As part of its longstanding political dialogue with Qatar, the EU holds regular consultations with Qatari authorities on matters related to human rights, including in the context of the upcoming FIFA World Cup. Tolerance and inclusion feature prominently in these discussions together with other topics such as labour reforms, freedom of expression and women’s rights.

The protection and respect of human rights of the visiting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI+) football fans, as well as other aspects related to the World Cup, such as conditions of foreign workers engaged in construction sites and the dismantling of the kafala (sponsorship) system, will feature prominently in the upcoming 4th EU – Qatar Human Rights Dialogue, due to take place in September 2022. The EU will continue to closely monitor the human rights situation in Qatar, including rights and freedoms of the LGBTI+ community, in the run-up to the World Cup, throughout the event and after its closing.