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On the Cover. Photo by Karolina Lendák-Kabók: This photograph, taken at the University of Novi Sad in Serbia during the early stages of the student-led protests, captures a moment of civic mobilization that has since developed into a broader political movement. The red handprint, prominently displayed on the university building, became a symbol of demands for accountability following the collapse of the Novi Sad railway station canopy on 1 November 2024, which claimed 16 lives. What began as a response to this tragedy evolved into sustained protests against perceived systemic corruption, institutional failures, and the lack of political accountability. Nearly two years later, the movement has entered a new phase. Ahead of Serbia's parliamentary elections on 25 October 2026, the student movement has put forward an electoral list, Studentska lista – Studenti pobeđuju (Student List – Students Win), marking a transition from protest and university blockades to direct participation in electoral politics. Beyond its immediate political significance, the movement raises important questions about collective identity, generational solidarity, and civic participation. In a society where ethnic and national divisions have historically shaped political mobilization, the student protests illustrate the potential for shared civic concerns to bring people together across social and ethnic boundaries. The photograph thus documents more than a moment of resistance. It captures the beginnings of a movement whose trajectory invites us to reconsider the role of universities, younger generations, and collective action in shaping political change and democratic participation in contemporary Serbia.

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