

# Security Message: May 1st Demonstrations

U.S. Consulate General Casablanca

April 30, 2014

May Day marches are a tradition in Morocco. Post expects marches to take place in Casablanca, Rabat and other major cities. Demonstrators typically focus on labor demands and criticism of government policies.

Protest activity has become a common occurrence across Morocco and demonstrators are generally peaceful. However, police activity sometimes results in large groups of people in the streets creating hazards for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. If you should happen upon a traffic jam, be aware that it could be related to a demonstration and try to turn around or take another route. If you see a large demonstration, we advise that you avoid the area. Do not draw attention to yourself and try to remain inconspicuous.

Police estimate that several thousand people may participate, but do not anticipate any violence. As a reminder, even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and anti-American in nature. U.S. citizens are urged to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens should regularly monitor the Department's web site at <http://travel.state.gov> where the current [Worldwide Caution](#) Public Announcement, [Travel Warnings, and Public Announcements](#) 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., or, for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, 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).

The Department of State encourages all U.S. citizens residing in Morocco to register their presence via <https://step.state.gov/step/> and U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly and obtain up-to-date information on security conditions at the U.S. Consulate General in Casablanca at 8 Blvd. Moulay Youssef, Telephone: **0522-26-71-51**. After hours, please call **0522-26-45-50** or **0661-13-19-39** Information is also available on our website at <http://casablanca.usconsulate.gov/services/consular/wardensystems.htm>