

# 2025 AJFSF INTERNATIONAL REPORT - UEFA ELITE ROUND



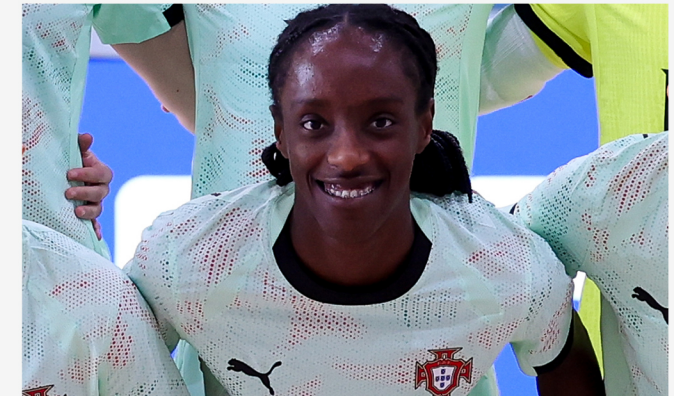


# INTRODUCTION

The International Women's Futsal Players Association (AJFSF International) aims to promote the development of women's futsal, safeguard players' rights, and foster equality and professionalization of the sport.

With the goal of gathering updated and accurate information about the conditions of the players who participated in the Elite Round qualifiers for the 2025 Women's Futsal World Cup, AJFSF International carried out an anonymous survey in both physical and digital formats, addressed to the players of all participating teams.

This initiative allows us to better understand the sporting, professional, and social realities of the players, as well as to identify opportunities for improvement in terms of institutional support, visibility, preparation, and professional conditions in women's futsal.



THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WERE PORTUGAL, ITALY, HUNGARY, SWEDEN, SPAIN, FRANCE, POLAND, AND FINLAND. A TOTAL OF 103 RESPONSES (12/14 PLAYERS PER TEAM).





# 02

## CONTEXT

The Elite Round for the 2025 Women's Futsal World Cup, organized by UEFA, is one of the most important competitions in Europe, defining the national teams that will represent the continent at the World Cup.

**GROUP A: PORTUGAL, ITALY (HOST), HUNGARY, AND SWEDEN.**  
**GROUP B: SPAIN, FRANCE (HOST), POLAND, AND FINLAND.**

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This report aims to provide a comprehensive and data-driven overview, serving as a foundation for recommendations to UEFA and national federations to strengthen professionalization, equality, and visibility in European women's futsal.





# METHODOLOGY

The survey was distributed both physically and digitally through a link sent directly to the players, ensuring voluntary and anonymous participation and guaranteeing the confidentiality of all responses.

The responses were collected and analyzed by AJFSF International using both quantitative and qualitative data processing tools. Results were organized by categories and presented in percentages, rating scales, and descriptive summaries, facilitating interpretation and offering a clear and representative picture of players' realities.





# 04 / OBJECTIVES

- 1 ASSESS** professional and sporting conditions in clubs and national leagues, including training, infrastructure and facility access, medical insurance, physical preparation, salaries, and contracts.
- 2 ANALYZE** perceptions of equality and visibility compared to men's teams, media coverage, and institutional recognition.
- 3 IDENTIFY** the level of preparation for UEFA's Elite Round, including training, friendly matches, and financial support before the championship.
- 4 EXPLORE** access to resources and institutional support, such as players' associations, sponsorship, and financial compensation.
- 5 PROVIDE** data-based recommendations to UEFA and other institutions on how to improve professionalization, equality, visibility, and players' conditions in European women's futsal.

