

Protest





Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to take place regionwide on June 6-15; 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 June 6-15.
- In Vienna, **Austria**, a pro-Palestinian protest organized by the Palastina Solidaritat Osterreich will be held in front of the Parliament building, located at 3 Dr. Karl Renner-Ring, at 18:00 (local time) on June 6.

Source: Facebook

• In Brussels, **Belgium**, a pro-Palestinian protest organized by the Belgian National Coalition for Palestine group will be held at Gare du Nord at 14:00 on June 15.

Source: Facebook

• Also on June 15, a pro-Palestinian bicycle protest will begin at Vredesplein in Ghent at o9:45. The participants will cycle to Brussels, where they will join the protest at Gare Du Nord at 14:00. After the protest, they will cycle back to Ghent. The exact route can be found <u>here</u>.

Source: Instagram

• In Ukkel, Brussels-Capital Region, a pro-Palestinian demonstration will be held in front of the Israeli Embassy, located at 40 Avenue de l'Observatoire, at 13:30 on June 13.

Source: Facebook

• In Paris, **France**, a pro-Palestinian protest march organized by the Urgence Palestine group is slated to start at Place de la Republique at 14:00 on June 7. The protest will conclude at Place de Clichy.

Source: X/Twitter

• Also in Paris, a protest demanding the release of pro-Palestinian Lebanese activist Georges Abdallah, who is imprisoned in France, will be held at Place de la Republique at 14:00 on June 14.

Source: X/Twitter

• In The Hague, the **Netherlands**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Malieveld at 13:00 on

June 15.

• The protest is organized by multiple groups, including Oxfam Novib, Protection of Civilians (PAX), Amnesty International, Save the Children, and Doctors Without Borders.

Source: Oxfam Novib

• In Barcelona, **Spain**, on June 14, a pro-Palestinian protest march will start at Placa de la Universitat at 18:00 and then conclude at Placa Sant Jaume.

Source: Instagram

• In Malmo, **Sweden**, a weekly pro-Palestinian protest will be held in front of the Malmo Opera, located at 20 Ostra Ronneholmsvagen at 13:00 on June 8.

Source: Facebook

• Separately, on June 4, Trinity College Dublin confirmed the termination of all institutional links with Israeli universities and companies headquartered in Israel. The decision, communicated to students by email, follows recommendations from a task force formed after a five-day student blockade of the campus. The protest concerned Israel's military actions in the Gaza Strip.

Source: X/Twitter

• Additionally, on June 4, the University of Geneva has ended its contract with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, following student-led opposition to the conflict.

Source: TRT Global

Assessments & Forecast

1. Based on precedent and social media estimates, the protests in Vienna, Ukkel, Paris on June 14, and Malmo are likely to see turnouts in the high dozens to low hundreds. The June 7 protest in

Paris and protest in Barcelona are likely to see turnout in the mid to high thousands. Meanwhile, protests in Brussels and in The Hague are expected to draw turnouts in the high thousands to low tens of thousands each.

- 2. In addition to the planned protests, spontaneous protests related to the Israel-Hamas conflict are likely to occur regionwide. 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 and police.
- 4. Given this, a reinforced security presence is expected near protest locations to monitor proceedings. In the event of escalating unrest, police are liable to use forcible dispersal methods, including the use of 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.
- 6. The decisions by Trinity College Dublin and the University of Geneva to sever ties with Israeli institutions indicate an escalation in the pattern of academic disengagement. This development reflects a broader trend among European universities increasingly influenced by student activism and global advocacy for academic boycotts related to Israel since October 2023. The trajectory suggests that academic boycotts are likely to persist, particularly in countries with supportive political environments and mobilized student bodies, such as Spain, Norway, Ireland, and Belgium. Universities are expected to encounter sustained and potentially escalating protest activity, including encampments, building occupations, and formal demands for disclosure of institutional ties to Israeli entities.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Europe on June 6-15 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.