



PRO SAFE SPORT +

Put an end to
sexual harassment and abuse
against children in sport

From normative frameworks to guiding principles

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Analysis of existing norms

5 guiding frameworks

General

- Lanzarote Convention (2007) on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (LC)

In sport

- IOC Consensus Statement SHA (2007) (IOC1)
- IOC Consensus Statement HA (2016) (IOC2)
- International Safeguards for Children in Sport (2016) (IS)
- Recommendations of the XG GG EC on child protection and safeguarding in sport (2016) (XG)

Recommendations for who?

- National public authorities (LC and XG)
- (Inter-) national sportfederations (IOC, IS, XG)
- Grassroots clubs (XG)
- Athletes (IOC2)
- Sport health practitioners (IOC2)
- Sport science researchers (IOC2)
- European Commission (XG)
- Where are the coaches?

Focus of the content analysis

- National public authorities (LC and XG)
- (Inter-) national sportfederations (IOC, IS, XG)

8 areas of action

1. Develop and implement a child protection policy
2. Deliver educational programs
3. Promote code of conduct, code of ethics
4. Risk assessment and criminal history check
5. Awareness raising
6. Research/knowledge
7. Support systems
8. Partnerships

1. Policy

- “Support sport organisations to develop measures” (XG)
- “Encourage sport gov bodies to develop and promote strategies” (XG)
- “Develop a policy: statement of intent demonstrating a commitment to safeguarding children involved in sport from harm, and providing the framework within which procedures are developed” (IS)
- “Develop policies and procedures” (IOC2)
- Other hints in the doc:
 - ✓ Appoint qualified personnel responsible for safe sport programs
 - ✓ Include athletes’ voices in decision making
 - ✓ Ensure safe infrastructures

1. Policy - yes, but?



- Vague information
- What are the key indicators of a good policy?
- What are the key actions?
- What needs to be done first (step-by-step approach)?
- What to monitor and evaluate?
- Requirements?
 - > budget, human resources, action plan

2. Education

“Promote special education/training for PE teachers” (XG)

“For children: educate them, adapted to evolving capacity” (LC)

“Deliver educational programs for all main stakeholders” (IOC2)

“Organize regular training” (XG)

2. Education – yes, but?

- For who?
 - For coaches, for PE teachers
 - For athletes
 - For all stakeholders?
- Format and content?
- Compulsary?
- Repeated frequency?

3. Code of conduct & code of ethics

- Promote ethical guidelines and code of conduct (XG)
- Promote ethical leadership (IOC1)
- Acceptable standard of behaviour (IS)

3. Code of conduct & code of ethics – but?

- For who?
- Content?
- Signing procedure? Binding consequences?
- Disciplinary sanctions?

4. Risk assessment

- Criminal history check for those who professionally come in contact with children (LC, XG)
- Assess and minimize the risk to children (IS)
- Risk analysis with prevention measures (XG)

4. Risk assessment - yes, but?

- Assess and minimize the risk to children
 - What is meant here?
 - Who assesses?
 - False feeling of safety?
- Criminal history check for those who professionally come in contact with children
 - Regular checks?
 - Extra cost/administration?
 - And what about volunteers?

5. Awareness

- Encourage awareness on the topic in general public, in sport staff, in children, in parents
- Raise awareness campaigns
- Inform athletes about their rights

5. Awareness – yes, but?

- What are the most effective tools?
- What process to use?
- Target groups?
- Key messages?

6. Improve knowledge/research

- Improve data collection
- Promote and support scientific research
- Grow the scientific evidence base about the prevalence, incidence and prevention of violence to athletes
- At EC level:
 - Conduct a study on criminal records requests
 - Conduct a prevalence study
 - Include the issue in the Eurobarometer

6. Improve knowledge/research – but?

- Who's responsibility?
- Collaboration with researchers, sport fed, nat auth? Dancing with the devil?
- What knowledge is lacking?
- What is urgently needed?
- Longitudinal study?
- Other types of studies?

7. Support

- Install support systems for victims (only in Lanzarote Convention)
 - Why only there?

7. Support – yes, but?

- What kind of support?
- Is it the responsibility of sport authorities?
- How do you work in close cooperation together with children's rights department, welfare?
- Who takes the initiative?
- How to keep balance between own support systems and general systems outside sport?

8. Partnerships

- Between sport organisations and national agencies
- Work with partners: influence and promote the adoption and implementation of measures by partner org
- Partner with expert groups and stakeholders to follow a multidisciplinary and multiagency approach
- Involve children, parents, media, private sector and funding agencies

8. Partnerships – yes, but?

- With whom?
- In- and outside sport discipline?
- In- and outside sport?
- Should/can it go further? Schools? Family services?

