

DIASBOLA

FUTEBOL E MIGRAÇÃO



**Performing Portuguese-ness:
The Role of Football among Portuguese Emigrants**
- Paper presented at the SIEF Congress, Lisbon, 18 April 2011 -

Nina Clara Tiesler, ICS-UL, with data presented by Nélia Bergano (foomi-net)

Why Football matters in Social Scientific Research on Portuguese Emigration

The narrative and consumption of Portuguese Football is one of the most visible elements of popular and everyday-life culture among Portuguese emigrants and their offspring in diasporic settings. "Portuguese places" which serve as meetings points abroad, such as bars, restaurants and associations are decorated with the icons of Portuguese Football, and are most frequented at the occasion of internationally aired matches of Portuguese teams or the national squad. Together with active football, organised by Portuguese at amateur level as a recreational and leisure activity, football identification, fandom and consumption (also via new information and communication technologies) provide a connection among globally dispersed Portuguese and to people and places left behind, a space for performances of national belonging and common leisure activities. It also serves as a tool for minority politics, adaptive and economic ends, and contributes to the construction of Portuguese ethnicity in migratory contexts. The paper provides insights into the findings of the international research project Diasbola which analysed the role of football among Portuguese emigrants and luso-descendents in eight diasporic settings, at referring especially to rural and urban locales in Germany with comparative references to Maputo, London, France, New England and Canada. Deriving from ethnographic material, results confirm the importance of football in shaping leisure and identity constructions in Portuguese diaspora and highlight some particularities: While football in its social formation and its possible functions are shaped by each particular diasporic context, it also provides dynamics which shape such contexts and conditions.

Nina Clara Tiesler



Performing Portuguese-ness: The Role of Football among Portuguese Emigrants



1 Introduction & Comparative Insights

2 Portuguese Emigration, respective policies & discourses

3 Case Studies & Conclusions

Nina Clara Tiesler, Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon





Imagining the Modern Portugal? The Role of Football in the re-construction of communities and “Portugueseness” in six diasporic settings

Research Team

Portugal based

Dr. Nina Clara Tiesler, ICS-UL

Dr. Nuno Domingos, ICS-UL (former SOAS)

Dr. Victor Pereira, UNL (former Paris)

Dr. Miguel Moniz, CRIA

Nélia Bergano (ICS-UL, University of Hannover)

International

Dr. Adam Brown, Substance, Manchester

Dr. Stephen Wagg, Leeds Metropolitan University

Dr. Marcos Alvito, Univers. Federal Fluminense

[Luso-descendants among the team: 3-4]

Research Locales

Main fields

London Stockwell, England

Paris, France

Hannover, Hameln, Osnabrueck, Germany

Maputo, Mozambique

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

New England, Masseurhusses, USA

Additional Fields (Mega-Events)

WCF 2006 (Germany), EURO2008 (Switzerland)

Exchange with external researchers

Canada, Goa, Brazil (Recife)



Why Football matters in Social Scientific Research on Portuguese Emigration

Hypothesis, Objectives, Comparative perspectives

Qualifying the role of football-

- consumption & identification,
- knowledge & communication,
- collective recreational activity in Portuguese diaspora

Comparing football to other elements of (popular) culture which are crucial in daily emigrant life:

- ❖ Language
- ❖ Cuisine
- ❖ media consumption
- ❖ Associations, annual festivities
- ❖ Music and folklore



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Comparative questions & insights

- How do Portuguese migrants and luso-descendants connect to their “country of origin”?
- How do they re-construct or re-invent their “culture of origin” in diasporic settings?
- Note on research agenda (“home & belonging”), gender and positionality

While football in its social formation and possible functions is shaped by each particular diasporic context, it also provides dynamics which shape such contexts and conditions.



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Portuguese Emigration, respective policies & discourses: Migration as a practice to improve a future in Portugal

- 10 million here, 5 million abroad
- Remittances, economic investments, “outposts”, return
- Concept of the nation after 1974
- Football & “the good Portuguese”
- Emigrant Script, enlarged moral economy (Lubkemann 2002):

“This script proposed a migrant whose commitment to home and hearth was continuously manifest in word and deed, who neither lost nor wished to lose connections to Portugal and retained ultimate roots here.”



