*No Contest:

FIFA's Ban on 'Recourse to Ordinary Courts'
vs.
the Individual Right to Remedy

Play the Game 2015 Gigi Alford @gigialford

Master of International Human Rights Law Oxford University



Special Advisor Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor U.S. Department of State

The best American foreign policy action taken in 2015

The U.S. indictments of FIFA executives could do an awful lot to promote America's standing in the world.









By Daniel W. Drezner May 27 Follow @dandrezner

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PtG2015 question



My thoughts



*Reform or revolution?

*"Our legal action has ended.
But I am hopeful that the players' willingness to contest the unequal playing fields—and the tremendous public support we received during the effort—marks the start of even greater activism to ensure fair treatment when it comes to women's sports"

- Abby Wambach, 2012 FIFA World Player of the Year



*Wambach et. al.

Canadian Soccer Association & FIFA

*Every person has a right to claim and enforce his or her rights under this Act, to institute and participate in proceedings under this Act and to refuse to infringe a right of another person under this Act, without reprisal or threat of reprisal for so doing.

*Human Rights Code, Section 8

*'Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law'



-Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 8



General Provisions

Article 1 - Name and headquarters

Article 2 - Objectives

Article 3 - Non-discrimination and stance against racism

Article 4 - Promoting friendly relations





Membership

Article 10 - Admission

Article 12 - Member's Rights

Article 13 - Member's Obligations

Article 17 - Independence of Members and their Bodies [non-interference clause]



Organisation

Article 20 - Confederations

Article 21 - Bodies

Article 26 - Adoption of and Amendments to the Statutes, [etc.]

Article 61 - Judicial Bodies

Article 65 - Disciplinary Measures



Arbitration

Article 66 - Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

Article 67 - Jurisdiction of CAS

Article 68 - Obligation [mandatory private arbitration clause]



Non-Interference Clause

*Each Member shall manage its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties.

- FIFA Statutes, Article 17.1 (See also Article 13.1)

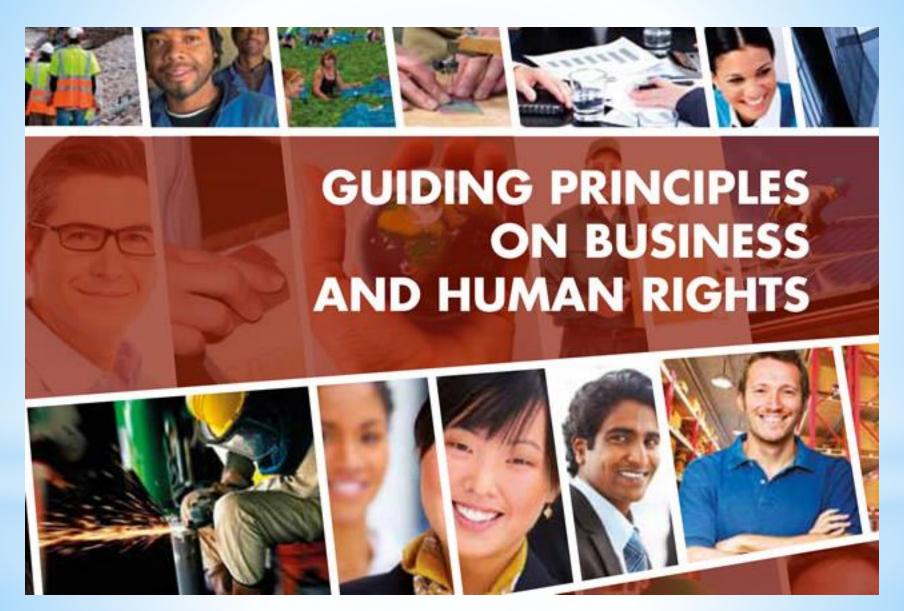
Mandatory Private Arbitration Clause

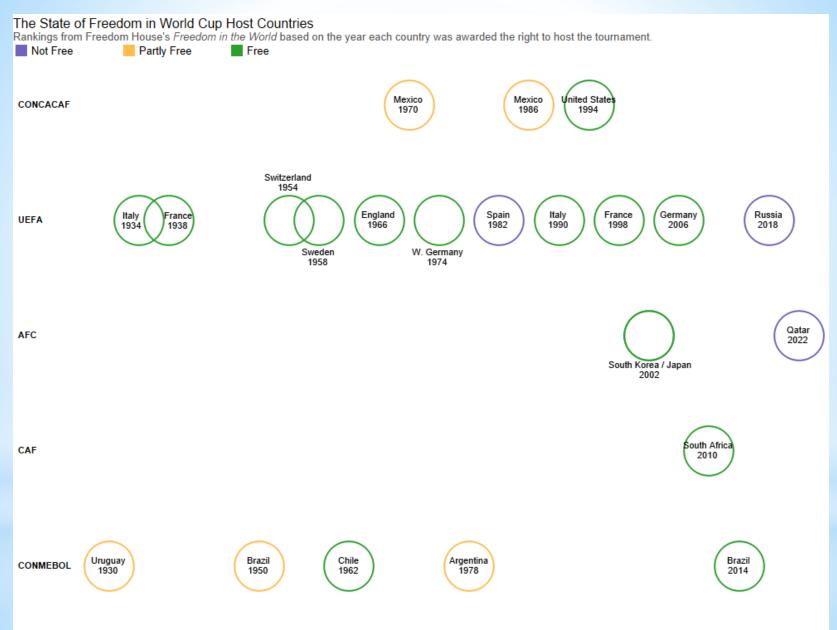
*Instead of recourse to ordinary courts of law, provision shall be made for arbitration.

- FIFA Statutes, Article 68.3 (See also Article 68.2)

*Autonomy and closed circuit arbitration

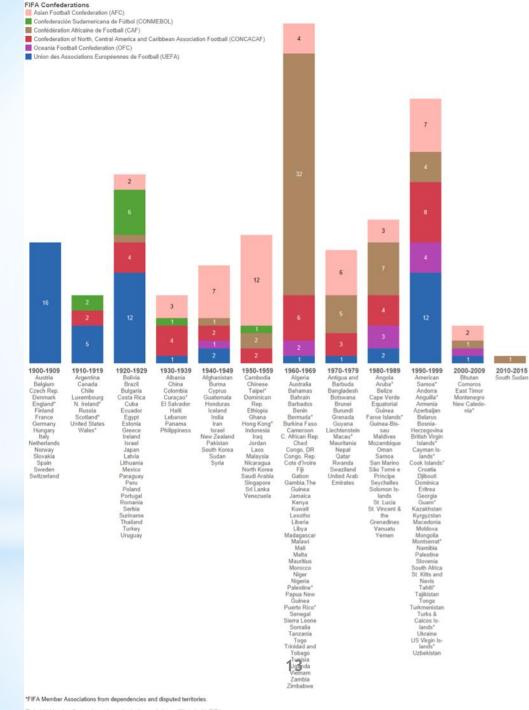






^{*}Rankings for World Cup hosts are based on the year the tournament was awarded to each country. For those awarded prior to 1972, rankings are based on 1972 figures (the year Freedom in the World rankings were first produced).

Sources: Freedom House (rankings); FIFA (World Cup hosts).



Eight UN Member States do not have football associations affiliated with FIFA:

*Football Confederations

