



FÉDÉRATION  
INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION  
TOPIC BULLETIN



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CHAIRS

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# Academy Model United Nations

- THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE -

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Hello Delegates,

My name is Kairui Huang and I would like to warmly welcome you to AMUN XX! I am looking forward to serving as the head chair for the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) committee this year! I am currently a senior in the Academy for Technology and Computer Science, and I have participated in Model UN since my sophomore year, attending a couple of conferences including AMUN itself. I am delighted to say that Model UN is one of my main passions, and besides my avid participation as a delegate, I also enjoyed chairing AMUN and helping it grow into a premier high school conference. Aside from Model UN, some of my passions include soccer, computer science, and economics, and during my free time you may find me rewatching Parks and Recreation or occasionally browsing through some dank history memes. I believe the topics set forth for the committee this year will provide some unique and interesting debate on pressing issues that FIFA will encounter in its years following the 2018 World Cup. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and solutions about these matters, and of course remember to learn and enjoy your time at AMUN! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me.

Best,

Kairui Huang, Chair, FIFA  
kaihua19@bergen.org

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to AMUN XX! I'm Elliot Lee and will be one of your chairs for this Model UN conference. I am a sophomore here at BCA in the Academy for Medical Science Technology. During my freshman year here, I went to MUN conferences, crafted my debate skills, and enjoyed making connections with other people. A large part of why I enjoyed MUN was because it allowed me to learn from and become better friends with people, not only from BCA but with people from all over the country. I sincerely hope that here at AMUN XX you will grow as a speaker, a debater, and as a communicator. Finally, I wish that you will have an impactful and fun experience here at AMUN XX. If you need any help prepping or any questions, feel free to email me. Good luck and I cannot wait to meet you all.

Best of luck,

Elliot Lee, Chair, FIFA  
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## **Topic A: Qatar 2022 – Controversies & Corruption**

### **Introduction**

From the beginning, the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar has been rocked by scandal. As the smallest nation by area to ever win the right to host the World Cup, the legitimacy of Qatar's victory has been questioned. During a period of rampant corruption within FIFA, Qatar allegedly spent millions bribing members of the voting committee. The decision to award Qatar hosting rights was especially controversial due to Qatar's horrific human rights record and the extreme heat which caused the tournament to be moved to the winter, disrupting European football league schedules. While FIFA launched an investigation and suspended several of the voters on the committee, the investigation was deemed to be erroneous and incomplete. In order to right public opinion about FIFA, it will be essential for the committee to enact policies to increase public trust in FIFA and rally support for Qatar 2022.



## Topic History

Starting in January 2009, FIFA officially invited bids for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups. There were five bids for the 2022 World Cup. These bids were from Australia, Japan, Qatar, South Korea, and the United States. Qatar fielded the least competitive soccer team among the five and lacked the infrastructure of many other prospective hosts. However, to the surprise of nearly everyone, Qatar won the right to host the 2022 World Cup. The decision immediately sparked controversy and quickly led to suspicion of potential corruption. Here, only some of the allegations of corruption will be discussed as they are wide ranging and potentially not directly applicable by all delegates. Therefore, further research is strongly recommended.

In 2012, FIFA launched an independent ethics investigation into the bidding process for the 2018 and 2022 World Cup and the nations involved. The investigation was split into two branches: an investigatory unit and an

adjudicatory unit. The investigation branch was headed by American lawyer Michael Garcia, a newcomer to the sport. The adjudicatory unit has headed by a German judge, Hans-Joachim Eckert. Garcia spent months collecting evidence and provided a 430 page report to FIFA in September 2014. While Garcia emphatically believed that as much of his report that could be published should, Eckert disagreed, emphasizing privacy, and provided a mere 42 page summary. A “legally appropriate version” was agreed to be published by a unanimous vote of the FIFA executive committee. In November 2014, Eckert’s 42 page report was published in which Eckert writes that his findings “were, all in all, not suited to compromise the integrity of the bidding process as a whole.” The report cleared Qatar and Russia of all charges while stating that there are some individuals who may have acted illegally. The report focused its attacks on England and Australia, stating that they had attempted to bribe now-former FIFA vice president Jack Warner. However, hours after the release of the report, Michael Garcia



stated that the report released was both “materially incomplete” and filled with “erroneous representations of the facts and conclusions.” This statement by Garcia dealt a blow to the credibility of the report. While FIFA did clear Qatar for the 2022 World Cup in 2014, new evidence released called into question the validity and legitimacy of Qatar’s victory. Afterward, Garcia resigned in protest further damaging the credibility of the report.

