

June 15, 2018

WikiLeaks: WORLD CUP SPECIAL



"You miss 100% of the shot's you don't take." - Wayne Gretzky -Michael Scott

June 15, 2018

Revealed: WikiLeek Uses Advanced Algorithm to Predict Each Group Winner

Greetings, sports fans! Or, as they say in Russia, "Blizok lokotok, da ne ukusish!"

(Your elbow is close, but you cannot bite it.)

We at the WikiLeaks Sports Department are proud to announce the release of each group winner from this year's summer tournament behind the Iron Curtain! Using an advanced synthesis of algorithms derived from the unique methodologies of Alan Turing and Paul the Octopus, WikiLeaks is prepared to tell you who is going to win each qualifying group and why. So, hop in your автомобиль and fasten your seatbelts, *babuschka*, here we go...



Brazil starlet Neymar displaying "Joga Bonita"

Group A Winner: **Russia**

From the Stalinist show trials to the liquidation of the Kulaks, the unwavering strength of Russian might is seemingly unstoppable within the friendly confines of the Motherland. However, in what we can only assume is some sort of nod to the ethos of Trotsky's international revolution, Russia took their World Cup strategy global this summer, evidenced by the massive increase of paramilitary funding to Houthi rebels in Yemen after the opening match draw with Saudi Arabia. Additionally, one couldn't help but admire the genius of Russian subterfuge when, in their final group match against Uruguay, the home side coated their kits in the locally sourced Novichok nerve agent, resulting in Luis Suarez's poisoning and subsequent substitution after his inevitable attempt at physically



"Tengo hambre" - Luis Suarez

In this issue:

- WikiLeek's Special Algorithm Predicts Group Winners
- "Just Putin' Around": World Cup Times = Fun Times



World Cup Special

Group B Winner: **Oppression**

Populated by the proud, time-honored democracies of Iran, Morocco, Spain, and Portugal, the obvious winner in Group B was anyone campaigning against freedom and minority rights. The Moroccan national side, *Les Berbers Imbéciles*, dedicated their performance to their domestic LGBTQIA community - all of whom are explicitly criminalized by existing legislation (Allez, Morocco 2024!).

Across the Straits of Gibraltar to the north, Spain gained attention after their controversial tactic of waterboarding Catalanian players following a lackluster first half against Morocco in their final group match.

Similarly, the Iranian national team dedicated their performance to the recent sanctions imposed by President Trump, crediting both their lively group performances and the starvation of thousands of children within their home nation to the President's inspirational decisions.

Finally, while Portugal has not experienced significant political repression since the Salazar dictatorship in the mid-20th century, co-captains Cristiano Ronaldo and Pepe were seen parking a bus in front of the Fisht Stadium in Sochi on their arrival Friday morning to permanently stifle any creative play from their group opposition.

Group C Winner: ?

Group D Winner: **The International Monetary Fund**

Group D features the illustrious nations of Nigeria, Croatia, Iceland, and Argentina, all of whom have vastly succeeded most other nations in their demonstrable ability to completely destroy the economic livelihoods of their citizens.

In Nigeria, which is widely regarded as the immigrant nationality most desired in every other country on Earth, one can experience the luxury of buying watered-down, black market petrol on the side of Ibadan Road in Lagos, evincing the competent management of their nation's most precious gift.

Iceland, also known as "the shitty, real life version of the Iron Islands" in a recent tourism campaign, destroyed their national economy five years ago through a combination of bravado, arrogance, and employing "Number of Theon Greyjoy Replica Penises + Battleaxes Produced" as their standard measure of domestic production.

The average level of Argentinian fiscal awareness was possibly best demonstrated by captain Lionel Messi, who scoffed in a recent Spanish tax trial, that "he absolutely could not be bothered to understand what taxes are," before breaking into the final third of hit Broadway musical *Evita* while simultaneously juggling six balls. This defense ultimately resulted in his full acquittal and a standing ovation by all assembled in the courtroom.

In Croatia, former manager of Dinamo Zagreb Zdravko Mamic was recently convicted of having sold national team members Dejan Lovren and Luka Modric for a shipping container of bootlegged DVDs and six cartons of "high quality" Chinese cigarettes.*

**As of writing, Liverpool owner John Henry maintains that Lovren's performances consistently indicate that a fair price was not reached for Lovren and, in fact, half of those six cartons should be returned to Merseyside.*



"SIX cartons of cigs? Are you fucking serious?"
-Jurgen Klopp

Group E Winner: **Nazis**

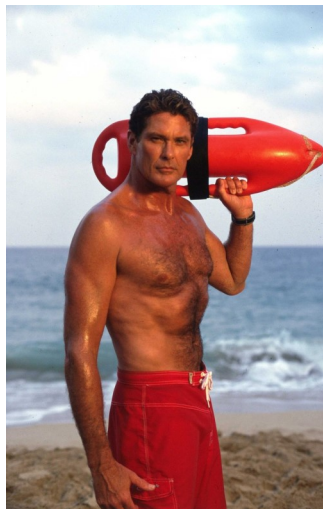
Group E features Switzerland, Costa Rica, and perennial favorites Brazil. However, the real winners of this group were various members of the Nazi diaspora, whom group play finally served to reunite after several decades apart. With more former party membership than any other non-German country, notably including Josef Mengele of Auschwitz, many Teuto-Brazilian Nazis expressed excitement at the prospect of reuniting with their Swiss comrades, whom, despite their "neutrality", conspired to smuggle hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Jewish capital from Europe during World War II.

