

Demonstrators Picket Ukrainian Embassy in Central Moscow

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About 200 protesters gathered outside the Ukrainian Embassy in central Moscow on Thursday, the state-run TASS news agency reported.

The crowd stood outside the embassy, chanting "Shame on the Ukrainian junta," in response to recent similar demonstrations outside the Russian Embassy in Ukraine.

On Sunday, attackers dressed in camouflage and balaclavas attacked the cars of Russian diplomats with baseball bats at the Russian Embassy in Kiev while calling for the release of imprisoned Ukrainian military pilot Nadezhda Savchenko.

In the early hours of Thursday morning, protesters attacked the Russian Embassy with Molotov cocktails.

One of the protesters, journalist Irma Krat, posted a video of the attacks on her Facebook page in which protesters can be seen throwing objects at the embassy. After police arrived at the scene, the protesters were arrested.

Following her arrest, Krat claimed she prepared the Molotov cocktails herself.

Demonstrations also took place near the Russian consulates in Odessa and Lviv. Moscow sent a notification of the protest to the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, but Kiev has yet to make an official response.

"The nationalist hysteria at the Russian Embassy in Kiev and Russophobic declarations of support for Savchenko is nothing more than an attempt to demonstrate that she is an exceptional case. [They] defend murder and demonstrate an aversion in advance to any decision of the court," one of the organizers of the demonstration in Moscow said, TASS reported.

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