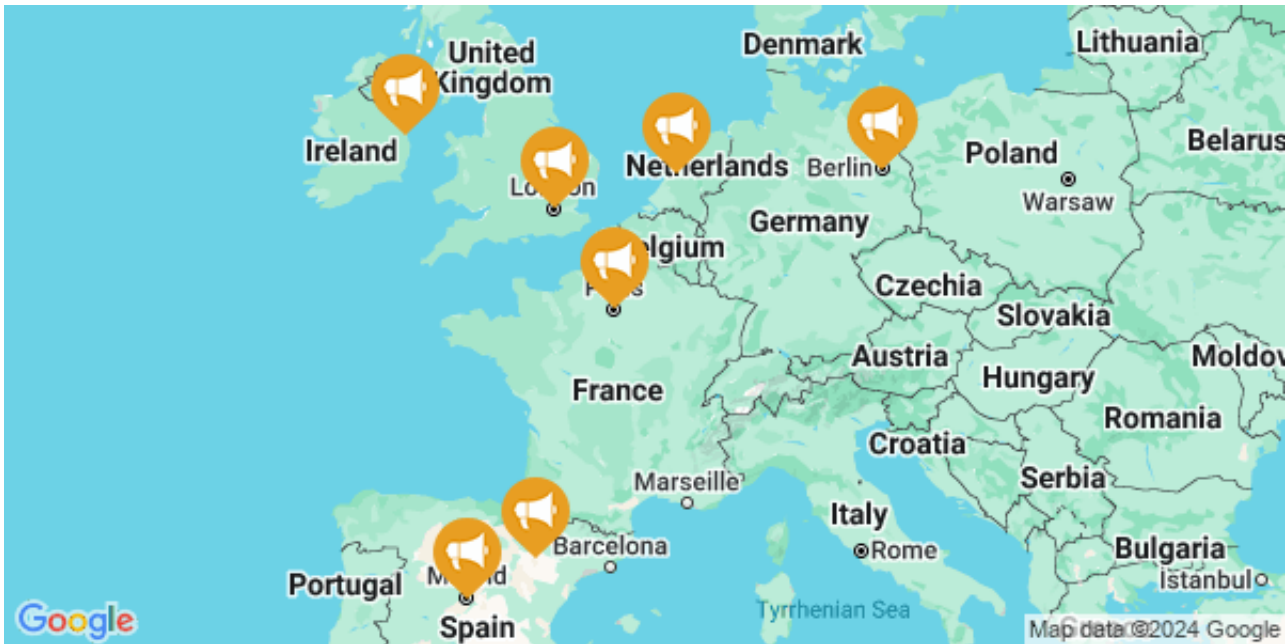




Protest



24
SEP
12:53 UTC

Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to be held in multiple cities regionwide on September 24-26; maintain heightened vigilance

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Current Situation

- Reports indicate that protests related to the Israel-Hamas conflict and Israel-Hezbollah escalation are scheduled in cities in Europe on September 24-26.
- In Paris, **France**, pro-Palestinian protesters will protest at the Place du Pantheon at 16:00 (local time) on September 26. The protest is organized by student groups to demand the suspension of the University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne partnerships with Israeli educational institutions. The protest coincides with the university’s board of directors meeting on the same day.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- In Berlin, **Germany**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Neptunbrunnen near Alexanderplatz around 18:00 on September 24.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- An additional pro-Palestinian protest is slated scheduled at Potsdamer Platz in Berlin at 17:00 on September 25. A pro-Israel counter-protest is slated to occur in the same location from 16:30.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- In Dublin, **Ireland**, the pro-Palestinian group Irish Sport for Palestine is slated to protest at Leinster House from 16:30 on September 24. The protest is being held to demand that the government enact a bill that would criminalize trade with Israeli settlements.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- In Amsterdam, the **Netherlands**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place in front of the Central Station from 18:00 on September 24. The protest is supported by multiple labor and pro-Palestinian organizations and is being held to denounce Israeli strikes in Lebanon and the Gaza Strip.

