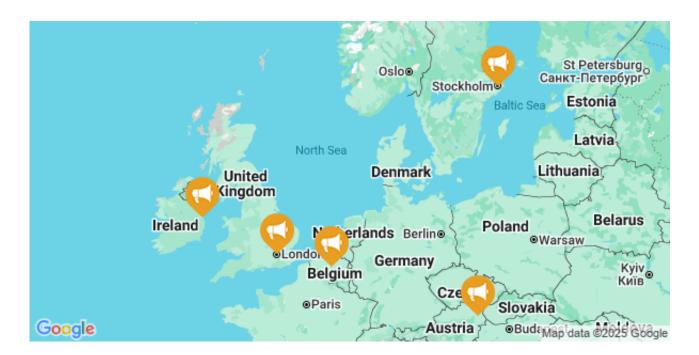


## **Protest**



31 AUG 10:35 UTC Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to take place regionwide on September 1-14; 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 in Europe on September 1-14.
- In Vienna, **Austria**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Kardinal-Nagl-Platz at 18:00 (local time) on September 1.

Source: Palaestinasolidaritaet

• In Brussels, **Belgium**, several pro-Palestinian groups have called for a large-scale demonstration to take place on Boulevard du Roi Albert II at 14:00 on September 7.

Source: Facebook

• In Dublin, **Ireland**, a pro-Palestinian protest march will begin at the US Embassy on Elgin Road at 13:00 on September 6. Protesters will then continue to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade building on Clonmel Street.

Source: <u>Facebook</u>

• In Stockholm, **Sweden**, a pro-Palestinian group will hold daily protests at Mynttorget from 12:00 to 22:00 between September 1 and 14. On September 1, the group has also called for a protest at 18:00 to kickstart the week-long protest.

Source: <u>Instagram</u>

• In London, **UK**, the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) has called for a "National March for Palestine" to take place from Russell Square to Whitehall starting at 12:00 on September 6.

Source: X/Twitter

## **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 protests in Brussels on September 7 and London on September 6 likely to garner the largest turnouts.
- 2. In addition to the planned protests, spontaneous protests related to the conflict are likely to occur regionwide in the coming days, especially given heightened tensions over ongoing military operations and allegations of famine in the Gaza Strip. Protests are likely to take place near central government buildings, main squares, and Israeli and US diplomatic missions.
- 3. 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.

- 4. 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 1-14 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.