



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Sofia (Bulgaria) Protests

Riots/Civil Unrest

Europe > Bulgaria > Sofia

9/27/2011

U.S. Embassy Sofia released the following Emergency Message on September 27, 2011: The U.S. Embassy informs U.S. citizens in Bulgaria of planned demonstrations throughout the country, including in downtown Sofia, on Tuesday, September 27, 2011.

A Facebook group called "Death to King Kiro" is organizing the protest in Sofia, which could attract over 2,000 participants. The demonstration will begin at 7:00pm at the National Palace of Culture (NDK). Organizers plan to march to Parliament; the exact route of the participants is unknown, but could include Boulevard Vitosha to the Sheraton hotel, and proceed along ul. Tsar Osvoboditel to Parliament. This event is expected to disrupt traffic flow in the area, so please plan accordingly.

There is a significant potential for violence to erupt as a result of these protests. The Embassy recommends U.S. citizens avoid this area. If you have planned activities in this area, please make arrangements to reschedule your event or attendance.

U.S. citizens in Bulgaria are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP); by enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency. For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's website, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country-Specific Information can be found. Up-to-date information on travel and security in Bulgaria may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. The U.S. Embassy is located at 16, Kozyak St., Sofia 1408; tel.: (+359 2) 937-5100; fax (+359 2) 937-5122; website: <http://bulgaria.usembassy.gov>.