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

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



TOTAL POPULATION: **approx. 86.320.600**

PER CAPITA GDP (US$): **18.600**

## MAIN SPORT PRIORITIES

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

## FUNDING

### SOURCES OF FUNDING

? No information for this overview

### ENTITIES FUNDED

? No information for this overview

- Public/private financial partnerships
- Solidarity mechanisms

## STAKEHOLDERS DIALOGUE AND CO-ORDINATION OF SPORT POLICIES

- National plan for sport – National Youth and Sports Policy Document; Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Youth and Sports 2024–2028

### PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

- Co-ordination through the **Sportive Evaluation and Development Committee** (regulation of January 2025, based on Law No. 3289 on Youth and Sports Services), involving the minister responsible for sport, the director-general in charge of sport, the anti-doping agency, sport event organisers, the professional sport league, the sports movement and NGOs.
- **Primary objectives:** define policies and priorities, share practices and co-ordinate policies.
- Other frameworks: co-operation protocols with the Ministry of National Education and the Council of Higher Education (YÖK); National Athlete Scholarship Programme.



### THE SPORTS MOVEMENT

- **Co-ordination** through the formal public platform and other formal and informal meetings, involving the minister responsible for sport, the director-general in charge of sport, the anti-doping agency, sport event organisers, the sports movement, NGOs and officials appointed by the relevant institutions.
- **Prioritised topics:** overall population; sport for all; physical education and school sport; physical activity and health; Paralympic sports; dual careers; combating violence, racism, xenophobia and intolerance; sports integrity; ethics; inclusion of people with a disability; social inclusion; equality, diversity, inclusion and accessibility; grassroots sports; non-discrimination and social justice; safeguarding children and vulnerable adults; gender equality in sport; sustainability at sport events; responsible event hosting; protecting people and communities at major sports events; sponsorship and commercial investment.
- **Volunteering support:** for sports organisations and regular volunteers, a special regime for absences from work or school and training courses; for event volunteers, a special absence regime, remuneration, compensation, training courses and recognition of experience; a national volunteering portal.

### CORPORATE AND PROFESSIONAL SECTOR

- A specific **engagement platform** with the corporate and professional sector, used to promote responsible business conduct through specific legislation.
- Media dialogue and protection of media freedom – no information for this overview.

# TÜRKIYE

## A NOTABLE PRACTICE

**«Sports for All» programme (Herkes İçin Spor) – Ministry of Youth and Sports**

The programme promotes physical activity among diverse groups, with a focus on young people, women, older people and people with disabilities. It offers community fitness sessions, walking clubs, family sports events and inclusive programmes tailored to specific needs, facilitates access to sports facilities and supports community-led sports initiatives.

ESC Articles 10, 12, 15, 18 – Right to sport, developing participation, facilities and finance

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

### Human Rights

- Measures to protect human rights in sport: **sport-specific legislation**, the right to appeal to court, and co-operation between public bodies responsible for sport and for human rights; Law No. 6222 on the Prevention of Violence and Disorder in Sports contains provisions supporting access to remedies and justice.
- 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 and regular dialogue with sports organisations and civil society.
- Promotion of **gender equality** through a specific plan for gender equality in sport, training courses, campaigns, regular dialogue with sports organisations, and sports projects and events promoting equality between women and men.
- **Zero-tolerance policy against violence and discrimination** through sport-specific measures: implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach (CETS No. 218, signed and ratified), training courses, legislation, school sport, implementation and monitoring of Law No. 6222, and sports projects and events for disadvantaged groups.

### Sustainability

- Legislation and policies on sustainability when organising **sport activities and events**: general legislation, and regulations and instructions on the sustainability of sports projects and events.
- Sporting goods industry – no information for this overview.
- Mechanisms for **owners of sports infrastructure** to avoid potential damage: general legislation, educational programmes in schools and other educational programmes.

### Integrity

- **Competitive integrity** through fair-play awareness campaigns, dissemination of best practices and educational programmes.
- **Manipulation of competitions:** stakeholder co-operation, regulation of the sports betting market and action against illegal betting, and a legal framework with criminal, administrative and disciplinary sanctions. 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 with WADA, UNESCO and the Council of Europe, including membership of the WADA Foundation Board (2022–2024) and of the Bureau of the Conference of Parties to the UNESCO Convention. Anti-Doping Convention (ETS No. 135) signed and ratified; Additional Protocol (ETS No. 188) signed but not ratified.
- Protection of **organisational integrity**.
- **Whistle-blower protection** through forwarding of complaints to the appropriate organisation.

