Fact Sheet: Serbia Protest Movement 2024–2025

Protests

As of **March 4**, protest gatherings have been organised in **over 400 places**, including the smallest towns and villages. According to <u>AJS</u> ("Arhiv javnih skupova") <u>records</u>, their number is growing at a rate of about **120 per month**, with an average of **four new settlements** added **per day**.

Protesters also staged daily "Serbia, stop" (Zastani, Srbijo) traffic blockades from 11:52 am to 12:08 pm—the time of the collapse—symbolizing the 16 lives lost, accompanied by a silent protest. Besides daily protests, several large-scale student protests were organised:

- December 22, 2024: First mass student protest on Slavija Square in Belgrade, with around 102,000 people.
- New Year's Eve: 17,000 gathered at Students Square with the slogan "Nema nove za staru ste nam još dužni."
 - January 12: 28,000–30,000 gathered in front of the Constitutional Court.
- January 17: 53,000–55,000 protested against RTS with the slogan "Naše pravo da znamo sve."
- **January 27**: **24-hour blockade** of **Belgrade Autokomanda**; more than **100,000** people participated.
- February 1: Gatherings in at least 200 places; massive protest in Novi Sad with several tens of thousands participants.
- February 15: Protest in Kragujevac lasting 15 hours, "Sretnimo se na Sretenje", with around 130,000 participants.
- March 1: Protest in Niš, lasting 18 hours, called "Studentski edikt", with an estimated 200,000 attendees.
- March 15: Protest in Belgrade with between 275,000 and 325,000 people.

The Centre for Research, Transparency and Accountability (CRTA) reported that at least 1,697 protests took place during March in at least 378 settlements (CRTA announcement).

Attacks

- **November 22**: First attack on students of the **Faculty of Dramatic Arts**; two students seriously injured (source).
- **December 6**: Car attack injuring four **Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra** musicians (source).
- December 10: Student of Faculty of Law hit during "Stop Serbia" rally (source).
- **December 13**: Attack in **Novi Sad**; "Porsche" drove into protesters, attackers returned to physically assault the crowd (<u>source</u>).
- January 11: Students protested in front of Security and Information Agency (BIA)
 headquarters due to intimidation attempts.
- January 14: Attack on seven Faculty of Law students with plastic and glass bottles (source).
- **January 16**: In **Čačak**, religious teacher and union representative threatened after meeting with Mayor **Milun Todorović** (source).
- January 16: Student Sonja Ponjavic seriously injured during street blockade (source).
- January 24: Another car attack on student monitors (source).
- January 28: Two attacks in Novi Sad on students; serious injury reported (source).
- March 10: Attack by Gendarmerie on students blocking RTS (source).
- March 15: During silent protest in Belgrade, sound cannon allegedly used near the Presidency (source).
- March 28: Attack on four students from Faculty of Sport and Physical Education in Novi Sad (source).
- March 30: Dean of Faculty of Philosophy stabbed in the hand (source).
- April 4: Attack on security at Faculty of Economics (source).

Arrests

- March 14: Six opposition and youth activists arrested in Novi Sad, including a member of STAV and activists from PSG (source).
- Lazar Stojaković summoned for a "friendly conversation" by the BIA, after his father was interrogated (source).

Marathons and Walks

Novi Sad, February 1:

Walk: Belgrade-Novi Sad, March 30-31 - 74 km

Kragujevac, February 15:

Massive student walks to **Kraquievac** from multiple cities:

- 1. Belgrade-Kragujevac: 130.4km (February 11-14)
- 2. Niš-Kragujevac: 150km
- 3. Novi Sad-Kragujevac
- 4. Kraljevo-Kragujevac: 65km
- 5. Čačak-Kragujevac
- 6. Novi Pazar-Kragujevac

Belgrade-Kragujevac, 115 km on February 14, relay run

Niš, March 1:

- Relay ultramarathon Belgrade-Niš, 235km (27 -- 28.2).
- Walks from Čačak (160km), Bor (133km), Kragujevac (150km), Aleksandrovac (90km), Kruševac (65km).

The detailed route from **Bor to Niš** included **16 settlements**, **5 cities**, **11 villages**, **400–1000** participants, **133 km**.

Belgrade, March 15:

Walks from:

- Subotica (200km, 6 days),
 Niš (193km, 500 students, 6 days),
- Čačak (5 days, 140km).

Novi Pazar, April 12: Walks from Niš, Jagodina, Ćuprija, Paraćin.

Kraljevo, April 16: Walks from Vrnjačka Banja, Valjevo, Užice, Požega, Čačak, Niš, Bujanovac.

Students on Bikes

- "BICIKLOM NA PROTEST" (January 31, 2025): Belgrade Novi Sad, 74.1 km in 6h 30min.
- "DVA DANA NA DVA TOČKA" (February 13–14, 2025): Belgrade Pančevo Smederevo – Velika Plana – Batočina – Kragujevac, 124 km.
- "3 GRADA. 2 TOČKA. 1 CILJ." (February 25–28, 2025): Novi Sad Belgrade Požarevac Jagodina Kruševac Niš, 380 km.
- "SLOBODA VLADA ČARŠIJOM" (April 10–14, 2025): Belgrade Valjevo Kraljevo Novi Pazar, 320 km.

"TURA DO STRAZBURA" — Belgrade to Strasbourg, April 3–15, 2025, covering:

• 1475km, across Serbia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, and France.