# DECLARATION OF INTENT ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM IN FOOTBALL

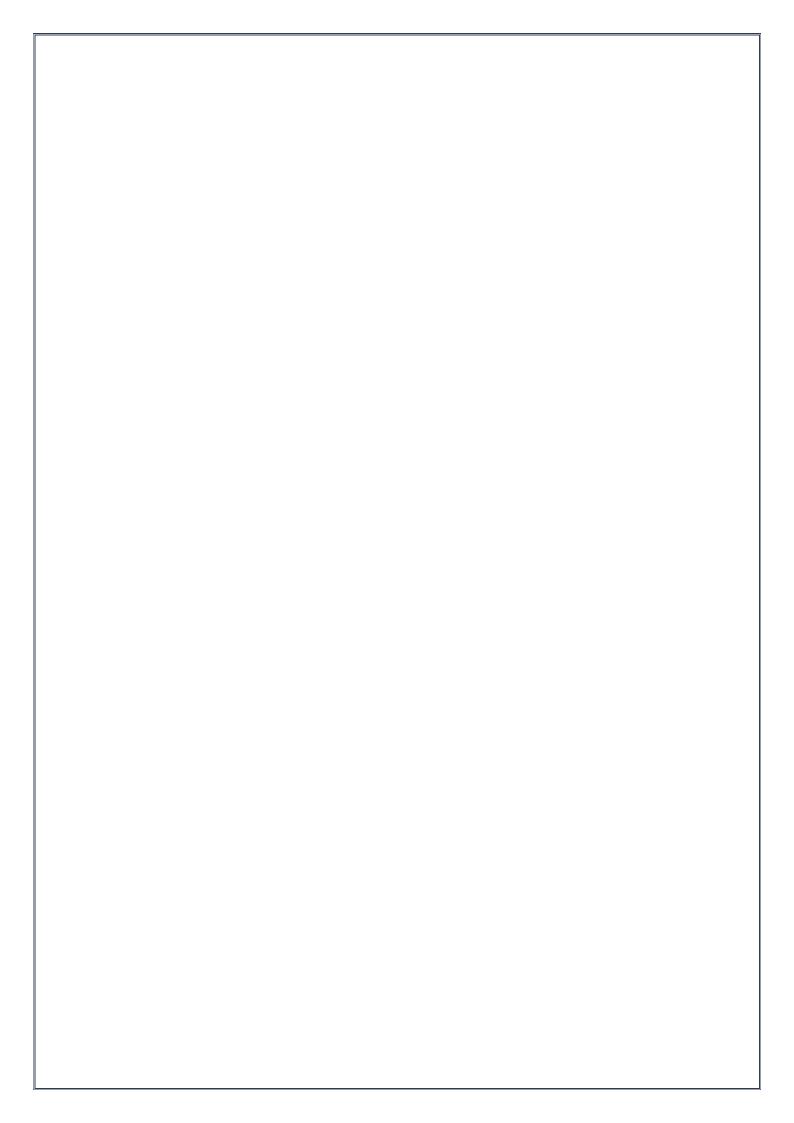
On 27 June 2023, the Declaration of intent on combating anti-Semitism in football was signed at the Ministry of Interior by Matteo Piantedosi, Minister of the Interior, Andrea Abodi, Minister for Sport and Youth, Giuseppe Pecoraro, National Coordinator on Combating anti-Semitism and Marco Brunelli, General Secretary of the Italian Football Federation.

Noemi Di Segni, President of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, Uriel Perugia, Secretary General of UCEI and Ruth Dureghello, President of the Jewish Community of Rome also participated in the meeting.

An important result was achieved in the fight against the anti-Semitism in football, which can be even more effective and significant thanks to the implementation by the Federation, the Leagues and the Clubs.

The video of the event is available on the YouTube channel of the Ministry of the Interior: <a href="https://youtu.be/xh6jDy5qJ6k">https://youtu.be/xh6jDy5qJ6k</a>







### DECLARATION OF INTENT ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM IN FOOTBALL

The Minister of the Interior, the Minister for Sport and Youth, the National Coordinator on Combatting anti-Semitism and the Italian Football Federation

#### With

the National Professional League - Serie A,

the National Professional League - Serie B,

the National Amateur League

and their respective Associates

in collaboration with the Italian Football Players Association, the Italian Football Coaches Association and the Italian Football Referees Association

#### **REGARDING:**

- Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic which guarantee inviolable human rights and equal social dignity;
- the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" signed in Paris on 10 December 1948, which establishes, in art. 1, that "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights";
- the "Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms" (ECDU) of 1950 which explicitly introduces, in art. 14, the "Prohibition of discrimination";
- the "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" (UN General Assembly Resolution of 21 December 1965, ICERD) which defines, in Article 1, racial discrimination as «any distinction, exclusion, limitation or preference based on race, colour of skin, descent, or national or ethnic origin, which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social and cultural fields or in any other sphere of public life";
- the Vienna Declaration and the Program of Action adopted by the UN World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993;
- Art. 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the so-called "Charter of Nice", of 7 December 2000 which prohibits "any form of discrimination based, in particular, on sex, race, color of the skin or ethnic or social origin , genetic characteristics, language, religion or personal beliefs, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation";
- Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 which implements the principle of equal treatment between persons regardless of race or ethnic origin;
- the Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA of the Council of Europe of 2008 on the fight against certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia through criminal law;
- the "Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief" adopted by the UN on 25 November 1981;
- the EU Strategy on Combating anti-Semitism and Fostering Jewish Life 2021-2030, adopted on 5 October 2021, which defines measures focused on the following aspects: 1) prevention and fight against all forms of

anti-Semitism; 2) protection and support of Jewish life in the EU; 3) Holocaust education, research, and remembrance activities;

