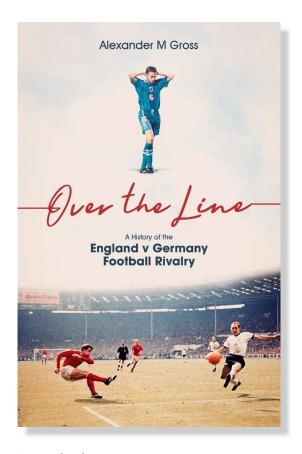


Title information



Over the Line

A History of the England v Germany Football Rivalry

By Dr Alexander Gross

Key features

- The story of the England versus Germany football rivalry, charting the 12 competitive meetings between the countries from 1966 to 2021
- Also covers the early meetings and inter- and post-war matches from 1930 to 1966
- In-depth coverage of the political, social and cultural contexts of each milestone in the rivalry
- Features interviews with players, journalists and fans
- Perfectly placed to tell this story, writer and historian Alexander Gross was born in Munich, Germany, to an English mother and German father, moving to London at a young age, and he now holds dual nationality
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

The history of the fierce football rivalry between England and Germany is encapsulated in a single moment – Geoff Hurst's extra-time shot off the crossbar in the 1966 FIFA World Cup Final and the decision of an infamous Russian linesman to award a goal. It is a rivalry that now spans more than 90 years since the first official match between the two nations. For the English, a series of high-profile defeats at major tournaments saw Germany become the *Angstgegner* on the field, as well as an enduring obsession for the national press. For Germans, Wembley still represents the home of football, where the memories of 1966 have been supplanted by numerous successes and the appropriation of the English anthem 'football's coming home'. The rivalry has long crossed the lines of the football field, with the two nations at various moments forced to admire and learn from each other, and with football encounters between England and Germany repeatedly marking important developments in a unique and ever-changing political and cultural relationship.

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