However, there was nevertheless evidence of illegal and unethical actions taken by Qatar to influence the vote. Many allegations center around Mohamed Bin Hammam, a Qatari football official and former FIFA vice president. He allegedly spent \$5 million to increase support for the Qatari bid. While, Bin Hammam denies these allegations, many suspicious actions seem to illustrate that he was actively supporting the Qatari bid. Some allegations include him spending 305,000 Euros to cover legal fees of a member of the FIFA executive committee and paying over 1.6 million USD to Jack

Warner. Furthermore, there is evidence that Muhammad Bin Hammam, paid 1 million USD to members of the Caribbean Football Union.

Qatar also has a horrific human rights record. This issue has only worsened following Qatar’s victory. Approximately 95% of Qatar’s workforce (about 2 million migrant workers) is made up of migrant workers of which 40% work in construction, many in preparation for the 2022 World Cup. Reports of the worker conditions write about employers stealing identification papers and paying workers late or not at all. These conditions have led to allegations of modern-day slavery. According to the Qatari government, 520 worker deaths were reported in 2013 with many of them marked with unknown causes of death. It is suspected that these deaths are related to the construction of World Cup stadiums. Furthermore, women’s rights and gender equality are not prevalent in Qatar, with the society being extremely tilted in favor of men. Finally, homosexuality continues to be illegal in Qatar and



even campaigning for LGBT rights is forbidden. These seemingly hostile conditions made Qatar being voted as hosts all the more surprising.

In June 2017, the German magazine Bild came into possession of the full report written by Michael Garcia. After the magazine began to make the full document public, FIFA also released it in full. In the report, Garcia outlined multiple suspicious instances. For example, 2.6 million USD were deposited by a member allegedly of the Qatar bid campaign, to an account of a FIFA official. Other members were found to have accepted bribes or attempt to trade votes. Once again, further reading of the report is recommended in order to fully understand the allegations made in the report and as a whole.

## Current Situation

Just this year, many new revelations were made about Qatar 2022. Under the leadership of new FIFA president Gianni Infantino (elected 2016), each aspect of Qatar's bid has been questioned.

Previously, Infantino has been adamant that there is “zero chance” that the 2022 World Cup would be removed from Qatar. However, some reports say that FIFA is waiting until 2019 to make a final decision on Qatar. Additionally, there was a report released by Cornerstone Global which stated that there is “reasonable doubt” about the 2022 World Cup being held in Qatar. However, representatives from Qatar stated that “there is absolutely no risk to the first World Cup in the Middle East” and that the writers of the report are allied with the enemies of Qatar. The credibility of these reports has also been questioned by FIFA itself and other reputable journalists.

Furthermore, there is the question of whether or not to expand the number of teams at 2022 World Cup. The World Cup in 2026 is scheduled to field 48 teams, up from the 32 at the 2018 World Cup. The 2026 World Cup will be made up of 16 groups of 3 teams, unlike the 8 groups of 4 teams at the 2018 World Cup. Similar to the 2018 World Cup, the 2026 World Cup



will have the top two teams from each group advance after a round-robin format of play. An expanded tournament will require 16 additional games. While Qatar is scheduled to field only 32 teams, a proposal by the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) would expand the tournament in 2022. President Infantino, an adamant supporter of expanding the World Cup, said that Qatar must agree and stated that if the tournament is to be expanded, a possible co-host must be explored. It is up to FIFA to decide what to do by 2019. If the tournament is expanded, it will greatly increase revenue for the 2022 World Cup. However, it would also further disrupt scheduling and Qatar likely will not be able to field all 48 teams.

