

Update on EPAS activities

PSS
Kick off meeting,
Vienna
28-29 January 2014



1. Introduction to EPAS

What is EPAS?

body set up in 2007 the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) of the Council of Europe **aims** to promote sport and emphasise its positive values, to establish international standards and develop a framework for a **pan European platform of intergovernmental sports co-operation** while at the same time helping the public authorities of member States of the EPAS, sports federations and NGOs to promote sport and make it healthier, fairer and better governed.

 **EPAS has 35 states and 29 international and European sport NGOs as members.**





-  **Thirty-five countries are currently members:** Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Switzerland and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.
-  **Two observer states:** Italy and New Zealand.
-  **Twenty-nine sports organisations** (including ENGSO, UEFA, SportAccord and the IOC)



The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) A New Platform for Modern Sport Today in Europe

Why **partial**?

-  A Partial Agreement: activities in which some but **not all CoE member states** participate

Why **enlarged**?

-  **Open to non-member states** of the Council of Europe

Structure : towards an Efficient GO/NGO Consultation

The Governing Board

- ▣ **One representative** appointed by the government of each of the EPAS member states.
- ▣ **Responsible for:** the general implementation of the tasks conferred upon EPAS (draft, implementation, budget, monitoring)

The Consultative Committee

- ▣ Members of sports organisations, and international organisations.
- ▣ **gives opinion** on the programme of activities and **provides advice** for the decisions of the Governing Board



→ Activities

-  Standard Setting (Conventions, Recommendations)
-  Monitoring
-  Conferences

It develops **policies and standards**, **monitors** them and helps with capacity-building and **the exchange of good practices**.

→ Basis for drawing up strategies

EPAS uses Council of Europe sports standards such as the European Sports Charter, the Code of Sports Ethics, the European Convention on Spectator Violence and the Anti-Doping Convention as the basis for drawing up its own strategies.

Future activities

Pestalozzi programme

The Council of Europe's training and capacity building programme for education professionals – want to implement together a **project on how values of the Council of Europe such as tolerance, intercultural understanding, diversity etc. can be promoted in school sport** (Physical Education lessons and extra-curricula school sport)

International convention – manipulation of sports competitions

Big activity further to the Belgrade ministerial where it was initially recommended. Negotiation process **started in october 2012** and will hold its (last) 6th plenary meeting in January 2014. Brings together tripartite delegations from member states – public authorities of sport, law enforcement and betting or gambling regulation

Sport in prisons

In 2013 a questionnaire was sent to member state prison administrations to evaluate use of sport in prisons. Results will be analysed and **presented during 2014 annual conference in April**, organised in cooperation with CNOSF (French national olympic committee) and French ministries of justice and sport.

Human Rights and Sport

In co-operation with the International Institute of Human Rights, Strasbourg, EPAS organised a seminar on the co-existence of disciplinary systems in the sports movement and in public law (particularly on human rights protection mechanisms). The aim of the seminar was to promote dialogue at international level between sports arbitration and states' judiciary systems. Outcome was possible publication by EPAS of two handbooks of good practices

Future activities

Gender mainstreaming

Drafting of a recommendation to member states encouraging them adopt policies and practices aimed at introducing, implementing and monitoring gender mainstreaming in all fields and at all levels of sport – including increasing cooperation between stakeholders at national level responsible for sport, education (PE), and equality; Gender mainstreaming means the (re)organisation, improvement, development and evaluation of policy processes, to ensure that a gender equality perspective is incorporated at all levels and stages of all policies by those normally involved in policy making. 3rd meeting of drafting group held (sports authorities, gender equality experts IWG and EWS + gender mainstreaming expert from GEC). **Aim is to have it ready for the IWG conference in Helsinki in June 2014, or at the latest the next EPAS ministerial in Switzerland 2014.**








Ministerial conference 2014

13th Ministerial conference – **Macolin in Switzerland - 18 September 2014** – main topics of discussion – **corruption in governance of sport** – **new international convention on match fixing** (if adopted by CM in time) – support implementation of GM recommendation.

EU Preparatory Actions – Pro Safe Sport for Young Athletes (PSS)

Start in January 2014 and scheduled **to last 18 months** (**First cooperation** with EU in sport !!!)

 The project will be led and implemented by the EPAS Executive Secretariat. **The EPAS Executive Secretary** will act as the project leader :

-  report to the Bureau and to the Project partners on the implementation of the project;
-  have an overall responsibility for the risk management process. In particular, he will prepare and update the risk management plan;
-  manage the project resources;
-  supervise project activities
-  organise the seminars;
-  coordinate the preparation of the training module and publications;
-  ensure the completion of the logistical and administrative tasks.




 **The project** will be supervised by **the EPAS governing board** (governmental experts from 6 EPAS member states).

 The partners of the project have been carefully chosen : **YOU**



EU Preparatory Actions – Pro Safe Sport for Young Athletes (PSS)

 The **general objective** of the PSS project **is to promote** safe and healthy sport environments for young athletes by






-  **raising awareness among the athletes' entourage** on the importance of the protection and promotion of the physical and moral integrity of young athletes
-  **establishing relevant mechanisms** (self-evaluation and training programmes) to introduce and maintain highest levels of safety
-  **harnessing synergies of existing structures.**

 The general and specific objectives **are based** on the following **normative framework**:

-  **Article 165 section 2 of the TFEU** (Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union) Union action shall aim at protecting the physical and moral integrity of sportsmen and sportswomen, especially the youngest sportsmen and sportswomen.
-  CoE (Council of Europe) Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)10 on **the protection of child and young athletes from dangers associated with migration**
-  CoE Recommendation 1464 (2000) of the Parliamentary Assembly **on doping in sport**
-  CoE Recommendation 1292 (1996) of the Parliamentary Assembly **on young people in high-level sport**
-  CoE **Manifesto on Young People and Sport** adopted by the Ministers' Deputies on 12 October 1995
-  **European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights**
-  **Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe**

EU Preparatory Actions – Pro Safe Sport for Young Athletes (PSS)

 The **expected results** of the project are:

-  Raised awareness among stakeholders on the moral and physical integrity of young athletes
-  An institutionalised debate on safe and healthy sport environments for young athletes
-  A safer and healthier sport environment for young athletes through the training provided
-  Module-based educational programme and toolkit for a great variety of training providers
-  Indirect and direct impact at the EU policy on sport and youth

The results of the project will further impact the policy discussions at European level

Thank you for
your attention!

