

Hammad Albalawi
FIFA World Cup Team 2034
Saudi Football Federation
Al Yasmin District
King Abdul Aziz Rd
Riyadh
Saudi Arabia

7 February 2025

Dear Mr Albalawi

Subject: Assurances on LGBT+ Rights and Protections for the 2034 FIFA World Cup

I am writing to seek a meeting with you to discuss the safety, dignity and rights of LGBT+ players, officials and fans attending the 2034 FIFA World Cup in Saudi Arabia.

As you are aware, FIFA is committed to upholding human rights in all aspects of its operations, including ensuring that World Cup host nations adhere to principles of equality and non-discrimination.

The decision to award the tournament to Saudi Arabia has prompted significant concerns by ourselves, other international human rights organisations and the global football community, particularly regarding the Kingdom's legal framework, which criminalises same-sex relationships and restricts the rights of LGBT+ people.

Considering these concerns, I respectfully request a formal meeting to secure a commitment from your office on the following five points:

1. **Safety and Non-Discrimination:** Clear guarantees that all visitors, including LGBT+ fans, players, officials and media personnel, will be able to attend and participate in the World Cup safely, without fear of discrimination, harassment or prosecution.
2. **Freedom of Expression and Visibility:** Assurances that fans will be permitted to express their support for LGBT+ rights, including the display of rainbow flags, symbols and messaging, without intimidation, censorship or arrest.
3. **Legal Protections for LGBT+ Visitors:** Confirmation that no attendee will be subjected to legal consequences under Saudi law for the expression of their sexual orientation or gender identity while in the country for the tournament.
4. **Inclusive Hospitality and Services:** Commitment that hotels, restaurants, transport services and public venues will not discriminate against LGBT+ visitors or refuse them service.

5. **Engagement with Human Rights Experts:** A pledge to work with FIFA, ourselves and other international human rights organisations and LGBT+ advocacy groups to develop and implement a policy framework that ensures inclusion, safety and respect for LGBT+ participants.

Saudi Arabia's ambition to host the World Cup is an opportunity to showcase its commitment to progress and inclusivity on a global stage. By providing these assurances, you would send a strong message that the Kingdom is willing to engage constructively with the international community on matters of human rights and equality.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Tatchell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Tatchell

Director of the Peter Tatchell Foundation
and International human rights campaigner

Email: Peter@PeterTatchellFoundation.org