In response to the backlash from the 2018 and 2022 bidding process, FIFA has instituted a few changes. For example, in 2017, the FIFA committee passed the Human Rights Policy in which they affirm their support for “all internationally recognized human rights.” Furthermore, FIFA stated that they

are committed “to avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through its own activities,” something that likely happened in Qatar. Changes were also made to the bidding process. For the 2026 bidding process, it was required that nations bidding for the World Cup hosting rights outline their strategies for tackling human rights violations in their countries. Furthermore, there has been increased transparency for the 2026 bidding process. This includes having a three part evaluation of each bid. There is a compliance assessment which assesses if each bid follows all the rules of the bidding process. There is also a risk assessment which evaluates the benefits and risks of a prospective host. It includes human rights risks as well as a projection for costs and revenue. Finally, there is a technical evaluation in which many different aspects of a bid are individually scored and then weighted to form an overall score. Some aspects include stadiums (worth 35% of the overall score), transportation (13%), estimated revenue (20%), projected costs (10%), and other smaller aspects. The bids will then



be judged by the FIFA council, which has the ability to eliminate bids that do not meet the minimum standards instituted by FIFA. Finally, the remaining eligible bids will be voted on by the entire FIFA Congress. To ensure ethical compliance, a number of new rules were instituted. Some include comprehensively documenting all promotional activities and barring excessive gifts.

One final issue is that the 2022 World Cup is scheduled for the winter. Currently it is set to begin on November 21st and end on December 18th. It will take place over 28 days, down from the traditional 32. By scheduling the World Cup for the winter, the schedules of many European football leagues will be disrupted. This scheduling issue will likely hinder the leagues and could potentially affect the quality of play at the 2022 World Cup. However, the scorching hot summer temperatures which average over 120°F during the day makes it impractical for fans and tourists to visit. The issue of expanding the 2022 World Cup also relates to the

issue of scheduling. By increasing the number of teams, the World Cup would take longer than originally scheduled. This, in turn, would disrupt domestic football leagues in Europe even more. Ergo, palliating the concerns of fans and leagues will be another large priority of this committee.

## Possible Solutions

To find a solution to these issues, it is necessary to take into account multiple factors. These include the reputation of FIFA, appropriately disciplining corrupt officials involved in the 2022 World Cup bidding process, preventing future corruption in the bidding process, and the success of the 2022 World Cup.

The first issue that must be explored is the issue of expanding the World Cup in 2022. If a large portion of the FIFA committee looks favorably upon expansion, a potential co-host opportunity must be looked into with neighboring nations such as Iran or Kuwait. Furthermore, both nations, Qatar and a potential co-host, must agree



to co-host. To decide whether or not to expand the 2022 World Cup, it is vital to weigh potential increases in revenue and viewership against the scheduling and logistical issues posed by increasing the number of teams.

Another issue is whether or not to let Qatar host the World Cup after serious allegations of corruption. Even if the 2022 World Cup is kept in Qatar, appropriately disciplining corrupt officials will be vital to FIFA's image.

Finally, any beneficial changes to the bidding process must be considered. While FIFA has instituted many changes that assist the the evaluation and assessment of host bids, its attempts to fight unethical actions during bidding are nevertheless fairly weak. Consequently, more methods to increase transparency and limit any unethical collusion or actions should be discussed.

It is up to the delegates of this committee to come up with creative solutions to the current problems

that both align with your country's position and the interests of FIFA as a whole. There exists a diverse range of diplomatic proposals and it is your job to find those that will solve the current problems facing the 2022 World Cup.

## Bloc Positions

There are not many strict bloc positions revolving around Qatar 2022. However, there are numerous groups with different interests. In this section, a general overview of bloc positions will be provided. The issues of reforms to bidding process and an expansion of the 2022 World Cup are those that often do not have a clear opinion on and therefore, it is essential to do additional research on your individual nation.

