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Kazakhstan

On the ground in Kazakhstan's protests: what really happened?

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On 2 January, public rallies over a sharp rise in the price of liquefied gas began in western Kazakhstan. Just four days later, Russian troops would arrive in the country's commercial capital, Almaty, to assist in peacekeeping operations. As order was restored on 7 January, president Kassym-Jomart Tokayev claimed "20,000 terrorists and bandits" had attacked the city as part of an apparent coup d'état. Some 227 people died in the clashes, according to official sources. The majority of them perished in Almaty.

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