

How Egypt's Loss to Argentina Became Israel's Fault

THE LIE

Israel rigged Argentina's World Cup victory over Egypt with the help of Lionel Messi, a secret Mossad agent.

THE TRUTH

Argentina defeated Egypt because it was the better team. Israel did not influence the match and Lionel Messi is not a Mossad agent.

BACKGROUND

- On July 7, 2026, Argentina beat Egypt 3-2 in the Round of 16 at the World Cup in Atlanta. Within hours, social media was flooded with the theory that Israel rigged it. Some went further, claiming Lionel Messi is a Mossad agent.
- Streamer Sneako, who is Muslim, called Messi the "Netanyahu of football" and said Mossad had rigged the match in his favor. He claimed a foul call that helped Argentina was scripted, and that Argentina "is the Israel of South America." ([X](#))
- Other anti-Israel influencers piled on, posting variations of "F*** Argentina, F*** Israel, F*** Messi." Old photos of Messi at Jerusalem's Western Wall started circulating as supposed proof. ([X](#))
- British politician George Galloway, a compulsive critic of Israel, declared the tournament "disastrous" and "utterly corrupted" and said he was done watching. His post filled up with replies blaming Israel for the result. ([X](#))
- One Egyptian YouTuber called Argentina "an Israeli team par excellence," pointing to President Javier Milei's pro-Israel positions and to Messi's past trip to Israel as "evidence." ([Ynet News](#))

TRUTH EXPLAINED

- **Argentina won on the field, not through a conspiracy.** Down 2-0 late against Egypt, they scored three goals in the final 12 minutes plus stoppage time — the first such comeback from that deficit, this late, in World Cup knockout history. ([ESPN](#))
- **No one can explain the conspiracy mechanism.** Rigging a World Cup match would require bribing referees and FIFA officials in real time, under global broadcast scrutiny, with zero leaks. Nobody claiming "Mossad rigged it" has offered a single shred of evidence — no payments, documents, or whistleblowers.
- **Messi is the least plausible "secret agent" alive.** He's one of the most filmed, tracked, and investigated athletes in history. A covert operative doesn't spend 20 years under that many cameras. ([Wikipedia](#))
- **The "evidence" against him cuts the other way.** Messi has visited Ramallah and met with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. In 2018, Argentina canceled a Jerusalem match entirely after pressure and death threats from pro-Palestinians, including a call from a Palestinian FA official to burn Messi jerseys. ([Washington Post](#)), ([Andolou Ajansi](#))
- **A photo at the Western Wall proves nothing.** The site, which is the last remnant of the Second Temple, is sacred to Christians as well as Jews. It's not a loyalty oath to Israel. ([CERC](#))
- **This theory is a reflex, not an analysis.** The same "Jewish lobby" claim surfaced when Messi's Argentina beat Algeria in June. Any Argentinian win over an Arab nation triggers the identical script. ([The Arab Weekly](#))
- **The blame only runs one direction.** Egypt's own coach draped himself in a Palestinian flag and gave a speech on the Palestinian cause — yet no one accused "Palestine" of rigging Egypt's earlier wins. Had Egypt won on July 7, nobody would have blamed Palestinian interference. Only Israel gets blamed, win or lose, every time. ([Al Jazeera](#))

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QUOTES

"Jews are never allowed to win, and Arabs are never allowed to lose." — Former Israeli MK Einat Wilf

TAKEAWAY

The claim that Israel and Mossad rigged Argentina's dramatic 3-2 comeback win over Egypt — with Lionel Messi as their secret agent — is a laughable conspiracy theory.

Argentina simply played better in the final stages and pulled off a historic rally. There is zero evidence of any Israeli involvement, just as there is zero evidence that one of the greatest footballers of our time moonlights as an Israeli spy. This narrative exploded on social media because it follows a familiar, reflexive script: whenever an Arab or Muslim team loses (in sports or war), the loss is never accepted as the result of skill, tactics, or mistakes on their side. Instead, it must be the Jews secretly pulling strings.