

GERMANY

BERLIN POLICE KILL PRIDE ATTACK SUSPECT



ANNEGRET HILSE, REUTERS

The vehicle that crashed into a crowd near Berlin's annual Christopher Street Day Pride parade Saturday evening is removed from the scene Sunday.

1 dead, 29 injured after 21-year-old allegedly drove van into crowd

MARKUS WACKET, MIRANDA MURRAY
AND KIRSTI KNOLLE
Reuters

BERLIN — German police said a 21-year-old man with a record of Islamist extremist activity was shot and killed Sunday, a day after he allegedly drove a minivan into people near Berlin's Pride celebrations, killing one person.

The ramming attack happened in the Tiergarten park near the Brandenburg Gate about 10 p.m. on Saturday, not far from one of Europe's biggest annual LGBTQ celebrations, Christopher Street Day.

Authorities said in addition to the one fatality, 29 people were injured, some by a bladed weapon the attacker wielded.

"Around 6 p.m., the suspect involved in yesterday's attack in Tiergarten was located at an allotment garden complex in Spandau," Berlin police wrote on social media, referring to an area in Berlin's west-ernmost borough where residents cultivate garden plots.

"According to initial findings, he ran towards officers while armed with a bladed weapon; police ... subsequently opened fire," police wrote. "Despite immediate

resuscitation efforts by the Berlin Fire Department, he died at the scene."

Dagmar Euent and Juliane Gotzler, who have a garden plot, said they heard several shots and police told them to stay inside their garden hut.

Earlier, Germany launched a national manhunt for the suspect. Berlin police identified the suspect as Abdul B., 21, and published his picture, asking the public for information on his whereabouts.

The suspect "attracted attention in the past through a high number of criminal offenses, through radicalisation, through membership of the Islamist scene," Interior Minister Alexander Dobrindt said earlier in the day, adding the suspect was a German citizen of Lebanese heritage who was born in Germany in 2005.

"Everything we see here indicates that we are dealing with an Islamist terrorist attack," Dobrindt told reporters at the scene, where he said the van drove down pavement, running over pedestrians.

Berlin Mayor Kai Wegner, standing next to Dobrindt, said the incident was "probably an Islamist terrorist attack on our way of living alongside one another, on

our liberal democracy, our openness and our freedom."

The Tiergarten attack was the latest in a series of vehicle attacks on crowds in Germany in recent years that intensified debate around security and immigration amid a surge in support for the far-right.

Ahead of a memorial service at St Mary's Church in Berlin, center-right Chancellor Friedrich Merz vowed consequences and urged Germans not to be intimidated, affirming the country would stand united in defense of its freedom.

"We will defend the freedom, openness, and liberal spirit of our lives and our society with everything we can do," he said.

Thousands of people, some carrying the LGBT rainbow flag, attended a vigil at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate. Some carried placards with slogans such as "Hatred kills," while others cried and hugged each other. At the Tiergarten park, people lit candles and left flowers.

There were calls across the political spectrum for Germany to tighten laws and crack down on Islamic radicalism.

Please see **ATTACK**, Page A3

Europe seeks more control over production of arms

US defense companies aim to meet demand amid rise in military spending

CASSELL BRYAN-LOW
Reuters

LONDON — As U.S. defense companies descended on Britain's Farnborough Airshow last week hoping to tap Europe's military spending boom, they encountered increased concern among customers about reliance on American suppliers.

European governments demand greater control over defense equipment, more local production and a bigger share of industrial benefits.

In response, U.S. arms makers are expanding manufacturing in Europe, forming joint ventures and offering more tailored products.

"We hear loud and clear: Europeans want more sovereignty, and they want more localized capability," said Daniel Tenney, Lockheed Martin's senior vice president of global business development and strategy.

With NATO's European members and Canada sharply increasing defense spending, U.S. companies argue it is faster and cheaper to buy proven American systems than develop new ones, while pledging to localize production and technology.

Please see **EUROPE**, Page A3



CASSELL BRYAN-LOW, REUTERS

U.S. aerospace and defense company RTX's branded chalet is seen Thursday at the Farnborough International Airshow in Hampshire, Britain.