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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance: challenges to global sporting events

Motion for a resolution
tabled by Mr Volodymyr ARIEV and other members of the Assembly

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This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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Global sporting events create forums where all nations and races can come together. Currently, the organisers of such events are responsible for the prevention of expressions of intolerance and violence at official events sites such as stadiums, but not outside of the arenas. Recommendation Rec(2001)6 of the Committee of Ministers on the prevention of racism, xenophobia and racial intolerance in sport should be developed to reflect current challenges.

Some cases, including those having occurred around sports competitions, prompted United Nations General Assembly Resolution 68/150 in which national and international sports organisations were called on to implement codes of conduct to regulate conditions at events. Further, the Football World Cup events scheduled to take place in Russia in 2018 and Qatar in 2022 are cause for concern regarding the security of participants and visitors. Qatar is on the list of States with high levels of anti-semitism. In Russia, there are expressions of strong anti-Islamic and xenophobic views. The reports of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) t on Russia refers to an opinion poll carried out in January 2011 indicating that 58 % of Russians agreed with the slogan "Russia for Russians". The annual nationalist "Russian Marches" took place in 36 Russian cities in 2013. The State policy of Russia is heating up anti-West hysteria and chauvinism. FIFA Vice-President Jeffrey Webb emphasised the threat of racism and expressed doubts about the possibility of holding this championship.

We should not forget the deaths in South Africa at the World Cup 2010 when foreigners were victims of street gangs and FIFA didn't accept responsibility for incidents outside official sites. With these references in mind, the Parliamentary Assembly should prepare a report on the issue of making global sporting events more secure from violence based on racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

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