

**United States Embassy Berlin, Germany**  
Security Message for U.S. Citizens: *Establishment of a Restricted Zone in Hamburg*  
January 7, 2014

U.S. Embassy Berlin informs U.S. citizens that as a result of violent protests in December, the Hamburg police have established a 24/7 restricted zone covering a large area of the city of Hamburg, including the city's nightlife area.

The restricted zone (â€œGefahrengebietâ€) gives police officers extra authority to stop, search, and ban people from the area. It includes the red light district of the Reeperbahn, the Old Town, St. Pauli, and Altona Nord, including the Sternschanzen area (Rote Flora district).

Police require that all persons in public areas carry their passport or â€œAusweis.â€ If stopped without proper identification, persons may be detained by police without further justification.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations or public gatherings, especially in the restricted areas, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Germany enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Germany](#). For additional information, refer to â€œA Safe Trip Abroadâ€ on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call [1-888-407-4747](tel:1-888-407-4747) toll-free in the United States and Canada or [1-202-501-4444](tel:1-202-501-4444) from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

The American Citizen Services Unit for the U.S. Embassy Berlin is located at Clayallee 170, 14191 Berlin, and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., tel. [\(+49\) 30-83050](tel:+493083050). If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, **the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy Berlin is also [\(+49\) 30-83050](tel:+493083050).**