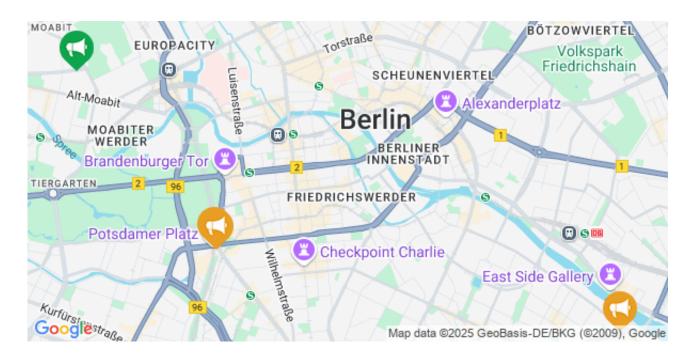


## **Protest**





Germany Tactical: Multiple protests slated to be held in Berlin on February 26; maintain heightened vigilance

## **Current Situation**

- Multiple protests are slated to be held in Berlin on February 26. Details of which are given below:
- Activists associated with the feminist group Netzwerkgegenfeminizide will protest at the District Court Tiergarten on Turmstrasse 91, from 09:00 (local time). Protesters will denounce the alleged failure of the government to protect women.
- The rally will coincide with the expected announcement of the verdict in a feminicide trial, following court proceedings that began on January 27.

Source: Asanb Noblogs

• Separately, a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to be held at Potsdamer Platz from 15:00. The protest is organized to express solidarity with people in Gaza

Source: Palaestina Solidaritaet

• Additionally, a counterprotest to the pro-Palestinian protest is organized by pro-Israel activists at Potsdamer Platz from 15:00. The protesters will denounce anti-Semitism and will call for the release of hostages held by Hamas.

**Source**: X/Twitter

- The left-wing student organization Internationale Jugend Berlin will hold a protest at Schlesisches Tor in Berlin from 18:00.
- The demonstration aims to denounce the recent electoral success of the center-right Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands (CDU) and the far-right Alternative fur Deutschland (AfD), as well as the prospect of CDU leader Friedrich Merz becoming Chancellor.



Source: Instagram

## **Assessments & Forecast**

- 1. Based on social media estimates, coupled with the organizer's mobilization capabilities, the abovementioned protests are likely to garner a turnout ranging in the high dozens to high hundreds, with the pro-Palestinian protest expected to attract the largest turnout.
- 2. Based on precedent and the nature of the protest, the demonstration by the feminist group is likely to transpire peacefully without any instances of unrest. However, given the heightened sentiments over the protest issue and the involvement of pro-Palestinian and left-wing activists, including potential radical far-left actors, the other demonstrations carry an elevated potential for unrest.
- 3. The risk of unrest will be especially heightened given the pro-Israel counterprotest and the potential for the Internationale Jugend Berlin demonstration to attract counterprotests by AfD supporters or other far-right groups. Incidents of unrest are likely to manifest in the form of clashes between protesters and the police, as well as with potential counterprotesters.
- 4. As such, a bolstered security presence is likely to be deployed in the vicinity of the protest as a precautionary measure, as protesters and counterprotesters are likely to clash despite expected security cordons separating them. In the event of escalating unrest, authorities are likely to use forcible dispersal methods, including conducting arrests, to control crowds.
- 5. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement can be anticipated at the abovementioned protest locations from slated timings.

## Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Berlin on February 26 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance near Potsdamer Platz and Schlesisches Tor due to the elevated potential for unrest at the slated protests.
- 2. Allot for travel-related disruptions in the vicinity of the abovementioned protests from slated timings.