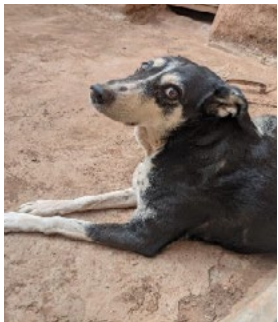




Cleansing the streets of Morocco for a football tournament



3 million dogs are under threat of losing their lives before the 2030 FIFA World Cup kicks off



Executive Summary

1 Before the announcement in October 2023, that Morocco had been chosen to co-host the FIFA World Cup 2030 with Spain and Portugal, the authorities were brutally killing street dogs at a rate of 300,000 a year.

2 After the announcement, the extermination of the dogs increased dramatically. On the 11th December 2024, a FIFA Congress voted to ratify the October 2023 decision, giving Morocco the 'green light' to go ahead with their likely plan, for the mass slaughter of some 3 million dogs.

3 A few days before this vote, FIFA had published its "Bid Evaluation Report" which outlined its views and findings on Morocco's suitability to co-host the 2030 FIFA World Cup. The Report states: "*Finally, the bid (Morocco) outlined its commitment to the protection of animal rights and has highlighted that since August 2024 the culling of animals is prohibited in the country, and governmental resources are being allocated to expand clinics and support programmes for stray dogs*". The Government of Morocco's claim that "*the culling of animals is prohibited in the country*" is nonsense and a fabrication of reality, as are their other claims. The Coalition has concrete proof that the daily slaughter of dogs, to 'cleanse the streets' of tournament host cities and in other areas of Morocco, continues relentlessly and without mercy.

4 The dogs are poisoned with strychnine which is often injected directly into the bodies of the dogs. Gunmen also cruise urban and rural areas around the clock armed with rifles and pistols. The animals are often badly wounded rather than killed outright and are left to bleed out while thrashing about and screaming in pain. The bodies of some are left where they died to decompose.

5 Footage and witness testimony compiled by the International Animal Coalition - IAWPC shows dogs being hunted down and caught with medieval clamping devices. Then, without any care whatsoever, they are thrown into the backs of trucks to join other terrified animals ([LINK to FILM](#))

6 Dogs that are caught are taken away to be inhumanely killed in what are becoming increasingly known as either 'killing stations'; 'fake dispensaries or clinics', where their bodies are either burned in incinerators or dumped in mass

graves. Photographs appear to show that not all dogs are dead when dumped. The IAWPC has obtained undercover footage from pounds which shows that they are no more than killing stations.

7 These violent killings and cruel catching practices are frequently carried out in front of children as well as tourists. In September 2023, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child issued General Comment 26 (in support of Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Morocco has ratified) which states: "*Children must be protected from all forms of physical and psychological violence and from exposure to violence, such as domestic violence or violence inflicted on animals*".

8 On the 25th January 2024, the European Link Coalition (ELC) held a meeting at FIFA's request, with the Head of Human Rights. This followed an ELC official child safeguarding concern being raised with FIFA as a consequence of Morocco brutally targeting and killing 'tagged' dogs (those that have been sterilised), ahead of a FIFA visit in relation to the World Cup bid and the fact that children were witnessing this violence. At this meeting, the FIFA Human Rights Committee acknowledged the research and evidence presented to them and made a commitment "to include the ELC in the human rights assessment process for the 2030 World Cup Bid Book".

9 On the 20th June 2025, CNN published a hard-hitting investigation, exposing Morocco's controversial large-scale killing of street dogs linked to preparations for the 2030 FIFA World Cup. Despite Morocco's claims that the IAWPC footage was inaccurate, CNN verified footage of culling in Marrakech, Casablanca, Agadir and Ifrane, showing inhumane practices, including shootings, poisonings, and brutal captures of dogs restrained with metal wires and thrown into pick-up trucks filled with carcasses. The IAWPC worked with CNN for four months on the investigation.

10 The International Animal Coalition - IAWPC, comprising of over 80 of some of the world's respected animal welfare organisations, believes FIFA shares responsibility for the increased massacres of dogs which are being witnessed by children, as it has known for some time about this unacceptable violence. FIFA is sent

weekly dossiers of evidence documenting the 'cleansing' of street dogs, but has refused to act decisively to protect the dogs, the image of its flagship tournament and world football.

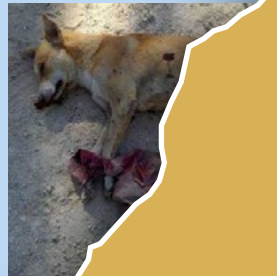
11 FIFA continues to state that it is, "*committed to organising the Competition (World Cup 2030) following international sustainable event management standards and practices, safeguarding standards and practices and respecting internationally recognised human rights*". The IAWPC has now engaged with FIFA and has an ongoing dialogue. Regrettably, FIFA has still not publicly condemned the killings or used its influence to stop them and the resulting inhumanity.

12 With FIFA's encouragement, in July 2025, the IAWPC brought together a group of leading international experts, from within the fields of law, animal welfare and protection to form an 'expert panel' to review and amend Government Draft Law 19.25, which had just been published and revealed a regressive and deeply flawed approach to humane dog management. Far from promoting humane animal welfare or effective public health safeguards, the Draft Law institutionalised punitive measures that criminalised compassionate community engagement and enabled unchecked mass killing of stray dogs to continue. In October 2025, the expert panel submitted, with FIFA support, a revised version of Draft Law 19.25 to the Moroccan government for consideration. The 'revised version' set out a framework for the humane management of dogs and cats in Morocco, including measures for responsible ownership, sterilisation, and the ethical control of free-roaming populations.

13 The International Animal Coalition - IAWPC continues to strongly condemn the cruel and unjustified killings, but has also offered to the Moroccan Government on numerous occasions to use its extensive expertise and knowledge to work with the Government of Morocco to develop and introduce a 'national comprehensive humane dog management programme', which includes the mass sterilisation, vaccination and return of the dogs back to the communities from which they came, and belong. This offer continues to be met with silence, but remains open.

'A joyous celebration of our common humanity'

(Morocco, Portugal, and Spain's bid for the FIFA World Cup 2030)



Trapped, poisoned, shot. 'Cleansing the streets' for Morocco's World Cup bid



The International Animal Coalition – IAWPC is made up of over 80 international animal welfare and protection organisations from around the world, with extensive knowledge and expertise in these areas.



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