



World Cup in Russia

by Rose Landthaller

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With the World Cup in its final preparations will it all kick-off in Russia? The backdrop is a combination of footballers having to stand in as role models for a society that otherwise seems to have too few, and anti-Russian political sentiment growing across elites in the West.

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The two worlds collided last week with Chelsea's owner, the Russian businessman Roman Abramovich, having to get an Israeli passport to continue to live in the UK as his Visa to stay is delayed, whilst he reconsiders his spend a billion pounds on his plans to redevelop Chelsea FC. What does the concern about Raheem Sterling's tattoo of a gun on his leg tell us about the role football plays in politics today?