



EOC

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Report on the impact of the activities
of the European Union
on sports

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General Policy

No themes in this issue.

Sport

News from the Institutions

1st XIth European Sports Forum

On November 7th and 8th 2002 the actors of European sports gathered at the XIth European Sports Forum in Copenhagen for an exchange of thoughts and information. (See also Monthly Report October 2002). After introductory presentations by the Danish Sport–Minister Mikkelsen and the Spanish State Secretary for Sport Gomez–Angulo, EOC President Pescante and EU Commissioner Reding, the participants divided into three working groups.

The themes were: voluntary work and the necessity for social, political and economic recognition for it, the implementation of the European Year of Education through Sport, and the position of sport in the programmes and policies of the Community. The overwhelming majority of the participants in the third working group expressed themselves in favour of an article concerning sport in the EU Treaties. In the plenary session it was determined that an article would be meant to protect sport in its function and its national



structures, and that no effort toward harmonisation is desired on the part of the Commission.



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Legal Questions

2nd ECJ Ruling in the Case of Arsenal FC vs Matthew Reed

In its Ruling of 12.11.2002 the ECJ conceded that the Arsenal Football Club (Arsenal FC) was right, and that it can prevent the use of its trademark by third parties, if this use restricts the guarantee of origin for the goods. The circumstance that this use can be understood as an expression of support, loyalty or belonging in respect of the brand owner does not restrict this principle.

In this the Court followed the final motion of the Advocate-General. (On this, see Monthly Report June 2002)

Background:

In the immediate neighbourhood of Arsenal's football stadium, Mr Reed has been selling copied fan items with the protected trademark and emblem of Arsenal FC for years. The English football club sued Matthew Reed among



other things for trademark infringement before the High Court of Justice, which transmitted the case to the ECJ in May 2001 for the purpose of a preliminary ruling procedure.

In its Ruling the Court of Justice referred to the fact that the major function of a trademark consists in guaranteeing the actual origin of a good or service. This guarantee of origin can only be safeguarded if the trademark is protected against third parties that want to exploit the position and reputation of the trademark for commercial purposes. Although during sales Mr Reed referred on a poster to the fact that it was *not* a matter of original goods, the Court did not exclude a danger of confusion in respect of the origin of the goods for the fans of Arsenal FC.



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Aid Programms

3rd Call in the Area of Equal Rights for Women and Men

The Employment and Social Affairs Directorate-General of the European Commission is calling for the submission of proposals for projects that have the goal of equal rights for women and men. The call is based on the decision of the Council to set up an action programme concerning the Community strategy for equal rights for the time period from January 1st 2001 to December 31st 2005.

With this call cross-border exchange actions for the promotion of equal rights of gender are supported which are concerned with passing on information, experience and proven procedures, and in which several actors from at least three countries are participants. Applications can be made by NGOs and social partners at European level, transnational networks of regional or local authorities and organisations that are involved in the area of equal rights of gender. The total support amounts to 4.5 million €. The projects selected will be supported with a minimum of 250,000 € and at most 500,000 € up to an amount of 80% of the costs. The remaining 20% must be raised by the applicant or its partners in the form of money contributions. The final deadline for sending in project proposals is March 14th 2003.



http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/employment_social/tender_de.htm



4th Leonardo 2003 /2004 – Action Programme YOUTH 2003

For the call for the second programme phase of the Leonardo projects (we reported in the Monthly Report May 2002) the application period is ending. While the deadline for pre-applications in the areas of pilot projects and comparative materials already ran out on November 4th 2002, applications for mobility projects can still be submitted until February 14th 2002.

For the YOUTH Action Programme the new application deadlines for projects that are meant to be carried out in 2003 have been published. For German applicants they can be looked up on the web page of the national agency. Applicants from other countries can inform themselves through their respective national agencies.



http://www.webforum-jugend.de/framesets/service_antragstermine.htm

5th INTERREG IIIC – Application Deadline for Proposals

For the four zones of INTERREG IIIC – Programmes project proposals can still be submitted until January 10th 2002.





The Community initiative is meant to strengthen the effectiveness of policies and instruments for regional development through exchanges of information and experience from other Community programmes. Regional or other public institutions are meant to be encouraged to exchange information about their support projects for objectives 1 and 2, the Community initiatives INTERREG or URBAN or about innovative measures, and to learn from each other. However, other themes appropriate for interregional cooperation, such as research, culture and tourism, can also be handled. Here there are also starting points for sport.

