

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1787

Zurich, 9 March 2022

SG/odb/maa

Temporary amendments to the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP) addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine

Dear Sir or Madam,

The ongoing and exceptional situation in Ukraine has not only caused a distressing humanitarian crisis but also raised a number of difficult and technical regulatory questions relating to the ordinary application of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (**RSTP**).

On 7 March 2022, and following coordination with UEFA and consultation with various global stakeholders, the Bureau of the FIFA Council approved temporary amendments to the RSTP in order to provide legal certainty and clarity on a number of elements.

The amendments are set out in the form of a temporary annexe to the RSTP (Annexe 7) entitled "Temporary rules addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine".

The following paragraphs briefly set out the amendments to the RSTP (Annexe 7):

(a) Scope of application of Annexe 7

To ensure legal certainty and clarity, the new annexe applies to employment contracts of an international dimension concluded between players or coaches and clubs affiliated to the Ukrainian Association of Football (**UAF**) or the Football Union of Russia (**FUR**).

(b) Temporary measures concerning employment contracts of an international dimension with clubs affiliated to the UAF

As a temporary exception to the RSTP, and unless otherwise agreed by the parties, there will be an automatic suspension of a contract of an international dimension between a player or a coach and a club affiliated to the UAF. The contract will be considered automatically suspended until 30 June 2022.

Players wishing to sign a new contract whilst their contract is suspended will not be limited by the normal minimum length of the contract as established in article 18 paragraph 2 of the RSTP.

(c) Temporary measures concerning employment contracts of an international dimension with clubs affiliated to the FUR

Unlike employment contracts with clubs affiliated to the UAF, there will be no automatic suspension for contracts with clubs affiliated with the FUR. Instead, and unless otherwise agreed between the parties, a player or a coach will have the possibility to unilaterally suspend their contract until 30 June 2022, provided that a mutual agreement with the club could not be reached before or on 10 March 2022.

As is the case for players in the UAF, players at clubs affiliated to the FUR wishing to sign a new contract whilst their contract is suspended will not be limited by the normal minimum length of the contract as established in article 18 paragraph 2 of the RSTP.

(d) Clarity on the consequences of suspended contracts in both the UAF and FUR

The regulations clearly state that any time a contract is suspended, a player or coach in both the UAF and FUR will not commit a breach of contract by signing and registering with a new club.

(e) Clarity on registration and registration periods

To provide the best possibility to continue playing, any player previously registered in the UAF or FUR, may be registered with a maximum of four clubs during one season and is eligible to play official matches for three different clubs. In addition, these players will also have the right to be registered outside a registration period, provided that the registration occurs before or on 7 April 2022.

For the avoidance of doubt, a club may register a maximum of two players whose previous registration was in the UAF or FUR.

(f) Improved protection of minors

To best protect minors fleeing the conflict, any minor residing in the territory of Ukraine who wishes to be registered with a new club shall be automatically deemed to fulfil the requirements of the exception provided in article 19 paragraph 2 d) of the RSTP.

(g) Training compensation

The temporary amendments explicitly state that no training compensation will be due on registering any player whose previous registration was in the UAF or FUR and whose contract has been suspended, and no entitlement to training compensation will arise for any club not affiliated to the UAF or FUR which has registered a player following the suspension of the player's contract.

All amendments **entered into force immediately, on 7 March 2022.**

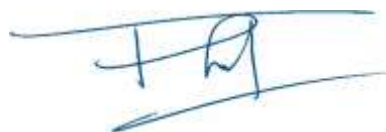
The temporary amendments approved as a result of the war in Ukraine will be periodically reviewed and removed accordingly.

The March 2022 edition of the RSTP with its new annexe and an interpretative note on the new provisions are enclosed. The revised edition of the RSTP is also available on legal.fifa.com.

We thank you for taking note of the above and for informing your affiliated clubs accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

cc: - FIFA Council
 - Confederations
 - FIFPRO
 - ECA
 - World Leagues Forum