

Protest



20 AUG 17:25 UTC Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Demonstrations marking Ukrainian Independence Day slated regionwide on August 24; maintain heightened vigilance

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Current Situation

• Reports indicate demonstrations marking Ukraine's Independence Day will be held regionwide on August 24. Details are as follows:

• In Paris, **France**, pro-Ukrainian activists will hold a solidarity march starting from Place de la Republique at 14:00 (local time). After the initial gathering, participants will proceed towards Place de la Bastille. Additionally, a gathering will also take place at Trocadero at 19:00.

Source: X/Twitter

• In Hamburg, **Germany**, pro-Ukrainian activists will hold a demonstration starting from Hauptbahnhof at 14:00. After the initial gathering, protesters will proceed towards Rathausmarkt.

Source: X/Twitter

• In Amsterdam, **Netherlands**, pro-Ukrainian activists will hold a demonstration at Dam Square at 14:00.

Source: X/Twitter

• In Warsaw, **Poland**, pro-Ukrainian activists will hold a demonstration at Plac Zamkowy at 17:00.

Source: Facebook

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on precedent and social media estimates, most of the demonstrations are expected to attract turnouts ranging from the low hundreds to the mid-thousands each. Meanwhile, the demonstration in Warsaw is likely to witness higher numbers, ranging from the low to mid tens of thousands.
- 2. While the protests have been organized as peaceful solidarity events, they still carry a latent risk for unrest. This is due to the potential for counterprotests by anti-immigrant and/or pro-Russia groups, which could result in isolated scuffles between opposing groups, as well as police. The potential for such incidents is higher in Germany and Poland.
- 3. As such, a bolstered security presence is likely to be deployed near the aforementioned protest locations in cities regionwide to monitor the proceedings as a precautionary measure. In case of escalating unrest, authorities are liable to use forcible crowd control measures, including conducting arrests.
- 4. Disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic should also be anticipated near protest locations during their slated timings.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Europe on August 24 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance near the aforementioned locations due to the latent potential for unrest at the protests.
- 2. Allot for associated travel-related disruptions in the vicinity of the slated protest locations.