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Case Studies & Conclusions

- **European cases: England, Germany, France, Switzerland**
- **USA and Canada: football as a signifier of ethnic minorities**
- **Mozambique: Portuguese football as colonial heritage**

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Performing Portuguese-ness: The Role of Football among Portuguese Emigrants

Comparative Insights

- Narrative & consumption of Portuguese Football as most visible element of collective expressions of “Portugueseness” (TV, daily conversation, decoration...)
- Economic ends: public screening, TV packages, visitors in public spaces
- Media interest: football
- Communication platform, modern language
- Recreational activity, father-son-relationships
- Produces Portuguese ethnicity: national squad – clubs
- Image of a “Modern Portugal” vs frozen black-and-white pictures





Portuguese in Germany

- **One the oldest migrant communities, mainly guest – workers migration**
- **Family reunions**
- **Numerically inferior in comparison to other migration communities (114.451 / 1,57% of foreign population)**





Cultural attachment - Similarities

- Portuguese language is the lingua franca among the family, friends and in associations
- 'Portuguese TV', 'Press' and 'Internet' are main sources of information
- 'Family', 'friends', 'culture' and 'language' are principal interests of interviewees
- Portuguese cuisine is an important cultural attachment for Portuguese migrants





Remarks on football

Northern Germany

- Portuguese football teams consist not only of Portuguese, but other nationalities
- Portuguese football league is only shown in Portuguese establishments
- Portuguese establishments also show other national football leagues (e.g. Spanish)

Switzerland

- Portuguese football teams consist mainly of Portuguese
- Portuguese football is shown in Non – Portuguese establishments.





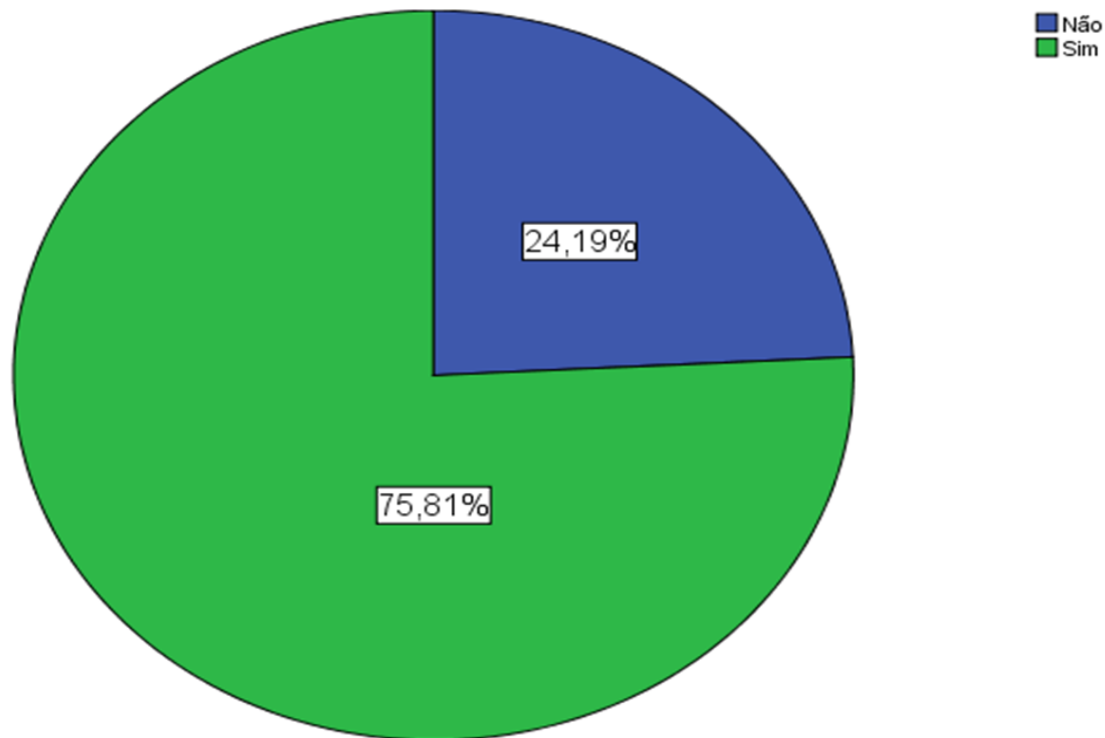
Remarks on data

- Collected during the Euro
- 62 in Switzerland (22f/40m) / 72 in Germany (32f/42m) » 134 in August 2008 (now more than 200)



