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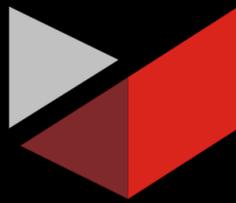
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BOGOTA SITUATION UPDATE:

Upcoming strike, demonstrations on Nov. 27-28

Last updated: 11/26/2019

CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION

- Against the backdrop of ongoing demonstrations in Bogota on November 26, the opposition-led umbrella group representing unions and civil society groups, known locally as the Comité Nacional del Paro (CNP) decided to withdraw from talks with the government.
- The CNP and related groups, including the largest unions in the country, published statements calling supporters to take part in large demonstrations and strike actions on November 27. No specific gathering locations have been announced at this point.

BACKGROUND

- November 21 witnessed large-scale anti-government demonstrations in Bogota. These transpired unruly, leading to clashes between activists and riot police. Additionally, given the high turnouts, there were considerable traffic disruptions along some of Bogota's main thoroughfares. Disturbances especially affected the city center (known locally as CEB) concentrating administrative buildings and business interests.
- On November 26 a young demonstrator named Dylan Cruz died in hospital after having been wounded by a police agent on November 23 during protests in Bogota. The CNP and student groups have published statements thereafter condemning alleged police brutality.

ASSESSMENTS & FORECAST

- The likelihood of violence during protest actions on November 27 is very significant. Notwithstanding the CNP has expressed a willingness to march peacefully, the death of Cruz at the hands of police will likely inspire violent activists to clash further with security agents and vandalize public and possibly private buildings. This assessment is backed by precedent of similar cases in Latin America in which the death of an activist triggered subsequent waves of unrest.
- In view of the failed talks between the government and unions belonging to CNP, at this point there is a distinct possibility of protracted demonstrations over the upcoming weeks. As witnessed in recent days, many of these protests are liable to unfold violently.

Risk areas for potential disruptions, protests on November 27-28



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avoid non-essential travel to Bogota due to the delicate security situation on November 27-28. If travel is nonetheless required, given the risk of clashes between activists and security forces, minimize movement throughout working and evening hours in Bogota, especially in the city center (CEB). Exercise vigilance throughout the day and stay indoors as much as possible.
- If travel proceeds, confirm meetings itineraries vis-à-vis stakeholders, business, or government partners, taking into account the feasibility of such against the backdrop of unruly demonstrations.
- For security reasons refrain from approaching the vicinity of unfolding demonstrations, even if these are transpiring peacefully. These are liable to turn unruly relatively quickly. Bear in mind that during previous demonstrations security forces detained passersby perceived to take part in subversive actions.
- Plan ahead for travel contingencies and check flight itineraries which could be affected by the striking flight controllers. Furthermore, allot for additional travel time to and from El Dorado International Airport (BOG) due to potential disruptions along some of Bogota's main thoroughfares, especially Ave. El Dorado (Calle 26).

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Police: 112

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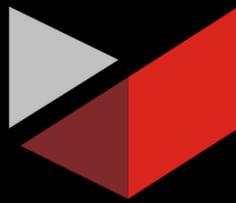
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SANTIAGO SITUATION UPDATE:

Last updated: early afternoon hours – 11/17/2019

CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION

November 18:

- At the time of writing a small group of demonstrators was causing disturbances and traffic disruptions in the vicinity of Plaza (Square) Ñuñoa.
- Unidad Social (Social Unity), a coalition representing left-leaning civil society groups opposing the government, including prominent unions, called supporters to demonstrate outside the former Congress Building at 12:00 (local time).
- Unidad Social further called for larger demonstrations starting at 17:00 to mark a month since protests and disturbances began in October.
- While metro services continue to suffer disruptions, the following stations from Line 4 are now servicing passengers: Vicuña Mackenna, Vicente Valdés, Hospital Sótero del Río, Las Mercedes, Plaza Puente Alto. The stations San Joaquín from Line 5 and Estado Nacional from Line 6 were also opened.

