



# INTERPOL

## INTEGRITY IN SPORT

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Photos International Olympic Committee

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## INVESTIGATIONS

### Brazil

#### Brazil's Luis Henrique denies spot-fixing allegations

Brazil's Luiz Henrique has denied accusations of spot-fixing amid a Spanish investigation into his time at Real Betis, where authorities are seeking his testimony due to alleged connections to a match-fixing scheme linked to a previous investigation in Brazil.

Source: 25 October 2024, *Inside World Football*

<https://www.insideworldfootball.com/2024/10/25/brazils-luis-henrique-denies-spot-fixing-allegations/>

### Germany

#### DSWV: No match-fixing evidence amid dark web claims in Germany

The German Sports Betting Association (DSWV) has reiterated the need to address black-market betting following recent match-fixing allegations in amateur football, emphasizing that the lack of oversight in unregulated markets poses significant risks to sports integrity, despite the absence of evidence among licensed operators.

Source: 11 October 2024, *Next*

Football

<https://next.io/news/regulation/dswv-no-match-fixing-evidence-dark-web-claims/>

### United Kingdom

#### Lifetime ban for Paqueta due to investigation obstruction?

In the UK, West Ham midfielder Lucas Paqueta faces the possibility of a lifetime ban from soccer due to alleged involvement in a betting scandal, including accusations of intentionally receiving yellow cards to benefit from bets, and has reportedly obstructed the investigation by the English Football Association (FA) after failing to cooperate and claiming he disposed of his confiscated mobile phone.

Source: 11 October 2024, *World Soccer Talk*

Football

<https://worldsoccertalk.com/news/lifetime-ban-for-paqueta-due-to-investigation-obstruction/>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### France

#### Trafic de stéroïdes anabolisants dans le Grand Est : cinq hommes condamnés par le tribunal de Verdun

In France, five men, aged 33 to 41, were sentenced by the Verdun correctional court to prison terms ranging from 6 months to 18 months, including 12 months with probation, for trafficking anabolic steroids and growth hormones in gyms in the Grand Est region, having ordered these illegal substances from Eastern European websites between 2021 and 2024.

Source: 17 October 2024, *Ici France Bleu*

<https://www.francebleu.fr/infos/faits-divers-justice/trafic-de-steroides-anabolisants-dans-le-grand-est-5-hommes-condamnes-par-le-tribunal-de-verdun-3654295>

## ODDS AND ENDS

### Brazil

#### Brazil cracks down on unlicensed bookmakers' club sponsorships

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) has implemented a ban on club sponsorship by bookmakers across all levels of football, affecting several Série A clubs, as part of a broader effort to regulate the rapidly growing sports betting market.

Source: 28 October 2024, *Inside World Football*

Football

<https://www.insideworldfootball.com/2024/10/14/brazil-cracks-unlicensed-bookmakers-club-sponsorships/>

### Brazil

#### Finnish football dream sold to young Brazilians turns into nightmare

The feature article examines the case of two young Brazilian football players were lured to Finland with promises of a professional career, only to find themselves stranded and impoverished, facing poor living conditions and inadequate food. Despite reporting their situation to the police, the investigation was closed, leaving them dependent on the support of the local community while they awaited a flight back home, having lost faith in their football dreams.

Source: 11 October 2024, *YLE*

Football

<https://yle.fi/a/74-20117321>

## Global

### Analysis of patterns and trends in competition manipulation in sport global data: 2018–2023

The following study analyzes global trends in competition manipulation in sports over six years, revealing a rise in investigations and sanctions, particularly in Europe, with football, cricket, and tennis being the most affected, and highlighting a shift in instigators from opportunistic actors to those exploiting power or influence, which can guide sport management practices.

Source: 28 October 2024, *Managing Sport and Leisure*

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23750472.2024.2420060#abstract>

## Global

### Stream Teams: Battery Farming Sport For Bets

The following feature article explores 1xBet, a controversial bookmaker known for streaming thousands of amateur sports events from undisclosed locations, has been implicated in facilitating betting on games featuring minors, with investigations revealing a network of matches in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. Despite being blacklisted in several countries and facing legal issues, 1xBet continues to partner with prominent football clubs like FC Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain, highlighting the complex landscape of online gambling and its connections to unregulated amateur sports.

Source: 21 October 2024, *Bellingcat*

<https://www.bellingcat.com/news/2024/10/21/1xbet-hosts-thousands-of-amateur-sports-streams-on-its-website/>

## INTERPOL

### Web of crime exposed: 5,100 arrests in illegal football gambling crackdown

INTERPOL'S Operation SOGA X, an international crackdown on illegal football gambling, led to over 5,100 arrests and the recovery of more than USD 59 million in illicit proceeds across 28 countries, particularly during the UEFA 2024 European Championship. The operation not only targeted illegal betting sites but also uncovered human trafficking schemes, dismantled organized crime networks, and highlighted the close ties between illegal gambling, money laundering, and match-fixing activities.

Source: 17 October 2024, *INTERPOL*

Football

<https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2024/Web-of-crime-exposed-5-100-arrests-in-illegal-football-gambling-crackdown>

## United States

### NBA To Revise Cell Phone Policy for Sports Betting Integrity

The NBA plans to implement updated rules regarding in-game cell phone and social media use to enhance betting integrity and keep players and coaches focused during games, prohibiting mobile access from tipoff to the final whistle.

Source: 17 October 2024, *Sportsbook Review*

Basketball

<https://www.sportsbookreview.com/news/nba-to-revise-cell-phone-policy-betting-integrity-oct-17-2024/>

## POLICY

### Spain

#### Spain ratifies the Macolin Convention

Spain's Ambassador to the Council of Europe ratified the Macolin Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, making Spain the 12th state party, with the convention set to enter into force there on 1 February 2025.

Source: 17 October 2024, *Council of Europe*

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/sport/-/spain-ratifies-the-macolin-convention>

