



RESOLUTION:

### **THE FIFA REFORM**

*Adopted at the YEPP Council, Budapest, Hungary, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2016*

#### **Recognising that:**

- Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) was formed in 1904. One of its main tasks was to arrange international football tournaments.
- Former FIFA-president Joseph Blatter left his position on several allegations of corruption, and is now banned from all football-related activities by FIFA's ethics committee.
- The World Cup is the most-watched sporting event in the world, even larger than the Olympics.
- The news agency Reuters states that the FBI has been investigating the Qatar bid at least since September 2011, maybe even longer, where the Qatar bid organisation paid \$1.5m to three members of FIFA's executive committee to secure their votes for Qatar<sup>1</sup>.
- FIFA has started working on reform, which focuses on change of the leadership culture, have a governance reform and foster greater participation of member organisations in FIFA<sup>2</sup>.
- The International Trades Union Confederation claims that 1200 migrant workers already have died in Qatar, due to lax implementation of labour safety regulations

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<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/fifa-corruption-scandal-fbi-probing-how-2018-and-2022-world-cups-were-awarded-to-russia-and-qatar-10295597.html>

2

<http://www.fifa.com/governance/news/y=2015/m=12/news=2016-fifa-reform-committee-report-presented-to-the-executive-committee-2741751.html>

and standards in the construction industry, among them workers building the Qatar 2022 arenas. The ITUC also estimates that 4,000 workers will die in Qatar before the World Cup takes place<sup>3</sup>.

- Foreign reporters in Qatar have been arrested for reporting on Qatar's World Cup labourers<sup>4</sup>.

#### **Acknowledging that:**

- It is about time that FIFA, with its influence and power, start to handle abuses in the life cycle of its mega-sporting events, from bidding through construction, to legacy for local populations.
- An implemented reform of FIFA could once again make the association trustworthy.
- A consistently high number of casualties among construction workers due to insufficient safety standards is unacceptable.
- The organisation and construction of infrastructure of the World Cup, as one of the world's biggest sporting events, should not be reason for hundreds of deaths and human rights violations.

#### **YEPP calls on:**

- The FIFA reform to be completed, implemented and complied with in the future.
- FIFA and its business partners to put in place human rights due diligence systems that identify and prevent human rights abuses linked to the staging of the World Cup.
- FIFA to press the Qatari authorities to implement and monitor reforms to protect migrant workers' rights.
- FIFA to improve supervision over the work of its executive committee, especially the procedure of selecting World Cups locations.
- FIFA to investigate allegations of match-fixing, vote buying for World Cups, and bribing practices relating to the elections of the FIFA president, and to impose appropriate punishment on those found guilty.

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<sup>3</sup>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2015/05/27/a-body-count-in-qatar-illustrates-the-consequences-of-fifa-corruption/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-32775563>