

Strasbourg, 24 January 2016

PROS4 (2016)19

3rd meeting of the ProS4 project management team

Agora Building, Council of Europe
Strasbourg, France

Monday 5 December 2016
14:00 – 17:00

Final report

Participants (Appendix 2) were welcomed by the Chair of the T-RV Standing Committee, Mr Christoph Lipp.

1. Following an introduction by Mr Lipp the *agenda of the meeting* was adopted (Appendix 1).
2. Ms Ilknur Yuksek presented a video slide to the participants showing images of the ProS4 activities since the beginning of the project. The slide also included information about concrete outputs and the visibility materials that have been produced. It was decided to show the slide during the closing event of the project which was due to take place the following day on 6 December during the lunch break of the T-RV Standing Committee meeting. Following this, the participants discussed in detail *past activities and outputs* of the project as follows:

2.1. SP 1: Overview of current trends and emerging challenges at football matches in Europe

- The Annual/Season report 2015 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity in connection with professional football matches in Europe (and, where appropriate, other sports events) was finalised and a copy included in the files for the participants;
- It was decided to distribute copies of the report during the closing event of the ProS4 project which was going to take place the following day, on 6 December.
- The European overview can become a tool for NFIP to see what problems others are facing, particularly for the exchange of knowledge and information. This overview can identify previously unknown issues thus allowing proactive actions;
- This year's overview was a pilot version - high quality data cannot be expected, but it contributes to improving the questionnaire and procedures;
- There were seventeen NFIPs (out of thirty-four existing ones) which submitted their replies, while some others were unable to reply, but agreed to change their way of collecting information for next year;
- Preparations for EURO 2020 could be a good argument to request all countries to share information via this tool and the new Convention, once in force, should encourage all new State parties to set up a NFIP;
- The continuation of the project next year will envisage an update and prepare an electronic version (online tool) of the questionnaire;
- The key experts Mr David Bohannon and Mr Adrian Dinca were invited to present the final findings of the overview to the T-RV Standing Committee meeting on 6-7 December.

2.2. SP 2: Preparation of three country-specific Action Plans

- All three country-specific action plans (Romania-Croatia-Slovak Republic) have been finalised and submitted to the key national counterparts before the end of the project. The counterparts agreed with the content of the action plans which were results of a series of round tables/meetings with the key national stakeholders;

- Since the previous PMT meeting in April 2016, the Secretariat organised two round tables in Bratislava, Slovak Republic, on 5-6 May and 22 September, and a workshop in Zagreb, Croatia, on 25 August, among others, to be able to finalise the Action Plans;
- The Action Plans will be presented in the respective countries with participation of high-level public and sport authorities. For example, in the Slovak Republic, a high-level meeting with the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Education, Sciences and Sport will take place on 16 January 2017 in Bratislava. The aim of this meeting is to obtain high-level political impetus and endorsement for the implementation of the Action Plan. The Action Plan in Croatia will be presented to the hierarchy/superiors by the NFIP Croatia within the Ministry of the Interior. These initiatives could be linked with respective countries' signature/ratification of the new Convention (CETS 218), since, apart from Romania, none of these countries has signed and/or ratified the new Convention yet.

2.3. SP 3: Safety as a priority (Romania)

- The ProS4 project assisted Romania in drawing up the occupational standard for stewards, following a series of meetings with international experts and consequently the drafting of competencies and job descriptions. The standard was formally adopted in May 2016 by the Romanian National Qualification Agency with the support of the project and is now mandatory for all the training companies and trainers at national level;
- A special training session to certify the trainers under the national legislation for stewarding training according to the new standards was organised during the week of 25-30 September 2016;
- The Football Association is positively involved in the training activities, and the training was provided also by UEFA, e.g., "train the trainers" to train "sports event security agents" (stewards) from 1-5 November 2016 accredited 30 Romanian trainers as qualified stewarding trainers.
- Similar standards should be drafted and implemented in the future, e.g., for safety officers, which could be run in parallel to similar UEFA training programmes designed for safety officers and police commanders.