- the Italian National Strategy on Combating anti-Semitism, adopted according to the request of the Council of the European Union in the Declaration n. 13637/20 of 2 December 2020;

#### **CONSIDERING THAT**

the Italian regulatory framework which sanctions discriminatory crimes through:

- Law 645/1952 "Implementing rules of the XII transitional and final provision (first paragraph) of the Constitution",
- Art. 604bis criminal code "Propaganda and instigation to commit crimes on the grounds of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination";
- Art. 604ter criminal code "Agravating circumstance";
- Art. 2 Legislative Decree 04/26/1993, no. 122 (converted, with modifications, with law 06/25/1993): "Urgent measures in the matter of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination";
- Art. 13bis of Legislative Decree 14/2017 as amended by Legislative Decree 21/10/2020, no. 130 "Urgent provisions on the safety of cities";

#### **GIVEN THAT**

- discriminatory behaviour constitutes a violation of human rights;
- Sport must be a vehicle for positive values, beginning with respect in all its forms and declinations and a means for the removal of every kind of barrier, whether physical or cultural;
- it is the primary task of every institution, whether public or private, to adopt every initiative aimed at preventing discrimination and opposing all forms of violence which may derive therefrom;
- in the context of discriminatory behaviour, manifestations of anti-Semitism have specific characteristics;

#### **RECALLING THAT**

the working definition of anti-Semitism of the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) which claims: "anti-Semitism is a distorted perception of Jews that can be expressed as hatred towards them. Verbal and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed towards Jews or non-Jews and/or their property, Jewish community

institutions and buildings used for worship," including relevant examples;

## EACH, ACCORDING TO THE PARTS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COMPETENCE, COMMIT THEMSELVES:

- 1. to insert in the Code of Ethics an explicit reference to the definition of anti-Semitism of the IHRA and to the inadmissibility of any anti-Semitic attitude or expression by associate members, organized fans, before, during and after sporting events, providing for an adequate penalty system;
- 2. to ban players from wearing the N° 88 shirt, considered as an explicit reference to Nazi symbology;
- 3. to prohibit the use by fans of any symbol that may recall concepts relating to Nazism and anti-Semitic hatred;
- 4. to make responsible members of sports clubs for using non-discriminatory language in all public events, including during interviews, communications, messages on social media or television comments, immediately and officially distancing themselves from related gestures/words/symbols/posts to those fringes of the fans who glorify anti-Semitism.
- 5. to engage the members of sports clubs to participate in supporting and promoting communication campaigns aimed at combating all forms of anti-Semitism, also adopting reward initiatives that promote this objective;
- 6. to express immediate solidarity with the victims of anti-Semitic discrimination in stadiums, including through concrete initiatives that testify the total non-involvement and aversion of sports clubs to such episodes;
- 7. to define with specific regulations the methods with which, in the event of anti-Semitic chants, acts and expressions, the suspension of football competitions must be immediately ordered, with simultaneous communication to the public present of the reasons for the interruption through a specific announcement carried out by means of loudspeakers and video-displays;
- 8. to verify, also through a more structured and significant use of technology, strict compliance with the personal assignment of seats in stadiums, in order to make easier the identification of the authors of instances of anti-Semitism, providing for sanctions in case the responsible of the club does not tale adequate measures for the respect of the assigned seats, throughout matches;
- 9. to strengthen the video surveillance system and stewarding services both

inside and in the vicinity of sports facilities, especially in places where there have already been episodes of anti-Semitism;

- 10. to provide that the sanctions inflicted on sports clubs for anti-Semitic episodes that occur during sporting events are also valid in subsequent championships, not only in order to avoid prescription but having as an effect in the event of a recurrence the increase in the penalty itself;
- 11. to enhance the proactive behaviour of sports clubs for the purpose of punctual observance of the present decalogue in any decisions concerning the application of sanctions envisaged for anti-Semitic episodes.
- 12. to organize, in collaboration with the Clubs and the Leagues, visits to the Shoah Memorial in Milan (Binario 21) or to other places of memory of the Shoah, in Italy and abroad, for representatives of organized supporters and for members of sports clubs, in order to raise awareness of the historical event of the deportation of the Jews and to raise awareness of the issue of anti-Semitism.
- 13. to promote, in collaboration with the specialized media and social network platforms, communication initiatives on the subject of anti-Semitism, even those not linked to contingent episodes of intolerance.

Rome, June 27 2023

IL MINISTRO PER LO SPORT E I GIOVANI

THE MINISTER FOR SPORT AND YOUTH

Andrea Abodi

IL MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR

Matteo Piantedosi

IL COORDINATORE NAZIONALE PER LA LOTTA CONTRO L'ANTISEMITISMO

2 miliodinio

THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM Giuseppe Pecoraro

IL PRESIDENTE DELLA FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA GIUÓCO CALCIO

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MALIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

Gabriele Gravina

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