### **Qatar and Allies**

Clearly, Qatar has a vested interest in keeping the World Cup in Qatar and keeping its record as clean as possible. Other Middle Eastern countries may feel that they will receive benefits from a World Cup in Qatar. Iran and Kuwait in particular may be interested as an



expansion of the 2022 World Cup would likely lead to them becoming a co-host. Another potential ally of Qatar is Russia, as their bid was also full of controversy. However, following an overwhelmingly successful World Cup in Russia, Russia may be reluctant to fully defend Qatar. Therefore, Qatar finds itself with few allies who are steadfast in their support for Qatar.

### **Other 2022 Bidders**

All of the other nations that bid for the 2022 World Cup were also investigated by Michael Garcia and the FIFA ethics committee. The English Football Association came under heavy fire in the 42 page report published in 2014. Other nations such as Australia and South Korea were also mentioned as partaking in some degree of illegal and unethical activities. However, the nation that was most suspicious, Qatar, walked away relatively unscathed. Therefore, these nations have an interest in redeeming their reputation. Members of the English Football Association have been quoted saying that FIFA tried to cover-up by publishing only the 42 page

report and scapegoating England. Ergo, these nations will be eager for an opportunity to right their reputation.

### **Anti-Qatar Quartet and Allies**

A coalition of Arab nations led by Saudi Arabia and including Bahrain, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates (known as the anti-Qatar Quartet) instituted a large land, sea, and air blockade of Qatar. These nations would prefer the World Cup either taken from Qatar or have Qatar forced into a co-host situation. However, these nations must act diplomatically and tread carefully as Qatar has been successful in portraying themselves as a small nation being bullied by larger Arab states.

### **Nations with Domestic Football Leagues**

While this bloc only pertains to one of the many issues, nations with domestic football leagues have a vested interest in disrupting them as little as possible. Every major European football league will be disrupted including the Premier League (United Kingdom), La Liga (Spain), Bundesliga (Germany),



and Serie A (Italy). Other nations outside Europe have leagues that will be disrupted by the World Cup. A lot of revenue is made from these leagues. For example, the Premier League is the fourth biggest professional sports league in the world by revenue, making over \$6 billion. These countries will fight to either find a plausible way to move the World Cup to the summer or at least prevent an increase of teams at the 2022 World Cup.

### **Other Nations**

Other nations largely do not have a strong opinion about Qatar hosting the 2022 World Cup. However, these nations tend to lean closer to pro-Qatar as many nations that are strongly anti-Qatar are aligned with the anti-Qatar Quartet. While some nations are more closely allied with Qatar, most nations are more interested in improving the poor public perception of FIFA. These nations will attempt to change and reform the bidding process and work for the overall success of FIFA and the 2022 World Cup.

## Questions to Consider

Is there enough evidence to take away hosting rights from Qatar? If there is, should their hosting rights be taken?

What is the current public opinion on the 2022 World Cup and how can it be improved?

Would an expansion of the 2022 World Cup lead to a more successful World Cup?

What role should a country's human rights record play in choosing a host?

How should FIFA react to Qatar's treatment of migrant workers building its stadiums?

How is the general population of Qatar affected by the World Cup and how can their experience be improved?



## **Topic B: Football in Developing Countries**

### **Introduction**

Football is known as the world's game due to its immense and global popularity; for some countries, it is treated as a religion. As such, there is significant potential for organized football to create economic and social impact from local communities to a whole nation. Furthermore, the development and promotion of women's football to encourage higher female participation and viewership can have potential to improve gender inequality with effective solutions. FIFA is not only responsible for the regulation of association football at the international level, but also aims to spread the popularity of the game and improve its experience. From implementing local grassroots programs to advising national football associations, the committee has an opportunity to allow FIFA to be widely known for more than just its World Cups and improve its image.



## Topic History

The history of association football has its roots in China, but the modern game and its official rules that are accepted today is more widely known to have originated in England around the mid-1850s. Various football clubs within universities around the country played and had their own adaptations of football, which initially made the sport very difficult to play with other clubs unless they agreed on the same rules. On October 1863, eleven football clubs and school representatives from London convened to agree on a set of universal rules for football, thus standardizing the game in England under the Football Association (the FA) and led to its rapid growth and popularity within the nation. In fact, most professional football clubs in England that play today were founded in the mid to late 1800s.

