



Date 02/03/2022  
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**-URGENT-**

**To:**

- Mr Gianni Infantino  
FIFA President
- Mr Aleksander Čeferin  
UEFA President
- Mrs Fatma Samoura  
FIFA Secretary General
- Mr Theodore Theodoridis  
UEFA General Secretary
- Mr Kenny Jean-Marie  
FIFA Chief Member Associations Officer
- Mr Nodar Akhalkatsi  
Director Member Associations Europe, FIFA
- Mr Zoran Laković  
UEFA National Associations Director

**Violation to the HFF Statutes**

Dear President Infantino,  
Dear President Čeferin,

As you were already informed since days ago, the Greek Government, in the context of measures taken to tackle fan violence in Greece, intended to promptly introduce a relevant draft law to the Greek Parliament.

The content of the draft law came to our knowledge yesterday, 1 March 2022, and the provisions thereof, to our great surprise, include a special arrangement which relates to the operation of the HFF Executive Committee.

In particular, article 45 (page 37) stipulates ad verbatim: "*In the Board of Directors of Hellenic Football Federation participate, without the right to vote, after being called to the meetings, the representatives of the Panhellenic Association of Paid Players (PSAP), the Greek Football Referees Association (ODPE) and the Greek Football Coaches Association (OPPE).*"

This particular provision, which is discussed today in the Standing Committee on Cultural and Educational Affairs of the Hellenic Parliament, is yet another brutal intervention of the Deputy Minister of Culture & Sports to the independence and self-governance of Greek Football, as there was no prior relevant consultation with HFF, whereas the most important aspect is that it

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blatantly violates articles 33, 34 and 35 of the new HFF Statutes, which were unanimously approved by the HFF Members during the HFF Congress held on 27 August 2021 and which were ratified in writing by FIFA and UEFA in accordance with your letter dated 23 December 2021.

Dear Sirs,

Mr Avgenakis recently made publicly known his intentions to proceed with legislative initiatives in the near future that shall be aiming at dismantling any sense of self-governance and respect to the independence of the administration of Football through interventions to the electoral system, the composition of the Congress and Greek Refereeing, elements that form the foundation of self-governance, as is stipulated in the FIFA and UEFA Statutes and that obviously constitute undue influence from third parties to the Sport.

You are aware that the HFF independence is clearly highlighted in the FIFA and UEFA Statutes and recently, with your strong recommendation, in the Study of Greek Football ("Holistic Study"), and is one of the key requirements for retaining membership in the football world (Article 14.1(i) and Article 19 of the FIFA Statutes and article 7bis (2) of the UEFA Statutes).

Since this specific action confirms for the umpteenth time that the political leadership of Greek Sports has no respect whatsoever for the FIFA, UEFA and HFF Statutes and the content of the Study of Greek Football (article 2.5), **we call you to promptly intervene in writing to the Deputy Minister for Sports so that this particular provision is eliminated from the proposed draft law.**

We remain at your disposal for any further clarifications, **nonetheless in any case we deem that your immediate intervention to the Greek Government and the competent minister is critical and are looking forward to it.**

Sincerely,

Panayiotis Dimitriou

HFF Deputy President

Iakovos M. Filippousis

HFF Acting CEO

