

## Where are the students?

<https://www.taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2025/03/15/where-are-the-students/>

Published: January 12, 2026, 8:18 pm

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Aleksandar Vučić, the President of Serbia, is a politician with a dubious political past and a none too attractive political present.

He is an authoritarian, who claims to be simultaneously pro-European, pro-Russian, and nationalist, but few believe the first.

Most believe he has a blind eye for corruption.

Those in Serbia are concerned that his grip on power and the media threaten the country's democratic future.

And now, the [FT has reported](#) that:

*Hundreds of thousands of Serbs have defied fears of a violent crackdown to protest against the alleged oppression and corruption of President Aleksandar Vučić.*

The population of Serbia is 6.6 million people - about a million more than Scotland. Hundreds of thousands turning out is deeply significant.

The protests began - as so many such movements do - with students unhappy about corruption. Now it has widespread support.

Might popular protests tumble an anti-democratic authoritarian regime in Europe? Sometimes that is the only option available. In Serbia, it might be. The fact that this might happen gives me hope.

But four questions follow.

Where are the students of the USA?

Where are the students in the UK?

Where are the students in Canada?

Where are the students in Denmark, supporting Greenland?

In my day we protested - and it did make a difference.

Why aren't they now?