

Belarus Police Fire Rubber Bullets, Tear Gas on Protesters

By [AFP](#)

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Valery Sharifulin / TASS

Belarus police on Monday used rubber bullets and tear gas to break up fresh protests challenging the result of a controversial weekend presidential election, witnesses and reports said.

Several thousand protesters took to the streets of the capital Minsk for a second night of post-election rallies, with opposition supporters shouting and hundreds of cars honking their horns and waving flags.

Embed:

Вот что происходит возле станции метро «Пушкинская» сегодня вечером.

Фото: Дмитрий Брушко, <https://t.co/SAPdczGoiG> pic.twitter.com/ottwmt8h7g

— TUT.BY (@tutby) [August 10, 2020](#)

Some shouted "Shame" and "Long live Belarus," an AFP correspondent said from the scene.

Police in full riot gear moved against the rallies, firing tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters and injuring a female journalist, a witness told AFP.

A blast from an apparent stun grenade was also heard.

Independent Belarusian media including tut.by reported the use of force.

On Sunday night, thousands also took to the streets of Minsk and other cities to denounce the vote, sparking clashes with members of law enforcement.

Police said they detained some 3,000 people, around 1,000 of them in Minsk.

Shocking images released by pro-opposition media and posted online showed police firing stun grenades and rubber bullets into the crowds and a police van ramming into the demonstration and running down a protester.

The Belarusian Investigative Committee said on Monday it had opened 21 criminal probes into "mass unrest" and using violence against police and detained more than 80 people.

"Most of them are young people aged 20-25," investigators said in a statement.

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