



NORDIC POSITION PAPER *on the* FUTURE OF FIFA WORLD CUPS

At the FIFA Ordinary Congress in May 2021, a majority of FIFA member associations adopted a resolution asking FIFA to explore the feasibility of conducting biannual FIFA World Cups (for both men and women) instead of every fourth year. Since, FIFA has tried to engage former national team players across the World to support the idea of biannual FIFA World Cups. The Nordic football associations have not yet been involved in a dialogue on the World Cup proposal.

The Nordic football associations stand firmly against the idea of biannual FIFA World Cups. We are against the idea because;

- The UEFA Women's EURO and the FIFA Women's World Cup will be pushed out of the public and media spotlight.
- It will radically change the football ecosystem where football organizations agree on the international match calendar, tournament windows etc. It can fundamentally make it impossible to continue with our current model of national tournaments and national team matches.
- We cannot expect that clubs will release players for biannual FIFA World Cups if the match calendar is not agreed by the ones who are expected to comply to it.
- It will cannibalize on well-functioning tournaments: The EUROs for men and women will become obsolete if unnecessary biannual FIFA World Cups are introduced.

The Nordic football associations work for a healthy development of football – in our countries and in the rest of the world. For amateurs and professionals, for women and men. However, the proposed radical changes to the FIFA World Cups have massive implications for the wider football community. Such changes must be made through agreements between the involved parties – not hurried through. The Nordic football associations will work with constructive amendments to make football prosper further in other regions, but this should not be at the cost of successful developments in Europe.

If a majority in FIFA decides to adopt a proposal on biannual FIFA World Cups, the Nordic football associations will need to consider further actions and scenarios that are closer to our fundamental values than what the current FIFA proposal stands for.



Signed in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 15th of October 2021

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