

Protest



24 AUG 9:59 UTC Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to take place regionwide on August 27-30; 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 August 27-30.

• In Brussels, **Belgium**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Brussels Midi Station at 17:00 (local time) on August 29.

Source: Instagram

• In Copenhagen, **Denmark**, a pro-Palestinian protest march is slated to begin at Den Rode Plads at 14:00 and conclude at Nordvestparken on August 30. However, the exact route of the march remains unknown.

Source: <u>Allepaagaden</u>

• In Frankfurt, **Germany**, several pro-Palestinian groups will hold a protest at Hafenpark, near the European Central Bank (ECB), from 15:00 on August 30.

Source: <u>Instagram</u>

• In Oslo, **Norway**, activists associated with the pro-Palestinian group Palestinakomiteen, will hold a protest march from Gronlands Torg at 14:00 on August 30. Following the initial gathering, protesters will proceed towards the Storting. However, the exact march route is not known as of writing.

Source: Facebook

- In Barcelona, **Spain**, a pro-Palestinian protest will take place at La Rambla at 16:00 on August 27.
- The protest, organized by multiple pro-Palestinian groups, including Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS), will be held to denounce the participation of the Israeli team in the La Vueta Ciclista a Espana cycling event.

Source: X/Twitter

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on precedent and the mobilizational capabilities of the organizers, the protests are likely to garner turnouts ranging from the low hundreds to low thousands each, with the highest turnout expected in Barcelona and Oslo.
- 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 planned intensified Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip. Protests are likely to take place near central government buildings, main squares, and Israeli and US diplomatic missions. Additionally, the risk

- for pro-Palestinian protesters engaging in vandalism targeting Israeli entities and those perceived as pro-Israel remains elevated.
- 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 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 August 27-30 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.