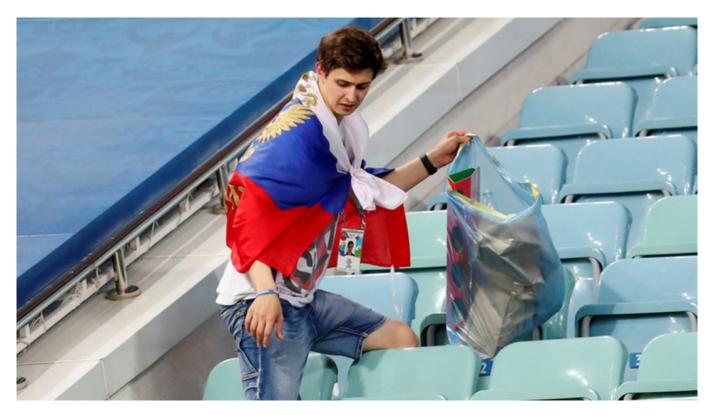


Russian Fans Tidy Stadium After World Cup Loss

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Maxim Shemetov / Reuters

Russian fans organized a flashmob to clean up Sochi's Fisht Stadium after the country's quarterfinal game against Croatia.

Russia's national team lost in a penalty shootout against Croatia on Saturday, going further in the tournament than many expected. During other World Cup games, fans from Senegal and Japan <u>made headlines</u> for sticking around after games to help stadium workers pick up litter.

Russia's Sports.ru website <u>launched</u> a campaign calling on supporters to bring trash bags to Sochi's stadium under the hashtag #ChistiyChM, meaning: a clean World Cup.

Related article: <u>Toxic Landfills in Russia at Risk of 'Catastrophic' Overflow</u>

"Let's admit to ourselves that cleanliness is not our distinctive feature. But the World Cup is

an ideal time to make a difference and prove that we too can not leave behind a mountain of garbage," Sports.ru suggested.

Photos posted by the publication <u>showed some</u> Russia fans holding full trash bags in the stands. One social media user who took part in the campaign <u>said</u> it only took "two minutes" to collect two bags full of trash.

A post on the popular online forum Pikabu.ru <u>noted</u> that fans in Novosibirsk also cleaned up after themselves at a public fan zone. Some commenters, in response, posted <u>photographs</u> of a <u>littered</u> fan zone in Moscow.

In Kirov, a user <u>posted</u> a photograph of the word "Spasibo!" ("Thank You!") spelled out on the ground with trash.

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