

BeIN Sports and the Gulf Blockade

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BelN Sports

- Set up in 2012 through Al Jazeera network
 - Present in more than 40 countries
- One of the most aggressive sports rights buyers on planet (\$ billions committed)
 - Soccer by far biggest outlay/ most popular



- * Group of countries led by Saudi Arabia severs relations with Qatar
- * Land, sea, air and economic blockade follows
- Media networks affected

Impact on BelN's operations

- Production crews and reporters harassed
- * Teams refuse to cooperate
- * Sales blocked/ payments not processed
- Channel taken off air
- BeOUTQ emerges

What is beOUTQ?

Football in the region





Where is it available?

- * Website geo-blocked outside KSA and Bahrain
- * Decoder boxes available in the last few weeks

What is BelN doing?

- * Legal action
- * WTO complaint
- * Rights holder support

Further reading

- * BeIN's business model
- * Rights buying at center of football corruotion probe
- * Qatar's use of sports
- * Government interference in sports

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