

Protest



20 DEC 19:00 UTC Americas Tactical: Pro-Palestinian rallies slated in Buenos Aires, New York City, NY, Seattle, WA, Toronto, ON, on December 21-23; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation

• According to reports, multiple pro-Palestinian activist groups have planned protests in multiple cities in Argentina, Canada, and the USA from December 21-23.

In **Buenos Aires**, Argentina, activists will march from the intersection of Avenida 9 de Julio and Avenida de Mayo to the Embajada de Israel (Israeli Embassy), located at Avenida de Mayo 701, starting at 17:30 (local time) on December 23.

Source: X

In **Toronto**, ON, Canada, the Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM) has called for a march at 14:00 on December 21, starting from the intersection of Bay Street and Front Street. The destination of the march remains unconfirmed as of writing. The march is organized to denounced the alleged

This march is organized to condemn the mainstream media for "misinforming the public" and for "manufacturing consent for Canada's complicity" with Israel.

Source: Palestinian Youth Movement

In **Seattle**, WA, USA, multiple pro-Palestinian groups, including Answer Seattle will protest outside the Westlake Tower, located at the intersection of Olive Way and 5th Avenue at 14:00 on December 21.

Source: Answer Seattle

In **New York City**, NY, USA, the social movement, The People's Forum (TPF), is slated to hold a protest in Times Square at 14:00 on December 21. With this, TPF seeks to disrupt what they consider to be one of the busiest shopping days of 2024.

Source: The People's Forum

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. The frequency of pro-Palestinian protests has significantly declined in recent weeks. Nonetheless, the upcoming demonstrations highlight a strategic effort by pro-Palestinian groups to draw attention to the Palestinian cause by organizing events in prominent commercial hubs—particularly in New York City and Seattle—during the peak shopping days leading up to Christmas on December 25.
- 2. FORECAST: Given sustained support for the Palestinian cause and recent demonstrations, including a November 29 march in New York City and a December 10 rally in Toronto, the upcoming events in these cities are expected to draw a turnout ranging in the high hundreds-to-low thousands. Conversely, given the comparatively lower social media engagement surrounding other slated protests, the turnout in Buenos Aires and Seattle is anticipated to be lower, likely in the high dozens-to-low hundreds. Furthermore, spontaneous rallies at prominent commercial sites, such as shopping malls or main avenues, are particularly likely, as activists have called to disrupt commercial activities during the shopping days leading up to Christmas, as seen in Seattle. Such spontaneous rallies are liable to attract a turnout ranging in the low-to-mid dozens.
- 3. **FORECAST**: Previous pro-Palestinian protests in Buenos Aires suggest that the upcoming protest march will transpire peacefully. However, in Canada and the USA, protests are liable to witness provocative antisemitic sloganeering, vandalism of landmarks, or other public infrastructure, use of pyrotechnics; burning of the Israeli or host countries' flags or effigies depicting prominent political entities. In particular, the potential for targeted vandalism at establishments or

businesses perceived as having a pro-Israel stance remains credible near the protest sites. Such acts are likely to involve graffiti featuring anti-Israel, antisemitic, or pro-Palestinian slogans on building facades, as well as other forms of property damage. In addition, localized clashes between activists and security forces also remain possible. Should unrest escalate, security personnel are likely to carry out arrests.

4. **FORECAST**: A bolstered security presence can be expected in the vicinity of the protest locations to monitor proceedings and divert traffic, particularly in New York City and Toronto. Disruptions to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic, including possible road diversions, are anticipated near the aforementioned locations during the slated timings.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in the aforementioned locations in Argentina, Canada, and the USA on December 21-23 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance in the vicinity of the slated protest locations due to the potential for unrest.
- 2. Allot for disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular travel in the vicinity of all protest locations during the slated timings.