November 19:

- Unidad Social called for a demonstration outside Teatro (Theater) Caupolicán (located at San Diego 850) at 10:30.

November 20:

- No+AFP, a prominent civil society group seeking to overhaul Chile's private pension system, published statements calling supporters to demonstrate at Plaza (Square) Italia at 17:00 (local time). Unidad Social endorses the protest.
- Unidad Social is calling supporters to take part in a casserole protest by banging pots and pans starting at 21:00.

Slated demonstrations in Santiago on November 18-22; potential for incidents over coming days: risk areas



BACKGROUND

- On November 14 hundreds of protesters took part in unruly demonstrations in Santiago to commemorate the first anniversary of Camilo Cantrillanca's death. A member of the indigenous Mapuche community, Cantrillanca was killed by a security agent during a raid against indigenous militants in southern Chile. The incident triggered violent demonstrations nationwide in 2018.
- On November 15 a protester named Abel Acuña died in hospital after having a heart attack during a nighttime demonstration in Plaza Italia that turned unruly. Witness reports claim that security forces prevented emergency services from assisting the injured man quickly, purportedly firing tear gas and rubber bullets as first responders attempted to reach the area. On November 17 police sources published a statement regretting this outcome. Yet it also indicated that police behavior did not necessarily result in Acuña's death, arguing that poor visibility and repeated harassment against security agents played a part in the ensuing confusion. Groups affiliated with Unidad Social have labeled these remarks as excuses.

- Against the backdrop of protests, on November 15 Chilean deputies agreed to hold a referendum concerning the drafting of a new constitution, slated to take place in April 2020. If the vote succeeds, a constitutional commission will be organized next October. That said, Unidad Social published a statement rejecting the referendum agreement as it is, stressing that lawmakers did not make plans vis-a-vis social movements.
- Moreover, the statement published by Unidad Social expresses grievances against the government for not doing enough to curb alleged police brutality witnessed during protests. Finally, it states that organizers will call for a new general strike over the coming days.

ASSESSMENTS & FORECAST

- Given that the case was highly publicized, the death of Abel Acuña will probably trigger further unrest over the coming days. Heightened political sensibilities over purported police brutality in Chile have led to violent activism before. The wave of violent protests that transpired following Cantrillanca's death in 2018, at the hands of security services, illustrates the case.
- The protraction of Chile's institutional crisis is seemingly empowering far-left elements calling to depose President Sebastian Piñera and to oppose the political establishment. For instance, the Worker's United Center (CUT), the largest union in the country, which has thus far abstained from endorsing such calls, is now supporting plans for a constituent assembly to overhaul the constitution. Based on Venezuelan precedent, the idea implies delegating lawmaking responsibilities to social activists and union members.
- In view of the aforementioned grievances, whilst no date for the upcoming general strike has been announced yet, we assess there remains high potential for large-scale unruly demonstrations over the coming days. Focal points for protests include the Alameda (also known as Santiago O'Higgins) Avenue, Plaza Italia (also known as Plaza Baquedano), and Plaza Ñuñoa. Following precedent from last week, violent activists can potentially assemble in Western parts of Las Condes and along Providencia Avenue.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- If possible, given the risk of clashes between activists and security forces, minimize movement through risk areas as per detailed in the map above. Bear in mind significant traffic disruptions are likely to be witnessed in the city center over the coming days.
- For security reasons refrain from approaching the vicinity of any unfolding demonstrations, including peaceful ones, outside risk areas. Please be advised that according to Chilean law foreigners are banned from participating in protests. Non-compliance is punished with cancellation of residence permits and deportation. Security forces are liable to detain passersby perceived to take part in subversive actions.

- Minimize travel within Santiago during night hours due to the risk posed by radical activists and heightened security presence in key districts.
- Plan ahead for travel contingencies and check flight itineraries which could be affected by security incidents.

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