

Mr. Gianni Infantino

President of FIFA

Fédération Internationale de Football Association

FIFA-Strasse 20,

P.O. Box 8044 Zurich, Switzerland

Fax : +41-(0)43 222 7878.

1 May 2017

Dear Mr. Infantino,

**Re: Complaint against the Palestinian Football Association
and its President Jibril Rajoub for Breaching the FIFA Statutes
and Disciplinary Code**

Attached hereto is a copy of our letter and complaint prepared in conjunction with Palestinian Media Watch submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee against the Palestinian Football Association (hereinafter: "PFA") and its president, Mr Jibril Rajoub.¹

As documented in the complaint, the PFA and Mr. Rajoub regularly and gravely breach the FIFA Statutes by **promoting and glorifying terrorism; inciting hatred and violence; promoting racism; and preventing the use of the game of football in order to build a bridge for peace**. The PFA and Mr. Rajoub are aided in this campaign by non-governmental organizations promoting discriminatory anti-Israel BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions). Several of these organizations are linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a designated terrorist organization.

¹ NGO Monitor is a Jerusalem-based research institute. NGO Monitor documents and publicizes distortions of human rights and international law in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as double standards and biased campaigns, and provide information and context on these issues and activities, in order to encourage informed public debate. Members of NGO Monitor's Advisory Board are Harvard Professor Alan Dershowitz; Colonel Richard Kemp, former commander of British forces in Iraq and Afghanistan; Hon. Alexander Downer AC, former Foreign Minister of Australia, UN Special Advisor to the Secretary General on Cyprus, and currently Australian High Commissioner to the UK; Hon. Michael Danby MP, senior member of the Australian Labor Party; R. James Woolsey, former US Director of Central Intelligence; former Member of Italian Parliament, Fiamma Nirenstein; US Jurist and former Legal Advisor to the State Department, Abraham Sofaer; UCLA Professor and President of the Daniel Pearl Foundation, Judea Pearl; Harvard Professor Ruth Wisse; former US government official, Elliot Abrams; Einat Wilf, former member of Knesset with the Israel Labor Party and advisor to Shimon Peres; Douglas Murray, Director of the Centre for Social Cohesion, best-selling author and commentator; and British journalist and international affairs commentator, Tom Gross.

In the complaint we argue that the actions of the PFA and its president breach Articles 3 and 4 of the FIFA Statutes and Articles 53 and 58 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

It should be noted that based on the documentation referred to in the complaint, the German Olympic Sports Federation recently cancelled a 400,000 Euro, 2-year cooperation agreement with the PFA, because “sich nicht alle Partner zu den hohen Werten des Sports bekennen” [“not all partners are committed to the high values of sport”] [GOSF spokeswoman Ulrike Spitz, taz.de, March 28, 2017].

Considering the severe nature of the PFA and of Mr. Rajoub’s infringements, the Disciplinary Committee is requested to open proceedings against the PFA and Mr. Rajoub, and, where found necessary, implement disciplinary action **without delay, including:**

- For **breaching Article 4** of the FIFA Statute - **suspension or expulsion.**
- For **breaching Article 53** of the FIFA Disciplinary Code - **a match suspension for no less than twelve months and a minimum fine of CHF 20,000.**
- For **breaching Article 58** of the FIFA Disciplinary code - **a match suspension for at least five matches and a minimum fine of CHF 30,000.**
- For **breaching Article 3** of the FIFA Statutes penalties are not prescribed, but in accordance with Article 11 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code - **a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for an extended period of time.**

The Arabic language evidence supporting this complaint can be accessed via Google Drive: goo.gl/cYIEcS

We request that FIFA sends notification of receipt of our complaint and an update regarding the date set for the hearing to the following e-mail address:

anne@ngo-monitor.org

Yours respectfully,

**Anne Herzberg
Legal Advisor
NGO Monitor**