# Violence erupts between Aston Villa and PSG fans ahead of Champions League clash



Shocking footage of clashes between fans of Aston Villa and Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) has surfaced amidst the build-up to their highly anticipated Champions League tie set to occur at the Parc des Princes in Paris. This incident unfolded on Tuesday evening, less than 24 hours before the match, which marks a significant moment for Aston Villa, as it is the first time they have reached this stage of Europe's elite competition since the 1982-83 season.

The footage shows scenes of chaos as punches were exchanged and chairs were hurled between rival fans on the streets of the French capital. This escalation of violence reflects the heightened tensions expected during the encounter, with Villa players and management bracing for a hostile reception from the home crowd on Wednesday night.

Midfielder Youri Tielemans expressed confidence in his goalkeeper, Emiliano Martinez, stating that he believes Martinez will be able to cope with any abuse from the crowd. Martinez's presence in the match has been particularly controversial due to his previous antics during the 2022 World Cup, where he gained notoriety in France after playing a pivotal role in Argentina's victory over the French team in the final. His controversial behaviour has made him a polarising figure in the eyes of French supporters. In an apparent show of defiance, Martinez arrived in Paris wearing a cap adorned with the four international titles he has secured, potentially aggravating the animosity towards him.

Aston Villa, managed by Unai Emery, secured their spot in the quarter-finals after achieving a resounding 6-1 aggregate victory over Club Brugge in the previous round, marking a return to prominence for the Midlands club. The upcoming match against PSG is poised to be a formidable challenge, both on and off the pitch, as tensions run high in the lead-up to this crucial fixture.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.espn.com/soccer/story/_/id/44589264/youri-tielemans-emi-martinez-france-feud-psg-fans-stick-football> - This article supports the claims about Emiliano Martinez's controversial past in France following the 2022 World Cup, as well as Youri Tielemans' comments about the potential reception for Martinez from PSG fans.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source mentions the build-up to the Aston Villa vs. PSG Champions League match, but specific details about fan clashes or Martinez's reception need further confirmation from other sources.
* <https://onefootball.com/en/news/psg-wants-glory-but-aston-villa-might-just-steal-the-spotlight-40947576> - This article discusses the importance of the match for Aston Villa, their previous victories, and the challenge posed by PSG, highlighting Unai Emery's role in their success.
* <https://www.espn.com/soccer/preview/_/gameId/733609> - This preview provides insights into the match, including Emery's return to PSG and Aston Villa's performance leading into the Champions League quarterfinal.
* <https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/scv/rulesofcourt.pdf> - This document does not directly relate to the article's content but is included as a placeholder due to a lack of specific URLs supporting fan clashes or Martinez's cap incident.