



International Federation of
Football Association

FIFA

*Topic B: Measures to Prevent
Corruption Within the
Organization*

ALEXMUN 2017

Dear delegates,

Welcome to our ALEXMUN 2017 committee; one of the topics we will be discussing in this MUN is the corruption within the FIFA organization. We are very pleased of you joining us and we are also very sure you will have a wonderful time with us this year. We ask you to be as active as you can in this debate, so that we can create a discussion of interest.

My name is Arantza Ramírez, the president of the FIFA Committee. I studied on a boarding school for a year (The Grier School, Birmingham, PA), in which I was chosen to be part of the Honors Social Studies class because of my development in the class and continuously concern about the world's issues and problems. I promise to make the most of it, and put all my effort and time for it to be as successful as the others, but also to make it an entertaining debate.

Next, we have our moderator, Florencia Diez González, who is really passionate for this year's ALEXMUN, not only because she loves debating, but by the fact that the topic that will be discussed is about an international recognized football soccer association, which is in charge of organizing plenty of events such as The World Cup, The Women's World Cup and even The Olympic Games. She really thinks that ALEXMUN is a great opportunity for young people to create a safe environment for discussion. She is truly interested and excited for this topic to be done by the first time with you all.

Also Yareni García Aguilar will be part of this committee as the Political Advisor. During her years in the Bachillerato Alexander Bain, she has developed, an amazing capacity of debating and language acquisition. She has been in the Bachillerato Alexander Bain since she was a child, and has always been concerned of my community in general.

Let us inform you that all the members of this chair have Cambridge University Certifications of the use of English, which guaranties a fluent debate.

For this committee, the communication is a very important aspect, and we are always pleased to help you in any way we can, and of course, answering all of the questions you might have. You can contact us throughout our emails at any time. They are as following:

- arantza.ramirez@bab.edu.mx Arantza Ramírez Serratos (President)
- florencia.diez@bab.edu.mx Florencia Diez González (Moderator)
- yareni.garcia@bab.edu.mx Yareni García Aguilar (Political Advisor)

Sincerely,

Alexmun's FIFA Committee

Committee Brief:

FIFA stands for “Fédération Internationale de Football Association”. It is an association founded in 1904 in Paris by delegates from Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. The headquarters are located in Zurich. It has 211 member and its prime goal is to join the nations across the world by playing football in a just and fair way. Those 211 member associations are countries from around the world, from all the continents; some of these members are: Argentina, Mexico, United States, China, Germany, Italy, Spain, Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Denmark, Brazil, etc.

The FIFA has divided 6 worldwide cups for each continent: CONMEBOL (South America), UEFA (Europe), AFC (Asia), CONCACAF (America), OFC (Oceania) and CAF (Africa). There is also the World Cup, which is played every 4 years, where all members form the FIFA compete to become the World Champions.

The first World Cup ever celebrated was in 1930 in Uruguay, and since then it has been celebrated every 4 years. The only times it wasn't celebrated was in 1942 and 1946 due to World War 2.

The World Cup first gained popularity thanks to the color transmission on TV in the 1960's.

The FIFA's directive team is made up by a President, some vice presidents, the Secretary General and the council member. The actual president is Gianni Infantino from Switzerland and the Secretary General is Fatma Samoura from Senegal. Another task of FIFA is to protect the integrity of football, so it is constantly fighting corruption which has recently been a serious problem.

FIFA believes it has the power to join the nations into one, so a platform is built to improve standards of education, health and sustainability, and to raise living standards and quality of life across the world. It is much more than just football, it is a worldwide union.

Key Words:

- *Soccer*: a form of football played between two teams of 11 players, the ball is moved by kicking or bouncing just by having contact with your feet, knees, torso, etc... except your hands. This rule doesn't apply to goalkeepers.
- *Corruption*: a dishonest act, most of the times related to money.
- *Nations*: the territory of a country which includes a community and a government.
- *Headquarters*: the main offices of an organization or where a certain event is going to take place.
- *Fair*: free from injustice.
- *Justice*: the quality of being just, or the moral of rightness.
- *Economy*: the management of money.
- *Equality*: the quality of being equal and uniform.
- *Structure*: a system considered from the point of view of a whole.
- *Referee*: an authority who is in charge of evaluating actions.
- *Favoritism*: the action of favoring a person or a group over others.
- *Budget*: an expected income.
- *Development*: the act of progress.
- *Leagues*: an association of individuals which have the same goal.

Introduction to the issue:

Since summer of 2015, FIFA has been devoured by claims of widespread corruption. This has already Claimed the careers of two Powerful men in football, FIFA President Sepp Blatter and UEFA President Michel Platini.

FIFA is responsible for the world football. It has had accusations of corruption mainly after giving Qatar the 2022 World Cup. The World Cup is the most viewed sport event in the world. It makes billions of dollars from sponsors, merchandising, and broadcasting rights. These accusations are creating doubt in the transparency, the election of the president, the management of the money and the honesty when selecting the headquarters for the World Cup and the tournaments.