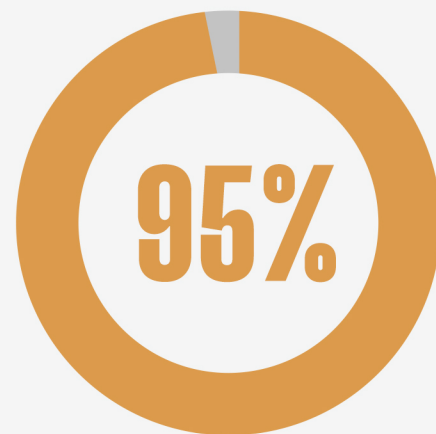




# 05 / KEY FINDINGS

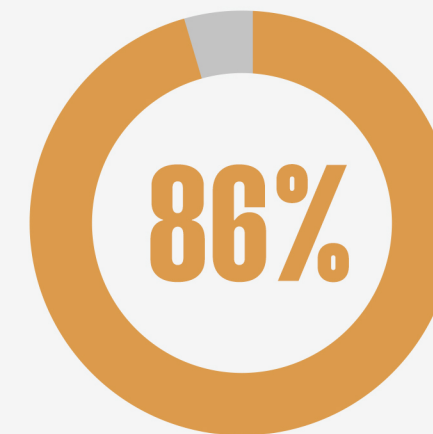
## EQUALITY

### •Leagues:



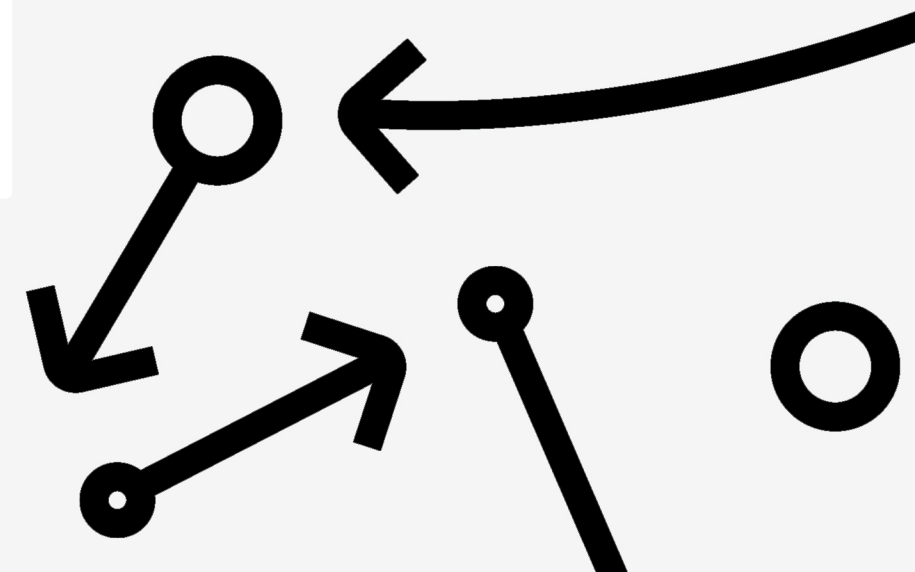
95% of players stated they do not receive the same recognition or support as men's teams.

### •National Teams:



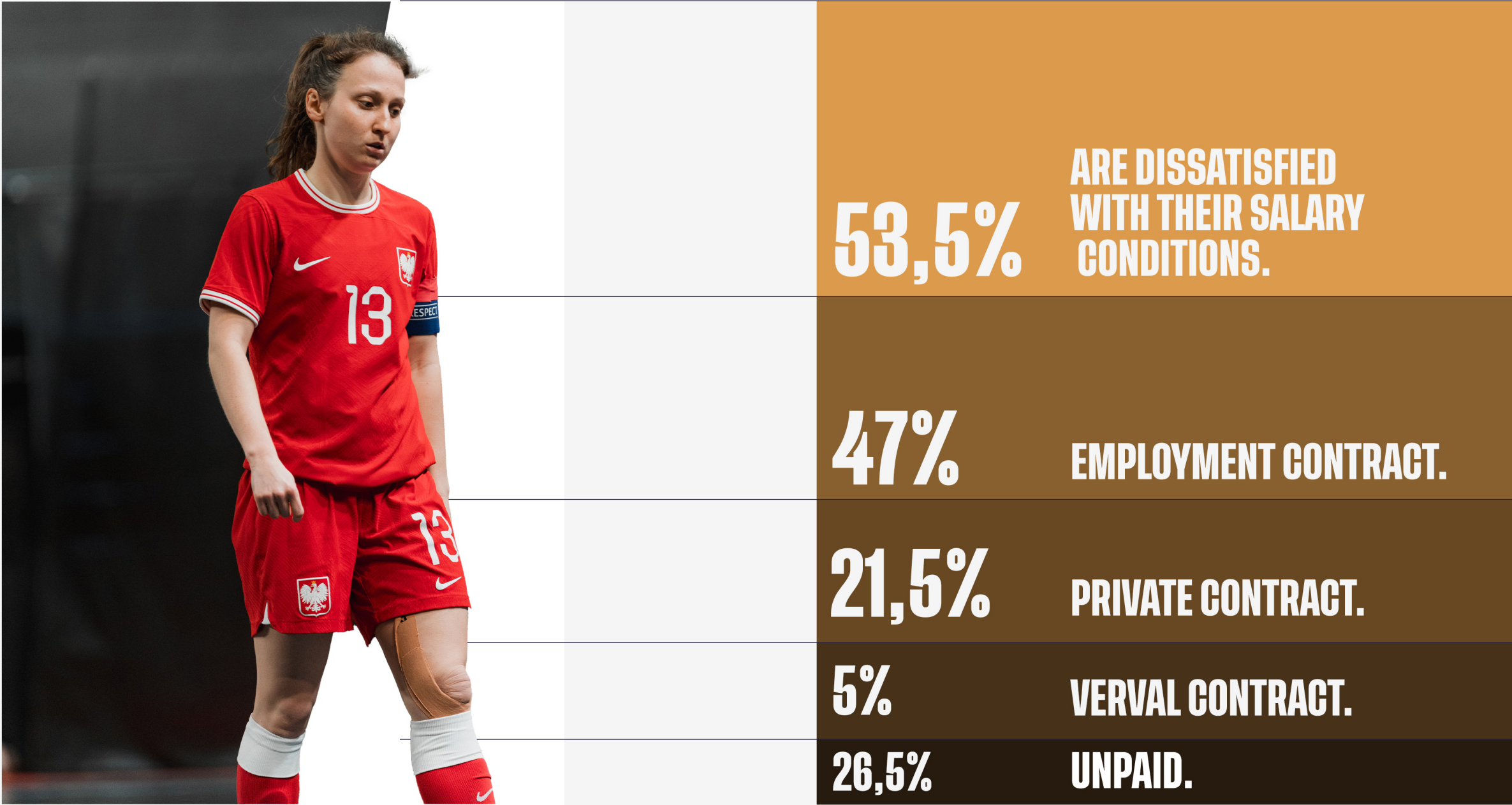
86% reported inequality in treatment compared to men's teams.

