## <u>Kazakhstan: UK government statement on protests</u>

News story

The UK government has issued a statement on the protests in Kazakhstan.



An FCDO Spokesperson said:

We are concerned by the violent clashes in Kazakhstan in recent days and are following developments closely. We call for calm and we condemn acts of violence and the destruction of property and buildings. We also call for a resumption of internet services and for the Kazakh authorities to respect their commitments to freedom of speech and expression.

Protests should be peaceful and law enforcement responses proportionate and in line with Kazakhstan's international commitments. The UK has a close relationship with Kazakhstan and it is important that Kazakhstan's sovereignty is respected. The UK encourages a peaceful resolution through engagement between the authorities and civil society.

Published 6 January 2022