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By Marc Vandepitte

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World Cup 2022: criticism of Qatar is one-sided, hypocritical and somewhat colonial



Sources: By Wereld Morgen

Translated from Dutch for Rebellion by Sven Magnus

At the beginning of the football tournament there was much criticism of the host, Qatar, for the working conditions at the time of preparation for the World Cup and for LGBTI rights. The citizens of the South consider these criticisms to be hypocritical and one-sided. Outrage over this has fueled a sense of regional unity and solidarity among many fans attending the championship.

In the run-up to the Qatar World Cup the mainstream media Communication and Western political elites called repeatedly attention to rights violations human, in particular in the field of working conditions migrant workers and intolerance towards homosexuality.

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Those Accusations were not Invented. According to *The Guardian*, many Migrants had to work in inhumane conditions. At least 6,500 workers died in the construction of the different football stadiums. Homosexuality is illegal in Qatar and can be punished with up to seven years in prison.

Like this that criticism makes sense, but it is one-sided, hypocritical and also somewhat colonial.

Unilateral

They are one-sided because they omit many things, things that don't fit into Western rhetoric because we do a lot of business with that country.

No we are told, for example, that the state-owned QatarEnergy is Planning the biggest expansion in terms of production of all oil and gas the world's businesses, which would jeopardize the possibility of Achieve climate goals worldwide. It is also It conveniently conceals the fact that many Western countries have knocked on Qatar's door to supply more gas from the beginning of the Ukrainian war.

Hardly we are told, if we are told anything, that Qatar is a monarchy. very repressive in which the Journalists live under terrible censorship. There is also hardly any analysis of Qatar's support for terrorist organizations or about its warmongering role in Libya and Syria. Still less are we told that, despite that, the West supplies Arms this country without shame.

Hypocritical and colonial

Many Southern fans present in Qatar consider hypocrites the Western criticism. On the one hand, Qatar is singled out for violating human rights or alcohol restriction, but for another, this Gulf State is kindly asked to supply more natural gas to replace Russian gas.

Is It is typical and somewhat colonial that a country of the European Union is treated harshly. South while Western countries are served with Velvet gloves. For example, at the 2012 Olympic Games in Britain there was no criticism of the host country. However that country had waged an illegal war against Iraq for nine years. before in which they died up to a million people.

Israel described by Amnesty International and other organizations as a apartheid regime and that keeps a whole people kidnapped, he was able to organize the Festival Eurosong virtually unmolested three years ago.

¿Herself will harass the United States during the next World Cup 2026 because the constitutional right to abortion has been abolished, by the illegal wars waged by the

country or the scandalous treatment who receive the indigenous persons and the black ones? It is practically impossible.

¿Herself Italy will face a campaign at the Olympic Games of Winter 2026 for its inhumane treatment of asylum seekers? That too is unlikely and, in any case, will not come from Western countries.

The scandalous working conditions of the migrant workers, by the way, are not Qatar's monopoly. The case Borrealis (a large case Scale of Trafficking in Persons and Illegal Employment of Workers migrants) makes it clear that extreme exploitation and slavery Modern also occur in "civilized" countries such as Belgium. In France, immigrants Undocumented are Building the Olympic Village in the capital. Throughout Europe sectors such as hospitality, construction or fruit cultivation and vegetables work thanks to the exploitation of immigrants Illegal.

Esos dobles raseros de Occidente se los tragan cada vez menos los pueblos del Sur. «Cuando vamos a Occidente, respetamos sus costumbres y leyes», afirma un hombre de negocios de El Cairo. «Así que también ellos deberían respetar nuestras costumbres y leyes».

Solidaridad y reconocimiento

The regime of more flexible visas of Qatar has allowed more visitors from the South to attend than when the host is a European country. To that presence of fans In addition, Qatar is a country in which 86% of the population are immigrants, mainly Asians.

In Consequently, many of the fans present made ignoring the controversy over human rights violations. They consider that the criticisms Westerners are hypocritical and intimidating. Outrage over This fact has nurtured a feeling of unity and solidarity. regional. "This foolish pressure on human rights has The impossible has been done: it has united the region," said a businessman of Dubai.

The Fans from different continents fraternized with each other. During the match Morocco-Spain and Morocco-Portugal, The Moroccans received the support of a stadium full of fans of the Arab world, while the Spaniards and Portuguese were greeted with a concert of whistles each time who touched the ball.

Also There is a striking solidarity with the Palestinians. The Football fans refuse on the street to be interviewed by Israeli journalists or chant slogans pro-Palestinian during a interview. Many of these "difficult interviews" have been done. viral.

Can see flags Palestinians both in the stadiums as in the streets. The Moroccan team even posed with the Palestinian flag after beating Spain.

The Prohibition of selling Alcohol nearby of stadiums caused negative headlines in the West, but A lot of fans are pretty happy with that. They say it has contributed to creating a less aggressive and more familiar environment in the tournament.

No there is any trace pickpockets or *hooligans*, What makes this World Cup seems much safer than most Football events held in the main Western cities. In any case, a fans present in Qatar like this approach.

Source: <https://www.dewereldmorgen.be/artikel/2022/12/12/wk-voetbal-2022-kritieken-op-qatar-zijn-eenzijdig-hypocriet-en-tikkeltje-koloniaal/>

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