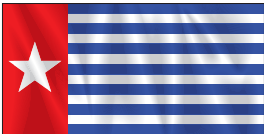


# Fresh unrest in Indonesia's Papua

The Indonesian province of Papua has again erupted in violence, just days after authorities managed to restore control following weeks of violent protests against alleged racism in the region



Papua separatist flag

■ **1945:** Indonesia declares independence from Netherlands

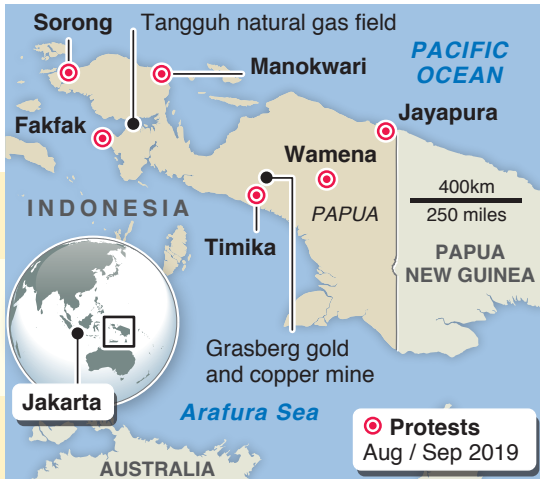
■ **1949:** Indonesia recognised as sovereign state, but Papua not incorporated into new country

■ **1963:** UN hands administration of Papua to Indonesia

■ **1969:** UN-backed independence referendum sees 1,025 hand-picked Papuans voting to join Indonesia. Result disputed by many Papuans (who are ethnic Melanesians, distinct from most Indonesians), sparking low-level separatist conflict

■ Grievances inflamed by accounts of human rights abuses by security forces and concerns that Papua's mineral wealth has largely benefited Indonesians from outside region

■ Despite rich natural resources, Papua has poverty rate of over 20% compared with national rate of 9.4%



■ **2014:** Independence groups form **United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP)**

■ **Jan 2019:** ULMWP presents UN with petition signed by nearly two million people calling for Papuan independence referendum

## ■ RECENT PROTESTS

**Late Aug:** Riots rock region amid allegations of racist abuse of Papuan students on Indonesia's Java island.

**Sep 23:** Security forces clash with protesters in Wamena and Jayapura after hundreds of students take to streets over allegations of racism