

– The House of European Sport –

Tweets of the month



SIGGS Project

@SIGGS_EU

25 May

Next stop @SIGGS_EU : Slovenia for #SIGGS Strategic Workshop on #GoodGovernance on 26 May in Ljubljana @TeamSlovenia @EOCmedia

SIGGS Project

@SIGGS_EU

21 May

#EOC Seminar addresses #GoodGovernance in Europe and implementation through @SIGGS_EU Project @EOCmedia @EOCEUOffice

EOC EU Office

@EOCEUOffice

17 May

Ready for the 10th meeting of the @EPAS_APES governing body. Discussions on #copyright and #matchfixing to follow.

Tibor Navracsics

@TNavracsicsEU

3 May

Good discussion on #copyright reform with #sport organisations today @Ansip_EU @GOettingerEU #DigitalSingleMarket

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EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

The month of May has been particularly busy with various meetings and conferences, including a number of Strategic Workshops related to the SIGGS Project of the EOC EU Office. The upcoming month of June is the final month of the Dutch EU Presidency. One of the main outcomes of the Sport Ministers Council on 31 May were the Council conclusions and a joint declaration on higher integrity, transparency and good governance of major sport events. The documents are addressed primarily to the IOC, EOC, FIFA and UEFA, but they are in general open for other sport organisations as well. The Olympic Movement was represented by Mario Pescante (IOC) and Niels Nygaard (EOC). Both reiterated the necessity of good governance in order to safeguard the autonomy of sport federations.

The joint declaration reflects and acknowledges the importance of the Olympic Agenda 2020 aiming at the reductions of costs, higher transparency and sustainability of major sport events such as the Olympic Games. Regarding the sustainability of sport infrastructures there have been both positive and negative examples in the past. London 2012 was definitely a positive one and the reduction of around 2 Billion € for the 2020 Games in Tokyo have proved that the implementation of the Olympic Agenda 2020 takes shape.

Another part of the joint declaration refers to the common responsibilities of governments and sport federations. This approach is of utmost importance since it reflects the reality that the high costs of major sport events are in many cases the result of a combination between demands of sport organisations as well as expectations by ambitious governments. In order to implement the declaration, four working group meetings are agreed on with the upcoming EU Presidencies Slovakia, Malta and United Kingdom in the next two years.

The Slovakian EU Presidency, starting first of July, will focus on Council Conclusions on Sport Diplomacy. The work will be based on the outcomes of the High level Group on Sports Diplomacy. This group will deliver their recommendations to Commissioner Navracsics at the end of June. EOC President Patrick Hickey has represented the Olympic Movement in this group. Another key topic will be the educational role of sport and especially the impact of sport on the personal development of young people. The first conference will take place on 18-19 July in Bratislava on “Education in and through Sport”.

Enjoy your read,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Folker Hellmund', written in a cursive style.

Folker Hellmund
Director EOC EU Office

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EUROPEAN UNION AND SPORT

EU Sports Ministers Council meeting focuses on good governance

On 31 May 2016, the EU Sports Ministers met in Brussels for the formal Sports Ministers Council in order to discuss how governments can improve governance in sports against the background of recent corruption, match-fixing and doping scandals and the consequent negative impact on the credibility and positive values of sport. In her opening statement, Edith Schippers, Minister for Health, Welfare and Sport of the Netherlands, said that: "Sport is great fun, but only if the game is played fairly: not only on the field but also in the boardrooms of sports organisations and authorities. That is why the Netherlands' Presidency has made integrity; transparency and good governance in sport one of its priorities."

Several member states have already taken action to review their legislation aiming to strengthen the integrity of sport and in particular the protection of young athletes. The Ministers agreed that sports organisations require support and cooperation and in some cases, the intervention of national governments, and recalled that the sports sector must respect the basic principles of good governance, such as skilled management, sustainable financing, accountability and transparency.

While acknowledging the principle of sport organisations' autonomy, the Ministers underlined that if federations receive public funding, governments have the right to ensure that these funds are used properly. In addition, public authorities are responsible for establishing the legal framework and the criteria sports federations must comply with.

Moreover, the sports Ministers agreed that cross-border threats such as doping, corruption and match-fixing can be addressed more effectively through increased coordination between member

states and that the structured dialogue with the sports movement must also be strengthened. Furthermore, the European Commission and a number of Member States called for a timely ratification of the Convention of Council of Europe on the manipulation of sports competitions.

