Teen suspect in stabbing of Jewish man in Zurich expressed solidarity with Islamic State group



From <u>AP</u> via the Toronto Star

People take part in vigil at the Helvetia square in Zurich, Switzerland, Sunday, March 3, 2024. On Saturday evening, a young man had stabbed an orthodox Jew. (Walter Bieri/Keystone via AP)

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss police say the 15-year-old suspect in the stabbing of an Orthodox Jewish man in Zurich over the weekend had appeared in a video expressing solidarity with the banned Islamic State group, and called himself a "soldier" in its self-described caliphate.

Zurich cantonal police security chief Mario Fehr told reporters Monday that authorities were investigating whether the teen, who was not identified, had acted alone or as part of a group. Officials said the suspect was a Swiss national.

"He refers to the IS (Islamic State), describes himself as a

soldier of the caliphate," Fehr said of the video that authorities had authenticated. He denounced the stabbing Saturday as a "terrorist" and "antisemitic" attack. The suspect was arrested at the scene.

In one video, the suspect referred to the attack in Arabic and called for a "battle against the Jews," Fehr said.

Authorities said the 50-year-old victim was critically injured but his life was no longer in danger. Swiss police have stepped up security around certain sites with a Jewish connection as a precaution.