



## Open Letter

Dear Football Association

It is with great frustration and disappointment that we have learned of our national federations' decision to refrain from wearing the One Love captain's armband due to the threat of sanctions from FIFA.

This is all the more annoying because this symbol already describes the greatest possible consensus. Equal rights are human rights, that must be clear. This applies to all genders and orientations, also in football and especially at a World Cup.

FIFA has thus finally given up its own claim to organize a World Cup for all and made itself the compliant partner of Qatari interests. This is a fatal sign for the queer community in general, but especially for queer people in Qatar.

**We call on the national associations of our member organizations FA, DFB, KNVB and SFV to do so**

- **The events that led to the decision to be presented and processed transparently and comprehensively**
- **exhaust all legal possibilities to take action against the directive**

FIFA, as world football's governing body, grossly violates the integrity of the game by threatening sporting sanctions and making the players hostage to association-political issues. This procedure must not be legitimized and every effort must be made to correct it and prevent it from happening in the future.

As various reports from local stakeholders have shown, the Qatari authorities and FIFA have not kept their promises to use rainbow symbols in the stadiums. Fans are regularly forced to remove appropriate clothing or banners. That, too, must not be accepted without objection.

*QFF – Queer Football Fan Clubs*

