

**THE ECHR DEMANDS A FAIR TRIAL IN THE MATTER OF
*ALI RIZA AND OTHERS VERSUS TURKEY***

by *lic. iur.* Reto T. Annen, of Chur*

ABSTRACT: The author summarises the ECHR's judgment in the matter of Ali Riza and others versus Turkey and describes its key elements. Next, he utilises doctrines and precedents to indicate the principles that must be fulfilled in order to regard an arbitral tribunal as independent and impartial. He then analyses the ECHR's judgment and highlights its importance to sports justice.

Keywords: ECHR – sports arbitration – independence of association justice systems – impartiality – procedure for appointing arbitrators – constitution of the arbitration tribunal.

SUMMARY: 1. Introduction – 2. Facts concerning application no. 30226/10 – 2.1 Background of the dispute – 2.2 Proceedings before the TFF – 3. Considerations of the Court – 3.1 Compulsory nature of proceedings before the Arbitration Committee of the TFF – 3.2 Lack of independence and impartiality of the Arbitration Committee of the TFF – 4. Legal Analysis – 4.1 Claims to arbitrators in arbitration proceedings regarding independence and impartiality – 4.2 The influence of *Mutu and Pechstein v. Switzerland on Ali Riza and others v. Turkey* – 4.3 Importance of the present judgment for sport and football

* Reto T. Annen is an attorney-at-law and notary in Chur, Switzerland. He regularly acts as an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and as a single judge of the Swiss Ice Hockey Federation (SIHF). E-mail: Annen@kornplatz.ch.