

Protest



19

AUG
8:43 UTC

Europe Tactical: Demonstrations marking Ukrainian Independence Day slated regionwide on August 23-24; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation

- Reports indicate demonstrations marking Ukraine's Independence Day will be held regionwide on August 23-24. Details are as follows:
- In Ghent, **Belgium**, activists associated with a pro-Ukrainian group "Belgian Committee of the European Solidarity Network Ukraine" will hold a rally at Stadshal, located at Poeljemarkt, from 11:00 (local time) on August 24.

Source: [Solidarity-Ukraine-Belgium](https://solidarity-ukraine-belgium.org/)

- In Berlin, **Germany**, activists associated with “vitsche berlin,” a pro-Ukrainian advocacy group, are slated to hold a march starting from Breitscheidplatz to Brandenburg Gate from 16:00 to 18:00 on August 24.

Source: [X/Twitter](#)

- In Hamburg, **Germany**, activists associated with “Vilni de Ukraine”, a Ukrainian community group, will hold a rally at Gansemarkt from 14:00 to 16:00 on August 23.

Source: [Instagram](#)

- In Munich, **Germany**, a demonstration organized by supporters of Ukraine in Bavaria will take place at Marienplatz at 17:00 on August 24.

Source: [X/Twitter](#)

- In Stuttgart, **Germany**, a Ukrainian solidarity group will hold a protest at Rothebühlplatz at 13:00 on August 24.

Source: [X/Twitter](#)

- In Luxembourg City, **Luxembourg**, “LUkraine asbl,” a pro-Ukrainian non-profit organization, will hold a vehicle convoy along Boulevard Konrad Adenauer at 14:00 on August 23.

Source: [Facebook](#)

- In Zurich, **Switzerland**, activists associated with “Helvetia For Ukraine,” a pro-Ukrainian advocacy group, will protest at Platzspitz from 15:00 to 17:00 on August 23.

Source: [Facebook](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. Based on precedent, coupled with local and social media estimates, the slated demonstrations are anticipated to attract turnouts ranging in the low hundreds to the mid-thousands, with the protest in Berlin likely to see the largest turnout. Associated demonstrations are also likely to occur in other major cities regionwide – especially in countries with large Ukrainian diasporas, such as the Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, and the UK.
2. While the protests have been organized as peaceful solidarity events, they still carry a latent risk for unrest. This is due to the potential for counterprotests by anti-immigrant and/or pro-Russia groups, which could result in isolated scuffles between opposing groups, as well as police.
3. As such, a bolstered security presence is likely to be deployed near the aforementioned protest locations in cities regionwide to monitor the proceedings as a precautionary measure. In case of escalating unrest, authorities are liable to use forcible crowd control measures, including conducting arrests.
4. Disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic should also be anticipated near protest locations during their slated timings.

Reccomendations

1. Those operating or residing in Europe on August 23-24 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance near the aforementioned locations due to the latent potential for unrest at the protests.
2. Allot for associated travel-related disruptions in the vicinity of the slated protest locations.