The growth and spread of football internationally was mainly aided by the influence and reach of the British empire. As people traveled

and worked across borders, the resulting cultural exchange brought many ideas, including the game of football, to various different countries from around the world. While some countries such as Switzerland and Italy adopted football from upper class foundations, the game was mostly spread and popularized by the lower and middle class. In fact, it was the British working-class immigrants that primarily introduced football to Latin American countries, most notably in Brazil, where the stylish flair of street soccer is evident in the playstyle of its national team and highlights the identity of Brazilian youth and culture to this day. As countries started to play internationally with their national teams, there became a need for a global regulatory body for football, leading to the creation of FIFA.

Although football was a sport that was welcomed and played by all socioeconomic classes, it was predominantly a “working man’s game”. Football is fundamentally a simple game that requires little equipment to play, making it very



accessible to all classes and ages. This allows for the opportunity for any person to rise up against the obstacles of society into the international spotlight; the rise of professional football in the early 20th century and the diversity of players and fans today highlights this characteristic. But for many, football is more than just a game, it's a lifestyle. Besides as a professional career, football provides an integral social aspect in many people's lives, bringing the community together as well as acting as a meaningful hobby outside of work and career.

An example of how football united people on a significant scale was during the Christmas Truce in World War I. It was rumoured that while British and German soldiers ceased fire and met peacefully in the spirit of the holidays, some even played matches of football. Although the extent of football that was played during this time cannot be verified, it still demonstrates the widespread, shared popularity and impact that football had, and the potential to unify groups of people

through the common thread of football.

Another extreme case of the impact of football can be examined during the First Ivorian War, when the country was embroiled in a civil war. Despite deadly conflict within the nation, Cote d'Ivoire qualified for its first World Cup in October 2005. Star player and national icon Didier Drogba, along with the rest of the national team, made an emotional plea after the deciding match, asking for peace within the nation. Amazingly, the speech and qualification convinced the government and opposing New Forces to hold a ceasefire and restart peace talks. Of course, to say that Drogba single-handedly ended the Ivorian Civil War would be absurd; however, it is worth noting how significant the people of Cote d'Ivoire value the success of one's national football team and its players, and how it can contribute toward unifying the nation, displaying the power of the sport beyond the field itself.

On the other side of the spectrum, football can literally create war. The



armed conflict between Honduras and El Salvador in 1969, dubbed “The Football War”, was primarily sparked by three World Cup qualifier matches for the 1970 World Cup in Mexico during the month of June. The existing tensions between these two nations mainly stemmed from the rural Hondurans’ resentment toward the El Salvadoran immigrants that poured into Honduras, which was five times the size but had around the same population. Nationalistic pride from both nations were deeply instilled and tied with their respective national football teams, and as such there was immense fighting, rioting, and harassment of the rival’s players before, during, and after each match. The violence eventually spread to those not involved with football, as the Hondurans’ anger boiled over as they terrorized El Salvadorian settlers to drive them out. The final match between the two nations was moved to a neutral site in Mexico due to escalating tensions, and after El Salvador won the game in overtime, diplomatic relations broke off between them. Two weeks later, El Salvadorian airplanes

bombed the airport in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, marking the beginning of the conflict. The Football War serves as an extreme example of how emotions on the field can boil over and potentially cause devastating consequences outside of it.

By understanding the nature of the game, observing the history of football and its influence on social and political groups, and analyzing significant events that have had far-reaching impact outside of football, delegates can take that knowledge and apply it to create positive change in their nation through the sport.

## Current Situation

Football is truly a global game: there are currently 211 national football associations in the world. Therefore, every country, whether developing or developed, can influence football in its nation, at least through its football association. However, there current is no organized, international effort to utilize football as a direct means of creating socioeconomic



development. The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) is likely the most related and was declared by the UN in 2014 on the initiative of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which stressed creating sustainable development and promoting peace through sport. UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has also emphasized the commitment of the UN system to promote sport as a tool for development. The universal aspect of football strengthens FIFA's ability to apply the same concepts to create meaningful change.

