

Spain - Far-Left Groups Plan a Demonstration Against the Israeli Basketball Team HaPoel Tel Aviv - January 2, 2025

Name/Description of incident	Far-Left Groups Plan a Demonstration Against the Israeli Basketball Team Hapoel Tel Aviv on January 2
Organizing Group/s	Partido Comunista del Pueblo Canario (PCPC) El Colectivo Canarias Insumisa
Type of Incident	Protest/Rally ▾
Location	Gran Canaria Arena , Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
Coordinates	28.1116° N; 15.4328° W
Risk Level	High ▾
Online Engagement	PCPC - 118 subscribers on Telegram Javier Espinosa - 38k followers on X La casa de mi tia - 9.5K followers on X Ale Granca - 696 followers on X

- Spanish far-left groups, including the **Partido Comunista del Pueblo Canario** (Communist Party of the Canarian People, PCPC) and **El Colectivo Canarias Insumisa**, are promoting a **demonstration against the Israeli basketball team Hapoel Tel Aviv** on social media.
 - The protest is scheduled for **January 2 at 18:30 (local time)** outside the **Gran Canaria Arena, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain**.
- According to a Telegram post shared by the **PCPC** on December 30, 2024, a statement promoting the protest reads: “On January 2nd, we’ll see you in the streets to show our rejection of the Israeli basketball team Hapoel Tel Aviv. The Canary Islands say NO to Zionism!”
 - The invitation to the protest features a bloody basketball with a blue Magen David on it, along with text that reads, “Zionists Out of the Canary Islands!” and “No to the whitewashing of genocide through sports.”
 - The PCPC group organizes demonstrations and is involved in the BDS anti-Israel campaigns in Spain. In their first message in 2025, the group advocated for the BDS campaign, writing: “In this 2025, long live the struggle of the Palestinian people.”

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- The protest was also promoted by Spanish far-left, pro-Palestine groups and individuals, such as **La Casa de Mi Tia**, a Canary-based far-left media outlet with **over 9.5K followers** on X.¹



The invitation to the protest against HaPoel TLV outside the Gran Canaria Arena shared by PCPC on Telegram (left) and by La Casa de Mi Tia's X account (right)

- Several media outlets claimed that a group called **El colectivo Canarias Insumisa** (“**Canarias Insumisa collective**”) is behind the protest against the Hapoel Tel Aviv match in Gran Canaria.²
 - On January 1, it was reported that the **Canarias Insumisa collective** burned the Israeli flag outside the stadium where HaPoel Tel Aviv is scheduled to play the next day.³
 - The **Canarias Insumisa collective** is a far-left, pro-Palestine group that organizes anti-Israel activities such as demonstrations, rallies, and alike.
 - Based on the activity of the **Canarias Insumisa collective** official website, it seems the group was founded in November 2024.⁴
- On social media, **Spanish users expressed their support** for the above-mentioned **flag-burning**. For example, the Spanish far-left **journalist Javier Espinosa**, who has **over 38K followers on X**, wrote: “The Israeli flag is burned before a Hapoel Tel Aviv match against a Canarian basketball team. The Canarias Insumisa collective calls for a boycott of the sporting event. The boycott was key to ending Apartheid in South Africa.”⁵
 - Espinosa’s tweet was translated to English by pro-Palestine activists.
 - Another user on X, **Ale Granca**, who has 696 followers, also promoted the demonstration against HaPoel Tel Aviv. **His tweet was viewed 4,806 times.**⁶

¹ [https://x\[.\]com/lacasademitia/status/1873651041109250350](https://x[.]com/lacasademitia/status/1873651041109250350)

² <https://www.lacasademitia.es/articulo/politica/blanqueo-genocidio-traves-deporte-boicot-partido-baloncesto-equipo-sionista/20241231060359164978.html>

³ https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/activists-burn-israeli-flag-outside-spanish-venue-set-to-host-hapoel-tel-aviv-basketball-team/

⁴ [https://canariasinsumisa\[.\]com/2024/](https://canariasinsumisa[.]com/2024/)

⁵ [https://x\[.\]com/javierespinosa2/status/1874428861980787016](https://x[.]com/javierespinosa2/status/1874428861980787016)

⁶ [https://x\[.\]com/GrancaAle/status/1873644011837370553](https://x[.]com/GrancaAle/status/1873644011837370553)



Reports on local news outlets about the upcoming protest outside the arena



Espinosa's tweet (left); An anti-Israeli X account that translated his Tweet to English (right)

Context & Analysis:

- The planned protest follows a provocative act of hostility by the **Canarias Insumisa collective**, which burned an Israeli flag outside the stadium scheduled to host the Hapoel Tel Aviv match.
- **The flag burning has gained significant attention**, particularly on social media and through the endorsement of far-left influencers such as Javier Espinosa.
- While the **protest on January 2**, which was shared with a large following, has garnered relatively low online traction thus far - indicating a potentially smaller turnout - **the publicity surrounding the flag burning incident may increase the likelihood of violence or disorderly conduct among participants.**