

U.S. Embassy Asuncion, Paraguay
Security Message for U.S. Citizens – Upcoming Demonstration
17 September 2015

Local media is reporting a planned demonstration in support of reforming the Paraguayan educational system from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 18, 2015. Student Groups are expected to march to the Plaza de Armas (across the street from Congress) from one of three assembly points: Plaza Italia, Plaza Uruguay, and Plaza de la Democracia.

There is potential for this to be a large demonstration that could impact traffic along the march routes. Please anticipate major congestion throughout the downtown area. U.S. citizens are strongly urged to avoid all large gatherings or any other event where crowds have congregated to demonstrate or protest. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational *and* escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. 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 authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Paraguay enroll in the [State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's [website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Paraguay](#). For additional information, refer to the [Traveler's Checklist](#) on the State Department's website.

Contact the [U.S. Embassy](#) or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call [1-888-407-4747](#) toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or [1-202-501-4444](#) from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free Smart Traveler App, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Android market](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Asuncion is located at 1776 Mariscal Lopez Avenue.

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