**CONCLUSION: A SIGNIFICANT EQUALITY GAP EXISTS, HIGHLIGHTING THE NEED FOR CONCRETE POLICIES TO ENSURE FAIRNESS IN VISIBILITY, RECOGNITION, FINANCIAL RESOURCES, AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT.**





# CONTRACTS AND SALARIES



**CONCLUSION:** THE LACK OF STANDARDIZED EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND ADEQUATE REMUNERATION REVEALS THE NEED TO REGULATE MINIMUM LABOR CONDITIONS TO GUARANTEE PROFESSIONALIZATION AND JOB SECURITY.



# ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND INSURANCE COVERAGE

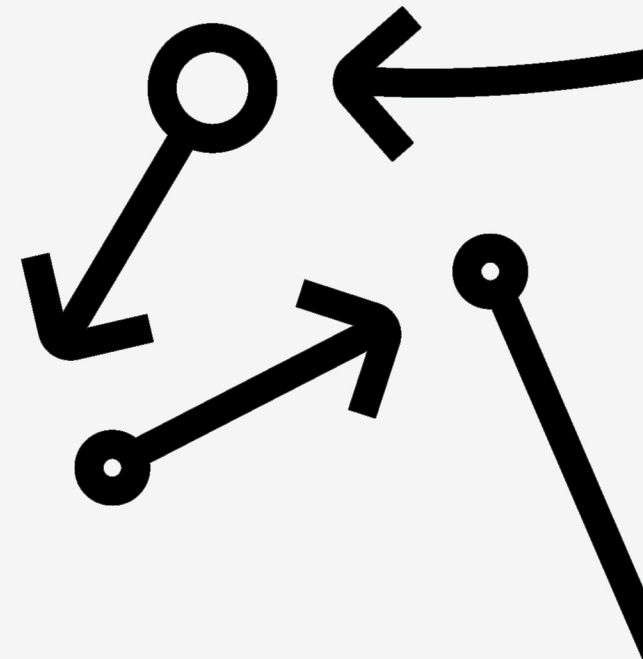
- **65%** have access to quality facilities; **35%** don't have access.
- **67,6%** have injury insurance; **32,4%** don't.
- **69,6%** receive club support in case of injury; **30,4%** don't.

CONCLUSION: ALTHOUGH MOST PLAYERS HAVE ACCESS TO BASIC RESOURCES IN CASE OF INJURY OR ACCIDENTS, ONE-THIRD LACK PROPER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT.

