

August 2020 Terror Attacks

In August 2020, two terror attacks were registered in Europe

August 12th, Milan, Italy: a 26 years-old Egyptian immigrant, legally resident on Italian soil, was spotted sitting on the stairs of Milan’s central Duomo cathedral by private security operators and police; the man attracted attention after behaving nervously and suspiciously. As officers approached him for a check, the individual pulled out a knife and rushed towards the entrance of the Duomo, chased by a private security officer. The attacker managed to overpower the security guard, he made him kneel in front of a small altar within the Church and threatened to behead him. The standoff with the police went on for over 20 minutes before agents took action and overpowered him. (Read full story [here](#)).^{1 2 3}

August 18th, Berlin, Germany: a 30 years-old Iraqi citizen, and refugee in the country, rammed his car against a group of bikers along the A100 motorway. The attacker then exited the vehicle armed with a knife while yelling “Allahu Akbar” (God is Great) and he pulled out a prayer mat in the middle of the road. The attack left two people seriously hurt and a third in critical condition, while three others suffered minor injuries. The attacker, who was detained, had previously posted a message on Facebook regarding Palestine and with the words “Allahu Akbar” and “shahid” (martyr).^{4 5 6}

Location	Site	Year, month	Day	Target	Attacker(s)	Sex	Weapon(s)	Nationality	Age	Mental ill.	Motivation	Dec. attackers	Dec. vict.	Inj. vict.	Previous Conviction
Milan (Italy)	place of Worship	2020, 08	12	Security guard	1	M	Knife	Egyptian	26	n/d	n/d	0\1	0	1	yes
Berlin (Germany)	Urban	2020, 08	17	Civilians	1	M	Car	Iraqi	30	yes	Islamism	0\1	0	6	yes

¹ <https://www.ilgiorno.it/milano/cronaca/ostaggio-duomo-1.5409825>

² <https://www.ilgiornale.it/news/cronache/magrebino-armato-fa-irruzione-nel-duomo-milano-e-prende-1883103.html>

³ https://www.ansa.it/lombardia/notizie/2020/08/12/ostaggio-in-duomo-arrestato-e-egiziano_ce19020c-f3a1-4151-b0f0-a29a15c38adb.html

⁴ <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/19/six-injured-driver-rams-motorbikes-suspected-terror-attack-berlin/>

⁵ <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/islamist-held-over-terror-on-berlin-motorway-cm9kctczw>

⁶ <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8642439/Islamist-Iraqi-causes-multiple-crashes-Berlin-motorway-injuring-six.html>