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

GEORGIA

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



TOTAL POPULATION: **approx. 3.941.100**

PER CAPITA GDP (US$): **10.296**

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 (municipalities)
- ✗ Taxes/tax exemptions
- ✗ Betting
- ✗ Lotteries
- ✓ International funding

ENTITIES FUNDED

- Sports federations
- Sports clubs
- National Olympic Committee (NOC)
- National Paralympic Committee (NPC)
- Local authorities
- Schools/educational bodies
- Top-level athletes
- Citizens (families, youth, elderly)
- NGOs

- ✓ Public/private financial partnerships
- ✓ Solidarity mechanisms

STAKEHOLDERS DIALOGUE AND CO-ORDINATION OF SPORT POLICIES

✓ National plan for sport

PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

- **Co-ordination** through a formal platform involving the ministers responsible for sport, tourism, education, economy and the inclusion of persons with disabilities; the directors-general in charge of sport, health, tourism, education, internal affairs and the inclusion of persons with disabilities; the anti-doping agency, the sport integrity agency, sport event organisers, gym and health clubs, the professional sport league, the sports movement, municipalities and NGOs.
- **Primary objectives:** define policies and priorities, share practices and co-ordinate policies.

THE SPORTS MOVEMENT

- **Co-ordination** through the formal public platform and other formal and informal meetings, with the same participants, except that the minister responsible for internal affairs takes part instead of the minister responsible for the economy.
- **Prioritised topics:** all topics except sustainability at sport events, responsible event hosting and e-sports.
- **Volunteering support:** for sports organisations, specific legislation, training, safeguarding and recognition of experience; for regular volunteers, the same plus insurance; for event volunteers, specific legislation, compensation, insurance, safeguarding and recognition of experience.

CORPORATE AND PROFESSIONAL SECTOR

- **Specific engagement platform** with the corporate and professional sector, used to promote **responsible business conduct** through specific legislation.
- **Media dialogue** through a press award for best practices.
- Protection of **media freedom** through guarantees of the right to inform, freedom of expression, access to sources, professional confidentiality, **independence** and participation in media guidance.



GEORGIA

A NOTABLE PRACTICE

«Sports for All» programme

The programme aims to increase access to sports facilities and encourage active participation across all age groups and demographics, offering free or affordable sports activities and improving sports infrastructure, particularly in rural areas.

ESC Articles 10, 12, 15 – Sport for all, participation and facilities

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

Human Rights

- Measures to **protect human rights in sport**: sport-specific and general legislation, national campaigns, a mechanism to report **human rights violations**, whistle-blower protection, the right to appeal to court, and sport-specific actions in national strategies on human rights and children's rights, with civil society.
- Implementation of the Council of Europe **"Start to Talk"** campaign and **Child Safeguarding in Sport**.
- The sport movement and the professional and corporate sport sectors are **required to commit** to international human rights and **human rights due diligence**.
- Participation in **multi-stakeholder platforms** to prevent and respond to human rights violations in sport.
- Measures to protect human rights at **sports events**: legislation, guidelines, regular dialogue with sports organisations and specific funding criteria.
- Promotion of **gender equality** through a specific plan for gender equality in sport, training courses, campaigns, guidelines, dialogue with sports organisations, special maternity leave for athletes, media, reporting mechanisms for gender-based violence and training for sport agents.
- **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 but not ratified), legislation, guidelines, training, dissemination of best practices, sport-specific actions in national strategies against racism and for the inclusion of people with disabilities, dialogue with sports organisations, funding criteria, media, reporting mechanisms and training for sport agents.

Education

- Sport is used for education through the **physical education curriculum**, schools, **campaigns promoting values**, national days and events, guidelines, training and education, awards and dissemination of best practices, ambassadors, legislation and regulation, solidarity, publications and research, and involvement of federations and the sports movement.

