

## TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1949

Zurich, 24 October 2025

### **FIFA Football Law Annual Review 2026**

Dear Sir or Madam,

FIFA is pleased to announce that the next FIFA Football Law Annual Review will be held in Budapest, Hungary, on 19 and 20 February 2026. The 2026 edition of the event will once again provide a platform to share updates on football regulatory work, case law and landmark decisions from FIFA's judicial bodies, as well as significant proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

The event will be conducted in English, with simultaneous interpretation available in French and Spanish and it will be live-streamed on FIFA.com. Full audio and video recordings will be available on [legal.fifa.com](https://legal.fifa.com) after the event. For more information, please refer to the attached brochure.

Should you have any questions regarding the FIFA Football Law Annual Review 2026, please do not hesitate to contact Zelin Xu, Independent Committees & Legal Projects Manager, at [annual-review@fifa.org](mailto:annual-review@fifa.org).

We appreciate your attention and look forward to welcoming you in Budapest or online.

Yours faithfully,

FIFA



Mattias Grafström  
Secretary General

Encl.: Official brochure

cc: - FIFA Council  
- Confederations  
- European Football Clubs  
- FIFPRO  
- World Leagues Association

# FIFA® Football Law Annual Review 2026 Budapest, Hungary

KEMPINSKI HOTEL  
19 & 20 FEBRUARY 2026



With the  
collaboration  
of MLSZ



With the  
support  
of UEFA



## The FIFA Football Law Annual Review

Football continues to thrive, reaching unprecedented levels of global popularity and success across both the men's and women's game. This progress is no coincidence: it reflects FIFA's consistent and determined efforts **to make football truly global and unite the world through the beautiful game.**

A strong and evolving legal framework is essential to help FIFA and the whole of the football community meet ongoing and new challenges in relation to this and other missions.

To that end, FIFA is committed to ensuring that football's legal stakeholders have direct access to information on **key regulatory developments.**

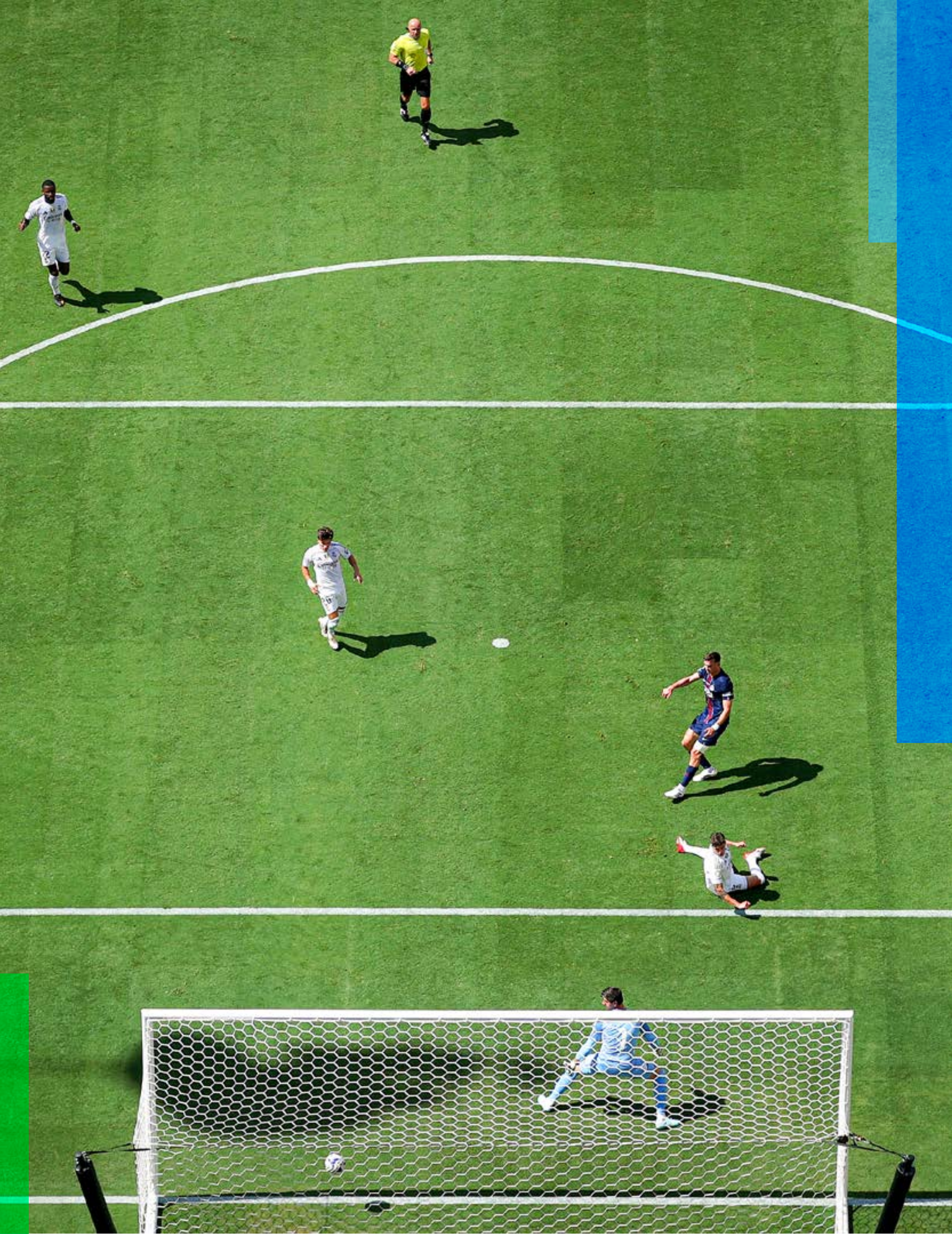
**Since 2019, FIFA has hosted the Football Law Annual Review**, providing a platform to share updates on regulatory work, case law and landmark decisions from FIFA's judicial bodies, as well as significant proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and other relevant tribunals.

