Europe divided on several fronts

Nations
Against Governments

The Israel-Palestine conflict has cast uncertainty over Europe's future

French rallies for Palestine

Several major French cities including Paris, Marseille, Toulouse, Lyon, and Bordeaux were the scene of huge rallies calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. Demonstrators expressed their protest with slogans like "Stop the massacre in Gaza!" and "France must demand an immediate ceasefire", Figaro reported. According to official estimates, more than 15,000 protestors marched in Paris.

Manuel Bompard, the coordinator of the La France Insoumise party, said that the Marseille protests were attended by at least 1,300 people. Some waved Palestinian flags, while some others carried signs reading "Stop the genocide in Gaza," "Support for Palestine," and "Ceasefire". "This gathering is essential in the face of massacres because what is happening today in Gaza, with over 10,000 killed, is a silent genocide in the eyes of a large part of the international community," he said.

Last week, Gerald Darmanin, the French Minister of the Interior, asked local authorities to ban protests in support of Palestine. A court in Paris suspended the restriction on Friday, stating that the ban is a "serious, illegal, and overt threat to the right to protest". This comes while French President Emmanuel Macron claimed that the ban on demonstrations in support of Palestinians is justified.

Despite efforts to prevent demonstrations in support of Palestinians, university students in the city of Toulouse in southern France condemned the massacre of defenseless Palestinians by the Zionist regime in a gathering on Thursday. Participants in this rally demanded an immediate halt to the bombing of Gaza by the Zionist regime.

No. 10 can't suppress pro-Palestinians

A massive demonstration was also held in London, the capital of the UK, on Saturday in support of Palestine and against the Israeli regime. Protesters demanded an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Sky News estimated that tens of thousands of people attended the demonstration. The Middle East Monitor described the pro-Palestinian protest in London as one of the largest demonstrations in the history of the UK. Published images and videos depict fervent Palestinian supporters in London, with news outlets reporting clashes between the police and protesters. The London police announced that 82 protesters were arrested.

The gathering of a large crowd of Palestinian supporters moving from Hyde Park in London towards the US embassy was expected. As a result, streets surrounding the US and Israel embassies in London were reportedly closed by the Metropolitan Police to deter potential attacks as some in the crowd were justifiably angered by the staunch support that the Biden administration gave the Zionist regime in the Gaza conflict.

Earlier, British lawmakers had made unsuccessful attempts to convince organizers to postpone Saturday demonstrations as it would have coincided with the Armistice Day — the anniversary of World War I.

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