OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN SPORTS CHARTER (ESC) IN

POLAND

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



TOTAL POPULATION: **approx. 37.24 million**

PER CAPITA GDP (US$): **31.336**

MAIN SPORT PRIORITIES

TARGET/ AUDIENCE | CAREER | ETHICS | INCLUSION | NON-DISCRIMINATION | GENDER EQUALITY | SUSTAINABILITY | FACILITIES | EVENTS | WELL-BEING | ORGANISATION | OTHER

FUNDING

SOURCES OF FUNDING

- ✓ State/public authorities
- ✓ Local authorities (local government units)
- ✓ Taxes/tax exemptions (tax deduction for donors)
- ✓ Betting (private betting rights)
- ✓ Lotteries (public/national)
- ✓ International funding (Erasmus+ Sport)

ENTITIES FUNDED

- Sports federations
- Sports clubs
- National Paralympic Committee (NPC)
- Local authorities
- Schools/educational bodies
- Top-level athletes
- NGOs

- ✓ Public/private financial partnerships
- ✗ Solidarity mechanisms

STAKEHOLDERS DIALOGUE AND CO-ORDINATION OF SPORT POLICIES

✗ No national plan for sport

PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

- No formal platform for overall sport policy; discussions take place in informal consultations and meetings.

THE SPORTS MOVEMENT

- **Co-ordination** through informal meetings, involving the ministers responsible for sport, health, tourism, education, internal affairs and the inclusion of persons with disabilities, the anti-doping agency, sport event organisers, the professional sport league, the sports movement, municipalities and NGOs.
- **Prioritised topics:** high-performance sport; professional sport; access to sports facilities; engagement and support.
- **Volunteering support:** for sports organisations, regular volunteers and event volunteers, insurance, training, legal advice, safeguarding and recognition of experience, under the Act on Public Benefit Activity and Volunteerism.

CORPORATE AND PROFESSIONAL SECTOR

- No specific **engagement platform** with the corporate and professional sector.
- **Media dialogue** through regular meetings and press communication on investments by the Central Sports Centre and its Olympic Preparation Centres.
- No protection of **media freedom** and investigative journalism by the public authorities responsible for sport.



POLAND

A NOTABLE PRACTICE

Nationwide physical activity survey – Ministry of Sport and Tourism

A cyclical nationwide survey, commissioned by the Ministry, measures the share of the population aged 15 and over meeting WHO physical activity recommendations, covering active transport, leisure-time walking, and moderate and vigorous leisure-time activity. In 2025 it was carried out in spring and autumn, with samples representative by sex, age, voivodeship and size of place of residence.

ESC Articles 12, 17 – Developing participation, information and research

VALUES-BASED SPORT ESC ARTICLES 6, 7, 8, 9

Human Rights

- Measures to protect human rights in sport: **general legislation**, **national campaigns**, whistle-blower protection and the right to appeal to court.
- The sport movement and the professional and corporate sport sectors are not required to commit to international human rights and **human rights due diligence**.
- No participation in **multi-stakeholder platforms** to prevent and respond to human rights violations in sport.
- Measures to protect human rights at **sports events**: legislation, regular dialogue with sports organisations and specific funding criteria.
- No specific measures to promote **gender equality** in and through sport.
- **Zero-tolerance policy against violence and discrimination** through general measures that also apply to sport: implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach (CETS No. 218, signed and ratified), training courses, legislation, guidelines, regular dialogue with sports organisations and awards.

Sustainability

- No legislation or policies on sustainability when organising sport **activities and events**.
- **Sporting goods industry** (present in the country): no measures by the public authorities responsible for sport.
- Mechanisms for **owners of sports infrastructure** to avoid potential damage: specific and general legislation.