The past year has **brought another wave of important regulatory changes and impactful decisions from FIFA, CAS and the Court of Justice of the European Union** making the **Football Law Annual Review 2026** especially relevant.

## DAY 1 – Programme // 19 February 2026

- |              |   |              |   |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| <b>13:00</b> | <b>Opening and Introduction</b><br><b>Dr. Timea Hoszné Nagy</b> , MLSZ<br>Exco Member & FIFA Institutional<br>Relations Committee Member<br><b>Emilio García Silvero</b> ,<br>FIFA Chief Legal & Compliance<br>Officer (Miami, USA) | <b>16:15</b> | <b>Surfing on doping procedures:<br/>recent decisions &amp; practical<br/>lessons for lawyers</b><br><b>Juan de Dios Crespo</b> , Managing<br>Partner Ruiz Huerta & Crespo<br>(Valencia, Spain)   |
| <b>13:45</b> | <b>The CJEU ruling on Seraing<br/>and the practical implications for<br/>the CAS system within<br/>the EU territory</b><br><b>Massimo Coccia</b> ,<br>Senior Partner, Coccia De Angelis &<br>Associati (Rome, Italy)                | <b>17:15</b> | <b>International transfer<br/>of minors: recent cases<br/>and decisions</b><br><b>Agustín Montes de Oca</b> , FIFA<br>Team Lead Regulatory Applications<br>(Miami, USA)                           |
| <b>14:45</b> | <b>The FIFA RSTP after<br/>the CJEU ruling on Diarra</b><br><b>Erika Montemor Ferreira</b> ,<br>FIFA Head of Disputes<br>& Regulatory Applications<br>(Miami, USA)  | <b>18:00</b> | <b>Break</b>  |
| <b>15:45</b> | <b>Break</b>  | <b>18:30</b> | <b>CAS football leading cases 2025</b><br><b>Miguel Lietard</b> , FIFA Director<br>of Litigation (Miami, USA)<br><b>Luis Villas-Boas Pires</b> , FIFA Director<br>of Judicial Bodies (Miami, USA) |
|              |   | <b>19:30</b> | <b>End of first day</b>   |





## DAY 2 – Programme // 20 February 2026

- 13:00 Welcome**  
**Attila Berzeviczi**, Chairman of the Board, Ferencvárosi TC
- 13:15 International transfer of players from and to South America: some practical tips to avoid some big problems**  
**Ariel Reck**, Sports Lawyer (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- 14:15 Making a transfer of players a success: practical lessons from a club perspective**  
**Lina Souloukou**, Nottingham Forrest CEO (Nottingham, UK)
- 15:15 Break**
- 15:45 Sporting succession in football: FIFA rules and CAS jurisprudence**  
**Michele Bernasconi**, Partner Baer & Karrer (Zurich, Switzerland)
- 16:45 The Swiss Federal Tribunal decisions on CAS awards: recent cases**  
**Despina Mavromati**, CAS Arbitrator (Lausanne, Switzerland)
- 17:30 MCO and football in 2026: figures and recent CAS jurisprudence**  
**45' Introduction:**
- **Emilio García Silvero**, FIFA Chief Legal & Compliance Officer (Miami, USA)
- Round table and debate:**
- **Montserrat Jiménez**, CONMEBOL Deputy General Secretary and Legal Director (Asunción, Paraguay)
  - **Andrew Mercer**, AFC General Counsel (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
  - **William McAuliffe**, UEFA Head of Disciplinary (Nyon, Switzerland)
  - **Wouter Lambrecht**, EFC General Counsel (Nyon, Switzerland)
  - **Lucas Ferrer**, Partner Statim Legal (Barcelona, Spain)
  - **Andrés Patón**, Legal Director Argentinian Football Association (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- 19:00 Closing remarks**

# Participation

## In-Person Attendance

Attendance at the **FIFA Football Law Annual Review 2026** in Budapest is free of charge and open to representatives of Member Associations, confederations, leagues, clubs, and players' and agents' unions. If the number of applicants from these groups does not exceed the capacity, registration from independent professionals may also be accepted.

All presentations will be delivered in English, with simultaneous interpretation available in French and Spanish for both in-person and online attendees. Please note that all times referenced in event communications will be in Central European Time (CET).

Completing the form (link below) serves as an expression of interest in attending the event in person **by 31 December 2025**. It does not guarantee a place at the **Football Law Annual Review 2026**. Confirmation and further details will be sent to those whose requests are accepted.

[Click here for in-person attendance](#)

## Streaming

In the interests of ensuring that the football community can follow this event and all interested parties can access the information presented, the **FIFA Football Law Annual Review 2026** will also be streamed live, free of charge, on [legal.fifa.com](https://legal.fifa.com). **No preregistration is required for online attendance.**

