

Video emerges of Cologne New Year's Eve violence

From the German edition of [by public broadcaster WDR](#), a distressed young woman can at one point be heard shouting "you mustn't touch me, you mustn't touch me" above the noise of the crowd.

Police can be seen scuffling with members of the large crowds or helplessly watching men loosing rockets and detonating bangers around the square in front of the station and the cathedral steps.

"We can't hold this with two people," one officer says to another during the extracts.

The video shows scenes outside the main train station around 11:30pm on New Year's Eve, when up to 1,000 people, many of them of Arab or north African appearance, were crammed into the space.

Police higher-ups finally decided to clear the square by force at 23:40 – but the full-length video clearly shows insufficient numbers of officers to effectively remove the crowd.

When the video was shown in the North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) state parliament's inquiry committee, members immediately noticed that the police also failed to issue instructions over loudspeaker to the mass of people.

The video was released on the same day that NRW interior minister Ralf Jäger faced the inquiry committee in Düsseldorf. There he denied