allowed to enter the fortified area at the current juncture.



Recommendations:

- 1. Those operating or residing in central Baghdad on October 19 are advised to avoid nonessential travel to the vicinity of the Green Zone due to the ongoing protest and the possibility for civil unrest to materialize in the coming hours, especially if the protesters attempt to enter the fortified zone.
- 2. Remain cognizant of the potential for the protesters to march to other central areas in Baghdad in the immediate vicinity of the Green Zone for the remainder of October 19.