The Council also adopted conclusions on enhancing integrity, transparency and good governance in major sports events. The text proposes several measures to implement these principles at national and European level at all stages of such events (feasibility, bidding, preparation, organization, evaluation, legacy), including after their closure (s. editorial as well).



Olympic Movement delegation for structured dialogue sport at Sports Ministers Council meeting

During this structured dialogue, Mario Pescante as IOC Member, welcomed the dialogue and referred to the activities of the Olympic Movement with regards to the Olympic Agenda 2020. Niels Nygaard, President of the Danish NOC and Member of the EOC Executive Committee,

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confirmed this statement and stressed the added value of organizing these major sport events within Europe. EOC Athletes' Commission Chairmen Jean-Michel Saive highlighted the need for clean sport and clean governance of sport.

On the occasion of the structured dialogue, a joint declaration was published to enhance a regular dialogue with the sport movement on topics related to major sport events where shared responsibilities of internal sport organisations and the Olympic Movement and governments of EU

Member States and the European Union are involved.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[List of participants](#)

[Council conclusions on enhancing integrity, transparency and good governance in major sports events](#)

[Discussion paper as basis for the policy debate](#)

[Outcome of the Council meeting](#)

EWoS: Commission organises Conference for NCBs and Partners

On 26 May 2016, the European Commission organised a Conference on the European Week of Sport (EWoS) for National Coordinating Bodies (NCBs) and European Partners of the Week. The Commission introduced the concept and main elements for this year's edition of the EWoS and arranged a social media workshop and a networking session between partners and coordinators. The network currently consists of 29 NCBs and 38 European Partners.

The structure of this year's week at European level will once again be based on an official opening and a flagship event. The opening is planned for Saturday, 10 September 2016, and will take place in Košice, Slovakia, at the occasion of the Slovakian Council Presidency. This event will also be available via live stream.

The Flagship Event will take place on 15 September in Brussels and will see workshops

and a conference on the topic of "Good Governance". European National Olympic Committees and Federations are to be invited to Brussels for this occasion, which will also see this year's ceremony for the #BeActive Award

The Commission also presented the elements of the communication campaign which will be supported by a communications handbook. The media are to be activated through a combination of evidence-based data, newsworthy events, high-profile figures and concrete storytelling. The social media strategy is based on the new "EU Sport" twitter account and Facebook event pages. A photo competition and promotion on social media are also going to take place.

Partners of the EOC EU Office can find further information about the European Week of Sport on the office's intranet.

Expert Group Good Governance discusses Promotion of Good Governance Principles and Protection of minors

On 12 May 2016, the Council Expert Group on Good Governance (XG GG) met for their 6th meeting in Brussels. The main elements on the

agenda were the implementation and promotion of the EU Principles of good governance in sport and the protection of minors.

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For the promotion of the EU Principles of good governance, an interesting discussion took place on how to measure and monitor the implementation of good governance. Regarding external evaluation of this implementation, various observers raised the difficulties to measure culture within organisations or the actual functioning of procedures. In this regard, the EOC EU Office commented that the tools developed within the SIGGS Project function on the basis of self-evaluation as it for instance provides a better understanding of how certain principles have been implemented in the day-to-day management of the organisation.

Furthermore, the European Commission has sent a questionnaire to the Member States and the observers on the implementation of the EU Principles. They will summarise the results, which will be presented at the next meeting of the group.

The promotion of the EU Principles has also been connected with the possibility of setting-up a pledge board. Following earlier discussions on the overall concept of this possible pledge board, the Commission is currently revising and drafting a

new proposal. The idea would be to work with general pledges, based on ongoing initiatives by the sport movement and with respect to the principle of autonomy of sport.

For the discussion on the protection of minors, Tine Vertommen of the University of Antwerp presented her research on interpersonal violence against children in sport, including the prevalence and typology of cases. The research covered both the Netherlands and Belgium. During her presentation, she also referred to the recently published IOC Consensus Statement on harassment and abuse in sport as an excellent conceptual model to analyse the issues. The presentation will also feed into the deliverable that is currently being drafted by the lead expert, Alexandre Husting. In his initial draft, he already included some recommendations addressing national public authorities, sports organisations and the European Commission. These recommendations and the rest of the deliverable will be further discussed at the next meeting, which is supposed to take place in July 2016 in Brussels.

COM proposals on updates of EU audiovisual rules and geo-blocking

On 25 May 2016, the European Commission published new proposals in course of its push for a Digital Single Market in Europe. These include a proposal for a regulation on addressing geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination (COM (2016) 289) and for a directive on provisions laid down in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (COM (2016) 287/4).

The regulation on geo-blocking is part of a package of measures *“to allow consumers and companies to buy and sell products and services online more easily and confidently across the EU”*. Geo-blocking limits the access to websites and online content for customers from other Member States in the area of e-commerce, but is also used

to guarantee the exclusivity of territorial licenses for sport broadcasts. While regulation of this tool could potentially have had an impact on its use by sport broadcasters, the EC proposal published last week explicitly excludes audiovisual services, especially mentioning “broadcasts of sport events” in recital (6).

The Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) updates the existing one from 2010 in order to make rules fit today’s means of broadcasting and consuming content. Relevant changes to advertising on TV and online are included in article 9 regarding commercial communications: a self- and co-regulatory code of conduct regarding commercials of *“foods and beverages [...] excessive intakes of which [...] are*

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not recommended, in particular fat, trans-fatty acids, salt or sodium and sugars” “*accompanying or included in programmes with a significant children’s audience*” shall be encouraged by Member States and the Commission. In other sport related aspects of the AVMSD, the rules on listed events and short extracts have not been changed.

Both proposals will now be discussed in the European Parliament and the Council. The Digital Single Market strategy includes 16 initiatives to be presented by the end of this year.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[European Commission Press Release on new e-commerce rules including on Geo-blocking](#)
[European Commission Press Release on Audiovisual Media](#)
[Proposal for a REGULATION on addressing geo-blocking and other forms of discrimination based on customers’ nationality, place of residence or place of establishment within the internal](#)
[Proposal for a DIRECTIVE amending Directive 2010/13/EU on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services in view of changing market realities](#)

EU Firearms Directive and possible impact on sport shooting

In November 2015, the European Commission adopted a package of measures to strengthen the provisions on the acquisition, possession and import/export of firearms in the European Union. In the European Agenda on Security for 2015-2020 and its 2016 Work Programme, the Commission announced to review the existing firearms legislation in 2016 to improve information sharing, reinforce traceability, standardise marking, and establish common standards for neutralising firearms. In light of the terrorist attacks in Europe, the Commission decided to accelerate this work.

One key part of the legislation on firearms is the EU Firearms Directive. The objective of this Directive is to facilitate the functioning of the internal market in firearms within the EU, while guaranteeing a high level of safety for EU citizens. In this regard, the Directive includes a number of minimum requirements that Member States should impose for the acquisition and possession of different categories of weapons. With the proposal for a new Directive amending the existing Directive, which was published in November 2015, the EU Commission intends to strengthen some of these provisions and minimum requirements.

In this regard, some of the provisions included in the Commission’s proposal could have an impact on sport shooting. In particular, the Commission wants to ban certain categories of semi-automatic firearms for civilian use, including sports shooting. It concerns those firearms that either can be easily converted to automatic arms or that are very dangerous because of the high number of rounds. These firearms are not used for Olympic shooting disciplines, but still represent a high share of today’s sport-shooting weapons.

The proposal of the Commission is currently being discussed under the ordinary legislative procedure. In February 2016, the responsible Committee within the European Parliament (Internal Market Committee) published a first working document. During the following Committee meeting, the Chair Vicky Ford (ECR, UK) stressed the lack of an impact assessment and cited concerns expressed to Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) by legal owners, including sport shooters. The EU Commission indeed submitted the proposal without an impact assessment due to the urgency of the proposal in light of the terrorist attacks. In addition, the Internal Market Committee held a public hearing on the proposal in March 2016, at which experts

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and stakeholders were able to state their views and express their concerns to MEPs.

The EOC EU Office has been monitoring the legislative procedure closely and continues to assess the potential policy implications for sport shooting clubs and federations.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[European Commission - Press release EP working document on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons](#)

Court upholds the principles of art. 165 TFEU in a State aid ruling

On 12 May 2016, the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) ruled on the Czech “Hamr Sport” case, deciding to uphold the European Commission’s decision to declare public subsidies to non-for-profit sport facilities as compatible with the EU Internal Market.

