



The FIFA solidarity contribution mechanism in international transfers

Alexander JACOBS · Legal Counsel at FIFA

In the world of football, a specific mechanism exists that was created by **Fédération Internationale de Football Association** (“FIFA”) to reward training clubs for their investment in training and educating young players and it was consequently christened as the “solidarity mechanism” or “solidarity contribution” (“SC”). The relevance of this mechanism has only increased over the years considering that transfer fees have ballooned, more international transfers are taking place and smaller clubs have more financial needs than ever before. Although it only accounts for a relatively small financial portion (5% of the transfer fee), its presence in every international transfer makes it a very relevant and common issue in the **world of football**.

Despite its relevance and omnipresence, much uncertainty exists with regard to the practical application of this mechanism: the process from transfer to payment of the mechanism. This uncertainty is reflected in the (seemingly) polar opposite positions of **FIFA** on the one side (with its **Regulations and jurisprudence**) and the **Court of Arbitration for Sport** (“CAS”) on the other side (with its Awards).

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