



European Union and Sport

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Meeting of the Council Expert Group on Anti-Doping

On 5 September 2012, the Expert Group on Anti-Doping met in Strasbourg, France. Two topics were on the agenda:

- 1) The EU contribution to the revision of the WADA Code and
- 2) Recommendations on combating doping in recreational sport.

The Olympic Movement was represented by the IOC, the EOC EU Office and the IOC Athletes Commission.

Regarding the revision of the WADA Code, the Member States intention is to assure that the new Code is not in contradiction to EU legislation. In this perspective the Member States raised their concerns that the new Code will set up more obligations for them going beyond the provisions defined in the "UNESCO Convention against Doping in Sport".

The IOC drew the attention of the XG Group that the new data protection activities on the European level could not only have an impact on the Code but as well on the fight against match fixing. The IOC is however

convinced, in both cases, solutions can be found to allow action and at the same time respecting the Data Protection principles. The representative of the IOC Athletes Commission explained the difference between the limited number of professional athletes represented by trade unions with special interests and the bulk of Olympic Athletes that are amateurs. Furthermore, he opposed the proposal to abolish the B-Sample.

Being confronted with concerns regarding the public disclosure provisions the representative of WADA referred to the main justifications: deterrence, prevention and transparency.

Other topics discussed were recognition of fundamental right of athletes, food supplements and the new definition of minors (under 14).

Regarding the second item on the agenda the EU Commission announced that the study on "Doping in Recreational Sport" will be financed out of the 2013 budget for preparatory measures to be adopted by the European Parliament by the end of 2012.

Meeting of the Council Expert Group on Sport Statistics

On 10 September 2012, the Expert Group on Sport Statistics met in Brussels. The participants continued their discussion of the policy recommendations based on the EU study on the contribution of sport to economic growth and employment, which will be published by the European Commission by the end of October 2012. The study will provide the foundation for the

future conclusions of the Council of the EU (scheduled for November 2012) on strengthening the evidence base for sport policy making scheduled in November 2012. According to the conclusions of the study conducted by SportsEconAustria and led by Professor Christian Helmenstein, "The share of sport amounts to 1.76% of overall gross value added in the EU. When multiplier



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effects are taken into account, the share of sport even adds up to 2.98% of overall gross value added in the EU.” In addition, the study underlines “that (...) the share of sport in overall EU employment amounts to 2.12% as compared to a share of 1.76% in gross value added.”

Based on its analysis, SportsEconAustria proposes to the Council of the EU the following key recommendations:

- Recognise sport as an important economic factor,
- Enhance labour productivity in the sport sector,
- Leverage the economic impact of voluntary activity,

- Foster convergence in sport across all EU Member States and
- Raise investment in sustainable sport infrastructure.

Hopefully, the Cyprus Presidency of the EU and the Council of the EU will endorse these conclusions and emphasize the role that sport should play in the future for the Europe 2020 strategy, based on growth, employment and social cohesion. The timing of this publication is ideal, just before the final step of the negotiations between the EU institutions on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020, which will, for the first time, include sport.

For further information:

[European Commission, Sport Unit website.](#)

CULT Committee discusses the Draft Report on Erasmus for All

On 19 September, the European Parliament’s Culture and Education Committee (CULT) met to discuss the “Erasmus for All” programme within the framework of the Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020. This meeting was also attended by representatives of the European Commission and the Council of the European Union.

Rapporteur Doris Pack (DE, EPP) proposed to name the programme “Yes Europe” (Yes standing for Youth, Education, Sport). With regard to her report, she hasn’t changed the three key actions as defined by the Commission. She simply included all the current activities for education and training, a separate chapter for youth, the Jean Monnet activities and a separate chapter for sport within these key actions. Her aim is to make the programme more user-friendly.

Concerning the chapter on sport, Mrs Pack emphasized the following objectives:

- *Grassroots sport:* In accordance with Mrs Pack’s statement the promotion of grass roots sport should be the main target of the future funding on sport.
- *Education/Health/Volunteering:* The proposal supports voluntary activities in sport and links between sport and education as well as sport and health.
- *Non-commercial sport events:* Funding for non profit sports events should be possible provided sport has a link to the goals mentioned in the program such as fighting the social exclusion of disadvantaged groups.



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The Members of the European Parliament generally welcomed the rapporteur's draft report and the separate chapter for sport. Some Members expressed their concerns in regard to an adequate financing for sport programmes. Katarina Nevedalova (SK, S&D) and Hannu Takkula (FIN, ALDE) for example proposed to reallocate some money to the sport sector. On behalf of Emma McClarkin and the ECR Group, Marek Henryk Migalski of Poland emphasized the role of

voluntary sports organisations as well as amateur sport. Iosif Matula (RO, EPP) stressed the extraordinary importance of grassroots sport for society. The next steps within the European Parliament are:

- 3 October 2012: Deadline for amendments
- 6 November 2012: Vote in committee

Meeting of the EOC EU Commission

Hosted by the NOC of Cyprus the EOC EU Commission met 19 September in Nicosia for its annual meeting.



After Committee Chairman Patrick Hickey's warm welcome, the Head of the EOC EU Office, Folker Hellmund, provided a comprehensive update on recent developments in European Union activities regarding sport.

