
WHAT'S BEHIND THE ERUPTION OF VIOLENCE AT PROTESTS IN SERBIA?

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A wave of protests that began in Serbia in November 2024 have entered a new phase, with daily clashes between demonstrators and police since August 12, when violence broke out in the northern cities of Vrbas and Backa Palanka.

Those incidents sparked protests in dozens of Serbian cities, including the capital Belgrade, as accusations of police brutality spread across the country.

"Four or five of them (policemen) beat me, pushed my head into a concrete [surface,]" physics student Dusan Cvetkovic told RFE/RL's Balkan Service. Cvetkovic was arrested in Belgrade on August 14 during an anti-government protest.

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