

Media Grossly Underestimates Massive Turnout at Berlin's "End of the Pandemic" Protest

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Region: [Europe](#)

Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Police State](#) & [Civil Rights](#)

Heiliger Strohsack! [CNN](#) sure seems to have trouble with its estimates. First, they confuse a [regular cold and flu season](#) with the bubonic plague. Then they confuse a massive protest as being merely a "large crowd of far-right groups gathered for a 'sit-in' at Berlin's iconic Brandenburg Gate on Saturday to protest against the German government's coronavirus restrictions."

The protestors referred to themselves as "The Second Wave." And, you need only take a look at the following photo to see it was a tidal wave. For comparison purposes, the upper photo is from a 2001 "love parade" held in the same location (which [The Guardian](#) reports averages 1.5 million people). The lower photo is of the corona protest on Saturday. I was never good at guessing how many jelly beans were in the jar, so please decide for yourself:



Sure looks like more than the 17,000 the CNN estimates, wouldn't you agree?

Called the "Day of Freedom: The End of the Pandemic," clearly this protest was more than just a large gathering consisting of "anti-vaccine groups and some far-right and neo-Nazi organizations."

"Organizers said up to 1.3 million people took part," says the [Guardian](#), "a figure that police denied."

A friend in Germany, however, tells me that "police were reporting around 800,000."

[The Guardian](#) was a little more generous than the CNN, estimating 20,000 protesters. Both media sources must have trouble counting, so busy filling their articles with admonishments about the "participants' failure to wear face coverings or keep a 1.5-metre distance from each other." They are sure missing the point. That's exactly what they are protesting against: using [unproven methods](#) to stop an [unproven pandemic](#).

Scanning the news, it seems most German politicians decried the protestors for spreading COVID-19 by congregating (in a group certainly larger than five) to protest their own government. However, Tino Chrupalla, a co-chair of the [Alternative for German](#) party, told [The Guardian](#): "I followed the demonstration, which was peaceful. The people went on to the streets to defend their basic rights and their civil liberties, and that's something one can only welcome."

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