### Education

- Sport is used for education through the **physical education curriculum**, campaigns promoting values, training and education, involvement of federations and the sports movement, and schools.



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## SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 10, 11, 12



**LEGAL BASIS ENSURING THE RIGHT TO SPORT FOR ALL**
➜ Article 59 of the Constitution, under which the State shall take measures to develop the physical and mental health of citizens of all ages and encourage the spread of sport among the masses; Presidential Decree No. 1 (Articles 184 and 189), including measures to make sport accessible to persons with disabilities; Law No. 3289 on Youth and Sports Services; Law No. 3530 on Physical Education and Sports

**PROVISIONS TO ENSURE ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN TAKE PART IN SPORT**
➜ «Sports for All» programme; Youth Centres offering free or affordable sports activities; public sports facilities and parks; initiatives for women and girls; programmes and adapted facilities for people with disabilities; school sports programmes with the Ministry of National Education; initiatives for older people; Law No. 7405 on Sports Clubs and Sports Federations (2022)

**APPROPRIATE TIME SLOTS FOR STUDENTS TO ACCESS SPORT**
➜ Mandatory PE, optional PE, school sport clubs; the Anatolian Stars League project and sports discipline education in primary schools

**MECHANISMS TO ENSURE PE TEACHERS HAVE APPROPRIATE QUALIFICATIONS**
➜ Mandatory certified education to access sport careers; mandatory certified continuous training; optional 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 for the use of facilities; formal agreements for the provision of club staff



## SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 13, 14

**SUPPORT FOR TOP-LEVEL ATHLETES**
➜ Legislation, insurance, free healthcare (including mental health), scholarships, special school and work regimes, talent identification and follow-up programmes (Sports Talent Identification and Sports Orientation Programme: over 6.4 million pupils screened since 2017–2018), coach training specific to top-level performance, and performance tests at Sports Training Centres (SEM) and Türkiye Olympic Preparation Centres (TOHM); for student athletes: specific legislation, special regime for school absences, special regime to access higher education, and measures enabling elite athletes to pursue formal education; for the transition to a post-sport career: legislation and special access to recruitment procedures

**MECHANISMS TO ENSURE SPORT IS MANAGED BY COMPETENT, WELL-GOVERNED BODIES**
➜ *no information for this overview*

**MECHANISMS TO GUARANTEE RIGHTS AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF SPORTS PROFESSIONALS**
➜ Legislation



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## MEANS ESC ARTICLES 15, 16, 17, 18

- **MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THAT FACILITIES AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL**
  ➜ Legislation on sports infrastructures, recommendations and guidelines
- **MECHANISMS TO EMPOWER EVENT ORGANISERS AND SPORTS FACILITIES OWNERS TO FULFIL THEIR SAFETY AND SECURITY OBLIGATIONS**
  ➜ Legislation and sanctions
- **ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE TRAINING COURSES LEADING TO QUALIFICATIONS IN SPORT**
  ➜ Training for support personnel in sport (sports psychologists, physiotherapists and dietitians); sports-themed educational boards
- **ENSURING SPORTS LEADERS ARE QUALIFIED IN VALUES, INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**
  ➜ *no information for this overview*

### INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING
- EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES
- ERASMUS+ PROGRAMMES
- ADVISORY GROUP ON STANDARD SETTING AND LEGAL ISSUES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PARTIES TO THE SAINT-DENIS CONVENTION (T-S4)
- EPAS WORKING GROUP ON THE AUTONOMY OF SPORT AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

### RESEARCH AND CO-OPERATION

- **SUPPORT FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN SPORT**
  ➜ Partnerships (academia, sports organisations, public authorities); performance assessment, scientific evaluation and monitoring of athletes at SEM, TOHM and in the Olympic and Paralympic squads
- **PUBLIC AUTHORITIES COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE RELEVANT SPORTS DATA**
  ➜ Sport organisations' reports; athlete performance monitoring at SEM and TOHM
- **PUBLIC/PRIVATE FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS**
  ➜ Tax benefits, public recognition and dissemination of best practices, and facilitation of sponsorship; public–private investment in sports facilities, corporate sponsorship, partnerships with NGOs and foundations, and co-funded sports tourism events

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

UN FORUMS

UNESCO

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



Ministry responsible for Sport: Ministry of Youth and Sports