The Court’s ruling in this case is significant for the sport sector. **Not only did it uphold the reasoning of the Commission, which explicitly referred to the specificity of sport** (Art. 165 TFEU), and thus strengthened it, it also provided further **guidance to its own instances and to national courts for the assessment of cases where public support to non-for-profit sport organisation is contested by commercial actors.**

In 2011, “Hamr - Sport”, a Czech sport facilities operator, had launched a complaint with the European Commission (EC) against the public support of the Czech public authorities (Ministry of Youth, Education and Culture) for the construction, operation, maintenance, reconstruction or development of non-profit sport facilities. Hamr, which operates three sport facilities in Prague, claimed that the subsidies scheme, to which, as a commercial entity, it does not have access, distorts competition in the market of rental of sport facilities, and should therefore be qualified as illegal state aid.

After a rather long process, which included a preliminary assessment by the Commission, request for further investigation by the Complainant, and examination by the Municipal

Court in Prague, the Commission finally issued its decision on 11 June 2014. **The Commission concluded that even though it cannot exclude that the public support measures do not constitute state aid, they are compatible with the internal market under the Article 107 (3) (c) TFEU, which sets out conditions for exceptions.**

The complainant contested this decision and asked the Court of Justice of the European Union to declare it invalid and refer it back to the EC for further investigation. In particular, Hamr claimed that its procedural rights were not upheld as the Commission should have opened an in-depth investigation. On substance, the complainant contested the qualification of the subsidies by the Commission as compatible with the internal market.

In its ruling of 12 May 2016, **the Court rejected this Request to annul the Commission’s decision.** It stated that the Commission made a correct assessment when it declared the subsidies compatible with internal market, and added that it also made the right decision, not to open an in-depth investigation, as neither the results of the examination, nor the presented evidence raised “*serious doubts*” about the compatibility.

Reasoning of the Commission

According to case-law, the Commission may declare State aid compatible with the internal market if:

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1. the aid contributes to the attainment of an objective of common interest,
2. is necessary for the attainment of this objective,
3. and does not adversely affect trading conditions to an extent contrary to the common interest.

In other words, such measures may be declared compatible if they are necessary and proportionate, and if the positive effects for the common objective outweigh the negative effects on competition and trade. It is interesting to review some of the Commission reasoning in this regard as it relies, in many cases, on the prerogative of Article 165 TFEU.

- Objective of common interest

The Commission stressed that the subsidies “clearly aim at supporting amateur sport for masses and to improve access to it”, and that „the purpose of the funding is to promote sport, related education and social life of amateurs including youth in associations based on voluntary activity of their members. The system of support to non-profit organisations is thus a tool for improving civic society.” It concluded that the scheme can „be considered to aim at promoting sport as well as physical and mental integrity at a local, regional or national level as a common interest.”

- Necessity and appropriateness

The Commission pointed out that despite the commitment of their members (financial and voluntary contribution) non-profit sport organisations are normally not capable of financing the running costs of facilities on their own. It therefore concluded that the „public co-financing of the construction and operation of the facilities of non-profit organisations addresses a market failure.”

- Incentive effect

“The support to sport has an incentive effect, especially for the education of children and youth for sports activities. Without the aid, the

beneficiary would not carry out the activity at all, or the activity would be carried out in a reduced extent and/or quality, and he would thus not be able to achieve the objectives of the State policy in the field of sport and health.”

- Impact on competition

The Commission stressed that the “majority of the activities of the non-profit organisations (particularly activities of members and socially disadvantaged persons) has no potential to affect competition to an extent contrary to the common interest.” It acknowledged that the operation of a sport facility of a non-profit organisation “may lead to a loss of revenue for an existing private operator.” However, it “underlined that private operators are unlikely to meet the public interest in the provision of affordable sport facilities.”

The Court will rule on another state aid case – Magic Mountain Kletterhallen and others vs. European Commission – on 9 June 2016. Both these cases, however, derive from complaints made before the European Commission declared certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in 2014 (so called “block exemption”) – including investment in sport facilities below a certain threshold. This means that similar complaints made today would no longer lead to an examination by the Commission. The European Commission published a practical guide on this Regulation in March 2016, also referring to investment in sport facilities.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[European Commission’s decision on Support from central government to non-profit sport facilities on 11 June 2014 \(Hamr\)](#)

[Ruling of the ECJ on the annulations on the Commission’s decision on 12 May 2016](#) (available in FR and CZ)

[Magic Mountain Kletterhalten case awaiting decision at the ECJ on 9 June 2016](#)

[General Block Exemption Regulation](#)

[General Block Exemption Regulation FAQ](#)

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Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) held its 10th Governing Board meeting

On 17 and 18 May 2016, the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) held its 10th Governing Board, jointly with the meeting of the Consultative Committee, in Strasbourg.

