

INTERNATIONAL

Shootings

Munich launches huge security operation

Bavarian prime minister rushes to city to attend emergency meetings

CLAIRE JONES AND JAMES SHOTTER
FRANKFURT
CARDIFF GARCIA — MUNICH

Police in Munich ordered a lockdown of the city after the authorities said several people had been killed and injured in a shooting outside a shopping centre in the Bavarian capital yesterday evening.

A large police operation was under way after shots were fired at the Olympia shopping centre, about 10km north of the city centre.

Police officials described the attack as an "acute terrorist situation" although there was little information about the identity of the assailants.

According to Thomas Baumann, a spokesman for Munich police, shots were fired at a McDonald's in the vicinity of the Olympia shopping centre at 5.52pm local time.

The Munich police force said on its Facebook page that witnesses had reported three gunmen were involved

'Unconfirmed reports of more violence and possible #gunfire'

Police tweet in English

in the shooting and that they had not been able to locate them amid reports they had fled into the shopping centre.

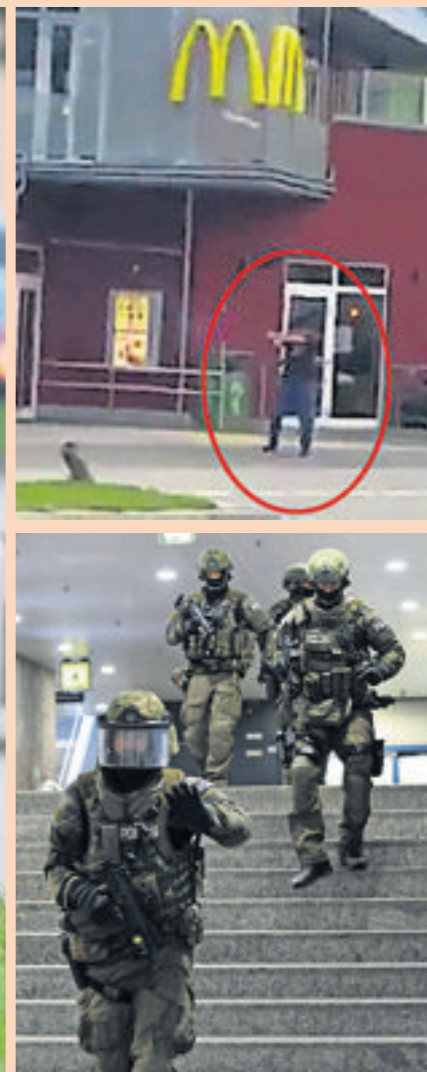
The Süddeutsche Zeitung, a German national newspaper which is based in the city, reported on Twitter that there were multiple fatalities.

German TV showed dozens of police vans converging on the shopping centre in the north of the city.

Munich central railway station was evacuated and rail, underground and bus services suspended.

The Munich police used Twitter and Facebook to urge residents in the city to stay indoors and avoid public places.

Just after 8.10pm local time, the police sent out a tweet in English stating: "Unconfirmed reports of more violence



Clockwise from above: armed police arrive at the Olympia shopping centre in Munich yesterday evening, where multiple gunmen were thought to have killed several people; image of a suspected gunman caught on video; officers walk through Karlsplatz underground station near the shooting — Matthias Balk/AP, Andreas Gebert/AP



and possible #gunfire in the city centre. Situation is unclear. Please avoid public areas."

Munich residents took to social media to offer shelter to people stranded in the city owing to the lockdown.

At the Nürnberger Bratwurst Glöckel in the Altstadt, a café in the city centre, diners were ordered inside and the doors locked behind them. After people were herded upstairs, the lights were turned off as a precaution. For about half an hour, people could be seen running and walking past the café, but eventually the streets emptied. A police

officer later entered the café, confirmed there was an operation under way and requested people to stay where they were. "It's safe here," he said.

Horst Seehofer, the Bavarian prime minister, rushed back to Munich from his home in Ingolstadt to attend emergency meetings of the government.

Security services across Europe have been on alert after a spate of terrorist attacks in public spaces over the past 18 months. Last week, 84 people were killed in Nice, France, when a man drove a truck into crowds celebrating Bastille Day on the waterfront.