WikiLeak's analyst and former German national team member Bastian Shweinsteiger also warned not to sleep on underdog Costa Rica. "Pura Vida? More like Pura Nazi." Shweinsteiger succinctly stated.

Group F Winner: Reunification

Group F is headlined by 5X winners Germany, who perhaps know more about both fascist and footballing domination than any other nation in history. Famously fractious during both the Medieval and Cold War eras, Germany in its current form was unified by David Hasselhoff in 1990 following his one-man destruction of the Berlin Wall the previous year.

Similarly, both support for the South Korean national side and the prospects of reunification for North/South Korea gained momentum following the post-US/North Korea summit declaration that North Korea's Kim Jong Un does in fact, despite reports from media, have an anal orifice and frequently defecate to maintain acceptable levels of homeostasis.



The biggest question in the Sweden camp was, of course, whether captain Zlatan Ibrahimovic would rescind his retirement and reunite with his former teammates. Unfortunately, Zlatan was eliminated from participation when UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and NASA chose him as the sole male member of a mission to repopulate foreign worlds with the best available human genetic material.

Group G Winner: Imperialism

Group G is headed by Old John Bull himself, the O.G. of transcontinental oppression, the nation with famously bad teeth and even worse food... England! The Group G favorites drew quite a stir back home when Queen Elizabeth II posed nude for The Sun in the runup to the tournament. Prince Phillip gave similar words of encouragement from his hospital room, where one can only assume him and Keith Richards keep the eternal portraits of themselves which allow them to continually delay death. Ultimately, the inherent lack of talent associated with all of Tottenham Hotspur's players in England's Starting XI led to an early 'Brexit' at the conclusion of group play.

Joining the dentally challenged group favorites were Belgium, Panama, and Tunisia. Tunisia, which has been under Roman, Ottoman, and French control, were given hortations of encouragement by local leader Bey Awadi of Tunis, who encouraged his team to, "Try not to look fucking weak out there, bro."

Similarly, entering on the back of a 10 game winning streak, expectations for the Belgian national side were high. However, Belgians experienced a significant setback after their second group match when the entire team quit in protest of the lack of mayonnaise locally available. Captain Vincent Kompany said, "Mon Dieu... I would rather watch from home behind a stack of *moules-frites* than continue with this *sauvagerie*. No mayonnaise? *Incroyable!*"



The Bey Awadi of Tunis has over 1.34 million Instagram and may engage in trans-species sexual relations

“Just Putin’ Around”: YOU GUYS... IT’S SUMMERRRRRR!

Welcome to “Just Putin’ Around”, a special guest column by Russian President and amateur bear wrangler, Vladimir Putin. Editor’s Note: Use a Russian accent when you read this, like the Count or the antagonists from Rocky and Bullwinkle.



VI Putin, lawn gnome collector/
leader of the free world

You know when frigid Moscow cold transitions to sweltering heat and air smells of borscht and cabbage, it can only be meaning one thing*... Summer fun time in Mother Russia, you guys!

Like many of you, fellow comrades, Vladimir is looking forward to World Cup times in Russia this summer. However, let’s not be forgetting the little things, the *malen’kiye kashtany*, that make each and every sum-

mer in Motherland great, regardless of whether Vladimir wants to buy football tournament off Western imperialists!

It’s little things Vladimir is remembering from childhood that is getting Vladimir excited for this summer; hearing desperate moans of hunger brought on by planned economy, sound of enemies of state disappearing into cool night... Ah, to be young again, comrades!

In now times, Vladimir finds himself enjoying fun of small youth times: silencing journalists with secret police in forests outside dacha, writing law against LGBTQ community after visit to Gulag on warm, July twilight, long sessions of synchronized swimming with friends and family in Volga. Uncle Sasha better be making the better timings or he will be accompanying Vladimir on next visit to Gulag!

Of course, Vladimir is being very proud to announce reopening of several new vacation spots in all-Russian Crimea. To all tourists both domestic and international vacationing in Crimea this year who may be having the reservations about safety, Russia has this to say to you: it’s not flying *into* former Ukraine that’s difficult, just flying *over* it.

Vladimir is speaking now to American comrades living past neighbor Sarah’s backyard. I know you might think Russia as “bad guy” or, as we say in Russia, *bol’shaya ptitsa*, But let me be reminding you, we’re not socialist anymore; we don’t have to bang shoe on podium, we’re just like you! Vladimir also like to repress minority! Vladimir also make medieval religion important! And Vladimir like to burn whole lot of fucking gasoline. Speaking of gasoline, comrades, it’s cheap. As fuck! We burn together? In any case, even if you’re angry, it is no matter to Vladimir. Vladimir rigged election and made Kristaps Porzingis in Soviet laboratory. TTYL!

Xoxo, vlad

**Fun Fact: Borscht and cabbage are also our winter foods!*

“Just Putin’ Around”