

Sonic Weapons

Source: IE

The **Serbian government** has denied allegations that police used **sonic weapons** to disperse antigovernment protesters.

- Sonic Weapons are devices that deliver highly concentrated, amplified sound over long distances usually for crowd control.
- In 2004, the United States first used such special devices to project loud sounds over long distances in Iraq.
- It is of 3 types:
 - Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD): Produces sound up to 160 decibels (dB) causing ringing ears (tinnitus), hearing damage, and other health issues.
 - A jet engine during takeoff produces 130-140 dB, and a gunshot around 150 dB. Sounds above 120 dB can cause permanent hearing damage.
 - Mosquito: Emits high-pitched sounds painful only to younger people (under 30).
 - Infrasonic Weapon: Delivers low-frequency, inaudible sounds causing pain and disorientation.
- Serbia is a landlocked country in eastern Europe. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008, but Serbia does not recognize Kosovo's statehood.



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