Football data Switzerland

Adepto de futebol português



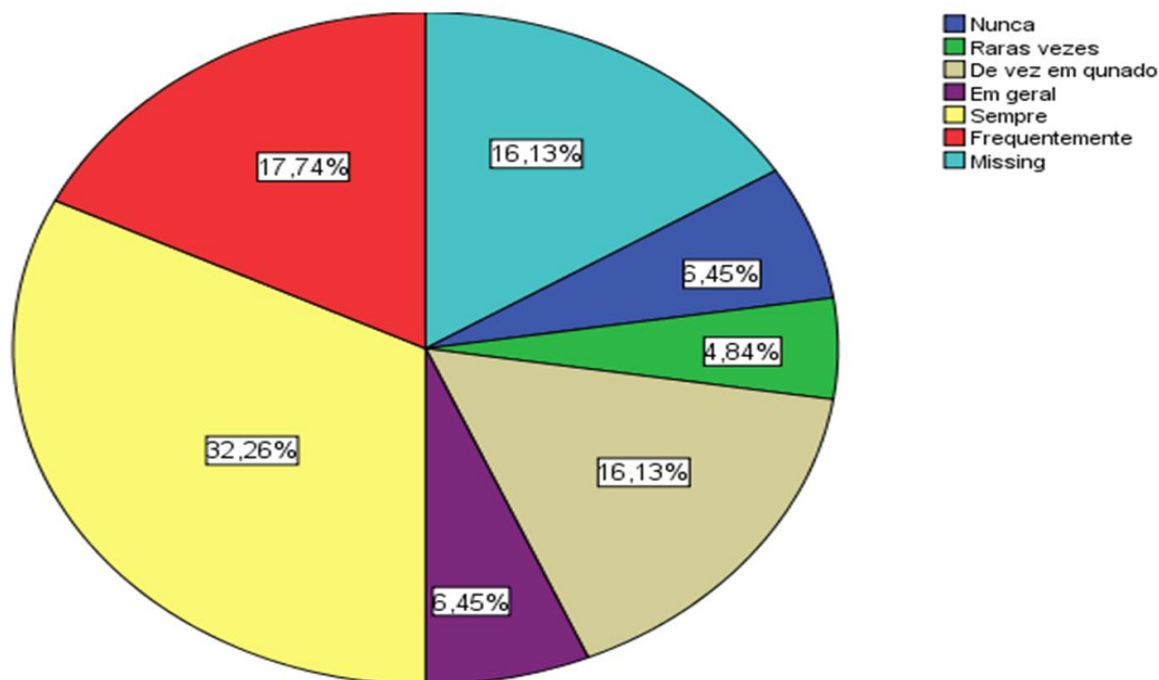
- **75.81 % of the interviewees answered that they interested in Portuguese football**



Football data Switzerland



Grau de informação



- Only 11,29 % of the interviews answered that they are 'never' or 'seldom' informed on Portuguese football



Football data Switzerland

Information medium	Percent	Percent of Cases
Mobile	0,6 %	1,6%
Email	3,4%	9,7%
Telefone	2,3%	6,5%
Internet	17,1%	48,4%
Press	20,0%	56,5%
Local TV	12,6%	35,5%
Portuguese TV	30,3%	85,5%
VOIP	2,3%	6,5%
Radio	3,4%	9,7%
Other	8,0%	22,6%
Total	100,0%	282,3%