The incident in Munich comes four days after a 17-year-old Afghan refugee attacked passengers in a train near the Bavarian town of Würzburg with an axe and a knife. He wounded five people before being shot dead by police.

Isis claimed responsibility for the attack and a video was later released showing the youth threatening to kill "infidels" and brandishing a knife. Authorities said, however, that initial investigations suggested he had no connection to jihadi networks.

Additional reporting by Guy Chazan in Berlin

Business poll

Eurozone shows resilience after Brexit vote, statistics reveal

CLAIRE JONES — FRANKFURT

The eurozone economy is proving resilient to the fallout from Britain's decision to leave the EU, new data suggested yesterday, even as signs of a downturn intensified in the UK.

A poll of purchasing managers for the single currency area showed the pace of recovery slowing only slightly after the June 23 referendum. A separate European Central Bank survey of private sector forecasts also showed economists expect the British decision to have only a minor impact on the region.

The purchasing managers' index for the eurozone, compiled by data firm Markit, fell from 53.1 in June to 52.9 in July.

While activity in the eurozone rose at the slowest pace in a year and a half, the decline was less pronounced than some had feared and the figure remains well above the crucial 50 level that marks an expansion in activity.

By contrast, Markit's comparable figure for the UK plunged from 52.4 per cent in June to 47.7 per cent in July, the lowest reading since early 2009.

"The eurozone economy showed surprising resilience in the face of the UK's vote to leave the EU and another terrorist attack in France," said Chris Williamson, chief economist at Markit.

He added that the fragility of the region's recovery left plenty of room for speculation about further stimulus by the ECB next year.

Brexit could dent trade between the eurozone and the UK, while the British vote has also stoked concerns about the EU's future cohesion, contributing to a steep fall in bank stocks in countries such as Italy and Spain immediately after the referendum.

The latest edition of the central bank's quarterly poll of professional forecasters showed that economists expected growth in the single currency area next year to be 0.2 percentage points lower than previously thought.

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DEFENDING THE DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IN TURKEY

TÜSİAD

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The Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD) was founded in 1971 as a non-governmental, non-profit entrepreneur organization. TÜSİAD represents 85% of Turkey's total foreign trade (excluding energy), around 80% of private sector employment and 50% of total corporate taxes. TÜSİAD plays a significant role in the Turkish economy and is a member of BusinessEurope, the BIAC of the OECD and the B-20.

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On the evening of July 15th, a group of renegade officers from Turkey's military sought to impose their will on the citizens of our republic through an armed coup. They failed thanks to the mobilization of all segments of society: the people, political leaders, and institutions of Turkey. All of them have expressed their refusal of the violations of the institutions and of the constitutional order and their attachment to the principles of rule of law, fundamental freedoms and human rights.

The common stance shared by all political parties in the Turkish Grand National Assembly against this intervention has resonated among all elements of society. We have seen that despite differences within society, compromise is possible under peaceful and democratic conditions.

Interventions against democracy can only be prevented by further raising democratic standards and strengthening the rule of law. By starting negotiations with the EU in 2005, Turkey showed it was well and truly on this path. The democratic standards of the EU and the accession process have

been among the most effective sources of Turkey's strong democracy and global competitiveness.

Today, Turkey is the world's 18th largest economy, fully integrated with global markets. Beyond Europe, Turkey is an indispensable member of the transatlantic community, economically, politically and institutionally.

Despite the global economic crisis and increased geopolitical risk, the Turkish economy has displayed resilience. Turkey hosted 3 million refugees and with its young and dynamic population, has sustained relatively high and stable growth. Fiscal discipline and the strength of the banking sector have been, and will continue to be, the fundamental elements of Turkey's economic stability. Market economy rules and institutions will continue to be the main pillars of the competitive Turkish economy.

Turkey has clearly proven the breadth of its nationwide commitment to democracy. We are confident that Turkey will continue to demonstrate the resilience of its democracy and its commitment to the rule of law. TÜSİAD is and will continue to be an earnest supporter of these universal principles and goals.