



**SPORT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND
SAFEGUARDING RESEARCH GROUP**

FIFA Guardians programme.

23 FEBRUARY 2022, 1-2.30pm

We are pleased to invite you to the next seminar of our Sport, Human Rights and Safeguarding research group, School of Psychology and Life Sciences at Canterbury Christ Church University. This will be online (via Teams) at 13:00-14:30 on Wednesday 23 February 2022 given by Kathryn Leslie, Senior Safeguarding Manager at FIFA.

FIFA's mission is to promote the game of football, protect its integrity and bring the game to all. As part of that effort, "**FIFA's Vision 2020-2023 Making Football Truly Global**" sets out FIFA's commitment to promote safe sport as part of broader efforts to protect human rights.

One of the cornerstones of this commitment is the FIFA Guardians safeguarding programme. The FIFA Guardians programme provides a framework to help FIFA and its 211 member associations (MA's) to prevent any risk of harm and abuse in football and respond appropriately, in line with FIFA's Human Rights Policy, article 3 of the FIFA Statutes and **article 23 of the FIFA Code of Ethics**.

FIFA is working together with its 211 Member Associations and the 6 Confederations to raise standards and develop a comprehensive approach to safeguarding best practice throughout the game.

Kathryn will provide an overview of the programme, and planned monitoring, evaluation and learning.



Please join via the Teams link:
<https://bit.ly/3oujQFC>

For any enquiries, email the Head of the
Research Group, Dr. Dikaia Chatziefstathiou
dikaia.chatziefstathiou@canterbury.ac.uk

Research Group web page: <https://bit.ly/3okoztX>



Kathryn Leslie

Kathryn Leslie is a Senior Safeguarding Manager at FIFA working to raise safeguarding standards in world football. Her work focuses on improving safeguarding policy and practice through FIFA's own work, monitoring, evaluation, and engagement with FIFA's 211 member associations. From January 2019 to December 2021, she founded and oversaw the development of the FIFA Guardians Programme as Head of the Safeguarding and Child Protection Department.

Prior to joining FIFA, Kathryn worked at the United Nations at the global and national level. With the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children in New York, she worked for five years on a number of global initiatives and programmes to promote children's rights and international standards for child protection. Among these included the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the International Safeguards for Children in Sport. She was responsible for strategic partnerships and technical support to regional organizations working to end violence against children in Africa, in collaboration with treaty bodies and regional human rights mechanisms.

At national level, Kathryn worked for five years as a Child Protection Specialist for UNICEF in Tanzania where she developed the Government's first National Plan of Action to End Violence against Children. Previously, she worked with Irish Aid in the Department of Foreign Affairs on several human rights portfolios, as well as with NGO's SERVE (Ireland) and World Vision (Bosnia) on numerous child rights community-based programmes.

An Irish national, Kathryn has a Master of Arts in International Development and a Bachelor of Political Science in Government and Public Policy with a focus on human rights, social policy, and public law. A sportswoman her whole life, Kathryn grew up playing camogie and football for fun at community and schools' level. From 2016-2018 she won two North American Championship titles with the Manhattan Gaels Camogie club and is an avid hiker.