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## ARE SERBIAN PROTESTS STARTING TO LOOSEN VUCIC'S GRIP ON POWER?

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07.02.2025

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RFE/RL (6 February 2025)

By Iva Martinovic

*With mass protests sweeping the nation, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic is facing what could be the biggest challenge yet to his political power.*

What began as student demands for accountability after 15 people were killed in the collapse of a concrete canopy in Novi Sad has evolved into a broader movement opposing what protesters say is the deteriorating rule of law and systemic corruption under Vucic. Over the last three months, tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets to protest in over 200 cities and towns.

"This is not only the most serious political crisis of the government but also a deep social crisis. The students are not looking for a change of government but a correction of the system," political analyst Bosko Jaksic told RFE/RL's Balkan Service.

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