

《得罪了中东“老大”沙特的卡塔尔这回真的危险了！》

导读:昨日，中东各国突然宣布与卡塔尔断交。而在各方面依赖沙特的卡塔尔也因此番危机陷入了各种麻烦当中。



Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Libya, Yemen and the Maldives have cut diplomatic ties with Qatar.

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But what might this mean for Qatar's economy and people doing business there?

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Flights

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Abu Dhabi's Etihad Airways and Dubai's Emirates are suspending all flights to and from Doha, starting from Tuesday morning.

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Budget carriers FlyDubai and Air Arabia are also cancelling routes to Doha, with other airlines, including Bahrain's Gulf Air and Egyptair expected to follow suit.

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It comes after Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Egypt all said they would stop flights in and out of Qatar, and close their airspace to the country's airline, Qatar Airways.

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Food

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Desert states, by their nature, struggle to grow food. And food security is a particular issue for Qatar given the only way in by land is a single border with Saudi Arabia.

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Every day hundreds of lorries cross the border, and food is one of the main supplies. about 40% of Qatar's food is believed to come via this route.

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Saudi Arabia has said it will close that border and when the lorries stop, Qatar will become reliant on air and sea freight.

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"It will immediately cause inflation and that will directly affect normal Qatari people," says Mr Nuseibeh.

Nuseibeh???“????????????????????”

Construction

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A new port, a medical zone, a metro project and eight stadiums for the 2022 World Cup are just some of the major construction projects going on in Qatar right now.

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Key materials, including concrete and steel come in by ship but also by land from neighbouring Saudi.

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The closure of that border could, as with food - push up prices and lead to delays.

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A materials shortage is already a threat that looms over Qatar's construction industry. This risks making things worse.

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People

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The move to end ties bans citizens from Saudi, Egypt, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Libya and Yemen from travelling to Qatar, living there or passing through it, according to the Saudi government. People affected have 14 days to leave.

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Meanwhile Qataris will have the same amount of time to get out of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain.

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More significant though would be if Egypt issued a similar ban. According to one recent report about 180,000 Egyptians live in Qatar - with many involved in engineering, medicine and law as well as construction.

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A loss of that workforce would pose a problem for both local and international firms operating in the Gulf state.

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Trade and business

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Nervousness over the unprecedented situation left Qatar's main share index more than 7% lower on Monday amid worries about the investment climate.

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Many Gulf firms have a presence in Qatar, including in retail. Those stores are likely to to close, at least temporarily, believes Mr Nuseibeh.

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