



Netherlands Briefing: November 2024

Reporting period: 1st November - 30th November 2024

Political & Social Developments Following Zionist Violence

Escalation of Tensions: Maccabi Tel Aviv Match

Amsterdam Mayor Femke Halsema faced mounting concerns over security in the lead-up to the Ajax-Maccabi Tel Aviv Europa League match on 7 November 2024. Despite warnings about Maccabi Tel Aviv's extremist fan culture and history of racist and violent incidents, the National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security (NCTV) downplayed risks, allowing the event to proceed.

Context of the Match: Maccabi fans are associated with far-right, pro-Zionist extremist behavior, including violence, racist abuse and provocative displays targeting Palestinian symbols and individuals.

Security Measures: Protests were relocated and the city designated "security risk zones" granting police extended powers.

Violence Against Pro-Palestinian Demonstrators

Between 2-7 November, a series of violent incidents perpetrated by Maccabi Tel Aviv supporters escalated tensions.

Attacks on Protesters and Individuals: Pro-Palestinian protesters and individuals wearing Palestinian symbols were assaulted in Amsterdam's inner city. One Muslim taxi driver was violently attacked, sparking community solidarity.

Police Inaction: Law enforcement displayed a pattern of bias, passively tolerating violence from Maccabi hooligans while cracking down on Palestinian and local protesters who were provoked by the extremist fans.

Systematic Targeting of Muslim Communities

Authorities responded to events with measures that disproportionately targeted Muslims and pro-Palestine activists.

State of Emergency & Protest Bans: Mayor Halsema declared a state of emergency, banning demonstrations and implementing repressive policing tactics.



Excessive Police Violence: On 10 November, a peaceful protest was dispersed violently, with several injuries, including a woman in hijab suffering severe trauma.

Media Misrepresentation & Israeli Influence

Mainstream media portrayed Maccabi Tel Aviv supporters as victims, ignoring evidence of their extremist provocations.

Fabricated Narratives: Outlets like CNN and BBC propagated a false “pogrom” narrative, misusing the term to shield Zionist aggression.

Israeli Intervention: The Israeli government quickly framed the incidents as antisemitic, influencing Dutch political discourse and fueling anti-Muslim sentiment.

Crackdown on Palestine Activism

In the aftermath of these events, Dutch authorities announced policies targeting Muslim communities under the guise of “integration”.

Revoking Dual Nationality: Prime Minister Dick Schoof proposed stripping dual citizens involved in protests of Dutch nationality, specifically targeting Muslim youth.

Restrictive Policies: New legislation aimed to monitor Islamic informal education and increase police surveillance on private communication channels like Telegram.

Grassroots Resistance & Calls for Justice

The Muslim community and allies responded with grassroots mobilization.

Muslim Rights Watch Netherlands (MRWN) established a reporting center to document violence by Maccabi hooligans.

Local Resistance: Amsterdammers opposed Zionist provocations and police bias, demanding accountability and justice.

International Implications and Alarming Trends

The events in Amsterdam exemplify a dangerous global trend of suppressing Muslim voices under the guise of security and combating antisemitism.

Foreign Influence: Israeli government reports influenced Dutch policy, targeting organizations critical of Israel's human rights violations.



Normalisation of Repression: Motions to criminalize criticism of Israel and expand police powers threaten civil liberties, especially for Muslims.

Key Recommendations

Independent Investigations: Demand accountability for police violence and investigate the role of extremist Zionist hooligans.

Media Advocacy: Challenge biased narratives and highlight grassroots documentation exposing the true events.

Community Support: Strengthen legal and financial assistance for victims and protesters facing repression.

Policy Reform: Oppose repressive laws targeting Muslim communities and demand protection for civil liberties.