# Climate Activists Cause Temporary Closure of Munich Airport in Protest Against Flying's Environmental Impact



On Saturday, May 18, 2024, Munich Airport in Germany experienced a temporary closure when six climate activists from the group Last Generation breached a security fence and glued themselves to access routes leading to the runways. The incident, aimed at protesting the environmental impact of flying, resulted in the detention of the activists by police, as reported by the German news agency dpa.

Due to the blockade, incoming flights were redirected to other airports. After a couple of hours, airport operations resumed, although some disruptions to flight schedules were expected. Munich Airport issued a statement confirming the reopening of its runways.

Last Generation posted on social media platform X to criticize the German government for allegedly downplaying the environmental harm caused by flying. German Interior Minister Nancy Faeser condemned the protests, highlighting the risks to air traffic and the potential negative impacts on climate protection efforts. Faeser also praised the police for their swift action and suggested a review of airport security measures.

Ralph Beisel, general manager of the German Airports Association, also denounced the activists' actions, emphasizing the significant disruption caused to passengers and calling for stricter penalties.

The group Last Generation has previously engaged in similar protests, including blocking flights at Hamburg and Düsseldorf airports in July. In January, the group announced a shift in tactics from gluing themselves to streets to organizing "disobedient assemblies," a move that has drawn widespread criticism, including from Chancellor Olaf Scholz.