Beyond administrative discussions, the Council of Europe presented a progress review of the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions and insisted on the commitment of the Council of Europe to promote and to lobby for a quick adoption and entry into force of the Convention. Up until now, 27 countries have signed the Convention (Slovenia, Albania and Austria joined on 2 June), while two have already ratified it.

The secretariat of EPAS also announced the official opening for signature of the new Council of Europe Convention on an integrated safety, security and service approach at football matches and other sports events on the 3 June, before the semi-final of the European football championships.

The following item on the agenda was the presentation of three projects led by the Council of Europe through co-operational and financial agreements with the EU. Project managers of «Keep Crime out of Sport» (fight against match-fixing), «Balance in Sport» (gender equality in sport) and «ProS4» (promotion of security standards in stadium) provided the participants

with overviews of their respective activities. EPAS confirmed the interest of the Council of Europe to pursue this cooperation with the EU.

In addition, this first day programme also gave to the participants the opportunity to exchange their views on current developments regarding media and sport broadcasting rights, including on the EU proposals for a Digital Single Market.

The second day was divided into two parts, starting with a presentation of the 14th Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (MSL14) and followed by a meeting of the Consultative Committee.

MLS14 will be held in Budapest, on 29 November 2016 with a specific focus on Good Governance, as well as on the fight against doping and match-fixing and on the topic of sport and migration.

The Consultative Committee, composed of observers from the world of sport, discussed the renewal of the membership of 10 organisations including the EOC, before voting on the composition of its new bureau.

The next event gathering EPAS members will be the 2nd Conference for the promotion and the implementation of the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, in Strasbourg, on 20-21 September.

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FUNDING PROGRAMMES, STUDIES AND PROJECT

SIGGS Project in full swing: Strategic Workshops and EOC Seminar

The SIGGS Project (“Support the Implementation of Good Governance in Sport”), which is coordinated by the EOC EU Office together with 11 partner organisations, had a very busy month of May. After the national first Strategic Workshop, which took place in Lithuania on 13 April, two additional Strategic Workshops were organised in May.



The **Strategic Workshop in Portugal** was organised on 4 May 2016. The meeting, which took place in Lisbon, was hosted by the National Olympic Committee of Portugal (COP) and was attended by more than 30 participants from 22 national federations, the Portuguese Olympic Academy and the NOC. Besides presentations by the SIGGS Project Management and the NOC, Joana Gonçalves, President of the Portuguese Hockey Federation, and Marcos Oliveira, Secretary General of the Portuguese Canoe Federation, shared their experiences with the participants. The Strategic Workshop also served as an excellent opportunity to discuss the national results of the first evaluation round, which took place in October-November 2015, and to exchange views on the shortcomings of the implementation of good governance in Portuguese sport. Particular elements that were mentioned were: risk management and liaison with athletes. The NOC also announced the

actions that it will undertake in the forthcoming months, in particular in the fight against match-fixing.

The other **Strategic Workshop** was organised in Ljubljana, **Slovenia**, on 26 May. The Workshop, which was organised in connection with the NOC’s General Assembly, attracted around 40 representatives from national and regional sport federations. It was officially opened by Dr. Janez Kocijancic, Honorary President of the NOC of Slovenia and Vice-President of the EOC, who stressed the importance of implementing good governance in Slovenian sport. On the occasion of the Workshop, the SIGGS Project also launched the consultation phase for Slovenian sport federations through the SIGGS self-evaluation tool, which has been translated in Slovenian. Following an interesting presentation by the Slovenian football federation, Ales Solar of the NOC of Slovenia presented the current and upcoming activities of the NOC in the field of good governance. He referred to the establishment of



an ethics commission last year, the creation of the position of Guardian of the athlete’s rights, for which Rozle Prezelj as former Olympian has been appointed, and the agreement to set up a hotline for reporting misconduct.

Besides these two Workshops, the SIGGS Project management had the privilege to organise a

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Workshop within the framework of the annual **EOC Seminar** for NOCs, which took place in Tarragona, Spain. The Seminar presented an excellent occasion to present the progress of the project and to engage the 42 other NOCs that are not part of the project consortium as the SIGGS tools are being developed to the benefit of all 50 NOCs and their member federations.