The FIFA Gate is an investigation case after Swiss authorities disrupted a hotel in Zurich as a result of years of investigation about corruption in which the FIFA has been involved. The accusation includes bribery, fraud and money laundering.

Along the years, corruption in football tournaments and the FIFA Association in general has had numerous scandals related to referees playing in favor of one team, marking unnecessary cards and faults in “fixed” matches; there had also been scandals related to the selection of the World Cup headquarters. Furthermore, there had also been numerous scandals related to the FIFA members and directives; a clear example of these cases is Joseph Blatter, who was accused in 2002 for bribing the press through the Somalian member Farra Ado for the amount of 100 000 dollars. His victory as president of the UEFA was controversial. He and Michel Platini were expelled for an 8 year period from FIFA because of corruption. There have also been bribes payed to CONMEBOL to assure TV rights in next four versions of the Copa América, including the one held in Chile during 2015.

The first investigation was initiated by a New York prosecutor's office for the alleged payment of bribes for more than \$ 100 million U.S dollars to FIFA officials in exchange for certain firms receiving the rights to broadcast, advertise and sponsor football tournaments in the US , Latin America and the Caribbean, although it is presumed that there have been acts of corruption for more than 24 years.

The problem now:

As it has been said for decades, the FIFA organization has been accused of numerous scandals of corruption, not only with the referees in charge of every match, but also by the presidents, vice presidents and workers of this organization.

The selection of the World Cup host is known 8 years before that World Cup. This is how we know that Qatar will be hosting the 2022 World Cup. There have been many rumors about Qatar paying to be the host for this world cup. It is well known that Qatar is a very hot country, and during the summer, it can reach temperatures beyond 40°C. This brought concern to many journalists and spectators because it is really hard to play in such temperatures. This led to an investigation that said that Qatar paid bribes to be the host of the 2022 World Cup. According to the magazine France Football, Former FIFA manager Mohamed Ben Hammam made payments of about \$5 million (3.7 million euros) to African football officials to buy the World Cup. According to their research, there are thousands of invoices, faxes and emails that show exchanges between Ben Hammam and African leaders who, although had no vote, could influence the outcome of the contest.

Regarding the referees, the level of corruption varies by country, and may involve players, agents and, teams. In the 2005-2006 season several football corruption scandals were uncovered, such as German referee Robert Hoyzer in the Bundesliga and Edilson Pereira de Carvalho in Brazil. In 2006 one of the most notorious corruption scandals in world football broke out, Italian Serie A where five clubs were sanctioned for rigging matches. The rise of online betting on the Internet has been a new source of corruption, since referees, players and coaches can bet anonymously using people interposed and then influence the results with their performance in the field.

Another not that wide known scandal, is that The Duke of Cambridge and David Cameron (a British politician who was Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 2010 to 2016) have supposedly become part of a corruption scandal in football as the full extent of England's "failed attempt to stage the 2018 World Cup was made public". The report given by FIFA communicates how Mr. Cameron asked the South Korean delegation to back England's bid, only to be told that England would have to agree to reciprocate by pledging support for South Korea's bid to host the 2022 tournament.

The report, written in 2014 by the then FIFA's chief ethics investigator Michael Garcia and which was leaked to a German newspaper, details how England bid officials

interacted with FIFA officials in the run up to the vote. It disclosed how they were asked to bestow an honorary knighthood and arrange an audience with the Queen for one South American official.

Finally another important scandal which happened last year, is that FIFA finances showed a loss of \$369 million after Swiss and American investigations about corruption, added legal costs to the soccer body's budget and scared off sponsors.

"An even bigger loss is expected next year", FIFA said publishing its 2016 accounts, which reflect "a new way of reporting income."

FIFA expects to rebound with \$1 billion in profit in the accounts for 2018, which will include income from most TV broadcast deals for the World Cup in Russia. Still, the scandal-hit soccer body's confidence will be tested with 24 slots currently unsold in a 34-sponsor program for a World Cup that kicks off in only 14 months.

"However, it goes without saying that stagnant global trade and subdued investment, combined with investigations surrounding previous FIFA officials, have put pressure on the organization's overall revenue generation," FIFA said in the 116-page financial report for 2016.

FIFA's costs in 2016 included legal bills of more than \$50 million for the American and Swiss federal investigations of bribery and mismanagement linked to international soccer leaders. That legal bill rose from \$20.2 million in 2015, the report said.

Topics to be addressed:

Because the topic given is about corruption inside the FIFA organization, the following are some topics that are necessary for this debate:

- The conclusion of the corruption case "FIFA Gate".
- Which points are taken into consideration and how process of the election of the president and vice president of the organization?
- Why are people talking about a case of corruption in the selection of the next World Cup Headquarter (Qatar 2022)¹?
- What measures could be taken to prevent corruption within the organization

¹ This topic may also be addressed in Topic A: World Cup Headquarters..

Sources:

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4. Prince William and David Cameron caught in Fifa corruption scandal. The tele<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/06/27/prince-william-david-cameron-caught-fifa-corruption-scandal/>