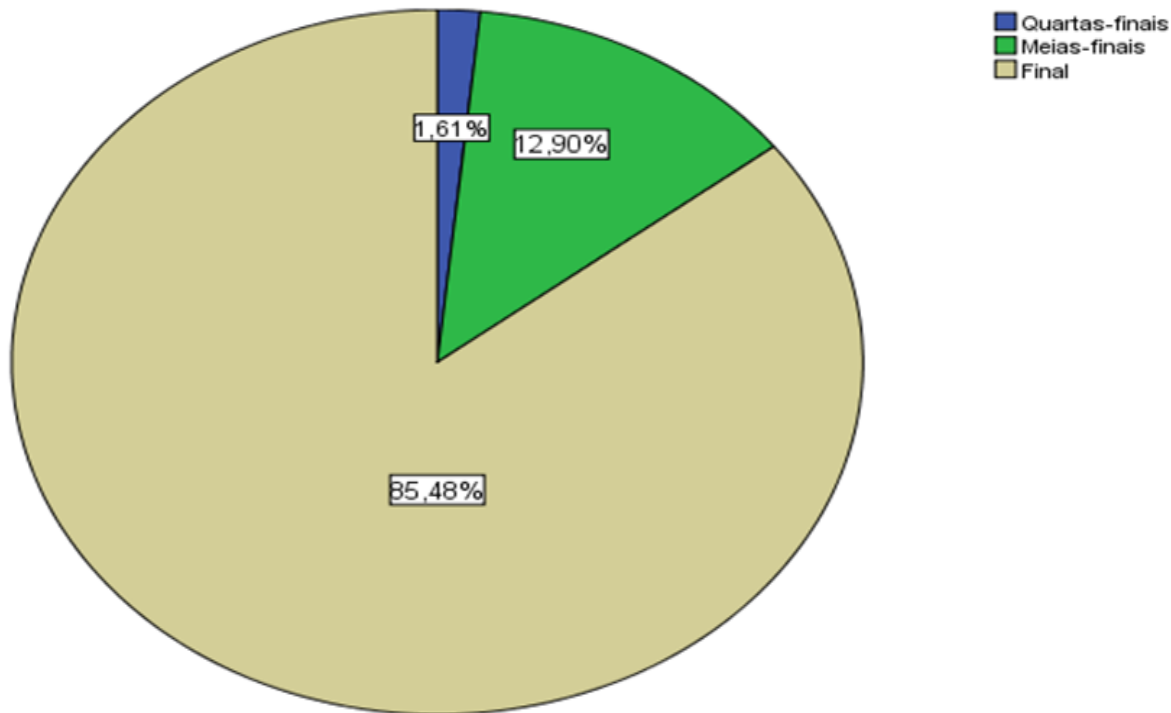
- **Portuguese TV, Local TV, Press and Internet were named as the main sources of information**



Football data Switzerland



Espectativas da selecção



■ **85,48 %**
were
expecting
that
Portugal
would come
to the finals



Football data Switzerland



	Responses	
	Percent	Percent of Cases
Secondary Support		
Germany	9,0%	9,7%
Switzerland	47,8%	51,6%
France	9,0%	9,7%
Spain	10,4%	11,3%
Czech Republic	1,5%	1,6%
Netherlands	11,9%	12,9%
Italy	6,0%	6,5%
None	4,5%	4,8%
Total	100,0%	108,1%

- Switzerland was the favourite team of the Portuguese secondary support



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Football data Switzerland



Fan of Non – Portuguese clubs	Percent
Manchester United	29,4%
Bayern München	5,9%
Chelsea	14,7%
Inter Milano	5,9%
FC Porto	5,9%
MSV_Duisburg	2,9%
Olympique Lyon	2,9%
PSV Eindhoven	2,9%
Real Madrid	5,9%
Marseille	2,9%
Schalke 04	2,9%
VfB Stuttgart	2,9%
Paris St. Germain	2,9%
Hannover 96	2,9%
Sunderland	2,9%
Total	100,0%

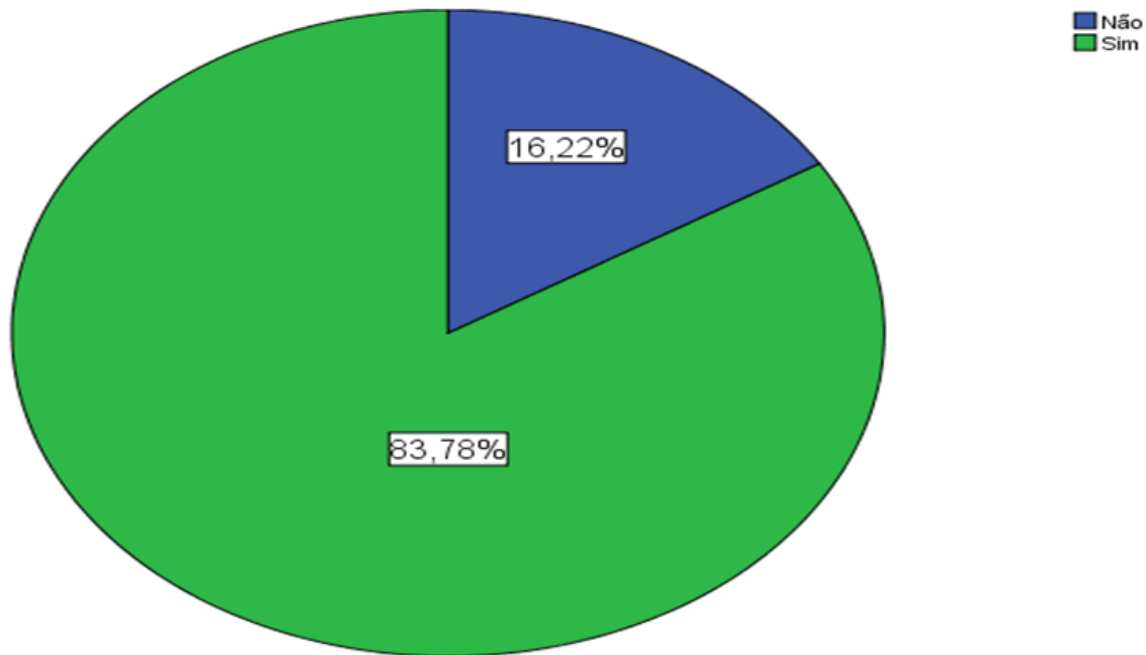
- **48.39% are fans of Non – Portuguese clubs, Manchester United and Chelsea as their favorites**



