



**Norwegian Football Association (NFF)**

For the attention of  
Mr Karl-Petter Løken (General Secretary)

Your reference

Your correspondence of  
21 January 2025

Our reference  
GS/rros

Date  
24 January 2025

**RE: Request for UEFA's Input before decision on the Future of VAR in Norwegian Football**

Dear Mr Løken,

Thank you for your letter dated 21 January 2025 concerning the NFF's forthcoming decision on the future use of VAR in Norwegian football. You request our position on the use of VAR in football.

UEFA, especially its Managing Director Refereeing, Mr Roberto Rosetti, totally believes that once VAR is in a competition, it is impossible to go back. VAR has vastly reduced the number of clear and obvious errors made by referees. The technology is able to almost eliminate offside mistakes for example. We understand that such VAR technology has a financial impact for competition organisers, but we are convinced it is a worthwhile investment which can be shared with the competition's participating teams. Furthermore, a new "lite" version of VAR is being tested which should reduce costs and make it more affordable for those competitions which do not have major financial resources.

We definitely have no plans to remove VAR from UEFA's competitions in which it is currently used, and indeed will introduce it to more competitions as and when circumstances allow. Europe's top referees are also used to using VAR in all their domestic and international matches. Not being supported by VAR in their domestic competition will certainly make refereeing with VAR at international level more difficult and this could be to the detriment of a country's international referees in UEFA competitions.

It is our firm belief that football at the highest national level should be organised in the same way across all our member association's competitions. Whilst we accept that for some of our member associations VAR is still out of reach financially, once VAR has been introduced, we are of the view that the major stakeholders in the game could not accept that it is later removed. VAR may not be perfect, but that is also the nature of football and we and other stakeholders are working hard to make VAR even better.

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We trust our position will help your Executive Committee to consider our standpoint when making its formal recommendation to the NFF Congress. Naturally, your Congress is free to make its own decision and remove VAR from Norwegian football. However, they should understand that they are turning the clock back and be aware that the rest of the football world is moving in entirely the opposite direction.

Yours sincerely,

**U E F A**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theodore Theodoridis', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary