# Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico Out of Life-Threatening Condition After Shooting



Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico is no longer in a life-threatening condition after being shot multiple times in Handlová, 190km from Bratislava. Deputy Prime Minister Tomáš Taraba confirmed his surgery went well. Fico, a 59-year-old populist leader, was in critical condition after bullets hit his stomach and a joint.

A suspect, reportedly a 71-year-old writer and political activist, was detained at the scene. The attack, described as politically motivated by Interior Minister Matúš Šutaj-Eštok, occurred amidst intense political polarization in Slovakia, following recent protests and controversial government reforms.

Prime Minister Fico has led Slovakia since October, marking his third term since 2006. The shooting reverberated across Europe, just weeks before European parliamentary elections.

President Zuzana Čaputová condemned the act and called for an end to hateful rhetoric, viewing the attack as a strike against both a person and democracy.