

Can the World Cup lead to upgraded Morocco-Israel peace?

In the shadow of the worldwide economic crisis, we have to strive for regional cooperation. The sense of collaboration and satisfaction with the renewal of ties does not characterize only the leadership echelon – but is clearly evident on Moroccan streets and in the general attitude towards Israelis.

By Meir Ben-Shabbat and David Aaronson / Published Dec. 14, 2022

The remarkable achievements of the Moroccan national team in the FIFA World Cup 2022 and its qualifying to the semifinals have put the country of the Maghreb in the headlines. Overnight the team has become the undisputed representative of the Arab world in its battle for the coveted trophy; disappointment at the Moroccan players' identifying with the Palestinians did not taint the joy felt by the team's fans.

Only two years have passed since ties between the two countries have been restored, but it seems as if these were never severed in the first place. In regard to the ongoing struggle for world order and the crises raging through world economies, Israel and Morocco can offer solutions that will help in dealing with current challenges. These solutions may bring the relative advantage of each country to light, as well as the partnership between them. Today, more than ever, the time is right for another step up in the ties that have developed between Jerusalem and Rabat.

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