Integrity

- **Competitive integrity** through fair-play awareness campaigns, dissemination of best practices, educational programmes, inclusion of fair play in the school curriculum and legal advice.
- **Manipulation of competitions:** stakeholder co-operation, training, education and awareness raising, information-sharing platforms, national and international information exchange, regulation of the sports betting market and action against illegal betting, a legal framework with criminal and disciplinary sanctions, and international co-operation. CETS No. 215 signed but not ratified.
- **Doping:** stakeholder co-operation, training, education and awareness raising, information sharing on convicted athletes, national and international information exchange, action against the distribution and sale of doping substances, a WADA-accredited national anti-doping organisation and laboratory, and international co-operation. Anti-Doping Convention (ETS No. 135) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 188) signed and ratified.
- **Organisational integrity** through general legislation, regulation or agreements.
- **Whistle-blower protection** through whistle-blowing platforms, guaranteed anonymity, forwarding of complaints to the appropriate organisation, and encouraging athletes to report match-fixing.

Education

- Sport is used for education through the **physical education curriculum**, campaigns promoting values, national days and events, guidelines and recommendations, and interviews with athletes promoting positive values (e.g. tackling depression, motivational content for people with disabilities).



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SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 10, 11, 12



- **LEGAL BASIS ENSURING THE RIGHT TO SPORT FOR ALL**
  ➜ Article 68 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland; Chapter 6 of the Act on Sport
- **PROVISIONS TO ENSURE ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN TAKE PART IN SPORT**
  ➜ Sport for all programmes of the Ministry of Sport and Tourism
- **APPROPRIATE TIME SLOTS FOR STUDENTS TO ACCESS SPORT**
  ➜ Mandatory PE, school sport clubs
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE PE TEACHERS HAVE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS**
  ➜ Mandatory certified education to access sport careers; mandatory certified continuous training; optional continuous training
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE CO-OPERATION IN USE OF FACILITIES BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND SPORTS CLUBS**
  ➜ Informal and formal agreements for the use of facilities; accommodation for Sports Championship Schools and sports clubs



SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 13, 14

- **SUPPORT FOR TOP-LEVEL ATHLETES**
  ➜ Scholarships, money prizes, awards, end-of-career support, talent identification and follow-up programmes, coach training specific to top-level performance; for student athletes: scholarships; for the transition to a post-sport career: reintegration grants, training courses and a dual-career system
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE SPORT IS MANAGED BY COMPETENT, WELL-GOVERNED BODIES**
  ➜ General legislation, regulation or agreements
- **MECHANISMS TO GUARANTEE RIGHTS AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF SPORTS PROFESSIONALS**
  ➜ Legislation, education

MEANS ESC ARTICLES 15, 16, 17, 18

- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THAT FACILITIES AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL**
  ➜ Legislation on sports infrastructures and on public infrastructures, adoption and dissemination of mandatory international norms, recommendations and guidelines
- **MECHANISMS TO EMPOWER EVENT ORGANISERS AND SPORTS FACILITIES OWNERS TO FULFIL THEIR SAFETY AND SECURITY OBLIGATIONS**
  ➜ Legislation, campaigns, education and training, sanctions, codes of conduct
- **ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE TRAINING COURSES LEADING TO QUALIFICATIONS IN SPORT**
- **ENSURING SPORTS LEADERS ARE QUALIFIED IN VALUES, INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
European Union
UNESCO

RESEARCH AND CO-OPERATION

- **SUPPORT FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN SPORT**
  ➜ Public funding, awards, partnerships (academia, sports organisations, public authorities)
- **PUBLIC AUTHORITIES COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE RELEVANT SPORTS DATA**
  ➜ Sport organisations' reports; a cyclical nationwide survey on the physical activity of the population aged 15 and over, commissioned by the Ministry of Sport and Tourism, assessing the share of the population meeting WHO recommendations
- **PUBLIC/PRIVATE FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS**
  ➜ Tax benefits (tax relief for sport), campaigns; public–private partnerships for building and modernising sports infrastructure

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- **JOINT EU–COUNCIL OF EUROPE PROJECT «BALANCE S4» ON THE SERVICE PILLAR OF THE SAINT-DENIS CONVENTION (2025)**
- **EUROPEAN COMMISSION OMC GROUP ON COMBATING HATE SPEECH**

Ministry responsible for Sport: Ministry of Sport and Tourism