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## **Thorbjørn Jagland concerned about violence in Tirana**

Following today's violent protests in Tirana, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland, issued the following statement:

"I am very concerned about the outburst of violence and casualties during the demonstrations in the streets of Tirana this afternoon.

I condemn all kinds of violence and urge all political forces to engage in constructive dialogue, within the existing democratic institutions of Albania. I hope to find out more about the background to this unfortunate incident when Prime Minister Sali Berisha visits the Council of Europe next Thursday."

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