

Racism rate in the Israeli Football / Amichai Alperovich

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ABSTRACT / RESUMEN

The violence in the Israeli society and in the sport stadiums has widespread in the recent years. The reasons for the outbreak of the violence in Israel are enormous, but one may identify several causes to the phenomena in the stadiums and sport fields: The appearance of Arabs football teams in the premier division, the participation of black football players, mainly from Africa (in contrary – black basketball players are welcomed in Israel since 1970's).

The ongoing racism and violence during football matches led the New Israel Foundation – an organization which defends Israel's democracy and the rule of law against the voices of hatred and extremism – to launch a program to fight the problem. Every week in the recent two seasons objective observers visited every football match in the first 2 football divisions and marked the audience's behavior. The marks were published every month in the newspapers and were discussed several times in the Israeli parliament (the Knesset).

This paper will focus on the reasons to launch the race rate program, the methods of rating and the affect of the program on the violence in the Israeli football stadiums.