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

# ARMENIA

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



TOTAL POPULATION: **approx. 2.778.000**

PER CAPITA GDP (US$): **8.168**

## 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
- ✗ Taxes/tax exemptions
- ✗ Betting
- ✗ Lotteries
- ✗ International funding

### ENTITIES FUNDED

- Sports federations
- National Olympic Committee (NOC)
- 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

✓ National plan for sport – Development Strategy of the Republic of Armenia on Physical Culture and Sport 2024–2030, with an Action Plan

### PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

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



### THE SPORTS MOVEMENT

- **Co-ordination** through the formal public platform, with the same participants.
- **Prioritised topics:** high-performance, Paralympic and school sport; disability inclusion and inclusive competition design; high-risk hosting environments; gender equality and gender mainstreaming; sustainable events and sports facilities; responsible event hosting and broadcasting; athlete health, safety and wellbeing; professional standards, public regulation and investment, and engagement and support; sport governance; news access and journalism; pandemic recovery.
- **Volunteering support:** for sports organisations and event volunteers, specific legislation (Law on Voluntary Work), a special absence regime (work/school), legal advice, safeguarding and recognition of experience.

### CORPORATE AND PROFESSIONAL SECTOR

- No specific **engagement platform** with the corporate and professional sector.
- **Media dialogue** through a press award for best practices and regular meetings.
- Protection of **media freedom** through guarantees of the right to inform, freedom of expression and access to sources; the sport authorities often give media interviews.

# ARMENIA

## A NOTABLE PRACTICE

**Organisation of the sports movement – Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport**

The Ministry organises the sports movement and the participation of sports federations in international events, including World and European Championships, as well as training camps, the national championships and mass and major sports events.

ESC Articles 3, 4, 12, 13, 14 – Public authorities, sports movement, participation and top-level sport

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

### Human Rights

- No specific **instruments** outlining the duty to respect, protect and fulfil human rights in sport.
- 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.
- No measures to protect human rights throughout the lifecycle of **sports events**.
- Promotion of **gender equality** through a specific plan for gender equality in sport, dissemination of best practices, legislation, campaigns, guidelines, dialogue with sports organisations, awards, school sport and the media.
- **Zero-tolerance policy against violence and discrimination** through general measures that also apply to sport: dissemination of best practices, legislation, campaigns, guidelines, sport-specific actions in national strategies to protect migrants and for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, dialogue with sports organisations, funding criteria, awards, the media, reporting mechanisms and co-operation with federations of sport for persons with disabilities. CETS No. 218 signed but not ratified.

### Integrity

- **Competitive integrity** through fair-play awareness campaigns and dissemination of best practices.
- **Manipulation of competitions:** international information exchange, and 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 (Anti-Doping Agency of Armenia), and international co-operation. Anti-Doping Convention (ETS No. 135) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 188) signed and ratified.
- No protection of **organisational integrity** by the authorities responsible for sport.
- No **whistle-blower** protection in sport through reporting systems.

### Education

- Sport is not used as an **educational tool** to promote values outside sport.

### Sustainability

- No legislation or policies on sustainability when organising **sport activities and events**.
- **Sporting goods industry** (present in the country): no measures to ensure it adopts socially and environmentally friendly practices.
- No mechanisms for **owners of sports infrastructure** to avoid potential damage.



# ARMENIA

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



- ✗ LEGAL BASIS ENSURING THE RIGHT TO SPORT FOR ALL
- ✗ PROVISIONS TO ENSURE ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN TAKE PART IN SPORT
- ✓ 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
- ✗ MECHANISMS TO ENSURE CO-OPERATION IN USE OF FACILITIES BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND SPORTS CLUBS

## SPORT FOR ALL ESC ARTICLES 13, 14



- ✓ SUPPORT FOR TOP-LEVEL ATHLETES
  ➜ Legislation, free healthcare (including mental health), scholarships, money prizes, awards, special school and work regimes, end-of-career support, talent identification and follow-up programmes, coach training specific to top-level performance, sports equipment for federations and sport schools; for student athletes: a special regime for school absences, formal communication between school, clubs and families, and permission to take part in national and international competitions; for the transition to a post-sport career: legislation, special access to recruitment procedures, training courses and a lifelong monthly payment for the strongest athletes
- ✓ MECHANISMS TO ENSURE SPORT IS MANAGED BY COMPETENT, WELL-GOVERNED BODIES
  ➜ General legislation, supervision mechanisms, guidelines and codes of conduct, legal advice, awareness raising; an agreement between the sport authority and each federation receiving state support
- ✓ MECHANISMS TO GUARANTEE RIGHTS AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF SPORTS PROFESSIONALS
  ➜ Legislation, education, campaigns, dissemination of best practices

## 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, dialogue with sports organisations, dissemination of best practices, codes of conduct; police support for competitions on request
- ✓ ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE TRAINING COURSES LEADING TO QUALIFICATIONS IN SPORT
  ➜ Legislation, a legal framework determining mandatory subjects, mandatory continuous training
- ✓ ENSURING SPORTS LEADERS ARE QUALIFIED IN VALUES, INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS
  ➜ Training and education, support, access to management tools and guidance

### INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- ▸ MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING
- ▸ EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES
- ▸ PLEDGES
- ▸ ERASMUS+ PROGRAMMES
- ▸ BILATERAL MEMORANDA AND CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH MANY STATES PROVIDE FOR THE EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES, JOINT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND TRAINING SEMINARS

### 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, national monitoring systems, partnerships with universities
- ✓ PUBLIC/PRIVATE FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS
  ➜ Campaigns, public recognition and dissemination of best practices; legislation on private financing of projects

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

UN FORUMS

UNESCO

COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION

BSEC ORGANISATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Ministry responsible for Sport: Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia