

GRIM ASSOCIATIONS

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"Millions rally across Italy to support aid flotilla and Palestinians in Gaza"

More than two million people across Italy rallied in over 100 cities Friday [10/3/25] for a one-day general strike to support the Palestinians in Gaza and a humanitarian aid mission, said Italy's largest union. Clashes erupted after a group of protesters started throwing bottles at police, who responded with smoke bombs. (*Associated Press*)

Introduction

What I see happening today feels even more dangerous than the antisemitism of the past. This is not confined to a single country or regime—it is global, broad, and boiling. And history tells us that when hatred spreads across continents, Jews are always the first to pay the price.

A World Boiling with Antisemitism

The wave is unmistakable. In Britain, a terrorist attack on a synagogue killed two Jews and wounded others. In the United States, antisemitic rallies on university campuses are already treated as “old news.”

And now Italy—the sunny, joyful, seemingly carefree Italy—has seen millions in the streets, marching “for Gaza” but carrying undertones far darker.

History Echoing: Italy and Germany

This is not the first time Italy has been a stage for dangerous ideas. In the 1930s, Mussolini’s Fascist regime set the tone long before Hitler’s rise reached its peak. Italy’s racial laws of 1938 marked the beginning of a collaboration that ended in deportations, mass killings, and complicity in the Holocaust. Italy was not Germany—but it prepared the ground. Today, the scale of the rallies in Italy cannot be dismissed. To see millions mobilized is a huge warning sign. If Italy is boiling, what will happen when Germany begins to simmer?

Germany and the Next Generation

For decades, Germany fought an unrelenting battle against antisemitism. Official policy, education, and memory culture made it almost taboo. For a time, that worked.

But generations change. Those who carried the memory directly are gone. A new, energetic youth is stepping in—and, as we see in the United States, they are often passionate, restless, and easily swayed by simplified slogans. Burning U.S. and Israeli flags while waving Palestinian and Hamas banners is no longer shocking—it is a campus routine.

In Germany, when memory fades, ideology may fill the void. And given Germany’s weight in Europe, that is far more dangerous than what we see on Italy’s streets.

A Grim Projection

My fear is that Italy is only a precursor. Germany's youth could awaken, and if that happens, Europe may find itself once again at a historical breaking point. Italy inflames passions, but Germany has the power to turn passion into catastrophe.

Conclusion – A Call to Alert

We are not watching isolated protests. We are watching the early tremors of something bigger. Italy's rallies are a signal flare, not an end in themselves.

If Germany follows this path—if its youth take up the same flags and chants—the consequences will be far more than symbolic. They will shake the core of Europe, and once again, Jews will be the first target.

This is not a distant danger. It is here, unfolding before our eyes. Pretending it is only about Gaza, or only about "protests," is the same mistake the world made in the 1930s. We cannot afford to repeat it.