MEGA-EVENTS & HUMAN RIGHTS – DUEL OR DIALOGUE

Connecting the Dots: Sport Mega Events & the People they Affect

Gigi Alford
World Players Association | Sport & Rights Alliance
13 October 2019 | Play the Game | Colorado Springs, CO, USA

VOICE • DIGNITY • HUMANITY
“For the game. For the world.”

Striving for Excellence: Mega-Sporting Events and Human Rights

John G. Ruggie
Harvard University
Existing international standards

UDHR, 1948

UNGPs, 2011
What are human rights today?

- Your Human Rights are Protected by Law
- No One Can Take Away Your Human Rights
- They include (among others):
  - Freedom of Religion or Belief
  - Freedom of Expression and Opinion
  - Freedom of Assembly and Association
  - Freedom of Movement
  - Workers’ Rights
  - The Right to Play
  - The Right to Education
  - The Right to Privacy
  - The Right to Fair Trial
  - We’re Always Innocent Until Proven Guilty
What human rights never are:

- “Gifted” by a person, State, or company
- Inferior to corporate rules or national law
- Divisible from other rights
- Ranked against other rights
- Open to a vote or to renegotiation
- Different for particular groups
- Hidden agenda
- Greater burden to you than those in power
- Aspirational
- Luxuries
- Commodities
Applying human rights in a group-based context

- **CEDAW** Recommendation 28
  - Women
  - 1979

- **I’VE GOT RIGHTS!**
  - Children
  - 1989

- **Declaration on Human Rights Defenders**
  - HRDs
  - 1998

  - PWDs
  - 2006

- **Universal Declaration of Player Rights**
  - Players
  - 2017

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**Sport bodies business and human rights commitments**

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<th>FIFA</th>
<th>UEFA</th>
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<th>IOC</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Article 3 FIFA Statutes, 2016</td>
<td>• 2024 EUROs bidding requirements &amp; staging agreement, 2017</td>
<td>• CGF Human Rights Policy Statement, 2017</td>
<td>• 2024 &amp; 2028 Host City Contract, 2016</td>
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<td>• FIFA 2.0, 2016</td>
<td>• Centre for Sport &amp; Human Rights, 2018</td>
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<td>• 2026 FIFA World Cup bid criteria, 2018</td>
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Institutional relations

- European Council of Europe
- UNESCO
- Centre for Sport and Human Rights
- ILO

January 2020: Inaugural ILO tripartite dialogue on decent work in sport
MSEs awarded before/after human rights commitments

Before 2016:
- FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022
- Tokyo 2020
- Beijing 2022

After 2016:
- Paris 2024
- LA 2028
- United 2026
We must call for change. This week I am honored to represent Team USA at the Pan Am Games, taking home Gold and Bronze. My pride however has been cut short by the multiple shortcomings of the country I hold so dear to my heart. Racism, Gun Control, mistreatment of immigrants,
THANK YOU!

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