2.4. SP 4: Promoting dialogue between clubs and their supporters (Croatia)

- The round table in Zagreb, from 4-5 April, was the first time that almost all stakeholders were gathered together – Ministries of Sport and of the Interior, city of Zagreb administration, Police, supporters, GNK Dinamo club and the Football Association. This is regarded as an achievement in itself;
- Although the Bad Blue Boys (BBB) initially refused to join the round table because of their problems with the club (GNK Dinamo), thanks to the round table exchanges and following some low profile negotiations between supporters, local Police and the club, progress has been made and the whole group of BBB is now present at the stadium;
- The round table with HNK Hajduk, in Split, on 11-12 October, was more challenging. The supporters' representatives, Torcida (ultras) and Nas Hajduk (Our Hajduk), refused to be present at the same round table with the

representatives of the Croatian Football Federation (HNS). The problem does not seem to be resolved in the near future. The Council of Europe will continue to work with Croatia; the project did not end with satisfactory results due to the complexity of the challenges, and will need serious amount of work.

2.5. SP 5: Strategic coordination and legal framework (Slovak Republic)

- The 1st workshop on 4-5 May 2016 in Bratislava was a working session, which reviewed the recommendations from the consultative visit that took place in 2014;
- All operational stakeholders (Ministry of Sport, Ministry of the Interior, the Slovakian Football Federation, General Prosecutor's Office) were present at the workshop;
- A common understanding was established that the safety and security issues primarily and universally fall under the auspices of the MoI. Therefore, the MoI will reflect the respective recommendations in its new strategy in the sense that the national coordination mechanism should be led by the MoI;
- As regards the place for setting up a multi-agency national coordination mechanism, it was decided by the Slovak authorities that a sub-committee under the existing Governmental Council for Preventing the Criminality would be the most appropriate place, and the work is underway.
- The 2nd workshop took place on 22 September in Bratislava and finalised the Country-Specific Action Plan. As a follow-up to this, the Slovak authorities will include the action plan in their national strategy (2017-2020) and a high-level meeting will take place between the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Sport, the Slovak Football Federation, UEFA and the Council of Europe, in order to present the action plan to the two Ministers and to obtain political-level endorsement for its implementation;
- A legal summary on the provisions of compliance of the Slovak legislation with the provisions of the new "Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events" (CETS.218) was also provided to the Slovak authorities (the Slovak Republic has not yet signed nor ratified the Convention); the Slovak counterparts have indicated that a legislative amendment to the current sports law (Act on Organising Sports Events), which is foreseen to shift the responsibility of safety and security issues to the MoI, is underway;
- Within this sub-project the ProS4 also provided the following translations: two legal documents (Sports Act and the Act on Organising Sport Events), the Country-Specific Action Plan and comments on various documents were translated between Slovak and English and all of these were made available for the meeting participants.

3. The Secretariat of the Council of Europe reported the progress of the ProS4 project on *communication and visibility*, namely:

- The project's website www.coe.int/sport/pros4 has been operational since May 2016; the news, documents, contacts and planned activities are made available on the website;
- The project uses social media and has a twitter account: [@ProS4_coe](https://twitter.com/ProS4_coe). The activities and field-related news can be followed on the twitter account, which is also directly accessible from the project web site;

- A visual identity was developed in accordance with the strict regulation of the Council of Europe and the European Union;
- All visibility materials planned for the project: roll-up, pens, safety jackets, whistle key rings, gym bags, post-its were produced and distributed during the activities of the projects, such as workshops/round tables. They will also be presented and made available to the participants during a stand-table that will be set up for the closing event on 6 December;
- A media advisory was prepared and distributed to the international press via the Directorate of Communication of the Council of Europe for the Balkan Conference which was held on 19-20 October in Bucharest. In addition to this, a press conference held with the national Romanian radio and newspaper during the conference promoted the project and its outputs, including the findings of the Annual/Season report 2015 on the situation of spectator violence.

4. Presentation of the ideas for the *upcoming ProS4+ project : 1 January 2017-30 June 2018*

4.1. Regarding the *43rd meeting of the Standing Committee on 6-7 December*, it was agreed that the following could be proposed to be included in the agenda:

- Presentation of the state of play of ProS4, outputs/results by the Secretariat and key experts;
- Confirmation that the project will continue next year with its second phase;
- Call for interest from other States to join the ProS4+.

