

Travel





Europe Tactical: Increased security measures in Munich, Paris, Milan from May 31-June 1 due to potential unrest linked to the UEFA final; avoid nonessential travel

Current Situation

- The UEFA Champions League football final match between Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) and Inter Milan will take place at the Allianz Arena in Munich, **Germany**, from 21:00 (local time) on May 31. Details regarding the stadium rules and accessibility can be found <u>here</u>.
- With large crowds expected, Munich police will enforce traffic restrictions starting May 30. Around 2,000 officers will be deployed across the city until May 31. Details related to these security measures can be found <u>here</u>. (In German)
- Munich officials have categorized the match as a "high-risk" event, despite UEFA officials classifying the match as a medium-risk event.
- Over 18,000 PSG fans and 16,500 Inter Milan supporters are expected to attend the match at Allianz Arena. Authorities anticipate the presence of about 500 violent Inter fans and 150 ultras supporting PSG.
- Authorities have assigned separate zones for fans of both teams. Inter supporters will gather at

Odeonsplatz from 11:00 on May 31, while PSG fans will meet at Konigsplatz, also from 11:00. Olympic Park will be open to the public for a live screening of the match.

Source: UEFA

- In **France**, PSG announced that the Champions League final would be broadcast at the Parc des Princes in Paris on four screens. Nearly 50,000 supporters are expected to attend these screenings.
- If PSG wins, an official parade is planned for June 1 on the Champs-Elysees. However, the report points out that this parade remains subject to change. In the event of major disturbances on May 31 evening in the streets of Paris, the authorities reserve the right to cancel the parade.
- Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau has directed local officials to increase security across Paris. Thousands of officers will be deployed throughout the city, focusing on busy areas like the Champs-Elysees, the Parc des Princes, and major train stations. Riot police will help manage crowds and prevent disturbances.
- Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and live surveillance will monitor high-risk zones for a quick response if needed. Specific measures include barriers and searches on the Champs-Elysees, identity checks and drone use at the Parc des Princes, and extra patrols and checks at train stations and airports.

Source: ViralMAG

- In **Italy**, Milan authorities have announced the installation of a big screen at San Siro for the match.
- In coordination with the prefecture, the mayor has outlined a security and surveillance plan for May 31 aimed at preventing disturbances before and after the event.

Source: Inter.it

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. The UEFA Champions League final at Munich's Allianz Arena is expected to draw crowds in the low to mid-tens of thousands. Fan zones in Munich, Paris, and Milan are also likely to attract mid to high thousands of supporters, based on official estimates.
- 2. Due to the high-profile nature of the match, the strong emotions involved, and the participation of hooligan elements, there is an increased risk of clashes between opposing fans. Based on past events, areas near stadiums—such as bars, fan zones, transport stations, and streets used for team parades—are likely hotspots for violence, crowd surges, and disorder.
- 3. In general, football-related gatherings carry a heightened risk of violent incidents, including clashes and accidents, due to unruly crowds, given the prevalence of alcohol consumption and hooligan elements. Several such incidents have been recorded during football-related unrest in Europe so far in May, including the May 26 vehicular crash injuring 50 at a football parade in

<u>Liverpool</u>, the <u>May 15 vehicle crash outside RCDE Stadium near Barcelona</u>, and the <u>May 8 hit-and-</u> <u>run incident in Paris during PSG victory celebrations near the Champs-Elysees</u>. Additionally, football-related gatherings remain vulnerable to extremist attacks as well due to their symbolic nature and high footfall.

- 4. In Paris, a PSG victory would likely lead to large, spontaneous gatherings on the Champs-Elysees, similar to previous club and national team wins. If PSG loses, there is a risk of clashes between frustrated fans and police, especially near the Parc des Princes. In both scenarios, the use of fireworks and flares is likely, which poses dangers to nearby infrastructure and vehicles. Should widespread unrest occur on May 31, authorities are expected to cancel the planned victory parade and restrict gatherings to areas near the stadium.
- 5. Similarly, if Inter Milan wins, celebrations in Milan would likely include a bus parade, a team appearance at the Duomo, and large crowds in Piazza Duomo. The use of fireworks and smoke bombs, as seen in other European events, increases the risk to bystanders, as the April 19 incident in the Czech Republic, where five people were injured.
- 6. To manage these risks, authorities are expected to tighten security near stadiums and public gathering points. Measures may include setting up barriers at key locations, increasing police and crowd control presence, and redirecting traffic around busy areas. These actions are likely to cause delays and restricted movement near stadiums and other gathering points in these cities.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Munich on May 31 are advised to avoid nonessential travel near the abovementioned locations, especially Allianz Arena, due to the potential for unrest associated with the football match and associated gatherings.
- 2. Similarly, those operating or residing in Paris on May 31 and June 1 are advised to avoid nonessential travel near Champs-Elysees and Parc des Princes due to the heightened risk of football-related unrest. Similarly, in Milan, avoid nonessential travel near San Siro.
- 3. Allot for significant disruptions to travel due to road closures, security checks, and potential parking bans in these cities as well.