

Frankfurt 2026: Quds Day from the Left

Transfer of Organizational Structures and Left-Wing Groups as Exporters of the Islamic Revolution

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United in the Axis of Resistance – Quds Day in Frankfurt 2026
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On Friday, March 13, 2026, Quds Day—commemorating the conquest of Jerusalem and the destruction of Israel—was observed in the major cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran.¹ Until then, Shiite Islamist networks based in nearby Offenbach had organized the annual Quds Day demonstrations in Frankfurt am Main, which had always taken place the day after the marches in Iran itself. For March 14, the group “Migrantifa”, Rhein-Main which identifies as left-wing, had called for

¹ Background on Quds Day in Frankfurt am Main: <https://www.mideastfreedomforum.org/veroeffentlichungen/broschueren/quds-tag-in-frankfurt>

a demonstration under the slogan “Stop Zionism—Solidarity with Palestine & Iran.” A single individual had registered the event. About 300 people heeded the call. In contrast, the original Frankfurt Quds Day network centered around the Ehlibeyt Mosque in Offenbach decided not to hold a separate march.

Migrantifa Rhein-Main is well-known in the region. A spokesperson for the group, Hasan Özbay, has previously been in the media spotlight for attempting to infiltrate the climate initiative “Fridays For Futurein Mainz and for advocating the massacres of October 7 as a form of decolonization.² The call to action on social media was accompanied by a song by the Lebanese singer and propagandist Alu Al-Attar, which has since been removed from the post. Just a few years ago, Al-Attar was still calling for a final war against Israel and yearning for a “most horrible holocaust” against Zionism.³

Various “Palestine Solidarity” groups from Frankfurt, Darmstadt, and Mannheim had mobilized for the March 14 demonstration; in the past, to put it euphemistically, these groups had shown little hesitation in associating with Islamists loyal to the regime. Some of these are the same individuals who participated in last year’s Quds Day demonstration organized by the Ehlibeyt network.

Despite the left-wing mobilization, the march’s outward appearance had more of a religious than a left-wing connotation. Flags of the Islamic Republic, Lebanon, and Palestine dominated the scene; a large proportion of the women wore some form of Islamic head covering. Pictures of the late Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and his successor Mojtaba Khamenei, as well as signs in Persian, were held aloft. Slogans were also chanted in Persian and Arabic. Absent from the scene was the image of Offenbach Imam and network founder Muhammed Avci, which had been present in the past. Individual members of the network were present at the demonstration but did not play a distinct role. This included the son of the late Offenbach Imam, İsmail Avci, who was at the rear of the procession.

² <https://www.tagesspiegel.de/gesellschaft/ausgeschlossener-fff-aktivist-hasan-ozbay-verbrannte-flugblatter-gegen-anti-semitismus-10709617.html>

³ <https://www.memri.org/tv/lebanese-singer-attar-song-we-will-pray-jerusalem-zionism-suffer-horrible-holocaust-burn-star-david>



İsmail Avci on the phone among the flags.

Photo: Nutshell Photography CC BY-NC 4.0

Six days before the Quds Day demonstration, a rally dominated by Shi'ite Islamists took place in Frankfurt am Main, drawing 550 people. The event was organized by the "Islamic Religious Community" of Hesse and the association "Peace and Future Workshop" on March 8.⁴ Key figures from the Avci network were already present there, such as İsmail Avci and Halil Karamercan from Augsburg. In addition, the pro-regime influencer Hani Karimian appeared at the event.⁵

Although decidedly religious forces were involved in the organization of this event, clear overlaps with the left-wing authoritarian milieu can already be observed. Not only was the same car with Offenbach license plates used as a sound truck for both events, but flyers for the Quds Day demonstration were also distributed on site. Furthermore, key figures from the authoritarian left took on security duties at the Shiite-Islamist rally. Frankfurt student Daniel Shuminov, who also served as a spokesperson for the anti-Semitic Palestine Camp⁶ at Goethe University, wore a security vest on March 8 and gave a speech at the Quds Day demonstration stating that Jews living in Iran knew that "Zionism is their main enemy".

Nasrin Düll—co-spokesperson for the Palestine Camp and a member of the Communist Organization (KO)—was also present at the rally organized by the Shiite Islamists and served as a steward

⁴ See the report: <https://democ.de/artikel/israelfeindliche-versammlung-von-regime-anh%C3%A4ngern-der-islamischen-republik-iran/>.

⁵ See *ibid.* It states, among other things: "At the rally on March 8, 2026, the Shiite Islamist influencer Hani Karimian once again led the chants."

⁶ <https://initiative-siebter-oktober.org/muslimbrueder-naehr-redner-auf-dem-frankfurter-palaestina-camp-an-der-goethe-universitaet/>

at the Quds Day event. On behalf of the KO, Düll attended a conference of the “World Anti-Imperialist



Abu-Odeh, arriving late, takes the microphone.

