# Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico released from hospital after assassination attempt



Slovakia’s Prime Minister Robert Fico has been released from a hospital in Banska Bystrica after an assassination attempt. On May 15, Fico was shot in the abdomen while greeting supporters in the town of Handlova, approximately 140 kilometers northeast of Bratislava. Video footage showed the assailant firing five rounds before being subdued and arrested.

Fico underwent a total of seven hours of surgery to treat and remove dead tissue from his gunshot wounds. Miriam Lapunikova, the hospital director, confirmed that Fico has been transported home to continue his recovery and praised him for being a disciplined patient.

The suspect remains in custody, charged with attempted murder. Slovak authorities initially speculated that the attack might have had political motivations, potentially involving a third party acting for the perpetrator's benefit.

This incident comes amid Fico's government efforts to reform public broadcasting and amend the penal code, prompting concerns about increasing political control and potential shifts toward autocracy.