



FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018

Anti-Discrimination Monitoring System

Summary, June 2018



Anti-Discrimination Monitoring System

The purpose of the Anti-Discrimination Monitoring System is to support the secretariat of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee, the FIFA safety and security officers, the FIFA match commissioners and the FIFA referees with the monitoring and reporting done by FIFA anti-discrimination match observers. The main objectives are:

- to optimise the legal procedure leading to possible sanctions;
- to provide risk assessments of all matches;
- to monitor all matches and report incidents;
- to promote self-regulation within fan groups.

Every match of the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ will be attended by three specially trained, neutral anti-discrimination match observers. Based on article 4 of the FIFA Statutes, they will monitor and report on all matches and provide their anti-discrimination match reports and additional evidence on incidents of a possible discriminatory nature in stadiums to the secretariat of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee. Two of these observers will focus on the participating teams and their fans, one for team A and the other for team B. The third observer will monitor neutral/third-party spectators.

Anti-discrimination match observers (“observers”) are assigned to teams because they need to

- understand the language and idiosyncrasies of the country;
- know the respective symbols and codes used in the country/local environment/fan culture;
- know the fan culture of the country/local environment.

The chairman of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee will be responsible for deciding whether to open proceedings on the basis of the anti-discrimination match report, the match commissioner’s match report and other evidence provided by third parties.

It should be noted that while the principle of strict liability established in art. 67 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (Liability for spectator conduct) is applicable during final competitions, as clearly established under par. 4, the FIFA judicial bodies will take all relevant factors into account when imposing any sanction (cf. art. 39 par. 4 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code).

The project is coordinated by the FIFA Sustainability & Diversity Department and provided by the Fare network, an organisation with a long track record of combatting discrimination in football.