Football data Northern Germany



Adepto de futebol português



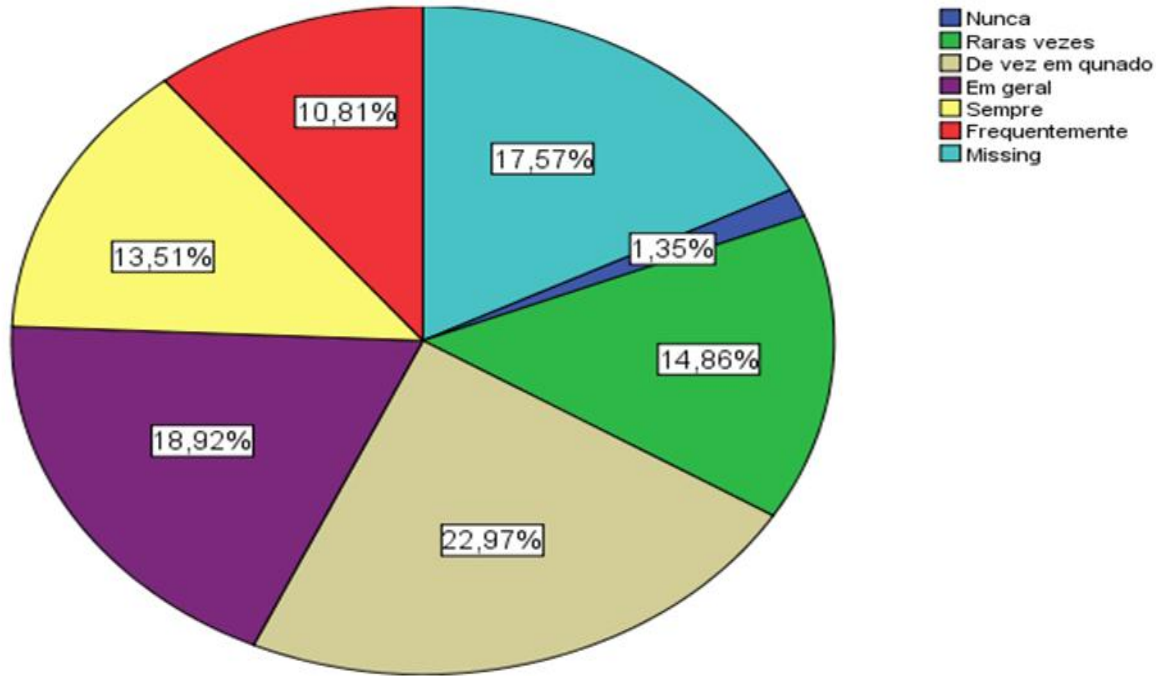
- **83,78 % of the interviewees are fan of a Portuguese club**



Football data Northern Germany



Grau de informação



- Only 16,41 % of the interviews answered that they are 'never' or 'seldom' informed on Portuguese football





Football data Northern Germany

Information medium	Responses	
	Percent	Percent of Cases
Mobile	0,6%	1,4%
Email	3,4%	8,6%
Phone	2,2%	5,7%
Internet	12,9%	32,9%
Press	17,4%	44,3%
Local TV	7,9%	20,0%
Portuguese TV	33,1%	84,3%
Radio	2,8%	7,1%
Others	19,7%	50,0%
Total	100,0%	254,3%