With good governance and integrity being the main focus of the Workshop, a panel debate was also organised on the main challenges for the implementation of good governance at national level. This panel, which was moderated by Niels Nygaard, Member of the EOC Executive Committee and President of the Danish NOC, included: Joao Paulo Almeida, General Director of NOC Portugal, Blaz Perko, Deputy Secretary General of NOC Slovenia, Stavri Bello, Secretary General of NOC Albania, Jean-Michel Saive, Chair of the EOC Athletes' Commission, and Matthias Van Baelen, SIGGS Project Manager. Joao Almeida explained how the SIGGS Project helped the NOC to support the implementation of good governance in a very practical way and how the NOC is trying to support the federations. Jean-

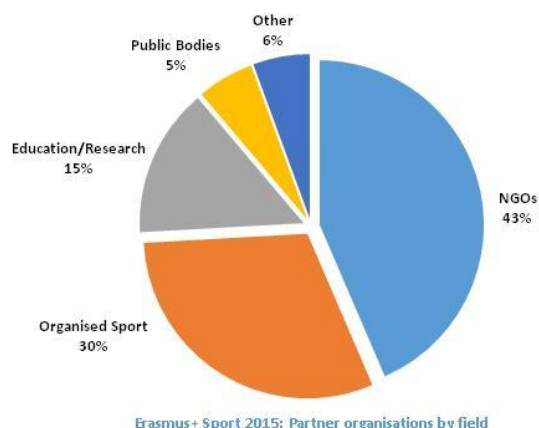
Michel Saive stressed the duty of the athletes to contribute to initiatives helping to safeguard the integrity of sport and good governance as the credibility and the future of sport is key. During an interactive debate with the audience, various elements were discussed including how legal compliance links with good governance, what the link is with the fight against doping and how to cooperate with the national governments. One of the conclusions of the debate was that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work in the field of good governance. Therefore, flexible tools are needed. This flexibility is one of the advantages of the SIGGS tools as the customised, practical guidance with a 5-level approach is embedded within the methodology of the Project.

Following this busy month of May, an additional Strategic Workshop will be organised in Belgium on 7 June. The remaining Strategic Workshops in the other countries (Germany, Luxembourg and Turkey) are scheduled for the forthcoming months.

INTERNALS AND VISITS

EOC EU Office publishes background paper on Erasmus+ Sport

The EOC EU Office has published its fourth background paper, which analyses the results of the general call for Erasmus+ Sport (deadline in May 2015) and considers the involvement of organised sport in the programme. As the main aim of the funding programme is stated as “to support grassroots sport” in the Erasmus+ Regulation, these numbers are a central test for its successful implementation. The background paper furthermore introduces the changes that have been made to the programme for 2016 and considers the merits of the separate Erasmus+ Sport calls for the European Week of Sport.



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Looking at the results of the analysis, only 30 % of the organisations involved in successful applications came from organised sport, with a handful of projects of sport federations even skewing the results positively. Half of the projects recruited less than one fifth of their partners from sport and only 20 % of lead applicants came from organised sport, a reduction of nearly 20 percentage points compared to 2014. Similarly, the distribution of grants again reflected a preference for big projects with large grants – the average budget was 503.640,58 €.

The background paper also provides recommendations, how to improve Erasmus+ Sport, including giving priority to grassroots sport organisations, increasing the pre-financing, and, most importantly reducing the administrative burden and accepting the contributions of volunteers.

Partners of the EOC EU Office can find the full background paper on the office's intranet presence.

PARTNERS' CORNER

DOSB celebrates 10th anniversary in Frankfurt



On 20 May 2016, the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) celebrated its 10th anniversary in St. Paul's Church, Frankfurt. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, IOC President Thomas Bach and DOSB President Alfons Hörmann spoke on this occasion at the location of the merger of the then National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Germany and the German Sports Confederation.

The merger ten years ago was "contemporary, necessary and right", DOSB President Alfons Hörmann told the audience, "The pooling of different interests from various member

organisations with 90,000 sports clubs and 27 million memberships has been successfully transformed into one voice of sports."

German Chancellor Angela Merkel congratulated the DOSB by saying that the past ten years were full of sporting highlights and achievements in both high-performance and grassroots sport. "The two belong together." She warned, however, that the threats of manipulation and doping destroy credibility and have no place in sports.