Photo: Nutshell Photography CC BY-NC 4.0

as massacre the described she where 7, October after months two under just Athens in ⁷Platform “heroic resistance.”⁸

KO and “Zaytouna” Rhein-Neckar-Kreisactivist Mahmoud Abu-Odeh arrived late to the protest, took the microphone, and described the Islamic Republic of Iran as the greatest supporter of “the” Palestinians—a group to which he apparently counts himself as belonging in his speech. According to media reports, Abu-Odeh, a native of Mannheim, was the German spokesperson for the “Freedom banned now is He slogans. Semitic-anti for court to brought been already had and 2025 in ⁹Flotilla from speaking in his hometown after calling for increased terrorist attacks on Israel there and verbally attacking the cantor of the local Jewish community.¹⁰ At the nationwide “United4Gaza” demonstration in August 2025, Abu-Odeh was arrested for downplaying the Holocaust from the stage.¹¹

⁷ The WAP had already organized a rally in Frankfurt in 2023. The event was organized by the Salafist Bernhard Falk: <https://www.dokunetzwerk.org/2023/10/14/souveraenistische-kundgebung-in-frankfurt/>

⁸ <https://kommunistische-organisation.de/stellungnahmen/redebeitrag-der-ko-auf-konferenz-der-wap-in-athen/>

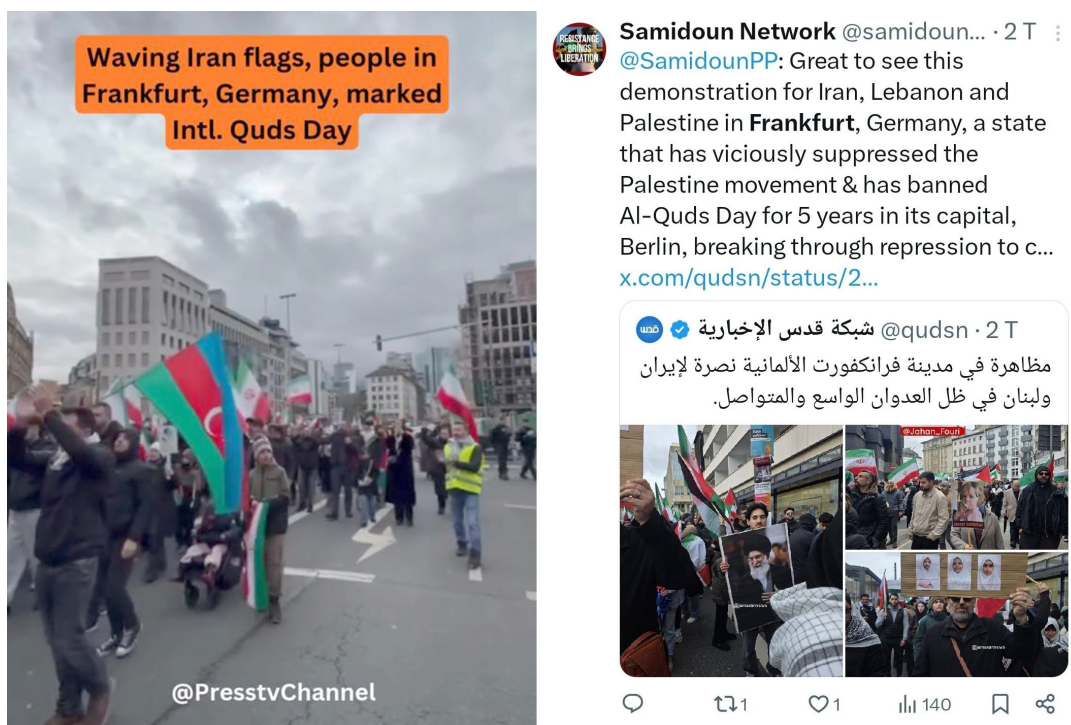
⁹ <https://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article68922e015bfd36554e9e82dd/brennpunkt-mannheim-nahost-konflikt-auf-deutschen-strassen-der-auffaellige-polizei-befund.html>

¹⁰ <https://www.mena-watch.com/antisemitismus-hannover-kunst-und-kulturszene/>

¹¹ <https://www.hessenschau.de/gesellschaft/pro-palaestina-demo-beendet---strafanzeige-gegen-redner-v19.palaestina-demo-in-frankfurt-zugelassen-100.html>

The KO is an authoritarian splinter group that repeatedly draws attention to itself with provocative statements. Not only does it defend Putin's war against Ukraine, but following the recent massacres in Iran, it declared its full solidarity with the Islamic Republic and, using the regime's own rhetoric, described the protests by the local population as being orchestrated by imperialist forces.¹²

¹³ 's KO party colleague, Aitak Barani—who was convicted of condoning criminal acts—is currently even in Iran. She had flown to Tehran precisely for the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution (February 11), but her return flight was canceled due to the war. Since then, she has served as the regime's mouthpiece for the demonstrations in Frankfurt. At the start of Quds Day, a voice message from Barani was played in which she made direct reference to the Quds Day demonstrations in Iran. Barani holds an Iranian passport and cast her vote in the presidential election at the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic in Frankfurt following the helicopter crash in May 2024.