In the subsequent discussion the members of the EOC EU Commission emphasized the need to:

- Incorporate sport in the Structural Funds regulation,
- Improve the inclusion of physical activity in the new health program,
- Create a sport chapter in Erasmus for everyone, with an emphasis on grass root sport which would allow for the funding of non-profit sporting events,
- Foster the cooperation amongst EU, Council of Europe and IOC in the fight against match fixing as well as increase the appreciation for the work of the Council of Europe on an "International Convention on Match Fixing".
- Promote the interests of the EOC Athletes Commission in Brussels and
- Acknowledge the activities on EU matters of the NOCs of Poland, Denmark and Cyprus in the past months and express the will to continue these efforts under the Irish Presidency.



Internal and visits

EU Sport Forum took place in Cyprus

On 19 – 20 September the European Commission and the Cypriot EU Presidency hosted the EU Sport Forum in Nicosia, Cyprus. Together with governments from EU Member States and representatives of the Olympic Sport movement, developments in the field of sport, issues such as good governance in sport, social dialogue, impact of sport and health-enhancing physical activity to Europe's economy and fight against match-fixing were discussed. Part of the EU Sport Forum was a joint session with the EU Sports Ministers who were gathered in Nicosia for an informal ministerial meeting.



In the course of the joint lunch with the EU Sports Ministers EOC President Patrick Hickey delivered a keynote speech on the 2012 London Olympic Games. In his speech Hickey emphasized the inspiring atmosphere for

Olympic and Paralympic athletes, the record participation of women athletes (44 %), the infrastructure improvements in east London and the environmentally sustainable construction of the Olympic Stadium that have set new standards.

Additionally the results of the 2010 Preparatory Action in the field of sport projects were presented during workshops on the topics, the fight against doping, promoting volunteering and social inclusion in and through sport.

Mrs Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner responsible for sport, also attended the meeting and highlighted the importance of physical activity for the health and well-being of Europeans. However, sport also faces many challenges at the moment. Commissioner Vassiliou mentioned that funding at EU level can help to tackle these issues with cross-border dimensions such as match-fixing, intolerance and gender inequality in sport.

A declaration on match fixing was launched by the Cypriot Presidency. Unfortunately, the content was not discussed with the participants. The Sport Ministers foreseen as signatories stepped out due to procedural questions.

Further information:

[European Commission, Sport Unit website](#)

S4GG Project Mid-Term Seminar in Nicosia

The partners of the EU project "Sport 4 Good Governance (S4GG)" met in the Olympic House for its mid-term seminar in Nicosia, Cyprus, from 17 to 18 September 2012. The aim of the meeting was to take stock of the

activities implemented so far during this project and to prepare future measures.

The agenda featured a number of interesting presentations as well as some very interactive and productive workshops. Prof.



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Dr. Christoph Breuer of the German Sport University Cologne presented the analysis of the S4GG questionnaire. Experts from Italy, Belgium, Austria and the UK presented good practice examples in their countries in the field of good governance in sport. The ensuing discussions of these examples provided valuable insights into good governance initiatives which will feed into the S4GG toolkit.



The workshops were held on two different subjects:

- Lessons to be learned: An analysis and discussion of key features of good governance, linked to the good practice examples.
- Educational toolkit: Exchange of views on the content and outlook of the

future toolkit, including a self-assessment tool. This work package is coordinated by Mrs Gabi Freytag, Director of the German Leadership Academy.

The Sport 4 Good Governance team would like to take the opportunity to thank the Cyprus Olympic Committee for hosting the seminar. Their support is vastly appreciated.

Further steps

- Continuous coordination and exchange with the Council Expert Group 'Good Governance'.
- Third peer review meeting: End of 2012.
- Training sessions: Beginning of 2013.
- Final Conference (including presentation of results and the final version of the toolkit): Projected April 2013.
- End of the project: Projected June 2013.

Please feel free to consult our project's website, if you would like to get more information on the project or on upcoming events.

Further information:

[Sport 4 Good Governance - Project Website](#)

15th ENGSO Forum "Building partnership to create an effective change" in Copenhagen on October 19-20

15th ENGSO Forum will be organised in the premises of Danish House of Sport in Copenhagen on October 19-20 hosted by the Olympic Committee of Denmark. The topic of this year's ENGSO Forum is "Building partnership to create an effective change". ENGSO has collected some best practice examples on innovative partnerships from its

member organisations to be compiled into a booklet. Some of the practices will be also presented in the Forum. Innovations will be also illustrated with a field study visit to innovative sport facilities around Copenhagen. Traditional ENGSO EU Seminar will take place in the beginning of the Forum



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on Friday with an update on current EU sports policy matters and EU funding. Prior to the ENGSO Forum, a Round Table meeting to discuss the lobbying for a European Year of Sport will take place on Thursday October 18. Representatives of

sport stakeholders, European sport organisations and federations are welcomed to this meeting.

Further information:
[Registration Form](#)

New EOC EU Office Staff Member

The EOC EU Office is happy to introduce Valentina Romano as a new staff member. Mrs Romano, born in Italy, is enthusiastic about sports and is looking forward to



work in EU related sport issues. She represents the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) and started working as a Policy Officer for the EOC EU Office on 1 September 2012. You can reach Mrs Romano by email at romano@euoffice.eurolympic.org or by phone at +32 2 738 0320.

Dates in October

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| 11-12 | Conference "United against Homophobia in Sports" in Utrecht (NL) |
| 19-20 | 15 th ENGSO Forum in Copenhagen |
| 25 | Education, Youth, Sport Council meeting in Brussels |

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