

Call for papers

FIFA and human rights: Impacts, policies, responsibilities

8 May 2019, The Asser Institute, The Hague

The Asser Institute and the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research (NNHRR) are inviting submissions for a conference on the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and human rights due to take place on 8 May 2019 at the Asser Institute in The Hague. In the past years, FIFA underwent an intense reform process triggered by an increased awareness of the human rights risks surrounding its global events (and in particular its 2022 World Cup in Qatar). In doing so, it has included human rights in its Statutes, embraced the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, adopted new bidding rules including human rights requirements and introduced a Human Rights Advisory Board. These changes highlight that FIFA's rules and decisions affect the human rights of a variety of actors (amateur and professional players, fans, construction workers, journalists, citizens of countries hosting the World Cup) in many ways, and thus raises the question of the need to hold FIFA to account for potential human rights violations linked to its activities.

This one-day conference aims to take stock of FIFA's multifarious impact on human rights, critically investigate the measures it has adopted to deal with that impact and discuss the potential avenues available to hold FIFA (legally or otherwise) accountable for human rights violations connected to its activities. We invite researchers (and academically-minded practitioners) from various disciplines (law, political science, sociology, anthropology, and history) to submit abstracts for the conference tackling questions related to:

- FIFA's human rights impacts on a variety of actors and places
- FIFA's human rights commitments, policies and mechanisms
- FIFA's responsibilities for human rights violations that occur in the context of its activities
- FIFA's constitutionalisation and its limits

CVs and abstracts of no more than 300 words should be sent to A.Duval@asser.nl no later than **30 January 2019**. The selection of abstracts will be communicated by 15 February and draft papers will be due 15 April 2019. Please note that we plan to publish the papers presented at the conference in a collective volume (special issue of a journal or edited volume). Finally, a limited number of travel grants (max 200€) are available, please indicate in your application whether you will be needing one. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to cover the accommodation of the speakers.

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