Missing

- Extra attention for vulnerable subgroup
 - Young elite athletes
 - LGBT, ethnic minority, disabled athletes
- Bystanding?
- Peer-to-peer violence
- Overlap with other types of abuse
- Disciplinary law and sanctions
- Re-integration of convicted/sanctionned perpetrators

Overall

- Lanzarote Convention is clear: “Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to prevent all forms of SER and SA of children and to protect children.”
 - Is the sense of urgency there at national level?
 - Is there enough awareness in sport?
- (More than) enough normative framework to build on in sport as well?
- Vague descriptions of actions -> room for interpretation and creativity -> we need your help!

Practices to prevent sexual violence against child athletes

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal lines of varying lengths and colors (white, light green, and dark green) extending from the right side of the slide.

The GBV study (2016)

- DG EAC and EACEA commission a study to assess the nature and extent of GBV in sport in EU
- One of the aims: identify best practices in prevention of GBV
- http://ec.europa.eu/assets/eac/sport/library/studies/gender-based-violence-sport-study-2016_en.pdf
- ! Difference between GBV and SV

Stages of assessment

- Core team and national researchers identified and selected promising practices based on five draft criteria: effectiveness, transferability, learning potential, resilienc and visibility of action
- Practice owners interviewes
- Online discussion (9th June 2016) -> refinement of the criteria
- Re-assessment of all practices by independent, peer review (2 core team researchers per practice)
- Selection of best practices by expert board (13)

What makes a practice good?

1. Effectiveness
2. Transferability
3. Resilience
4. Visibility of actions
5. Informed design

Effectiveness

- There is qualitative and/or quantitative evidence that the practice has yielded positive effects. At least one of the following sub-criteria has been met:
 - The practice is being/was monitored or evaluated (e.g. there is a report), preferably by an independent evaluator.
 - There is evidence that the objectives of the practice were met.
 - The practice has potential to bring about change.
 - The practice brought clear advancements considering the context in which it was implemented.

Transferability

- The practice can be replicated elsewhere (i.e. the whole practice or some of its elements are transferable), while allowing adaptations to the national/regional/organisational context.

Resilience

- The practice can respond to resistance. It can survive in challenging times and/or when funding ends. This criterion can, for example, be recognised in:
 - The practice is self-sustainable (even if minor adaptations have to be considered to continue it).
 - The practice triggered the creation of a network or another kind of collaboration that will facilitate pursuing prevention work.
 - The practice follows a systematic approach that considers the national/regional/local strategy.

Visibility of actions

- The practice is designed in a way that speaks to different target groups and audiences and considers intersectional dimensions in its approach and/or in any of the phases of the project cycle. The practice is tailored taking into account its target group(s). The practice brought awareness about the dimensions it was tackling.

Informed design

- The practice involved its beneficiaries (those that benefitted from the practice) and/or different profiles of stakeholders (e.g. those charged with implementing the practice) either in the planning, implementation and/or evaluation stages. A user-centred approach allows creating a sense of ownership, and understanding as to whether improvements are needed.

Problem areas

- The identified activities or tools have been or are implemented with limited funds, or have a short duration in time
- Efforts and resources to ensure a continuous implementation of activities and/or dissemination of materials appear to be scarce
- Initiatives are generally not given enough visibility and are not easily accessible
- The effectiveness of the identified practices is rarely monitored or evaluated

12 best practices

Sexual Harassment and Abuse in Sport
(International)

Sport Respects
Your Rights
(European)

Play by the Rules
(Australia)

Call4Girls Call4Boys
(Austria)

National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Sport
(Austria)

The Flag System
(Belgium)

Guide for the prevention of sexual harassment in sport of sexual
harass(Czech Republic)

Coalition for protection against sexualised violence in sport
(Germany)

Allowed to Care, Allowed to Intervene. A Guide for Adults on Sexual Harassment and Abuse in Sport (Finland)

The Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport (Ireland)

Toolkit for the prevention ment for local sport clubs (Netherlands)

The NSPCC/ Sport England Child Protection in Sport Unit (UK)

For PSS+: 5 extra practices added

4 from the bigger sample: complementary areas of action and geographical spread

- French national awareness raising campaign
- Greyzone, borderline, clear website (SE)
- Offside: sport against violence training (IT)
- Children's certificate (DK)

1 ongoing European project: VOICE

Caution!

- Not an exhaustive list
- Invitation to suggest other practices
- One area of action selected, but often valid in other categories as well
- ? How do we display complex practices in the online tool?