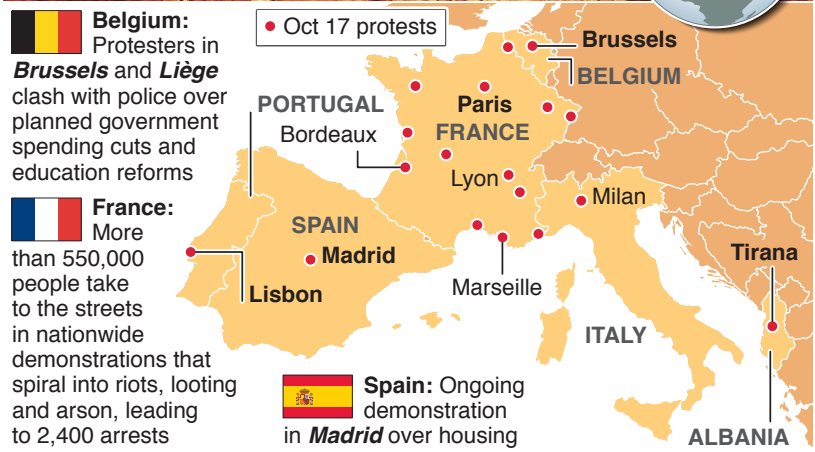
Wave of protests sweeps across Europe

Hundreds of thousands of Europeans have taken to the streets in separate, uncoordinated demonstrations to protest against the rising cost of living in their countries





Belgium: Protesters in ***Brussels*** and ***Liège*** clash with police over planned government spending cuts and education reforms

France: More than 550,000 people take to the streets in nationwide demonstrations that spiral into riots, looting and arson, leading to 2,400 arrests

Portugal: Tens of thousands of protesters march through ***Lisbon*** against soaring living costs, low wages and severe housing crisis

Spain: Ongoing demonstration in ***Madrid*** over housing costs after eviction of 87-year-old woman

Italy: Riots erupt in ***Milan*** as march against wars and rising living costs turns violent

Albania: Student-led protests in ***Tirana*** have escalated into wider movement demanding resignation of Prime Minister ***Edi Rama***

Sources: Al Jazeera, The Guardian

Picture: Getty Images

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