



December 15, 2025

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

The 2026 FIFA World Cup has the potential to be one of the great sporting events of this century, unifying people around the world for their love of competition and showcasing the greatness of the United States as co-host. As stated in your Executive Order establishing the White House's World Cup Task Force, "This important event, taking place during the momentous occasion of the 250th anniversary of our country, presents an opportunity to showcase the Nation's pride and hospitality while promoting economic growth and tourism through sport."

Yet, there are complications that risk marring this special event and we write to urge that politics not interfere with the beautiful game that unites the world. Many Iranian Americans are concerned that existing U.S. policies—including the travel ban and other visa barriers—could prevent Iranian players, team staff, and fans from attending the games in the U.S. and damage what should be a unifying and celebratory event hosted by the United States.

We understand that the current Travel Ban includes a waiver allowing athletes to travel to the United States. We strongly urge that this waiver be fully and consistently implemented so that no Iranian player is excluded from competition. We also encourage that this waiver be expanded to include team staff as well as fans, whose presence is essential to the spirit and success of the World Cup.

This tournament is more than a series of matches—it is a historic moment for America to demonstrate leadership and hospitality on the world stage. Ensuring that every qualified team and their fans can participate fully in the tournament will allow the World Cup to live up to its promise and create an opportunity to build positive relations with the Iranian people through people-to-people engagement.

Securing the World Cup for the United States was a major achievement for our nation, a point of immense national pride, and a powerful moment for global engagement. We urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that this World Cup is remembered, for every participating team and its fans, as a moment when sport brought people together and reflected the openness and strength of our great country.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamal Abdi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jamal" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Abdi".

Jamal Abdi  
President, NIAC

cc: Secretary of State Marco Rubio  
Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem  
Executive Director of the White House Task Force on the FIFA World Cup 2026 Andrew  
Giuliani