Integrity

- **Competitive integrity** through fair-play awareness campaigns, educational programmes and dissemination of best practices, and legal advice.
- **Manipulation of competitions:** stakeholder co-operation, training, education and awareness raising, information-sharing platforms, national and international information exchange, action against illegal betting, a legal framework with criminal, administrative 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 international co-operation. Anti-Doping Convention (ETS No. 135) signed and ratified; legislative process initiated for its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 188).
- **Organisational integrity** through general legislation, specific legislation on the rights and duties of publicly funded sports organisations, supervision mechanisms, guidelines and codes of conduct, and awareness raising.
- No **whistle-blower protection** in sport through reporting systems.

Sustainability

- Legislation and policies on sustainability when organising **sport activities and events**: general legislation, educational programmes in schools, sports clubs, for sport managers and others, and publications, research and ICT.
- **Sporting goods industry** (present in the country): no measures to ensure it adopts socially and environmentally friendly practices.
- Mechanisms for **owners of sports infrastructure** to avoid potential damage: sport-specific and general legislation, educational programmes for clubs, managers and others, and guidelines to reduce the ecological footprint of school sport activities and events.

GEORGIA

SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 10, 11, 12



- **LEGAL BASIS ENSURING THE RIGHT TO SPORT FOR ALL**
  ➜ Law of Georgia on Sports: all citizens have the right to access sports facilities and participate in sport without discrimination based on gender, age, disability and social status
- **PROVISIONS TO ENSURE ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN TAKE PART IN SPORT**
  ➜ «Sports for All» programme, so that every member of society can participate in sport
- **APPROPRIATE TIME SLOTS FOR STUDENTS TO ACCESS SPORT**
  ➜ Mandatory PE, school sports clubs
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE PE TEACHERS HAVE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS**
  ➜ Mandatory certified continuous training; non-mandatory education to access sport careers; optional continuous training
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE CO-OPERATION IN USE OF FACILITIES BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND SPORTS CLUBS**
  ➜ Informal and formal agreements on facilities use

SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 13, 14



- **SUPPORT FOR TOP-LEVEL ATHLETES**
  ➜ Legislation, insurance, free healthcare (including mental health), scholarships, money prizes, awards, special school and work regimes, end-of-career support, talent identification programmes and coach training specific to top-level performance; for student athletes: specific legislation, special absence regime, school schedules reconciling school and sport, special access to higher education (student-athlete schedules fall under the Ministry of Education). No mechanisms for transition to a post-sport career
- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE SPORT IS MANAGED BY COMPETENT, WELL-GOVERNED BODIES**
  ➜ General legislation, specific legislation on the rights and duties of publicly funded sports organisations, supervision mechanisms, guidelines and codes of conduct, awareness raising
- **MECHANISMS TO GUARANTEE RIGHTS AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF SPORTS PROFESSIONALS**
  ➜ Legislation, collective agreements

MEANS ESC ARTICLES 15, 16, 17, 18

- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THAT FACILITIES AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL**
  ➜ Sports infrastructure legislation, 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, education and training, sanctions, dialogue with sports organisations, codes of conduct
- **ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE TRAINING COURSES LEADING TO QUALIFICATIONS IN SPORT**
  ➜ Legislation, accreditation of courses, pedagogical materials
- **ENSURING SPORTS LEADERS ARE QUALIFIED IN VALUES, INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**
  ➜ Training and education, support, access to management tools and guidance, certification of sports clubs' management systems and services

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- **MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING**
- **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES**
- **CONTINUOUS EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND CAPACITY BUILDING, IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.**

RESEARCH AND CO-OPERATION

- **SUPPORT FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN SPORT**
  ➜ Public funding, partnerships
- **PUBLIC AUTHORITIES COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE RELEVANT SPORTS DATA**
  ➜ Sport organisations' reports, national monitoring systems, collaboration with national sport federations
- **PUBLIC/PRIVATE FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS**
  ➜ Public recognition and dissemination of best practices; equal financing of private investments

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

UN FORUMS
(UNGA, UNSC, UNHRC, UNDP)

UNESCO

Ministry responsible for Sport: Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia