

# Motive for Amsterdam stabbing still unknown; Justice Minister cannot rule out terrorism

From the [NL Times](#)

The motive for the [stabblings](#) that left [five people injured](#) near Dam Square in Amsterdam on Thursday is still unknown. Justice Minister David van Weel cannot rule out an act of terrorism, he told [RTL Nieuws](#) on Thursday. "There is still far too much uncertainty at this stage," he told the broadcaster. The suspect is in custody.

The [apparently random](#) stabblings happened at around 3:15 p.m. on Nieuwzijds Voorburgwal, Sint Nicolaasstraat, and Nieuwendijk, near Dam Square. Those injured include a 67-year-old woman and a 69-year-old man from the United States, a 73-year-old woman from Belgium, a 26-year-old man from Poland, and a 19-year-old Dutch woman living in Amsterdam. Two of the victims were critically injured. The other three sustained serious injuries.

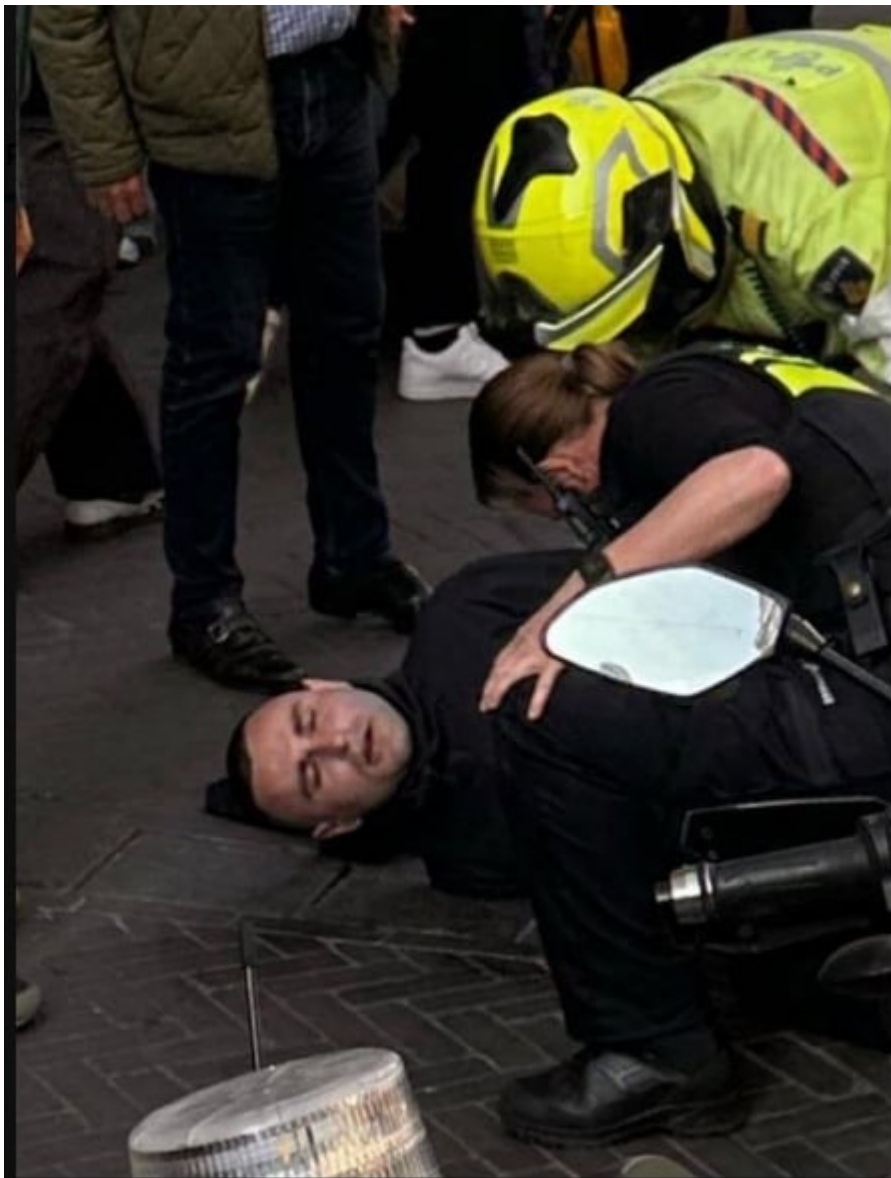
On Thursday evening, the police [raided a hotel on Dam Square](#), near where the stabblings happened. A police spokesperson confirmed to the media that the raid was connected to the investigation into the stabblings. The raid happened after the suspect was in custody.

The stabblings were stopped by a bystander, who pinned down the attacker. According to the police, he performed a citizen's arrest. That is permitted if a citizen witnesses a crime, a police spokesperson told ANP. "If you catch a suspect red-handed, you are allowed to hold him until the police arrive," he explained.

*There are accounts and photographs on X of the assailant being 'held in custody'*

*This guy stopped the knifeman in Amsterdam before the police arrived. Europe desperately needs more guys like him. A true hero. [pic.twitter.com/JQITVuF7Ke](https://pic.twitter.com/JQITVuF7Ke)*

*– RadioGenoa (@RadioGenoa) [March 27, 2025](#)*



*First rumours spoke of a 'German' (maybe a holder of a German passport) and a fair haired man (maybe the brave chap who took him down)*

*This is a still photograph of when the police arrived and turned him over. Whispered internet opinions include Moroccan or Kurdish.*