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Ref: Islamic Republic, gay rights, and football.

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The Islamic Republic is a theocratic dictatorship that has failed to implement Human Rights in Iran. There exist no gay rights and Iranian women have severe restrictions on freedom and rights.

The world is witnessing an organic revolution in Iran, which was sparked by the murder of Mahsa Amini by the morality police.

The revolution has entered its seventh week and despite a brutal crackdown by the authorities resulting in many hundreds of deaths, the protestors who are mainly young girls, women, and men are holding firm to their cause.

The LGBT community in Iran lives in constant fear in a country where the dictatorship has denied the right to freedom. There are forced sex changes and 'conversion' therapy for the LGBT community. The vast majority are prescribed anti-depressants and there exists a high rate of suicide.

The footballing nations are looking forward to the upcoming FIFA world cup that will be hosted by Qatar. This is a kingdom that also has issues with LGBT rights. The Islamic Republic of Iran football team will participate in this tournament.

The Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies have written a letter to FIFA requesting that the Iranian football team should be disqualified as they are in breach of FIFA's articles of equality, fairness, and independence from politics. The Islamic Republic has also breached U.N sanctions by supplying drones and arms to aid the Russian war effort in Ukraine.

We would be grateful if you would engage with FIFA to support LGBT rights, especially in Qatar, as well as to condemn the brutal crackdown on unarmed protestors in Iran. FIFA should review Iran's participation in this competition.

Please be the voice of LGBT in Iran.

We hope to be able to have co-operation with your organisation and to work closely together in the future.

Kind regards,

Association of Iranian Human Rights and Allies

