



## **FIFA response to the BHRRC's request re: racist offences directed at striker Vinícius**

FIFA strives to create a discrimination-free environment and promote diversity within its organisation and in all of its activities and events in accordance with the [FIFA Statutes](#), [FIFA's Human Rights Policy](#) and several other FIFA regulations and codes. FIFA takes the fight against discrimination and racism in stadia very seriously and stands by all players who have been victims of such offences.

The racist abuse against the Brazilian player Vinícius Júnior during the match between Valencia and Real Madrid on 21 May and in earlier games is simply unacceptable. People responsible for those offences should be properly investigated and sanctioned by competent authorities. Having occurred in the Spanish national league (and not a FIFA-organized event), the case of Vinícius Júnior is under the jurisdiction of the Royal Spanish Football Federation (RFEF). The RFEF announced sporting [sanctions](#) against Valencia CF and launched a new anti-discrimination campaign in response to the incident. You can find further details of the actions taken by the RFEF [here](#).

FIFA President Gianni Infantino has expressed his full solidarity to Vinícius Júnior and, more generally, reiterated FIFA's commitment to keep working for a global football without racism and discrimination (see his updated statement [here](#) on Instagram). FIFA is also following up closely on the actions taken by the RFEF in addressing the recent events.

In FIFA-organized matches, FIFA implements a robust programme to prevent, identify and address discriminatory incidents. This includes the so-called three-step procedure: firstly, you stop the match, you announce it; secondly, the players leave the pitch and the speaker announces that if the attacks continue, the match will be suspended; the match restarts, and then, thirdly, if the attacks continue, the match will stop and the three points will go to the opponent. The FIFA President has once again urged all FIFA Member Associations and national leagues to implement this at their games (see Circular No. 1682 of 25 July 2019 [here](#)).

The discriminatory abuse against Vinícius Júnior shows that tackling racism in football remains an urgent and ongoing challenge for everyone in the game. FIFA therefore urges everyone involved in football to step up their efforts to prevent similar discriminatory offences from happening in the future, including through better sanctioning and education.

FIFA encourages anyone who wishes to raise a complaint on discrimination connected to FIFA's events and activities to consider reporting it through the FIFA Reporting Portal (see [here](#)).

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