Source: [Instagram](#)

- In Madrid, **Spain**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at the Teatro del Barrio on 20 Calle Zurita at 19:00 on September 24. The protest is organized by the anarchist Confederation Sindical Solidaridad Obrera union and is supported by additional pro-Palestinian groups and labor unions. The protest is being held in preparation for the nationwide pro-Palestinian demonstrations planned for September 27.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- Pro-Palestinian protesters will also demonstrate in Plaza Espana in Zaragoza at 19:00 on September 24. The protest is organized by the pro-Palestinian group Aragon Con Palestina and is being held in solidarity with Lebanon and Palestinians following recent developments in the region.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- An additional “emergency” pro-Palestinian rally is being held on Downing Street in London, **UK** at 18:00 on September 26. The protest is supported by multiple pro-Palestinian groups, including the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), denouncing reported airstrikes by the Israeli government in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon.

Source: [Twitter](#)

- Separately, on September 20, approximately 100 pro-Palestinian activists blocked access to a building at Ghent University in Ghent, **Belgium**. The protesters lay on the ground to disrupt the ongoing opening ceremony for the new academic year. Event attendees were redirected to enter the building through a back entrance.

Source: [The Brussels Times](#)

- On September 23, unrest escalated at a pro-Palestinian demonstration in Neukolln, Berlin in **Germany**. Injuries were reported and 10 arrests were made.

Source: [Tagesspiegel](#)

- On September 23, **Irish** president Michael D. Higgins accused the Israeli Embassy in Dublin of leaking a letter he wrote to the president of Iran, a claim which the Embassy denied.

Source: [BBC](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. Based on precedent, coupled with heightened sentiments following reported Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon since September 22, the slated protests are likely to witness turnouts ranging from the mid-hundreds to high hundreds. Protests with support from multiple labor groups, such as the protests in Spain and France, are expected to witness even higher turnouts due to the organizations' heightened mobilizing capabilities.
2. In addition to the planned protests, spontaneous pro-Palestinian and Lebanon solidarity protests are liable to occur regionwide. The protests are likely to occur near central government buildings, main squares, Israeli and US diplomatic missions, or Jewish community spaces.
3. Based on precedent, any planned or spontaneous demonstrations carry a heightened potential for unrest, particularly if protests attract counterprotests by pro-Israel, pro-Palestinian, pro-Lebanese, and/or far-right groups. Additionally, protests with high student involvement or participation of left-wing groups carry a higher risk of unrest, as these groups are more likely to clash with police and/or engage in disruptive tactics, such as blocking transportation or damaging property. As such, the protest by students at the University of Paris Pantheon-Sorbonne in Paris and the protest in Madrid carry a higher risk of clashes with law enforcement, considering the involvement of these groups.
4. Incidents of unrest are likely to manifest in the form of clashes between protesters and the police, as well as with counter-protesters, should additional such demonstrations manifest. Further, as seen in Berlin, the protests carry a continued risk of unrest, which poses a heightened danger to bystanders near rallies and protests.
5. A bolstered security presence is expected near protest locations to monitor proceedings. In the case of escalating unrest, police are liable to use forcible dispersal methods, including conducting mass arrests.
6. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement, including road closures and traffic diversions, should be anticipated near the protest locations.
7. Additionally, the protest held at Ghent University is indicative of continuing pro-Palestinian student mobilization on university campuses throughout Europe, especially given the start of the new academic year. Pro-Palestinian protests on university campuses are liable to increase as more students return to classes. Previous campus protests have seen instances of blockades, encampments, and vandalism. In case of such incidents, authorities are liable to use forceful dispersal methods, including arrests, to avoid further disruption to campuses.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in Europe on September 24-26 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance near protests related to the Israel-Hamas conflict due to the elevated potential for unrest.
2. Allot for travel-related disruptions in the vicinity of the protest locations.