

# Belarus' Lukashenko Brandishes Rifle During Mass Opposition Rally

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**The**  **Moscow Times**

As Belarus saw another unprecedented protest against his rule on Sunday, President Alexander Lukashenko flew over Minsk in a helicopter with his 15-year-old son, both wearing bulletproof vests and holding automatic rifles.

"They ran away like rats," Lukashenko said of the protesters as the helicopter approached his residence in Minsk.

Protests have taken place nearly every day since the contested Aug. 9 presidential election, with over 100,000 people gathering in Minsk's Independence Square on Sunday.

Protesters are calling for Lukashenko's resignation and an end to police brutality against peaceful demonstrators.

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