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Explosion damages Jewish school in Amsterdam with no injuries reported, mayor says



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Amsterdam Mayor Femke Halsema denounced the explosion at the school in Amsterdam on Saturday as a "cowardly act of aggression" targeted at the Jewish community.

An explosion at a Jewish school in Amsterdam overnight on Saturday damaged its exterior wall. Police and firefighters arrived at the scene quickly and there were no injuries reported.

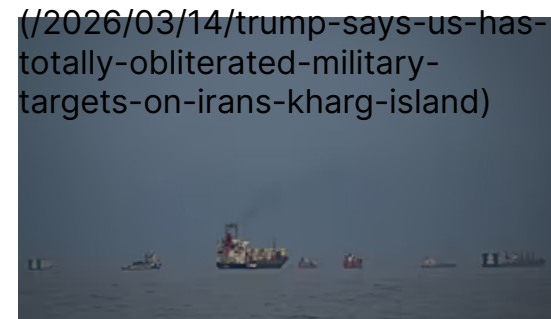


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Amsterdam mayor Femke Halsema called the incident a "cowardly act of aggression against the Jewish community."

"I understand the fear and anger of Amsterdam's Jewish community," Halsema said, adding that "they increasingly face antisemitism and that is unacceptable."

Dutch Prime Minister Rob Jetten called the attack "horrible" and said "there should be no place for antisemitism in the Netherlands."

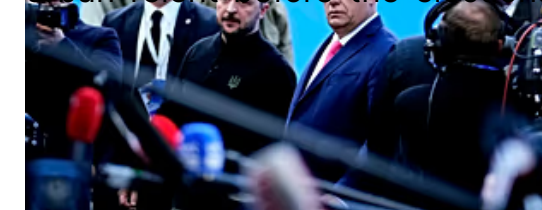
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The police said they have CCTV footage of a person placing the explosive device, adding that an investigation has been opened. They are looking for two suspects who appeared to have arrived at the school on a moped before one of them placed the explosive, they added.

Israel's foreign ministry also weighed in on X, saying: "In the Netherlands, an antisemitism epidemic is raging."

"Where will the next attack be? The Dutch government needs to do much more to fight antisemitism," the ministry wrote.



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Incident follows other attacks on Jewish institutions

Security at synagogues and Jewish institutions in the Netherlands had already been heightened after an overnight arson attack at a synagogue in the centre of Rotterdam on Friday.

The Dutch National Coordinator for Anti-terrorism and Safety said extra measures are being taken in coordination with police in light of other recent attacks throughout Europe this week.

Police arrested four young men on Friday on suspicion of setting off an explosion outside a synagogue in Rotterdam that caused a brief fire and damage to the building.



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