



# Cancellation of the U-20 World Cup Reveals Indonesia's Stance towards the Jewish entity

### News:

FIFA has removed Indonesia as the host of the Under-20 Men's World Cup due to objections over 'Israel's' participation, causing disappointment to the soccer community in Indonesia. Losing the tournament could harm the country's reputation in soccer, and further sanctions could be imposed. Indonesia, a predominantly Muslim country, supports the Palestinian cause and does not have diplomatic relations with 'Israel'. Earlier this month, protesters in Jakarta marched to demand that Israel be banned from the tournament. President Jokowi appealed for adherence to FIFA regulations and not linking sports with politics. PSSI president Erick Thohir pleaded Indonesia's case to FIFA president Gianni Infantino, but FIFA decided to cancel the tournament. Thohir said Indonesia must show its commitment to transform football and achieve clean football. FIFA will continue to work with Indonesia and the PSSI to transform Indonesian football following the tragic stadium disaster in October 2022. (edition.cnn.com)

## Comment:

The text appears to be an opinion piece and may not reflect the views of all readers. However, I have corrected some grammatical errors and revised some sentences for clarity:

The cancellation of Indonesia as the host of the U20 World Cup reveals Indonesia's political stance towards 'Israel'. This is evident in the response of the Indonesian government, which seems to be protecting and welcoming the Jewish entity with various excuses despite objections from various parties. Indonesia's acceptance of the Jewish entity is reasonable, as Indonesia has established secret economic, political, and sports relations with this occupying country. In fact, 'Israel' representatives also attended the UCI Track Nations Cup held in Jakarta in February 2023.

This attitude of the Indonesian government proves the betrayal of the country's own constitution, which strongly opposes colonization and supports Palestinian independence. The Indonesian government claims that accepting Israel in Indonesia will not change Indonesia's position on Palestine. This is simply untrue. The presence of the Jewish entity football representatives in Indonesia means accepting the Jewish entity as a legitimate country that can participate in various activities. FIFA even dared to impose sanctions on Russia for its invasion of Ukraine.

From this reality, it is clear that Indonesia has opened the way for normalization with Israel. If it were not for the concern of the Indonesian people, the Jewish entity might be even more free to enter Indonesia, and normalization would occur soon.

Muslims in Indonesia must realize that the current government in power does not intend to defend humanity and the interests of Muslims. This is the result of the abandonment of Sharia laws and the adoption of secularism and nationalism in the Islamic world.

## Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir

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