

PE1319/SSS

PFA Scotland Submission of 6 June 2017

I have attached the [FIFA Statutes](#) for reference. Articles 3, 14(i) and 19 may be of particular relevance for the Committee.

FIFA has the powers intervene and suspend a country's membership. These interventions however usually relate to Government interference in the democratic processes and elections of the local association and therefore the actual running of the game in that country, usually in contravention of Article 19, and are few and far between in extreme circumstances.

There are a few examples where the Government has appointed the Board of the local governing body and FIFA has intervened; the link below is where the Mali government appointed a committee to run its country's football association.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/39294566>

Article 3 however commits FIFA and its members to respecting Human Rights. FIFA is conscious that the law in each country will be different and that local laws and labour law should be respected. If a Government felt that an individual's human and statutory rights were not being respected, and this was pointed out to the Governing Body, it is highly doubtful that FIFA would wish to become involved.

Also of relevance is Article 5.1 of the attached [Autonomous Agreement](#), an agreement which outlines the minimum standards of a player's contract, which as you can see below insists on the application of national legislation and that local labour law has to be taken into account and cannot be amended;

5.1 The Contract regulates an employment contract for a professional player. The national legislation of the country where the Club is duly registered applies, if another legislation is not explicitly otherwise agreed. National labour law may provide mandatory provisions, which cannot be amended by the Player and the Club and have to be taken into account.

It is my opinion therefore that in the circumstances surrounding the Petition 1319, it is unlikely that FIFA would intervene should the Scottish Government decide to become involved with the application of an individual's statutory rights.

I trust this is of assistance and if I can be of further help please do not hesitate to get in touch.