

Protest





Asia Tactical: Pro-Palestinian protests slated across multiple countries on January 11-12; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- Pro-Palestinian protests are slated to take place in Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, and South Korea on January 11-12 to call for a halt to the ongoing hostilities between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip.
- In **Australia**, a protest will be held at the Victoria State Library in Melbourne at 12:00 (local time) on January 12.
- Members of the Palestine Action Group Sydney are slated to hold a demonstration in Hyde Park, Sydney at 13:00 on January 12.

Source: Greenleft, Instagram

• In Japan, a demonstration will be held outside the South Exit of Shinjuku Station in Tokyo from 18:00 to 20:00 on January 12.

Source: X/Twitter

• In **New Zealand**, a protest rally will be held from Glover Park to Cuba Mall in Wellington at 13:00 on January 11.

Source: Facebook

• In **Pakistan**, members of the Jamaat-e-Islami's (JI) Karachi chapter are slated to hold a protest at SeaView in Karachi at 15:00 on January 12.

Source: X/Twitter

• In **South Korea**, members of the People in Solidarity with Palestinians will hold a protest outside the Kyobo Bookstore in Gwanghwamun, Seoul at 14:00 on January 12.

Source: Instagram

Assessments & Forecast:

- The turnout at the slated protests in Melbourne, Sydney, and Wellington is expected to range in the mid-to-high dozens, based on the groups' organizing capabilities and participation trends across previous protests in these cities. Whereas in Seoul and Tokyo, the turnout is likely to range in the low-to-mid dozens, based on the resonance of the issue among the general public. In Karachi, the turnout is estimated to range in the low-to-mid hundreds, based on the overall pro-Palestinian sentiment and JI's organizing capabilities. As per standard protocols, the authorities will bolster security measures across the protest sites in the aforementioned cities. These measures are likely to include the deployment of police personnel and barricade installation in the vicinity of the protest locations to monitor proceedings.
- 2. The protests in Seoul and Tokyo are expected to transpire peacefully, based on precedent. There remains a low-level risk of localized skirmishes between the police and protesters should the latter resort to disruptive behavior such as antisemitic sloganeering in Melbourne, Sydney, and

Wellington. Such skirmishes are also likely in Karachi. Forcible dispersal measures will be employed by the police to quell unrest in such cases, potentially including baton charges and temporary detentions. Localized travel disruptions in the vicinity of the aforementioned protest locations are expected during the protest hours on January 11-12.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, and South Korea on January 11-12 are advised to maintain vigilance in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations due to the slated protests and related risk of unrest while allotting for travel disruptions.