

Vocabulary about protests



Complete the following text with the correct words in order to learn more vocabulary about demonstrations and protests.

You will find some definitions as help.

Words: barricades, placards, anti-government protests, rallies, tear gas, riots, curfew. banners, chant, charge.

Already this year there have been _____ in Tunisia and Egypt, where people have taken to the streets to voice their anger. Turn on the news and you can see people holding up _____ (messages written on a rectangular piece of cardboard, and attached to a stick) and _____ (messages written on a long strip of material), on which they have written slogans. Demonstrations and protests are also noisy: people use microphones or megaphones, or they _____ their protests all at once.

In many cases, protests are peaceful and just _____ (mass meetings of people gathered to promote a common cause), but in some occasions, there are _____ (violent public disorder) and they turn violent. The police react by trying to contain the demonstrations, but the demonstrators in some cases erect _____ (barriers reinforced by whatever is available), then throw missiles from behind them.

In the UK, police practice the controversial kettling technique, where they pin protesters into a small holding area, not allowing anyone out. Mounted policemen might also _____ (run towards them) protestors in order to disperse the crowd.

In other countries, the police or army sometimes use _____ (a spray that makes your eyes water), water cannon, impose a _____ (when nobody can be outdoors after a particular time) or even shoot.