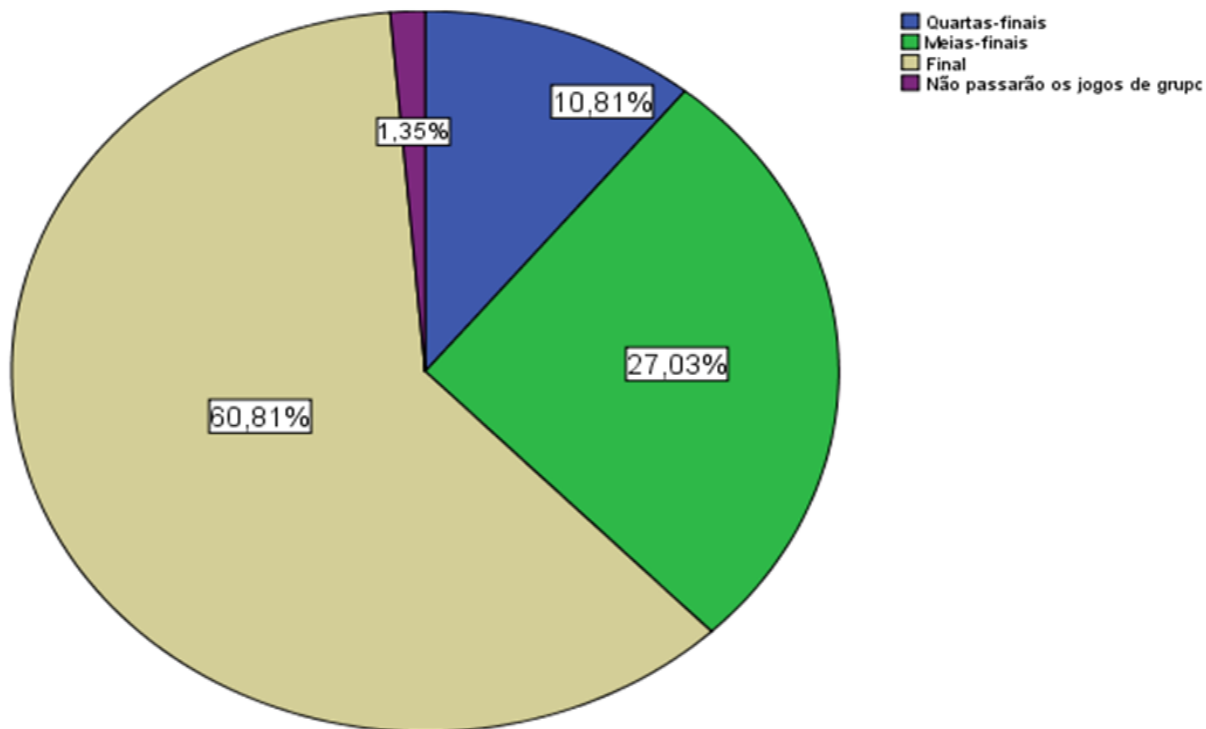
- **Portuguese TV, Others (Family, friends, Associations members, Press and Internet were named as the main sources of information**



Football data Germany



Espectativas da selecção



- **60,81% were expecting that Portugal would achieve the finals**





Football data Northern Germany

Secondary Support	Responses	
	Percent	Percent of Cases
Spain	35,2%	42,5%
Germany	36,4%	43,8%
Turkey	8,0%	9,6%
Russia	3,4%	4,1%
Italy	1,1%	1,4%
Netherlands	1,1%	1,4%
Czech Republic	1,1%	1,4%
All but Germany or Greece	3,4%	4,1%
None	10,2%	12,3%
Total	100,0%	120,5%

- Spain and Germany were the main team of the Portuguese secondary support



Football data Northern Germany



Fan of Non – Portuguese clubs	Percent	Percent of Cases
Bayern München	5,5%	6,2%
Werder Bremen	9,1%	10,4%
Hamburger SV	16,4%	18,8%
St. Pauli	12,7%	14,6%
Stuttgart	1,8%	2,1%
Hannover 96	16,4%	18,8%
vfl Osnabrück	7,3%	8,3%
Schalke 04	5,5%	6,2%
Real Madrid	3,6%	4,2%
Chelsea	1,8%	2,1%
FC Barcelona	1,8%	2,1%
Manchester United	10,9%	12,5%
Total	100,0%	114,6%

- 66,22% are fans of Non – Portuguese clubs, naming Hamburg, Hannover, St. Pauli & Manchester United as their favorites

