

Protest



26 AUG 11:13 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 Paris, **France**, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Place de l'Opera at 18:30 (local time) on August 27.

Source: **Europalestine**

 In Berlin, Germany, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Wittenbergplatz at 18:00 on August 27.
Source: X/Twitter
• In Dublin, Ireland , a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at The Spire at 18:00 on August 27.
Source: X/Twitter
 In Barcelona, Spain, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Placa de Sant Jaume at 19:00 on August 27.
Source: Vilaweb
• In London, UK , a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at 10 Downing Street at 17:30 on August 27.
Source: X/Twitter
• In Belgium , on August 23, clashes erupted between police, security forces, and pro-Palestinian protesters inside Brussels' Midi train station during a sit-in protest.
Source: X/Twitter
• In Germany , center-right Freie Demokratische Partei's (FDP) politician Karoline Preisler was attacked and injured while showing solidarity with Israeli hostages at a pro-Palestinian demonstration in Berlin on August 23.

Source: Spiegel

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 low thousands each, with the protest in Barcelona likely to garner the largest turnout.
- 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 a recent airstrike at the Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis in Gaza. 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. This is evidenced by the unrest at the Brussels Midi Station and the attack on a counter-demonstrating politician in Berlin on August 23.
- 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.