



Protest



29
JAN
7:53 UTC

Germany Tactical (UPDATE): Pro-Kurdish protests to take place nationwide on January 29; avoid nonessential travel

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Current Situation

- Kurdish diaspora groups will hold nationwide protests in Germany on January 29. Protesters will demonstrate in solidarity with Rojava, referring to the predominantly Kurdish-administered region in northern and northeastern Syria.
- In **Berlin**, the protest will take place at Zoologischer Garten from 17:30 (local time).

- In **Cologne**, the protest will take place at the Hauptbahnhof from 17:00.
- In **Hanover**, the protest will take place at Hauptbahnhof from 17:00.
- In **Hamburg**, the protest will take place at Grosse Bergstrasse from 17:00.
- In **Stuttgart**, the protest will take place at Schlossplatz from 15:00.
- Protests are also scheduled to take place in Bielefeld, Bonn, Bremen, Dusseldorf, Hagen, Heilbronn, Limburg, Mullheim, Munster, and Vechta, with several actions slated for main railway stations and central public squares.

Source: [X/Twitter](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. Based on the scale of recent pro-Kurdish mobilizations in Germany, including on January 26, and the mobilizational capabilities of the organizing networks, the upcoming protests in the aforementioned cities are likely to draw turnouts ranging from low to high thousands each, with the largest crowds expected in Cologne and Hamburg. Meanwhile, other cities nationwide are expected to draw turnouts from mid-hundreds to low thousands.
2. Given the unrest recorded during recent Kurdish protests in Dortmund, Hamburg, Hannover, Munich, and Stuttgart, between January 17 and January 26, involving blockades and vandalism of ruling parties' offices, verbal and physical harassment, stabbings, clashes between the protesters and police, and use of projectiles targeting police, the upcoming protests carry a heightened risk of unrest. These can manifest as violent clashes between the protesters and the police, the throwing of projectiles, and stone pelting.
3. As such, a bolstered security presence is expected nationwide in the vicinity of protest locations. Given the unrest recorded during recent protests, authorities are expected to maintain a low threshold for intervention. Should unrest occur, authorities are likely to implement crowd-control and dispersal measures, including arrests, baton charges, and deploying tear gas or pepper spray.
4. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic are likely in the vicinity of the protest

locations during their scheduled timings.

Recommendations

1. Those operating or residing in the aforementioned cities in Germany on January 29 are advised to avoid nonessential travel in the vicinity of protest locations due to the heightened risk of unrest.
2. Allot for disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic near the protest locations during their slated timings.