

## **Protest**





Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to take place in cities regionwide on September 11-20; maintain heightened vigilance

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## **Current Situation**

- Reports indicate that protests related to the Israel-Hamas conflict will take place in multiple cities regionwide on September 11-21.
- Boycott Divest Sanctions (BDS) has called for a "Weekend of Global Disruption" to take place from September 18-21.
- BDS has called for "blocking, occupying or otherwise disrupting strategic highways, bridges, ports, facilities of complicit weapons, tech, media, financial and other corporations." It has also called for global mass mobilization in the form of protests and labor actions.

| Source: BDS   |
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| • In Vienna, <b>Austria</b> , a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Christian-Broda-Platz at 15:00 (local time) on September 20.   |
| Source: Palaestinasolidaritaet  |
| <ul> <li>In Genoa, Italy, several pro-Palestinian organizations have called for a pro-Palestinian protest under the title "If they attack the flotilla, we'll block everything." The protest will take place at Port Authority Circle on Via Ariberto Albertazzi at 20:30 on September 11.</li> <li>The protest, supported by several workers unions, including the Unione Sindacale di Base (USB), is being called to denounce alleged attacks on the so-called "Freedom Flotilla" sailing to the Gaza Strip.</li> <li>Source: Facebook</li> </ul> |
| <ul> <li>In Rome, Greenpeace Italy has called for a pro-Palestinian protest at the Gardens on Viale Mazzini from 17:00 on September 11.</li> <li>The protest is being called to denounce an Italian defense company's alleged ties to Israel.</li> </ul> Source: X/Twitter  |
| <ul> <li>In Podgorica, Montenegro, a pro-Palestinian protest march is slated to take place starting from<br/>the Mural of Palestinian Children on Bulevar Mitra Bakica at 13:00 on September 14. Protesters will<br/>march to the Parliament of Montenegro.</li> <li>Source: Pobjeda</li> </ul>   |
| • In Malmo, <b>Sweden</b> , a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at the Malmo Opera at 12:00 on September 14.  |

Source: Facebook

• In Edinburgh, **UK**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at the bottom of the Mound 13:00 on September 13.

Source: GGEC

## **Assessments & Forecast**

- 1. Based on precedent and the mobilizational capabilities of the organizers, the above protests are likely to garner turnouts ranging from the low hundreds to mid-thousands each, with the protest in Genoa on September 11 likely to garner the largest turnout.
- 2. In addition to the planned protests, spontaneous protests related to the conflict are likely to occur regionwide in the coming days, especially given ongoing operations in Gaza City. The likelihood of protest actions will increase during the period from September 18-21 given BDS's call for global action.
- 3. Protests are likely to take place near central government buildings, main squares, and Israeli and US diplomatic missions. Coordinated civil disobedience campaigns are also likely, with such actions expected to target companies in the defense and technology industry, as well as insurance companies and banks. This may involve blocking entrances and roads, as well as engaging in paint splashing on building facades.
- 4. Based on precedent, any planned or spontaneous demonstration related to the Israel-Hamas conflict carries a heightened potential for unrest in the form of clashes between protesters, potential counter-protesters, and police.

  Given this, a reinforced 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 tear gas or conducting arrests.
- 5. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement, including road closures and traffic diversions, should be anticipated near the protest locations.

## Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Europe on September 11-20 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.