



Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Kyiv (Ukraine), Anniversary of the Christianization of the Kyivan-Rus

Riots/Civil Unrest; Travel Health and Safety

Europe > Ukraine > Kyiv

7/26/2016

In commemoration of the anniversary of the Christianization of the Kyivan-Rus, two large processions are planned in central Kyiv on 27 and 28 July. Up to 30,000 people are expected to proceed from the East (along Hrushevskogo Street) and West (along Peremohiy Boulevard), beginning at 5:00 a.m., to the Saint Volodymyr monument (along Volodymyrskiy Descent to Podil) and from there to the Pechersk Lavra, via and Lavrska Streets. These processions, which are backed by the Moscow Patriarchate and may involve individuals with pro-Russian leanings, have drawn public controversy, and some Ukrainian nationalist groups have expressed a desire to interfere with the marches. Ukrainian authorities have confirmed that one column of this group may have been targeted by improvised explosive devices emplaced along their route of the march on July 26, 2016.

Expect significant impacts to traffic in and around central Kyiv from the early morning of July 27 until late on July 28. Police will be closing roads and imposing parking restrictions throughout the city center on both days. U.S. citizens should carefully monitor traffic prior to any travel in the city and seek alternate routes around impacted roads whenever possible.

On July 28, another procession of up to 10,000 people will march from Saint Volodymyr Cathedral, via Tarasa Shevchenko and Khreschatyk Boulevards, to the Saint Volodymyr monument.

U.S. citizens are urged, as always, to exercise sound security practices when traveling throughout the city over the next two days. The U.S. Embassy reminds citizens to avoid large crowds; review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local

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authorities.

For further security information in Ukraine:

- See the State Department's travel website for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Ukraine Country Specific Information.
- Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine, located at 4 A.I Sikorsky Street (formerly Tankova) at +380-44-521-5566, or e-mail KyivACS@state.gov 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +380-44-521-5000.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, at 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

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