



No. 71/2019

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference thd/mac	Date 18 October 2019
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### **Decisions of the UEFA Emergency Panel regarding Kosovo and Russia**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to inform you about the following decisions taken by the UEFA Emergency Panel on 16 October 2019, which came into force with immediate effect:

1. Based exclusively on a thorough analysis of the serious security concerns affecting matches between the two countries in question, the UEFA administration is requested to take all organisational steps needed to prevent teams from Kosovo and Russia from being drawn together in any future UEFA competitions until further notice.
2. Following the above-mentioned decision, the policy regarding countries not recognising Kosovo, as decided by the UEFA Executive Committee on 29 May 2019 and communicated by means of circular letter 36/2019, is amended accordingly as follows (i.e. by adding Russia under pt. 1 below):

*"1. Except for those cases where an exclusion has been decided by the UEFA Executive Committee on security grounds (currently Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Russia), all other representative or club teams must accept to play against a Kosovo representative or club team as a result of a draw, be it on their own territory or on the territory of Kosovo. Likewise, Kosovo teams must accept to play against any other team home and away. Provided that visas are delivered to the players and officials, any refusal to travel to Kosovo to play the match in question (and vice versa) would amount to a refusal to play it, with the same consequences as those defined under pt. 3 below.*

*2. In the event that the relevant state authorities refuse to deliver the necessary visas for the players and officials, the national association or club concerned must ensure that the match be played on the territory of another country, under its sole responsibility.*

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3. Any team (be it the Kosovo team or the other team) which fails to comply with one of the above-mentioned obligations will be considered as having refused to play the match, with the disciplinary consequences linked to such refusal as set out in Article 27(1) of the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, i.e. forfeit of the match.

4. Any team (be it the Kosovo team or the other team) which would not let the flag of the opponent be shown and/or the anthem of the opponent be played may be penalised by UEFA in accordance with the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations. However, this would not justify a refusal to play, which would be penalised in accordance with pt. 3 above."

3. The Football Federation of Kosovo and the Football Union of Russia shall organise their two Women's EURO 2021 qualifying matches on neutral territory.

We thank you for taking note of the above.

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

cc

- UEFA Executive Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- UEFA honorary members
- FIFA, Zurich