

Labor Action



16 MAY 9:26 UTC Argentina Tactical: ATE labor union calls for nationwide strike, associated protest in Buenos Aires on May 16; allot for disruptions

Current Situation

- The Asociacion Trabajadores del Estado (ATE) public-sector workers' union has announced a nationwide general strike and an associated protest march in Buenos Aires on May 16.
- Demonstrators are slated to gather at the Secretaria de Trabajo on Avenida Leandro Alem 650 at 12:00 (local time), and march towards the offices of an international privately-owned conglomerate, located on Bouchard 557, in Buenos Aires.
- The nationwide general strike and associated protests are being called to denounce economic reforms and legislation enacted by President Javier Milei, including the Ley Bases being discussed in the Senado, as well as to end layoffs in public-sector bodies. Additionally, ATE general secretary Rodolfo Aguiar has accused the involvement of private entities in influencing decision making by government officials.



Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on ATE's mobilizational capabilities, coupled with heightened sentiment vis-a-vis President Milei's economic reforms and policies, the labor actions are expected to be widely adhered to, causing significant disruptions to commercial activities and business operations nationwide due to limited government and public-sector services.
- 2. Given the precedent of previous ATE protests, the associated protest in Buenos Aires is expected to draw attendance in the range of high hundreds to low thousands. While details pertaining to protests in other locations are unknown as of writing, spontaneous protests are liable to take place in other urban centers, including in Cordoba and Rosario, each witnessing a turnout in the mid-to-high hundreds.
- 3. The upcoming demonstration is expected to transpire largely peacefully without incidents of unrest. Nonetheless, a bolstered security presence can be expected near the slated demonstration sites nationwide, as well as at major government facilities and public landmarks, including the Congreso de la Nacion and the Casa Rosada in Buenos Aires.
- 4. Consequently, significant disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic can be anticipated in the vicinity of the aforementioned protest locations on May 16. Moreover, pre-emptive road closures and measures to regulate traffic flow are also likely.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Argentina on May 16 are advised to allot for disruptions to public-sector services, including public health insurance services, due to the slated labor actions.
- 2. Allot for disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic due to the slated labor action.