Screenshots: PRESSTV AND SAMIDOUN;
Source: X & Instagram

The fact that the Migrantifa Rhein-Main demonstration can confidently be officially designated as a Quds Day march is confirmed by a video from the Iranian state broadcaster PressTV¹², which was on site in Frankfurt on March 14 and referred to the demonstration as an “International Quds Day” rally

¹² <https://kommunistische-organisation.de/stellungnahmen/solidaritaet-mit-der-islamischen-republik-iran/>

¹³ <https://www.juedische-allgemeine.de/politik/terror-unterstuetzerin-kommt-mit-verwarnung-davon/>

The Palestinian prisoners' network —"Samidoun" which has since been banned—also rejoiced because, following the ban on the Quds March in the German capital, people in Germany could finally take to the streets again for this Islamist propaganda event.

In terms of content, the entire march echoed the rhetoric of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Palestinian Hamas. In a speech, a spokeswoman for Migrantifa Rhein-Main criticized other leftists who, she claimed, would only refer to a secular and progressive Palestinian resistance. Her speech is an open homage to Hamas, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and their proxy groups. To illustrate the extent of this, here is the final part of the speech reproduced in its original form:

"One of the most important struggles we have waged has been to counter this narrative—the narrative that leads only to a lack of solidarity and illusions. This demand and position are not grounded in reality. The reality is that resistance and liberation struggles are not always perfect and beautiful. That roses do not spring from the fighters' guns, as some romantic illustrations sometimes almost make us forget. As a rule, anti-colonial resistance is formed by diverse forces under the banner of national sovereignty and self-liberation. The PFLP, which has long since ceased to be the strongest force in the resistance, has formed an alliance with Hamas. They have realized that they no longer have a base and that they can only wage and win the struggle together with Hamas and other groups that we refer to as the Axis of Resistance. We have shown unconditional solidarity with every form of armed resistance, because we do not judge the righteousness of the struggle by the ideology of the oppressed, the colonized, and those subjugated by imperialism. Rather, it is because they have a right to self-determination and also to decide how they wage their struggle".

The speaker was met with cheers and applause from the demonstration march.

As the procession turned onto Friedberger Landstraße and came within earshot of the site of the former synagogue, a young man began chanting slogans in Arabic. These included "We are at your service, O Khamenei!", the slogan "We will not submit!"—which alludes to the Battle of Karbala—and finally, a slightly modified anti-Semitic slogan: "Chaibar, Chaibar, O you Zionists! Muhammad's army will return!" The slogan refers to the military subjugation of a Jewish settlement in the 7th century by the Prophet and military commander Muhammad. The actual slogan, "¹⁴," accordingly also calls out "O you Jews," especially since the idea of Zionism was still a long way from being born. Here, "Zionists" is clearly a political euphemism for "Jews." The fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran named a newly developed medium-range missile the "Chaibar Destroyer" in 2024 underscores the Iranian regime's genocidal anti-Semitic motivation.¹⁵

¹⁴ <https://israelinstitute.nz/2025/07/khaybar-khaybar-o-jews-the-message-of-hate-echoing-through-modern-protests/>

¹⁵ <https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/asien/iran-rakete-mittelstrecke-100.html>



Announcement by the Army of Muhammad; this young man is leading the anti-Semitic chants.

Photo: Nutshell Fotografie CC BY-NC 4.0

Right in front of the former synagogue, the chants switched to German. The crowd chanted “Iran until victory!” and “Resistance until victory!” Earlier, the chant leader—a native of Mannheim—had already called for the Islamic Republic of Iran to make this war the last war. The idea of the destruction of the Jewish state is also inherent in this slogan. Because the Persian slogan commonly used on Quds Day, “Marg bar Israel!” [Death to Israel!], was chanted, the police broke up the march shortly before it reached its final destination.¹⁶

The fact that supposedly left-wing groups are organizing the Quds Day demonstration in Frankfurt is a first since these marches began. The fact that key figures from the Offenbach Ehlbeyt network participated in the march without holding any specific role in the “ ” makes it clear that this was organized in coordination with Islamist groups and that there must have been prior communication between them and the “Migrantifa Rhein-Main.”

What was already hinted at last year with the participation of left-wing forces in the Quds Day march has now, after about eleven months, reached a new level. There is no longer just ideological support, but open organizational collaboration. This alliance is an expression of certain left-wing groups’ full identification with the so-called Axis of Resistance as a supposedly revolutionary antithesis to liberal-capitalist democracies, which they accuse of supporting genocide.

¹⁶ See also the short report with video from democ regarding this story: <https://democ.de/artikel/quds-demo-ffm/>

