







## **AMER**

violence linked to ongoing political polarization. On 13 November, two improvised explosive devices (IEDs) were detonated in Praca dos Tres Poderes square, near the Supreme Court, the Presidential Palace, and Congress, by a Domestic Violent Extremist (DVE). The individual responsible recently stood unsuccessfully in council elections for Former President Jair Bolsonaro's Liberal Party (PL). The attacker first detonated a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) before detonating an explosive vest on his person in front of the Supreme Court, after attempting to enter the building several times. President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva had left the area shortly before the blasts. The exact motivation for the attack is unconfirmed currently, although the perpetrator's failed political run is suspected as the motivation. The attack echoes the January 2023 incident, when supporters of Jair Bolsonaro ransacked government buildings in Praca dos Tres Poderes square, seeking to spark a coup against recently sworn-in President Lula. The recent attack suggests that political polarization will drive further acts of violence in urban centers over the coming years.

Ecuador: Operational disruptions are likely over the coming weeks amid ongoing scheduled nationwide power outages. Since 17 September, authorities have implemented regular shutdowns of the national power grid to reduce power consumption. This had led to power outages of up to 14 hours a day, including in the capital Quito. The energy shortage has been linked to a drought in 2024 impacting the country's reliance on hydroelectric power, which accounts for 70% of energy production. Disruption to travel and essential services, including telecommunication networks, should be anticipated.

Argentina: Anticipate flight disruption through 22 November during a strike by aviation workers. Aviation workers have been intermittently striking since 16 November to demand higher wages, causing flight delays and cancelations. Further strike actions are slated to







take place from 07:00-09:00 (local time) on 20 November and 18:00-20:00 (local time) on 22 November. The planned strike actions will cause further flight disruptions, particularly at the Aeroparque Internacional Jorge Newbery and Ministro Pistarini airports in the capital Buenos Aires. Residual disruptions should also be anticipated in the hours following the strike. Those traveling during the strike periods are advised to reconfirm flight itineraries with their providers.





## **EMEA**

France: Anticipate nationwide disruption over the coming weeks due to farmers-led protests in opposition of the EU-Mercosur trade deal. On 18 November, farmers began to mobilize to protest against the proposed trade accord between the European Union (EU) and the Mercosur bloc of South American nations, which would potentially usher in the import of cheaper agricultural products. The protest, led by the FNSEA and Jeuns Agriculteurs unions, is likely to cause intentional transportation disruptions, particularly on key routes such as Route Nationale 118 in the capital Paris. Demonstrations have been called for Strasbourg (Grand-Est region) and Agen (Nouvelle-Aquitaine region) on 18 November and are likely to be followed by further demonstrations through mid-December. Previous protests by farmers have escalated to violence, unruly behavior, roadblocks, and clashes with the police. Monitor local media to stay abreast of disruptive protest actions targeting roadway transportation and plan journeys accordingly.

Mali: Arrest of mining company employees by military junta suggests a risk of arbitrary detention of Western employees from foreign companies operating locally. On 8 November, the chief executive and two other employees of Resolute Mining were detained, after discussions with the Junta regarding unspecified claims made against the company. Authorities then demanded that Resolute Mining pay USD160 million in alleged back taxes. This arrest suggests a pattern of increasing scrutiny from the military authorities, who took power in a coup in 2020, which previously resulted in the detention of four employees of Canadian company, Barrick Gold, in September 2024. The crucial mining sector is foreign-dominated, a continuous point of friction as the Junta seeks to bolster its coffers and renegotiate agreements with private companies. Foreign employees of companies operating in Mali are advised to limit non-essential business travel at this time given the escalating pattern of arbitrary detentions.





