

## **Protest**



08 SEP 12:38 UTC Germany Tactical: IAA Mobility show, anti-IAA protests slated to be held in Munich from September 9-14; maintain heightened vigilance

## **Current Situation**

- On September 9-14, the International Automobil-Ausstellung (IAA) Mobility motor show will be held in Munich, Bavaria. The event will take place at two venues: the exhibition center in the Riem district for trade visitors and the open spaces in central Munich, temporary exhibition areas set up in public squares and streets, including Marienplatz, Max-Joseph-Platz, Residenzhoefe, Wittelsbacherplatz, Odeonsplatz, the stretch between Ludwigstrasse to Siegestor, and Koenigsplatz.
- Around 8,000 police officers will be deployed as a security measure for the IAA Mobility 2025.
  Authorities have warned of traffic disruptions in the city center, particularly around Koenigsplatz,
  Odeonsplatz, and Ludwigstrasse, as well as near the exhibition center.

Source: Sueddeutsche Zeitung

• Furthermore, multiple protests against the IAA will be held in Munich from September 9–14, details of which are given below:

- A protest camp is slated to be held at Luitpoldpark in Munich from September 9–14. The camp is being organized by the collective "Mobilitaetswendecamp," which includes the climate group Extinction Rebellion (XR). On September 13, two protest actions affiliated with the camp are slated to take place.
- First, a bike riding protest will be held from Luitpoldpark at 12:00 on September 13. Thereafter, it will proceed via Georg-Brauchle-Ring, Landshuter Allee, Donnersbergerbruecke, and Hackerbruecke, concluding at Karolinenplatz with a rally.
- Following this, a protest march will be held from Karolinenplatz and return to Luitpoldpark, beginning at 14:30 on September 13. However, the exact route remains unannounced as of writing.

Source: Organizer's website

• On September 12, climate activists associated with XR are slated to hold a protest at the German high-end automobile museum and exhibition centre at Am Olympiapark 1 in Munich from 14:00.

Source: Organizer's website

• A bike protest by a pro-immigrant organization is slated to be held from Sendlinger Tor Platz to Luitpoldpark in Munich starting at 18:00 on September 11. However, the exact protest route is unannounced as of writing.

Source: <u>Karawane</u>

## **Assessments & Forecast**

- 1. Given precedent and widespread mobilization against the IAA, the combined protests associated with "Mobilitaetswendecamp" on September 13 are expected to garner the highest turnout in the mid-thousands. Other protests are expected to see turnouts ranging from the low to high hundreds. In addition to the planned protest, smaller spontaneous protests cannot be ruled out, given that September 4 reports indicated that in 2023, 40 anti-IAA protests were registered by police at short notice, and 19 protests were unregistered.
- 2. Given the heightened sentiments associated with the IAA and based on precedent, the protests carry an elevated risk of unrest, including clashes between protesters and police. This is further evidenced by September 2021 and 2023 demonstrations in Munich denouncing the IAA, in which activists temporarily blocked highways and clashed with security forces, with police deploying batons and pepper spray. The risk is especially elevated given the participation of climate groups

- such as XR, which is known to use disruptive protest tactics, including blockades and sit-ins. Additionally, instances of vandalism or property damage targeting corporate displays or luxury vehicles cannot be ruled out.
- 3. As such, a bolstered security presence is likely to remain deployed throughout Munich during the IAA. In the event of unrest, police are liable to use crowd dispersal measures, including arrests and the use of tear gas.
- 4. Furthermore, disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic are expected citywide, with congestion at central Munich roads and restrictions around demonstration routes. The risk of travel disruptions can exacerbate, given the simultaneous hosting of large-scale public events, such as the "Corso Leopold" street festival and football matches involving FC Bayern Munich and TSV 1860, further straining security and transport infrastructure. This overlap increases the likelihood of bottlenecks and prolonged disruptions to mobility in Munich.

## Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Munich on September 9-14 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance near the abovementioned protest locations due to the heightened potential for unrest during the planned protest.
- 2. Allot for disruptions to travel near the protest location during slated times.