# Violent Clashes Erupt Ahead of Euro 2024 Opener Between England and Serbia



**Violence Erupts Ahead of Euro 2024 Opening Game Between England and Serbia**

Gelsenkirchen, Germany, June 16, 2024 — Violent clashes broke out between Serbian and Albanian fans just hours before England's Euro 2024 opening match against Serbia. The incident occurred outside the Aleppo bar in central Gelsenkirchen at around 3:30 PM local time. Reports indicate that tables, chairs, and bottles were hurled between groups of fans, with some England supporters getting caught up in the melee.

German riot police swiftly intervened, dispatching around 200 officers to control the situation. Eyewitnesses described the violence as sudden and premeditated. One English fan was seen with blood streaming down his face following the clashes.

The brawl involved dozens of Serbian fans being attacked with projectiles. Videos circulated on social media showing police chasing the involved individuals and breaking up fights.

In a related incident, a man was shot by police near a Euro 2024 fan park in Hamburg after threatening officers with a pickaxe and an incendiary device.

Despite the clashes, the Euro 2024 tournament, hosted in Germany, proceeds with England set to face Serbia tonight at 8 PM at the Veltins-Arena in Gelsenkirchen. England’s squad includes notable players such as Harry Kane, Kieran Trippier, and Anthony Gordon.

The tournament, which started on Friday, will run until July 14, 2024.