

## ABSTRACT

Qatar is one of the Gulf countries with the highest number of migrant workers in the region. The massive development of economic and infrastructure has made Qatar dependent on migrant workers, especially after it won the bid to host the FIFA World Cup in 2022. In order to build Qatar's ambitious projects related to the event, the inflow number of migrant workers in the construction sector is increasingly growing each year. However, the increasing number of migrant workers have also accelerated problems associated with migrant workers in the country. They experience a lot of problems with the employers who violate their rights as workers. Moreover, workers in the construction sector are found to be the most vulnerable to exploitations. For years, the *kafala* (sponsorship) system has been condemned by many International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) as the source of abuse and exploitation towards the migrant workers in Qatar. Coupled with the prohibition for workers to form or even join a union which has created a more difficult situation. With the presence of the World Cup, INGOs utilize the event as a catalyst for change by spotlighting many problems faced by workers in Qatar, as well as have a significance to pressure the government to increase the protection towards the migrant workers.

**Keywords:** Advocacy, INGOs, Migrant Workers, Qatar, World Cup 2022, *Kafala* System