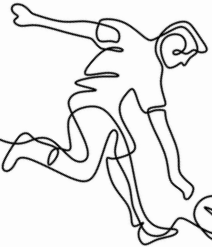


15 Minute Debate

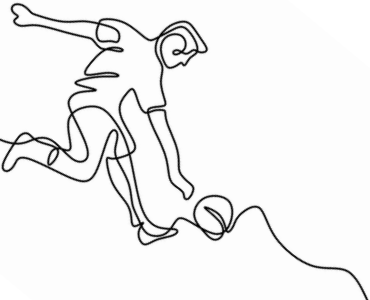
Should Qatar have hosted the 2022 Men's World Cup?

Listen to all the facts and opinions then decide for yourself.



Context

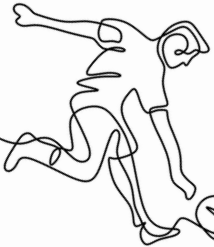
In 2022, the Men's football world cup began in Qatar, is a country in Western Asia. It occupies the small Qatar Peninsula on the northeastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula in the Middle East; it shares its sole land border with Saudi Arabia to the south, with the rest of its territory surrounded by the Persian Gulf. The Gulf of Bahrain, an inlet of the Persian Gulf, separates Qatar from nearby Bahrain. The capital is Doha, home to over 80% of the country's inhabitants, and the land area is mostly made up of flat, low-lying desert.



fact

The World Cup moved from summer to winter for the first time ever due to the scorching temperatures in the Qatar desert climate.

The stadiums require constant air conditioning which releases a lot of carbon energy into the atmosphere. Fifa claimed that the World Cup would be carbon neutral and that they would be offsetting the energy used by investing in electric buses and other clean energy initiatives.

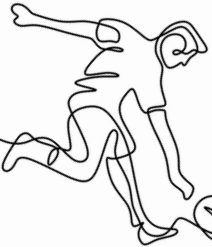


opinion

Ex Footballer and author Jules Boykoff said in an interview:

Carbon Market Watch, a nonprofit group, did an analysis of the stadiums and their carbon footprint in terms of what FIFA said, and they found that FIFA underestimated the carbon footprint of the stadiums by eightfold.

Every day, going in and out of Qatar, you see 1,300 flights. This obviously adds to the emissions. It's not just humans that are flying in and out of Qatar, as well. The actual grass seed that was used to make the fields, both the 130-plus practice fields but also the eight pitches that are hosting these games, that grass seed came over from North America on climate-controlled flights. And these things don't just water themselves, these fields. Actually, they require tons of water, some 50,000 liters of desalinated water every single day in the summer.

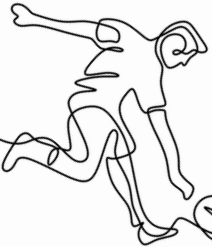


fact

Qatar is ruled by a semi-constitutional hereditary monarchy. Qatar doesn't allow political parties or groupings. Leaders must lead individually.



Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani
(Arabic: [تميم بن حمد بن خليفة آل ثاني](#); born 3 June 1980) is the [Emir of Qatar](#).

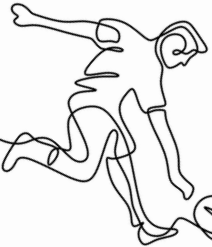


fact

In the 2019 municipal council elections, five of the 85 candidates were women, and two of them—both incumbents—won seats.

Women in Qatar must obtain permission from their male guardians to marry, study abroad on government scholarships, work in many government jobs, travel abroad until certain ages, to act as a child's primary guardian, even when they are divorced.

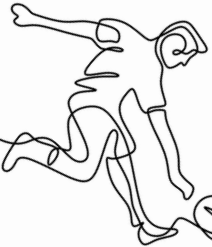
Women are encouraged to dress 'modestly'.



fact

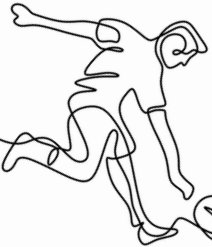
Qatar has very low levels of crime.

Qatar also has a high standard of education and subsidised quality healthcare.



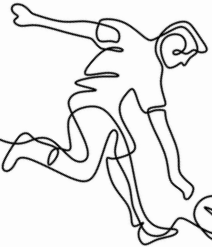
opinion

Some say that it is irrelevant where the World Cup is as long as the country can provide adequate stadiums and transport. The football is the priority.



fact

In the past 10 years, Qatar has embarked on an unprecedented building programme, largely in preparation for the football tournament in 2022. In addition to seven new stadiums, dozens of major projects have been completed or are under way, including a new airport, roads, public transport systems, hotels and a new city, which will host the World Cup final.

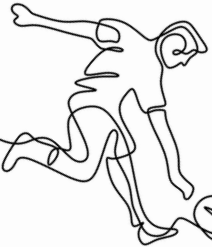


fact

Up to 90 percent of Qatar's population is composed of noncitizens, including expatriates and migrant workers as well as some stateless residents, who have no political rights.

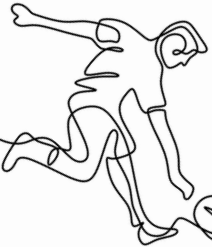
Citizenship is inherited exclusively from a Qatari father; residents can apply for citizenship after 25 years in the country, but this is rarely granted.

More than 6,500 migrant workers from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have died in Qatar since it won the right to host the World Cup 10 years ago, the Guardian can reveal.



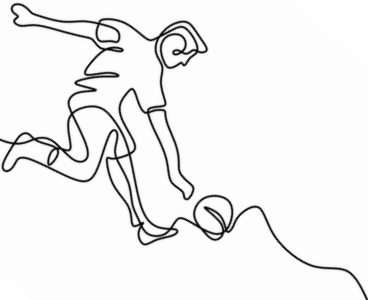
fact

Days prior to the start of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, Qatar was accused of reportedly having paid actors to play the role of fans at the tournament in order to promote the country. This has not been proven and is currently just an accusation.



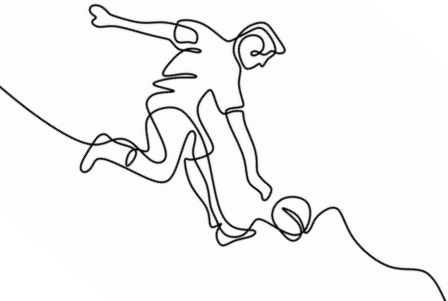
fact

The legal status of LGBT civil rights in Qatar has attracted attention in the media; homosexuality is illegal in Qatar, with offenders facing fines and up to seven years imprisonment.



fact

The European teams competing at the 2022 Qatar World Cup walked back their plans to wear “OneLove” armbands in support of LGBTQ rights during the tournament, they announced Monday, after warnings from international soccer governing body FIFA that they would receive a yellow card each time they did.



Debate

Do you think the World Cup should have been awarded to Qatar?

Is there one main reason you have come to your conclusion or many?