IOC President Bach, the founding president of the DOSB, expressed his satisfaction about the development of German sport and the unified approach to promote the value of sport. A "Unity in Diversity" has been achieved, which is highly respected worldwide and inspires sport organisations in other countries.

Hörmann further added that the values of sport stand in the centre of all DOSB activities. "In terms of the Olympic Agenda 2020 we need to focus more on the values of sports in the fields of: Fair play, respect, performance, participation – that's what we owe to athletes and all volunteers."

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Hörmann underlined the zero-tolerance policy of DOSB in the fight against doping. Athletes should be supported and not left to fight this on their own, but also their entourage should be included more closely. Moreover, it should be the aim to extend the motto of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) “Give everything, take nothing” to other areas of concern in the field of sport and to prevent all kinds of manipulation.

This does not only require structural, but also cultural change – an aspect where good governance plays a pivotal role. While DOSB has adapted its compliance structure to future challenges, Hörmann emphasized that good governance is a continuous process.

The DOSB President referred to the potential of sports to take on social challenges, such as integration, inclusion or health. He explicitly

pointed out the advocacy efforts of the DOSB aiming at a sports-friendly drafting of the sports facilities noise regulation in Germany. Hörmann asked Chancellor Merkel for further support in this regard: “In a country like ours, with significant demographic challenges, cheerful laughs and shouts of children doing sports should not be perceived as annoyance, but rather as the pure enjoyment of life”.

The 10th anniversary celebrations of the DOSB coincided with the return of the organisation to its newly renovated “House of German Sports” in Frankfurt after having resided in Neu-Isenburg for two years.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[Press release DOSB](#) (in German)
[Press release IOC](#)

24th ENGSO General Assembly takes place in Vilnius



The 24th ENGSO General Assembly was organised in Vilnius on 13-14 May 2016, hosted by the Lithuanian Union of Sports Federations. Among other things, the General Assembly adopted new Statutes, welcomed Cyprus Sport Organisation as new member organisation and agreed on the integration of the European Women and Sport (EWS) Network into the ENGSO structure. So far EWS has been an independent

European wide informal network. Furthermore, Stavri Bello, Secretary General of the Albanian Olympic Committee, was elected to the ENGSO Executive Committee.

Prior to the General Assembly, ENGSO EU Seminar was organised with the presence of Paola Ottonello from the Sport Unit of the European Commission, who gave an update on the current EU sport policy. In addition, the participants got an update on the activities of the Council of Europe’s Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport, Commission’s High-Level Groups on Grassroots Sport and Sport Diplomacy, as well as had an interactive consultation session on the future EU Council Work Plan for Sport.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

[Website of ENGSO](#)

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SCORE in action: National Training Sessions and Education for Mentors in full speed

SCORE project on gender equality in coaching is advancing with its activities. National Training sessions to implement the developed toolkit are taking place currently around Europe. Sessions in UK, Cyprus and Croatia took place already earlier, whereas a session in Sweden was organised in April and in Finland in May. Three more sessions are to come: Germany and Portugal in June and Lithuania in July. The training sessions have the objective to raise awareness and educate the representatives of sport federations to use properly the “awareness pack” toolkit, outcome of the first phase of the project. The “awareness pack” contains tools for sport organisations to create a more gender equal environment and facilitate the access of women into coaching. National training sessions in different countries have gathered a good representation of sport federations to discuss the issue and make commitments for next steps in their federations.

The second main activity of the SCORE project is an Education for Mentors. Altogether 22 mentors are educated to support female coaches in their coaching career. First part of the education took place in Cyprus in the end of January, and after that the mentors started mentoring activities in their respective countries. Second part of the education was organised in Finland on 21-22 May to discuss the questions that the mentors have

faced in their activities and give them further tools for their mentoring. Now the mentors, supported by the SCORE partner organisations, will continue to build the mentoring systems in their countries.



“Strengthening Coaching with the Objective to Raise Equality” – SCORE is a European project supported by the Erasmus+ Sport Programme and led by ENGSO. It promotes gender equality in coaching, and focuses on increasing the number of employed and volunteer female coaches at all levels of sport as well as enhancing knowledge on gender equality in coach education. The SCORE project is a two-year project and will be finalised by the end of 2016.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[Project Website](#)

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Ethics and integrity: Developments and Experiences of NOC*NSF

Besides all the benefits of sports and its value for individuals and the society as a whole, there is also a downside to sports. The downside concerns a series of possible violations to the integrity of sports like doping, match-fixing, sexual harassment, fraud and discrimination because of race, sexual orientation or gender. These violations can occur in any EU Member State. European cooperation is therefore important to be effective and efficient in preventing, detecting and correcting these violations. That is why it is important to learn from other National Olympic Committees (NOCs) and share experiences.