# COMPATIBILITY WITH STUDIES/WORK

- **71%** had no issues balancing national team duties; **29%** did.
- **23,2%** invested personal money to play for their national team.

CONCLUSION: INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION PLACES AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN ON MANY PLAYERS: NEARLY ONE-THIRD STRUGGLE TO BALANCE IT WITH STUDIES OR WORK, AND ONE IN FOUR MUST COVER EXPENSES FROM THEIR OWN POCKETS, SHOWING INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT.





# FINANCIAL COMPENSATION

- **69,6%** received compensation for training camps.
- **64,4%** for competing in UEFA's Elite Round.
- **72,3%** did not receive performance bonuses.

CONCLUSION: FINANCIAL COMPENSATION IS SHOWN TO BE IRREGULAR AND INSUFFICIENT, LACKING FAIR CRITERIA AND PROPORTIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PERFORMANCE AND SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS.

# MEDIA COVERAGE

- Average rating: **65,3%** scored coverage >5; **34,7%** scored <5.

CONCLUSION: MEDIA VISIBILITY REMAINS INSUFFICIENT FOR A LARGE PORTION OF PLAYERS.

# DEDICATION AND EDUCATION

- **31%** dedicate themselves exclusively to futsal; **69%** combine it with other jobs.

**96%** have higher education.

CONCLUSION: THE MAJORITY OF PLAYERS ARE FORCED TO COMBINE FUTSAL WITH OTHER JOBS, WHICH HIGHLIGHTS THE LACK OF CONDITIONS THAT WOULD ALLOW THEM TO DEDICATE THEMSELVES PROFESSIONALLY AND EXCLUSIVELY.





# 6. INTEGRATION OF THE “UNSTOPPABLE” PLAN

This report emerges as a proposal to close the strategic gap between UEFA's objectives and the reality of women's futsal, based on:

- A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF UEFA'S “UNSTOPPABLE” PLAN.
- THE RESPONSES OF THE PLAYERS PARTICIPATING IN THE 2025 ELITE ROUND.
- THE IDENTIFICATION OF TRANSFERABLE ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN TO WOMEN'S FUTSAL.





# 6.1 KEY DATA FROM UEFA'S 2024-2030 PLAN AND THE GAP IN WOMEN'S FUTSAL

UEFA's 2024-2030 plan contemplates significant investments in women's football:

- €66 MILLION INVESTED THROUGH THE HATTRICK PROGRAM (2024-2028).
- AN INCREASE OF +200% IN INVESTMENT SINCE 2016/2020.
- 3.049 PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS IN NATIONAL LEAGUES.

Proposed actions by UEFA in Unstoppable Women's Football:

- 1 PATHWAY:** training and progression for players, coaches, and referees: academies, licensing, referee training.
- 2 UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL** Indoor infrastructure, Playmakers
- 3 PLAYERS AT THE CENTER:** advisory committee, health programs, solidarity fund.
- 4 EXPOSURE AND FAN CULTURE:** "Indoor Unstoppable" campaign, UEFA TV, social media.
- 5 GOVERNANCE:** women's football officers in each federation.
- 6 DATA AND MEASUREMENT:** inclusion of women's football in UEFA annual reports.



ALTHOUGH THEY ARE WOMEN WITHIN UEFA AND COMPETE IN A SPORT UNDER ITS RESPONSIBILITY, FUTSAL PLAYERS DO NOT BENEFIT FROM THESE INVESTMENTS AND PROGRAMS, WHICH UNDERLINES THE URGENT NEED TO INCLUDE THEM IN UEFA'S ROADMAP FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PROFESSIONALIZATION.



