

**SUMMARY OF THE
COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

BETWEEN

**FIFPRO and the World Leagues Forum (WLF)
(2020 – 2023)**



ABOUT

This information builds on the joint statement between FIFPRO and WLF concerning the conclusion of a cooperation agreement between the two organisations. The following document provides additional information regarding the key principles of the cooperation, namely to strengthen effective governance structures and further develop a sustainable football infrastructure in the coming years.

OVERVIEW

The professional football landscape has developed rapidly in recent decades. Consequently, the working and industry environment in which professional players and leagues are operating has also evolved greatly. While demonstrating admirable resilience, the football industry has been greatly affected by the COVID at all levels. FIFPRO and WLF believe that a common vision for the future of the game is necessary and that the promotion of structured dialogue can positively impact the development of football. This cooperation agreement sets out a framework with a view to acting collaboratively to foster growth and stability both globally, and across domestic markets.

PROMOTION OF GOVERNANCE MODELS

FIFPRO and WLF will work cohesively to develop integrated governance models which will actively contribute to a sustainable environment for all football industry stakeholders. In this regard, some countries have already developed positively in recent years. In others the structures of collective processes for discussions and negotiations between players and leagues can be improved. This agreement seeks to facilitate greater cooperation, with the aspiration of enhancing working and playing conditions for players while improving the conditions for clubs and leagues to grow.

This includes:

- actions to strengthen the international governance of the industrial relations and representation in the football industry for player unions and leagues, as well as their member clubs, as a key part of the professional game.
- actions to develop a common framework to strengthen domestic governance between player unions and leagues.
- actions to showcase the needs and benefits of structured dialogue, standard practices and collective agreements to manage the complexities of the football industry.

COLLABORATION ON COMMON ISSUES AND PROGRESSIVE REFORMS

FIFPRO and WLF will address issues of common concern for both players and leagues in the spirit of cooperation. At both international and domestic level, a sound and fair regulatory framework is key to developing a sustainable and transparent football industry for tomorrow. This includes ongoing evaluation of the current regulatory framework within world football to ensure the progressive development of the game.

This includes:

- actions to work on issues of common concerns for players, leagues and their member clubs such as match calendar, women's football, the integrity of the game, and health related matters.
- actions to support the development of the football industry by protecting its economic activity against any potential threat (*e.g.* media piracy, match-fixing or the like).
- actions to collaborate in general on any matters of common concerns for their respective members.

REGIONAL PILOT PROJECTS

FIFPRO and WLF will develop dedicated pilot projects in order to promote collective agreements at the domestic level. This dedicated peer-to-peer learning framework will enable player unions and leagues at the domestic level to benefit from key practices and positive experiences across the global football landscape.

This includes:

- actions to *inform* player unions, clubs and league representatives about the benefits of collective industry solutions.
- *actions to engage* and exchange knowledge on governance mechanisms to address shared industry challenges.
- *actions to guide* domestic football market stakeholders in the development of a more sustainable industry with reduced disparity between players, clubs and leagues.