

Strasbourg, 29 June 2023

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Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

Forum on Sport and Human Rights

Focus on Data Protection

Friday, 30 June 2023
9:30 – 17:00 (CEST)

Hybrid format:
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, meeting room no. 7
and online on the KUDO platform

Simultaneous interpretation in English and French

Factsheet and draft programme

Sport brings people together around shared passions and emotions. Messages and ideas exchanged in the context of sport are particularly impactful and effective in shaping values. It is therefore important to be attentive to the potential of sport to promote and safeguard human rights for everyone.

All rights enshrined in the [European Convention on Human Rights](#) may, in one way or another, be at stake in the context of sport.

The question of sport and human rights is at its peak on the international sports policy agenda, including that of the sports movement. This increased interest reflects the universal nature of human rights, and the major role that sport plays in the lives of a large part of the world's population.

Human rights in and through sport have been the Council of Europe's mission for decades.

The topic of human rights in and through sport has been at the centre of the last three Council of Europe Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport, organised by the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) in 2018, 2020-21 and 2022.

The 16th Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport in 2021 adopted a [Resolution](#) on human rights in sport, inviting EPAS to:

- make the protection of human rights a priority, stimulate and regularly review and report progress in this field;
- hold regular exchanges with relevant Council of Europe intergovernmental and monitoring bodies to share information on human rights in sport.

The [European Sports Charter](#) promotes a values-based sport, which is a precondition for maximising the individual and social benefits of sport, and notably calls for the human rights of those involved in or exposed to sport-related activities to be protected.

This third Edition of our annual Forum on Sport and Human Rights will be dedicated to the right to data protection.

As the world of sport and its practice – as a recreational activity, at grassroots or at top competitive levels – continue to advance on our digital track, the importance of the right to data protection becomes even more acute and evident.

Vast amounts of personal data are being harnessed to enhance athlete performance, to optimise training strategies, to drive innovation, to engage fans and participants at major sport events and to control that rules of the game are being respected.

The often-sensitive nature of the data processed, the nature and the complexity of the global ecosystem in which sport stakeholders operate, involving private and public bodies, as well as law enforcement authorities, sport organisations, etc, make the safeguarding of personal data and the harmonisation of measures a pressing need.

The ever-increasing use and reliance on data comes with concerns over the potential infringements of the rights to privacy and data protection of athletes.

The Council of Europe was at the origin of the development and promotion of the right to data protection over forty years ago with the adoption of its Convention for the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data (also known as [Convention 108](#)). The Forum will be a unique opportunity to bring together data protection experts of Convention 108 and experts of the world of sport, to exchange on topical challenges and ways forward, in better safeguarding the right to data protection in sport and maintaining the trust and integrity that underpin the world of sports.

Objectives

This forum aims to create a privileged exchange between specialists from different sectors, addressing emerging challenges to human rights in a sport context, enabling closer co-operation and exploring avenues for further actions to be taken.

The Third edition of the Forum on Sport and Human Rights will focus specifically on issues pertaining to the rights to privacy and to data protection, as laid down in article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Convention 108+.

It will revolve around four subject areas:

- Performance analysis and predictive technologies
- International exchanges of information
- Personal data in anti-doping
- Facial recognition and crowd control.

Within the context of the Forum, data protection authorities and specialists, governmental representatives, participants from the sport world, NGOs, academicians, journalists, athletes and other experts will present the situation in their areas of competence, discuss recurrent challenges as well as share ideas and solutions for taking things forward.

Methodology

The forum will consist of a one-day event comprising four thematic sessions.

To enhance communication between all participants in the forum, active participation and interaction will be encouraged via questions and answers sessions.

Participants

- EPAS Governing Board members
- EPAS Consultative Committee members
- Delegates from Sport Conventions Committees
- Delegates from the Committee of Convention 108
- Other Data Protection Specialists
- Representatives from sport organisations not members of the Consultative Committee.

Registration

Participants are invited to fill in this [registration form](#), **by Monday 26 June end of the day** at the latest.

PROGRAMME

9.30 – 9.45 WELCOME ADDRESSES

- Jeroen Schokkenbroek, Director, Directorate of Anti-Discrimination, Council of Europe
- Patrick Penninckx, Head of Information Society Department, Council of Europe
- Vesna Batistić Kos, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe

9.45 – 10.00 – CASE LAW OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Daniel Rietiker, Senior Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights

10.00 – 11.15 PANEL 1: PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS AND PREDICTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Moderator: Anne Boyer, Programme Manager, Data Protection Unit, Council of Europe

Discussants:

- Jonas Baer-Hoffmann, Secretary General, FIFPRO
- Laia Bertran Manye, Senior Associate, Tech and Digital team, Clifford Chance
- Jorge Oliveira, Head of Data Protection, FIFA
- David Murphy, Deputy Commissioner, Public Sector Supervision, Data Protection Authority of Ireland

11.15 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.45 PANEL 2: INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION – Transborder data flows, including in the context of child safeguarding

Moderator: Peter Kimpian, Programme Manager, Data Protection Unit, Council of Europe

Discussants:

- Humaid Alameemi, Anti-corruption Operations Coordinator, Interpol
- Olivier Matter, Head of International Co-operation, European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)
- Pablo Manuel Mateos Gascueña, Bureau member of the Committee of Convention 108
- Gioia Scappucci, Executive Secretary of the Lanzarote Committee, Council of Europe

12.45 – 14.15 Lunch

14.15 – 15.30 PANEL 3: PERSONAL DATA IN ANTI-DOPING (remote testing, publication of sanctions and other data protection questions)

Moderator: Amandine Carton, Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe Ad Hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency (CAHAMA)

Discussants:

- Gianluca Siracusano, Head of Compliance, International Testing Agency (ITA)
- Paulina Tomczyk, Secretary General, EU Athletes
- Christian Flueckiger, Data Protection Commissioner, Canton Jura-Neuchâtel, Switzerland
- Stefan Brink, Executive Director, Wida Digital
- Amanda Edmunds, Director, Privacy Commission, Canada

15.30 – 16.45 PANEL 4: FACIAL RECOGNITION AND CROWD CONTROL

Moderator: Catherine Pozzo di Borgo, Expert in Data Protection, Council of Europe

Discussants:

- Leda Bargiotti, Legal Officer, European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)
- Ben Hayes, Strategy Director, AWO Agency
- Félicien Vallet, Deputy Head of the Department of technological expertise, French National Commission on Informatics and Liberty (CNIL)
- Jean-Philippe Walter, former Chair of the Committee of Convention 108, Council of Europe

16.45-17.00 CLOSING

- Isabelle Servoz-Gallucci, Head of the Data Protection Unit, Council of Europe
- Sophie Kwasny, Head of the Sport Division and Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe