May 21, 2021

Mr. Will Wilson

Chief Executive Officer

United States Soccer Federation

1801 S Prairie Avenue

Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Wewrite to you as a coalition of concerned organizations and individuals who are scholars, NGO leaders, human rights advocates, religious freedom activists, and practitioners*,* concerned with your partnership with Volkswagen. We urge you to remove Volkswagen as a presenting sponsor.

Volkswagen continues to operate a plant in Xinjiang, the Uyghur Region, where the government is conducting ongoing crimes against humanity and genocide. Volkswagen has failed to address, in a transparent and credible way, its acquiescence in the implementation of these atrocity crimes, including state-imposed forced labor, forced population transfer, mass detention, religious persecution, forced sterilization and forced abortion, and similar crimes against Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslim peoples in the Xinjiang region of China.

By remaining partnered with Volkswagen, U.S. Soccer is taking the position that it accepts inaction in the face of ongoing atrocity crimes. As you know, earlier this year, the U.S. Government and the Canadian and Dutch parliaments, determined that these crimes constitute crime against humanity and genocide. As U.S. Soccer views the sport of soccer as a “powerful vehicle for social change,” as stated in the Federation’s mission, the partnership between U.S. Soccer and Volkswagen hinders social change and is a disservice to underserved communities.

The American Alliance for Automotive Corporate Social Responsibility (AAACSR) recently released a [report](https://aaacsr.org/call-to-action) that highlighted these atrocities, which we attached a copy for your review.

Given Volkswagen’s history of deep complicity in the crimes of the Holocaust, its continued refusal to answer urgent questions about its partnership with the Xinjiang government is unacceptable.

By removing Volkswagen as a presenting partner, you will send a direct message to its leadership that silence puts it off-limits.

We (the signed below) would like to request a meeting with you to further discuss your partnership with Volkswagen.

Sincerely,

21Wilberforce

American Alliance for Automotive Corporate Social Responsibility

Australian East Turkistan Association

Australian Uyghur Tangritagh Women's Association

Belgium Uyghur Association

Boston Uyghur Association

China Aid Association

Christian Coalition for Uyghur Freedom

Church of Scientology National Affairs Office

Dutch Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Foundation

East Turkistan Association of Canada

East Turkistan Education and Solidarity Association

East Turkistan Human Rights Observatory Center

East Turkistan Foundation

East Turkistan Union in Europe

Figure 8 Investment Strategies

Friends of Angola

Isa Yusuf Alptekin Foundation

Japan Uyghur Association

Jewish World Watch

Jubilee Campaign USA

No Business With Genocide

Norwegian Uyghur Committee

Nozugum Foundation

René Cassin, the Jewish voice for human rights

Society for Threatened Peoples Switzerland

South Asia Minorities Alliance Foundation

Sweden Uyghur Education Union

Switzerland Uyghur Association

UK Uighur Association

Uyghur American Association

Uyghur Human Rights and Democracy Center

Uyghur Human Rights Project

Uyghur Rights Advocacy Project

Uyghur Transitional Justice Database

United Macedonian Diaspora

Victoria Uyghur Association

World Uyghur Congress

Anila Nicklos M.Ed., CDP

Hamid Gharagozloo

International Organization to Preserve Human Rights

Ida Sefer

President of the Board

Bosnian American Genocide Institute and Education Center

Dr. Jianli Yang

Founder and President

Citizen Power Initiatives for China

Kelly Yaegermann

Upward Spiral Entertainment, Inc.

Dr. Richard L. Benkin

Independent Human Rights Activist

President of Forcefield, NFP

Shariq Abdul Ghani

Director

Minaret Foundation

Teng Biao

Founder and President

China Against the Death Penalty

Thierry Valle

President

Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience

Vicki Stein Prusnofsky

President

Hebrew Congregation of Somers

Wang Dan

Founder and Executive Director

Dialogue China