4.2. Following this, Ms Marie-Françoise Glatz made a presentation about the ideas for the next year's ProS4 project:

- The new project will last eighteen months and will also be divided into five sub-projects;
- SP1 - The "Overview of current trends and emerging challenges at football matches in Europe" will be a logical follow-up to the first phase. The questionnaire will be updated and distributed via a user-friendly online tool. A report will be prepared to present the summary of all answers.
- SP2 - "Promotion of the signature and ratification of the new Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events". This sub-project will aim to design a training programme on the new Convention based on the experience of the Balkan Conference that took place during the first ProS4 project. The training programme will then be tested via a pilot country training session (materials will be translated from English into the national language) and in a regional seminar (maximum 6-8 countries);
- SP3 - The "Creation of an online tool to promote Rec(2015)1 on Safety, Security and Service" sub-project aims at the creation of a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) to make the Rec more accessible, attractive and user-friendly to a large group of operational stakeholders from the member states of the Council of Europe and the European Union.
- SP4 - "Feasibility Study on the possible hosting of the NFIP website on the Council of Europe website". The current website is hosted by the Dutch NFIP, but its technology is more than 10 years old and risks crashing. Its content also needs to be updated. Therefore, the project will first analyse the existing NFIP website, then make proposals for improvement, including the necessary

- updates on technical tools and will carry out a feasibility study on the possibility of hosting it on the Council of Europe website.
- SP5 - The "Pan-European Football Policing Training Programme (PE-FPTP) sub-project will include the revision of the existing training programme (CEPOL) and design a "country-specific model" targeting the practitioners at operational level. The revised training programme will be tested in two countries with the materials being translated from English into the national languages. The countries will be called upon to express their interest during the T-RV meeting.

Mr Olivier Fontaine, from the European Commission, expressed overall satisfaction with the outputs/results of the project and confirmed the continuation of the ProS4 project. He further stated that the project was particularly valuable to the Commission because it generated data and statistics in the area of violence and disorder which did not exist before.

5. Other issues: The ProS4 project staff took the opportunity that the 3rd PMT meeting was being organised in Strasbourg and a small group meeting on the NFIP website was scheduled following the PMT meeting. The meeting between the present NFIPs, who are also active users of the website, and the Council of Europe Secretariat, including colleagues from the DIT, took place after the PMT meeting.

Appendix 1

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Review and evaluation of activities and events
 - SP 1: Overview of current trends and emergent challenges at football matches in Europe
 - SP 2: Preparation of three country-specific Action Plans
 - SP 3: Safety as priority (Romania)
 - SP 4: Promoting dialogue between clubs and their supporters (Croatia)
 - SP 5: Strategic coordination and legal framework (Slovak Republic)
3. Review and evaluation on Communication and Visibility issues
 - Project website
 - Creation of visual identity, project flyer and roll-up
 - Visibility materials (pens, safety jackets, gym sacks, post-it, whistles, conference files, posters)
 - Media involvement/press releases
 - Photos
4. Presentation of the second phase of the ProS4 project: 1 January 2017- 30 June 2018
 - Major thematics
 - Activities and events
 - Partnerships
 - Organisation
 - Secretariat
5. Other issues

List of participants

T-RV Bureau members / *Membres du Bureau du T-RV*

Mr Christoph LIPP

Chair of the Standing Committee

Stellvertreter des Inspektors der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder,
Bundesministerium des Innern

Mr Adrian DINCA

Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee, Romanian NFIP

Ms Isabel THOREN

Expert, Swedish Police

Mr Lars RUBY

Police Inspector, Danish National Police

Mr Rodrigo CAVALEIRO

Commissioner, Portuguese Public Security Police

Mr Martin SCHLOSSER

Head of NFIP Austria, Ministry of the Interior

States partners / *Etats partenaires*

Mr Dubravko PEREC

Head of Section for prevention of disorder at sports events

Ministry of Interior, General Police Directorate

Ms Adriana CIORBARU

Director of International Relations

National Authority for Sport and Youth

Ms Adriana **MIČKOVICOVÁ**

Department of Education and International Affairs in Sport

Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic

European Commission / *Commission européenne*

Mr Olivier FONTAINE

Policy Officer, European Commission

E-mail: olivier.fontaine@ec.europa.eu

EU Think Tank / *Think Tank UE*

Mr David BOHANNAN
Chairman of the European Experts Group (EU Think Tank)

Sport Conventions Unit / *Unité des Conventions du sport*

Directorate of Human Dignity and Equality
DG II Democracy
Agora - 1 quai Jacoutot, F- 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex

Mr Sergey KHRYCHIKOV, Head of Unit

Ms Marie-Françoise GLATZ, Programme Manager

Ms Ilknur YUKSEK, Project Manager

Ms Caroline LARGHI, Assistant

Apologies / *Excusés*

Ms Marija CRNKOVIC
Head of the International Sport Cooperation Department
Ministry of Science, Education and Sports

Mr Peter FRANCE
Security manager SFZ
Slovak Football Association