Netherlands: Anticipate longer wait times at land border crossings from 9 December after officials adopted new temporary measures over security concerns. On 11 November, Dutch authorities announced that they would institute border checks at their land crossings in response to elevated levels of irregular migration. European Union (EU) member states have been struggling with security risks stemming from irregular migration linked to conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East. This decision follows similar moves by Germany, Austria, Norway, Denmark, France, and Sweden to reinstitute border checks at their land crossings – all of which were announced throughout the Fall. The EU allows member states part of the Schengen Zone, which guarantees free movement, to implement border checks as a last resort in response to a serious threat. However, the heightened security posture can only be in place for six months. The Netherlands' new restrictions will take effect on 9 December. This announcement was not accompanied by additional funding and the police have stated that they only have the capacity to carry out spot checks at the hundreds of land border crossings with neighboring Germany and Belgium, suggesting longer wait times are likely.

Mozambique: Continue to defer non-essential travel over the coming days after officials implemented restrictions on demonstrations. On 16 November, officials imposed new restrictions, banning protests amid ongoing demonstrations rejecting the October election results. At least 30 people have been killed, roughly 200 injured, and hundreds arrested during clashes with security forces since protests began on 9 October in Maputo, in reaction to alleged electoral fraud. Demonstrators have used burning tires and vehicles to block roads and have turned violent on multiple occasions. Security forces have responded to demonstrations with tear gas and live ammunition. The government, in a bid to crack down on the protests, has also restricted internet access across the country. Demonstrations are most likely to persist in Maputo, as well as other opposition strongholds. The new restrictions suggest that security forces will meet demonstrations with stronger dispersal measures, posing an incidental risk to bystanders.







Greece: Anticipate transportation disruptions on 20 November during nationwide 24-hour strike action. The strike action, which is being staged by several transport unions, is expected to cause delays and cancelations for rail, bus, and metro services nationwide. Related demonstrations will also take place across urban centers, including at <a href="Klafthmonos Square">Klafthmonos</a> Square in Athens from 13:00 (local time). Consider alternate modes of transportation during the strike action and plan journeys accordingly.





## **APAC**

China: Vehicular ramming in Shanghai highlights an ongoing mass casualty trend that authorities have failed to address. On 11 November, an assailant reportedly unhappy with his recent divorce settlement, plowed an SUV into an outdoor sports center in Zhuhai, killing at least 35 and injuring 43 more. A mass stabbing attack at the Wuxi Vocational Institute of Arts and Technology in Yixing (Jiangsu province) on 16 November, claimed the lives of 8 people and injured 17. This follows two recent similar attacks in October at a Shanghai supermarket, a knife attack at a Beijing school, and a broader trend of mass casualty attacks carried out by citizens on civilians since 2014.

The central government moved quickly to suppress news coverage of the vehicular ramming in Shanghai and censored social media discussion of the incident. This response reflects the Communist Party's (CCP) desire to maintain the appearance of a cohesive society. The CCP views violent disruptive acts as undermining the CCP's argument that their authoritarian political model ensures a strong society. The escalating recent spate of violent attacks by perpetrators on bystanders suggests widespread fissures in the social fabric of China, exacerbated by the unwillingness of authorities to acknowledge mental health or domestic issues.

November related to a demonstration in opposition to a recently proposed bill. On 15 November, thousands of protestors began a 660-mile protest march that will culminate outside the parliamentary building in the capital Wellington (North Island) on 19 November. The protest was sparked after a proposed bill was introduced in the parliament that would reinterpret and redefine an 1840 treaty between the Maori people and the central government, granting the Maori special rights under the treaty. If the planned total of 30,000 demonstrators comes to fruition, it could end up as one of the largest protests in the country in 20 years. Thus, given past precedent, significant transportation disruptions should be anticipated on major highways and roadways in and around Wellington.







Delhi, India: Undertake precautionary measures and expect disruption linked to high AQI levels in the National Capital Region. Since mid-October, Delhi and the broader National Capital Region (NCR), have experienced air quality index (AQI) levels ranging from 'severe' to the highest level of 'hazardous.' The air pollution has created a fog that has caused disruption to flights, rail services, and road transport in the region due to poor visibility. Disruptions include the New Delhi Indira Gandhi International Airport, where there have been multiple flight delays and cancelations. The high AQI levels are expected to persist through February. Take precautionary measures, if traveling in the region, to prevent respiratory illness or injury.