

Tensions in Tunisia after government ousted

Tunisia's President Kais Saied invoked the constitution to oust the government of Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi and freeze parliament for 30 days, in a move his critics call a coup

TUNISIA TIMELINE – SINCE 2010 JASMINE REVOLUTION

■ **Jan 2011**

Tunisian ruler **Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali** (left) forced from power by popular uprising that sparks series of revolts across Arab world

■ **Oct 2019:** Voters display dissatisfaction with major parties, first electing fractured parliament and then political outsider **Kais Saied** as president

■ **Sep 2020:** Parliament approves technocratic government to focus on reform of public finances

■ **Oct:** Tunisia's first free election sees Islamist party **Ennahda** win most seats in parliament

■ **2013-14:** Assassination of secular opposition leader **Chokri Belaid** (right) sparks mass street protests. Ennahda relinquishes power to technocratic government

■ **2015:** Two attacks by so-called Islamic State militants kill 60 people at Bardo museum in Tunis and beach resort in Sousse. Attacks severely impact Tunisia's vital tourism industry

■ **Dec 2017:** Economy approaches crisis point amid high unemployment and rising inflation rate

■ **Jan 2021**

New protests erupt over accusations of police brutality and unemployment worsened by Covid-19 pandemic

■ **July 25:** Following violent mass protests, Saied (above) sacks prime minister **Hichem Mechichi** and suspends parliament. Opponents accuse Saied of staging coup