Since efforts to aid development through football is more decentralized, FIFA has an opportunity to present itself as a unifying organization to lead these efforts. There are currently thousands of various grassroots football organizations and programs that focus on social and economic development. Some examples include Kick4Life, the world's first football club exclusively dedicated to social change, which offers a range of programs in Lesotho, including

HIV prevention and voluntary testing. La Fundación de las Américas para el Desarrollo (FUDELA), a nonprofit based in Ecuador, uses football as the core element in training and technical skill development as well. While the organizations mentioned above are part of a global network called streetworldfootball, the relationships between the network and its member organizations are mostly informal and less rigid, leading to varying methods and mindsets in terms of how these organizations approach development through football. Common threads that exist are mentorship programs that target youth education and growth, bringing accessibility to the sport by providing equipment and constructing proper playing surfaces, and events designed to bring local communities together.

Economic development through football has vast potential: Within the top five football leagues in the world (Premier League, La Liga, Bundesliga, Ligue 1, Serie A) generated a combined revenue of over 15 billion euros in the 2017/18



season. Although this statistic narrowly focuses on revenue of professional football leagues in developed countries, it is a great example to demonstrate the scale of potential economic development through the commercialization of football, whether in developed or developing countries. Besides generating income from sports-related sales and services, the creation of professional football leagues and clubs also supports business growth, entrepreneurship and job creation, and can even boost international trade if goods and services are exchanged globally. At an extreme level, it can enhance a country's reputation, which can bring even more opportunities for the nation to develop.

Economic development can also be a positive consequence following social development efforts through football. For example, PL Kicks, which based in England, is the flagship community program of the Premier League. It aims to promote participation in sport in areas of high need, provide opportunities for young people to develop skills

and confidence, and support young people to progress into positive pathways. Besides job creation, it essentially invests in the country's underprivileged youth through education and physical activity, which can lead to a more balanced and diverse workforce in the future and forming a solid base of labor for its economy.

Increasing female participation in football is also a crucial goal in terms of empowering women and decreasing gender inequality. FIFA itself had set a goal to achieve 60 million female players by 2026, in addition to increasing gender diversity in coaching, refereeing, and other football-related personnel such as medical staff and management positions within professional football clubs. Surprisingly, the United States has the highest level of female involvement in soccer at the high school and collegiate level relative to other nations (over 400,000 as of 2018), despite being way less popular with sports such as football and basketball receiving more domestic exposure and attention. Furthermore, promotion of the



women's game is also a crucial goal: while events such as the FIFA Women's World Cup highlight the best female players from the top nations, professional leagues for women across the world receive much less attention and commercial revenue, despite the global popularity of the game. Within developing countries, the benefits of empowering and educating women, not just through football, can have a tremendous effect on struggling economies. Altogether, these combined efforts seek to bring further accessibility to football and attempt to truly be a global game that can be played regardless of race, gender, religion, and class.

## Bloc Positions

The topic of football in developing countries results in a clear division of the committee into two main blocs: developed vs developing countries. Developing countries will likely advocate for a more direct approach, possibly requesting monetary support and funding, possibly from wealthier nations, to help establish and develop football

programs within their nation, while developed countries might aim for a more implicit method of improving their nation through football, possibly by improving national reputation through their respective national teams. Ultimately, countries will have to assess the characteristics that matter the most to them, and through shared similarities more blocs can be formed with specific objectives and targeted agendas.

## Questions to Consider

What role can FIFA be involved in to help nations develop through football?

Would centralizing football development efforts help or hurt the existing system of grassroots organizations and programs?

What are proper economic indicators that can be used to measure growth relating to football development?



Should countries focus on increasing overall accessibility of the game or strengthen existing programs that use football as a method of social development?

How can countries increase female involvement and participation in football within their nation?

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