



Mexico steps in to host Iran after fears over erratic Trump

Description

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The United States declined to host [Iran's World Cup](#) training camp; Iran will base itself in Tijuana, Mexico and commute to U.S. venues for its group matches.

The 2026 World Cup was sold as a continental celebration across the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Instead, geopolitics has forced a national team to set up camp outside the country where all its group matches will be played. [Iran's football federation moved its base](#) from Arizona to Tijuana after U.S. authorities signalled, they did not want the squad to remain in the United States for the tournament, a decision that Mexico stepped in to manage.

Mexico and Iran: practical fallout

The switch is blunt and immediate: Iran will train and live in Mexico, then fly into U.S. stadiums for matches, complicating travel, accreditation, and security plans that normally assume a team is hosted inside the country where it plays.

FIFA approved the relocation of Iran's team base to Tijuana after talks with Iranian officials, but the logistical strain is real: short flights, repeated border crossings and the need for multiple-entry U.S. visas for players and staff.

Hosts are expected to guarantee access and safety for every qualified nation. When visa politics or security calculations prevent a team from being based in the host country, the tournament's neutrality is dented.

The U.S. refusal whether framed as a security precaution or a diplomatic stance. Makes no difference, it is clear this host nation is already the worst to ever be given the opportunity. Ultimately leaders and football tournaments do not go together. FIFA have enabled this madman to be involved by giving him importance.

Mexico hosting correctly

Mexico's decision to accept Iran's camp was pragmatic and immediate. By offering Tijuana, Mexico preserved Iran's participation while shielding the tournament from a last-minute withdrawal, and it underscored the role co-hosts can play in absorbing political shocks. But the optics are awkward: a co-host doing the heavy lifting while the primary host is seen as the obstacle.

Labeling the United States "one of the worst host nations" is provocative but not baseless in public perception. The incident stacks against the U.S. visa denials or reluctance to host a qualified team, public diplomatic friction, and the need for a cross-border workaround all feed a narrative of racism, mismanagement.

Bottom line

Sport promises a neutral field; [politics keeps proving otherwise](#). The Tijuana arrangement will work on paper, but it will also be a running reminder that hosting a global tournament requires not just stadiums and ticketing, but the political will to keep sport separate from state conflict.

The reality is the FIFA and all federations will have to answer for allowing the clear racism and discrimination of a nation that has qualified for an international tournament.

It will be a stain that will not be forgotten quickly, the fans from other nations can see and are already boycotting this dodgy host nation, all because of an egotistical testicle who claims to be a leader.

Featured image via [Getty/Amin Al-Jamali](#)

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