



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Bern (Switzerland), Congolese Demonstration Helvetiaplatz Other

Europe > Switzerland > Bern

2/24/2012

On Monday February 27, 2012, from 2 pm to 4 pm, a Congolese group will hold a demonstration at Helvetiaplatz in Bern. The Bern Police are expecting approximately 250 demonstrators. The group's permit is for a stationary demonstration. However during the allotted time, there may be a march to the American and/or Belgium Embassies of a contingent of no more than 15 persons. The march would only take place after the police give specific instructions and permission.

We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations. If you or any of your family members experience any trouble as a result of this demonstration, please contact the Swiss police at 117. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the U.S. Embassy in Bern's American Citizen Services unit at 031 357 7011.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs website, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings, and other resources can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S. and Canada or, by calling a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can follow us on Twitter and Facebook as well.

U.S. citizens who travel to or reside in Switzerland are strongly advised to enroll through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). U.S. citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy. By enrolling, you make it easier for the U.S. Embassy or Consulate to contact you in case of emergency.

U.S. Embassy Bern
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE



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