BeIN Sports and the Gulf Blockade

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BeIN 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 BeIN’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 BeIN doing?

- Legal action
- WTO complaint
- Rights holder support
Further reading

- BeIN’s business model
- Rights buying at center of football corruption probe
- Qatar’s use of sports
- Government interference in sports
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