

Protest





Europe Tactical (UPDATE): Protests related to Israel-Hamas conflict to take place in multiple cities on March 27-30; maintain heightened vigilance

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Current Situation

 Reports indicate that protests related to the Israel-Hamas conflict will take place in several cities regionwide on March 27-30. Multiple protests are organized as part of International al-Quds Day. Details are as follows:

• In Brussels, **Belgium,** a pro-Palestinian protest is slated to take place at Place Fernand Cocq from 17:00 (local time) on March 27.

Source: <u>Instagram</u>

• In Brussels, an additional pro-Palestinian protest will be held at the Brussels Municipal Council from 18:00 on March 27.

Source: Instagram

- In Prague, **Czech Republic**, a pro-Palestinian protest march will be held from Namesti Miru from 14:00 on March 29. The exact protest route and end location are not available as of writing.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.

Source: <u>Instagram</u>

- In Copenhagen, **Denmark,** a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Forum Station from 15:00 on March 30.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28. It is organized by Stop Annekteringen af Palaestina and is supported by multiple other pro-Palestinian groups.

Source: Facebook

• In Copenhagen, an additional pro-Palestinian protest march will be held from Forum Street to Palastina Plads from 14:00 on March 30.

Source: Allepaagaden

- In Paris, **France**, a pro-Palestinian protest organized by the group CAPJPO-Europalestine will be held at Place de Republique from 14:00 on March 29.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.

Source: X/Twitter

- In Berlin, **Germany**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held in Oranienplatz from 13:00 on March 29.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.
- The protest is organized by multiple pro-Palestinian, left-wing, and student groups, including Palastina Spricht, Student Coalition Berlin, and Revolution Germany Kommunistische Jungendorganisation.

Source: <u>Instagram</u>

- A counter-protest march denouncing the al-Quds march in Berlin will be held from Adenauerplatz from 11:00 on March 29.
- Following the initial gathering, the march will proceed via Kurfurstendamm, Ecke Schluterstrasse, Ecke Fasanenstrasse, Ecke Rankestrasse, Tauentzienstrasse, to the final protest location at Wittenbergplatz.

Source: X/Twitter

- In Berlin, an additional pro-Palestinian protest march will be held from Potsdamer Platz to U-Banhof Kleistpark train station via Potsdamer Strasse from 14:00 on March 29.
- The protest is supported by multiple pro-Palestinian groups.

Source: Asanb.noblogs

• A pro-Israel counterprotest will be held at Potsdamer Platz from 16:30 on March 29.

Source: Berlin.de

- In Munich, **Germany**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Marienplatz from 18:00 on March 30.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.
- The protest is organized by multiple pro-Palestinian and student groups, including University for Palestine and Revolution Germany Kommunistische Jungendorganisation.

Source: Instagram

- In Barcelona, **Spain**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Plaza de la Seu from 12:00 on March 29.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.

Source: Parar La Guerra

- In Madrid, **Spain**, a pro-Palestinian protest will be held at Plaza Juan Goytisolo from 12:00 on March 29.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.

Source: X/Twitter

- An additional protest in Madrid will be held at the Israeli Embassy on 7 Calle Velazquez from 12:00 on March 30.
- The protest is being held in connection with International al-Quds Day on March 28.

Source: X/Twitter

• In the **UK**, pro-Palestinian student groups have called for student walkouts and protests at university campuses nationwide at 14:15 on March 28 as part of a National Student Day of Action.

Source: Instagram

Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on precedent and the mobilizational capabilities of the organizers, pro-Palestinian protests are likely to attract turnouts ranging from the low to high thousands, with protests in Berlin and Paris likely attracting higher turnouts. Counter-demonstrations are likely to see lower turnouts in the low hundreds.
- 2. In addition to the planned protests, spontaneous pro-Palestinian and pro-Israel demonstrations are likely to occur regionwide on March 28-30, given heightened tensions over the renewed fighting in the Gaza Strip and commemorations of International al-Quds Day events. Protests over the conflict 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 demonstrations carry a heightened potential for unrest in the form of clashes between protesters, potential counter-protesters, and police. Further, the potential for pro-Israel counter-protests also remains, increasing the risk of clashes between opposing groups.
- 4. Additionally, protests with high student involvement or participation of radical groups, especially far-left pro-Palestinian groups, have a heightened risk of unrest, as these entities are liable to engage in disruptive tactics, such as blocking roads or damaging property. As such, the protests in Berlin and Munich pose a heightened risk of clashes with law enforcement, considering the involvement of student and left-wing groups. Similarly, any protests in connection with the UK student walkouts are at a heightened risk of unrest, given the involvement of student activist groups, which are liable to vandalize university property or attempt to disrupt campus proceedings.
- 5. Given this, a reinforced security presence is expected near protest locations to monitor proceedings. In the case of escalating unrest, police are liable to use forcible dispersal methods, including using tear gas or conducting mass arrests.
- 6. Significant disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular movement, including road closures, disruptions to public transportation, and traffic diversions, should be anticipated near the protest locations.

Recommendations

- 1. Those operating or residing in Europe on March 27-30 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.