

The Lanzarote Convention

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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The Lanzarote Convention

1. Protects the **dignity** and **rights** of **ALL** children
2. Legally **binding** in 48 States
3. **Integrated approach.** Measures to end **ALL forms** of sexual violence :
 - Prevent violence
 - Protect victims
 - End impunity
 - Mobilise key stakeholders (participation)
4. Platform to **monitor, cooperate and ensure joint action**

ABUSE HAPPENS IN SPORT TOO

In sport, children can be at risk because:



a high tolerance of physical violence and injuries



authoritarian leadership and unequal power relationships between coaches and athletes



scandal avoidance: incidents are silenced



male-dominated gender ratio



physical contact is often required



reward structures



inappropriate sexual behaviour is often tolerated, discrimination and gender inequality accepted



potential risk situations: changing rooms, showers, carpooling, overnight stays

Vulnerability of children in Sport:

- Some offenders seek access
- Some convicted offenders re-offend
- Some convicted offenders flee/relocate

Screening people in contact with children helps to:

- Prevent abuse
- End impunity



Lanzarote Convention, Chapter II – Preventive measures

Article 5 §3 – Recruitment, training and awareness-raising of persons working in contact with children

3. Each Party shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with its internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children.



The Lanzarote Committee findings

- Not all States screen
- Not always compulsory
- Not all professionals covered
- Not the same offences covered
- Volunteers not always covered
- Different approaches in access
 - By recruiter
 - By candidate
- Offences may happen after recruitment



The Lanzarote Committee recommendations

- **URGES** to impose screening of **ALL** professionals (public or private)
- **INVITES** to encourage **CONTINUOUS** screening
- **INVITES** to include **VOLUNTARY** activities



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- **obligation to store and collect data on convicted offenders**
- **need to cooperation with the private sector**
- **impose corporate responsibility**
- **international cooperation**





In a nutshell:

Sports organisations should include initial and regular **screening** of all people in contact with children.

This should be part of their **child safeguarding policy**.

States should support these efforts and hold organisations accountable.



Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport
epas
Accord partiel élargi sur le sport

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 **BE A SILENCE
BREAKER** **STOP CHILD
SEXUAL ABUSE
IN SPORT!**

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