

**Security Message for U.S. Citizens:  
Demonstration on February 24, 2012  
U.S. Embassy Bratislava, Slovakia**

On Friday, February 24, 2012, a demonstration is scheduled to take place beginning at 4 p.m. from Hviezdoslavovo námestie in Bratislava. From the square, according to press reports, the protesters will proceed to the headquarters of political parties, likely including Smer and SDKU (Slovak Democratic Christian Union). Those are both located in Ruzinov, the district to the east of central Bratislava.

The demonstration will be the fourth in a series organized to call on the Slovak Government to investigate more thoroughly the allegations raised during the “Gorilla” scandal and to express disapproval with the overall levels of corruption in the government. Thousands have participated in previous protests on this matter. A group of this size moving through the city could result in blocked roads. Please be prepared for possible delays in these areas or blocked access to locations along the route, such as the U.S. Embassy.

Even demonstrations that are meant to be peaceful can become violent and unpredictable. You should avoid them if at all possible. Be alert and aware of your surroundings and pay attention to what the local news media has to say.

You can get global updates at the [U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs](#) website, where you can find the Worldwide Caution and current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have Internet access, you can call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the U.S. and Canada, or a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 from overseas. U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad are also encouraged to maintain valid travel documents and to enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP) to receive the latest travel updates and information and to obtain updated information on travel and security issues.

The [U.S. Embassy in Bratislava](#) is located at Hviezdoslavovo námestie #4, between the Czech Embassy and the Hotel Carlton. To reach the American Citizens Services unit during business hours, please call +421-(0)2-5443-0861, or send us an e-mail at [consulbratislava@state.gov](mailto:consulbratislava@state.gov). In an emergency, you can call the Duty Officer at tel: **421 903 703 666**, or tel: **421-2-5443-0861**, and press “0” to speak with an operator.