There are three types of operations that are supported within the framework of INTERREG IIIC:

- a. Regional framework measures
- b. Individual cooperation projects
- c. Networks

They differ from each other in the number of participating partners, the number of subjects covered, and the amount of the possible support. International cooperation can occur through studies, seminars and workshops, but also through the preparation of future projects or pilot projects as well as through information and PR campaigns, etc.

For each of the four zones a technical secretariat has been established that is helpful in developing ideas, looking for partners and making applications.



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Detailed information on INTERREG III C as well as addresses of the technical secretariats are located on the Internet:



http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/interreg3/abc/abc_de.htm

<http://www.interreg3c.net/sixcms/detail.php?id=382>



Miscellaneous

6th Conference on the Social Dialogue in the Area of Sport

The Conference “Preparing for a Social Dialogue Committee in the Sport Sector” on 5–6 November 2002 in Brussels was the final part of the project of the same name, which was initiated by the “European Network of Sport Science, Education and Employment” (ENSSEE) and its department “European Observatoire of Sport Employment” (EOSE) and supported by the European Commission. The core objective of the project was to create the conditions for a social dialogue and to investigate or uncover possibilities for supporting a corresponding committee.

In addition the strategies and policies of the European Commission in regard to the social dialogue were clarified and “good practices” of other sectors as well as the pushing ahead of the social dialogue at national level were presented. The creation of a common basis for employers and trades unions for the development of the social dialogue at European level was considered the core objective of the conference.

With a view to the future the definition and the structure of the sport sector were discussed in order to be able to create an institutional framework for the social dialogue in Europe. For the beginning of the social dialogue a working programme is meant to be implemented. A so-called “Technical Development



Group” will prepare the application for EU support money (deadline is February 2003). Following that a meeting of a task force is planned in April 2003, which is meant to prepare the actual conference (end of 2003).

7th Public Consultation

The European Commission has started a broadly structured public consultation for the development of the new European programmes in the areas of general and vocational education and youth. After the current considerations, as from 2007 the existing programmes Socrates, Tempus, Leonardo da Vinci and Youth are meant to be replaced by a higher-level programme.

With the help of the consultation the Commission would like to form a comprehensive overview of the needs, objectives and desires of those people who have to do with the areas of general and vocational education and youth at European level. The results of this consultation will enter into the proposals for new programmes that will be worked out by the Commission in the next year.

A document which discusses the priorities up until now and the objectives of the education programmes that have been achieved, and raises questions for the future, will serve as the basis for the consultation.



http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/newprogconsult/index_de.html

Interested parties are asked to share their opinion with the Commission by 28 February 2003.

8th Information Event in Austria

On 25.11.2002, at the House of Sport in Vienna, Austria, the Austrian federal sport organisation organised an information event on the EU support programme “YOUTH” and on “2004 – the European Year of Education through Sport.”

More than 40 participants from umbrella and specialist associations informed themselves about the support opportunities of these EU initiatives. In their reports, Ms Eva Floigl, sent by the national agency YOUTH, as well as the EU representative of the BSO Michael Trinker, explained the possibilities and objectives of the support programmes and presented helpful tips for a successful project application.

Afterwards the information event led into two workshops. There the experts took positions on individuals questions of the participants on the support programmes “YOUTH” and “2004”. In addition the workshop teams worked out



concrete project ideas and designs, which were then matched up with the support initiatives under discussion.

The exclusively positive feedback of the participants confirmed the approach and the practice-oriented communication of the content.

In summary, the participants noted that there is a very large need for information in respect of EU support possibilities for sport, and especially in the YOUTH Programme the possibilities are too seldom used by clubs and associations.



Glossary

INTERREG

With the Community initiative INTERREG for cross-border cooperation a distinction is made between three different orientations.

Orientation A: cross-border cooperation of neighbouring regions

Orientation B: transnational cooperation between national, regional and local authorities

Orientation C: interregional cooperation

The territory in which the INTERREG IIIC Programme is implemented spans the whole territory of the EU, including islands and the regions that are farthest away. It is sub-divided into four parts, North, South, East and West, in order to design the implementation of the programmes more efficiently.

Symbols



Leads you to further Information on the Internet.



Elucidations on this headword see the glossary.



Please refer to the EU-Office of German Sports.