# 06.2

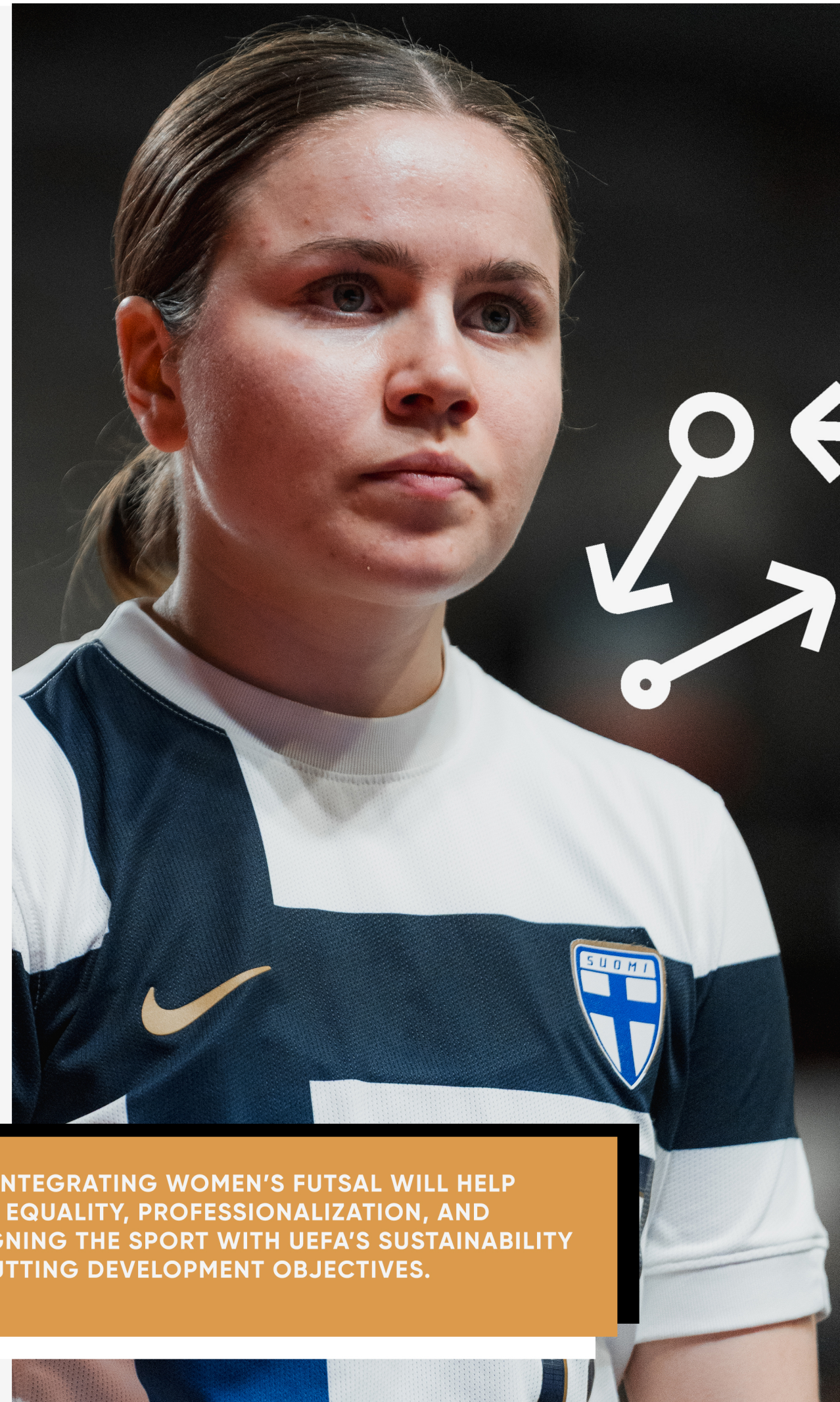
## STRATEGIC COMPATIBILITIES WITH “UNSTOPPABLE” FOR FUTSAL

- Pathways for players, coaches, and referees: replicable in futsal.
- Universal grassroots access through futsal.
- Players at the center: calendar, health, visibility, and remuneration.
- Attractive and sustainable competitions: Women's Futsal Champions League and Finalissima.
- Investment and governance: HatTrick resources adaptable to futsal.

## UEFA 2024-2030 ACTION PROPOSAL

- Include women's futsal in all pillars of the “Unstoppable” plan with specific actions.
- Establish a parallel roadmap based on data, investment, and player participation
- Allocate designated resources to leagues, federations, and women's futsal training programs.
- Create institutional dialogue platforms between UEFA, federations, and the Players' Association.

**CONCLUSION: INTEGRATING WOMEN'S FUTSAL WILL HELP CLOSE GAPS IN EQUALITY, PROFESSIONALIZATION, AND VISIBILITY, ALIGNING THE SPORT WITH UEFA'S SUSTAINABILITY AND CROSS-CUTTING DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES.**





# 07 / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**AJFSF International** expresses its most sincere gratitude to all the players who participated in the survey, for their time, honesty, and willingness to share their experiences.

Their collaboration has been fundamental to the preparation of this report, constituting an essential step toward advancing the professionalization, equality, and recognition of women's futsal players at the international level.