Integrity and ethics in sport were important subjects on the EOC seminar in Tarragona on 21 May. Several NOCs presented their efforts in their combat with integrity issues. NOC*NSF was also given the opportunity to share their developments and experiences, which will be outlined here as well.

Sports and integrity: Towards a compliance program for sports

There is increased attention to the integrity of sports from several stakeholders. In society misbehaviour is also less accepted and the reputational damage in the event of incidents is larger than before. Many organisations, in business and also within governments, have developed a compliance program to ensure that rules and codes of conduct are part of the way they do business. The core of that approach and the experiences with compliance programs can be useful for sports. Based on the input of the experts, the NSF has created a vision on sports and integrity, in which they basically introduce a compliance program for sports.

1. Prevention

Codes of conduct

Five short codes of conduct have been developed



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and describe the wanted and unwanted behaviour for five specific target groups. These five codes of conduct have then been transformed into “*explanations*” - short animation movies explaining the topics.

Education

Several target groups receive education on integrity issues. Elite athletes for example follow several sessions with our Doping Authority on the dangers and rules on doping during their career. NSF also has sessions with our talents and elite athletes on recognising and preventing match-fixing and betting. Besides sessions, there are also e-learnings on match-fixing and the prevention of sexual harassment.

Awareness and support of our federations

Together with Ernst & Young and their compliance experts, NSF organises sessions with a board member of a sports federation and their integrity expert on their integrity policy. The aim of these sessions is to increase awareness of integrity issues and to collect best practices with a possibility to share them with other federations. NSF also developed blueprints for disciplinary laws on match-fixing, sexual harassment and doping.

2. Detection

A hotline for reporting misconduct in sports has been introduced. Besides a phone number, there is a speak-up web system for people who want to report anonymously. In 2015, this hotline received 245 reports about misconduct, most of them about harassment and bullying, four calls were on doping and none on match-fixing. At the moment, research is being carried out on factors that play a role for elite athletes to report match-fixing or doping.

3. Enforcement

To enforce its integrity policy, NSF has taken several actions. For instance, to obtain Lotto funding sports federations in the Netherlands have to comply with the minimum requirements of NOC*NSF. Currently, the implementation of a disciplinary law on sexual harassment and good governance are already part of these minimum requirements, and in 2017 the implementation of a disciplinary law on match-fixing will be added to that list.

Among the criteria of the official contract that enables athletes to have the status of an elite athlete with the opportunity to receive financial support, an education on doping is obligatory.

Recommendations on integrity issues, which sponsors and municipalities can use in agreements/contracts with athletes or sports clubs, are also among the long-term strategies.

Meanwhile, at its annual meeting in May 2016, NSF increased funding for doping controls, leading to an increase of doping controls from 1700 to 2200 in 2017 and to 2500 in 2018 in the Netherlands.

4. Correction

Sport federations in the Netherlands do not deal with integrity cases on a daily basis. Therefore, they lack experience with integrity issues. Thus, over 50 federations of the NSF have become a member of the Dutch Institute of Arbitration in Sports, where professionals are working on integrity cases more often. The aim is that the institute could become a knowledge institute on disciplinary law. This way the institute can give our federations the support they need when confronted with cases or questions on disciplinary law.

*Emiel Krijt for NOC*NSF*

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NEXT MONTH

Dates in June 2016

6 June	<i>High-level Group on Grassroots Sports, Brussels</i>
7 June	<i>Strategic Workshop SIGGS Project, Brussels</i>
8-9 June	<i>Meeting Expert Group on Match- Fixing, Helsinki, Finland</i>
10 June	<i>7th meeting High-Level Group Sport Diplomacy, Brussels</i>
15 June	<i>Conference on Doping by the Dutch Presidency, Amsterdam</i>
27 June	<i>Annual Partner Meeting 2016, EOC EU Office, Brussels</i>
23 June	<i>Olympic Day</i>
28 June	<i>Sport Intergroup on Erasmus +, Brussels</i>
29 June	<i>Recommendations of High level Groups on Grassroots Sports and Sports diplomacy will be handed over to Commissioner Navracsics, Brussels</i>