

Committee: Arab league

Topic A: Impact of the Qatar World Cup and its culture

Chair: Ana Paulina Díaz Rodriguez

Moderator: Rodrigo Ramos Herrera



The Arab League is an organization founded in 1945 with the purpose of uniting all the Arab speaking countries from the Middle East and Africa in order to prevent conflict, develop trade markets in the region and to ensure sovereignty for each member state. The organization has 22 member states including Palestine. The League was initially proposed by England during World War II to protect the Arab world from the Axis powers in 1942 but the organization was not properly developed until 1945. The Arab League has done several contributions to the member states, such as gaining economic achievements along with other smaller regional institutions and encouraging the creation of more telecommunications that connect Arab countries.

In 2022 Qatar will host the World Cup chosen by FIFA however, they have been criticized due to the shocking conditions migrant workers encounter during the construction of stadiums and infrastructure. Qatar has about 2.6 million residents, however, 90 percent are temporary foreigner workers performing service jobs or construction, involving building World Cup establishments. There are also some disturbing actual numbers of workers who have died throughout the construction of the facilities. Qatar has approached an increasing inspection throughout its treatment of migrant workers showing concern about the actual safety of the workers since 1426 migrant workers have died between the years 2009 to 2019 and this year more than a hundred migrant workers have lost their lives.

The United Nations have shown importance regarding the abuse of workers' rights in Qatar, some investigations have been realized in order to prove the abuse to migrant workers regarding the World Cup

projects. Investigators found that delayed wages are a habitual matter for many Nepalese workers, it examines some interviews with the Nepalese workers who declared a variety of secondary abuses including poor housing, risky working conditions, expired visas, etc. Qatar laws have been implemented in a way for tourists to show respect to the people and culture which are: It's very important to respect all local traditions, customs, laws and religions at all times and to be careful with actions that may offend other people's religious beliefs.

Drinking alcohol or being drunk in public counts as wrongdoing nevertheless alcohol is only available at approved hotels, restaurants, airplanes and bars. Dress code is a very strict factor in Qatar's culture, women need to dress in an appropriate manner such as covering their shoulders and also avoiding provocative skirts, public affection between men or women can cause arrests. Also, homosexual behavior is illegal in Qatar and instigating this type of conduct could lead to jail since is a very severe crime under Islamic law.

On September 10, 2019, an Iranian woman set herself on fire after being detained because of dressing up like a man and trying to sneak into a football match. Afterward, officials gave her 6 months in prison. FIFA is working with Iranian authorities to stop the banning of women into men's football matches. There is not a law that prohibited the ban into stadiums but authorities repetitive have been applying this type of ideology. this conduct can't be treated at Qatar's World Cup.

Qatar has introduced 2 million migrant workers into their country in order for them to encounter new opportunities to earn money by helping build the stadiums and facilities from the World Cup, but according to some workers Qatar's agencies have promised agreements in which things like a stable salary for their family, good living conditions, medical expenses or the job in which they agreed on is not being respected since in some cases their salaries are lower than they have guaranteed and they need it to

pay for their own medical expenses. In this case, the International Labour Organization has been working to improve the conditions in which workers have to live work and gain money.

Alcohol is not permitted in Qatar and drinking alcohol in public can lead to an arrest. The only legal ways to drink in this country are having a special permit and being in licensed hotels, bars, airplanes, and clubs. This year Qatar has implemented a new law that consists of adding a 100% tax and doubling the alcohol prices at night, this new tax will also apply at Qatar World Cup. Qatar expects among 500,000 football spectators and they will only be allowed to drink at designated zones also respecting the country's cultural values.

The Human Rights Watch Organization did research on FIFA's human rights policy that states that discrimination is not allowed and can be punished by FIFA. The football association states that World Cup host countries should as well take into account human rights and the culture of the host country. Qatar has zero anti-discrimination rules, government laws and they do not even recognize LGBT organizations in which they address discrimination for sexual orientation.

Protecting the lives of thousands of migrant workers is essential, that's why organizations need to start taking action and begin raising awareness for people to know how Qatar is treating migrant workers and how can they be protected in order for them and their families to succeed, also to become better informed about their own situation and rights and secondly to be actively engaged in claiming their rights. It's also important for tourists to respect Qatar's Laws and to be familiarised with what is correct and what is illegal in order for them to have a great time when being at the games. The banning of women into stadiums needs to be addressed as well, that's why FIFA needs to reinforce their human rights policies so

that countries can then proceed to allow the entering of women into any type of football game.

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