

Strasbourg, 27 June 2023

EPAS(2023)46

## **Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)**

### **17th meeting of the EPAS Governing Board (GB) (joint meeting with the Consultative Committee (CC))**

8-9 June 2023

## **LIST OF DECISIONS**

## **1. Opening of the meeting**

The Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) held its 17th meeting in Strasbourg on 8-9 June 2023 with Alexandre Husting (Luxembourg) in the chair. The Consultative Committee joined part of the meeting (see Agenda).

The Governing Board noted that the quorum was reached.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The Governing Board adopted the agenda as appended in Appendix I.

The list of participants is set out in Appendix II.

## **3. Elections**

The Governing Board:

- Re-elected Alexandre Husting (Luxembourg) as Chair for a mandate of two years;
- Re-elected Andrea Carletti (Italy), as Vice-Chair for a mandate of two years;
- Re-elected Solène Charuau (France), as Bureau member for region 1 for a first complete mandate of two years,
- Elected Benthe Tanghe (The Netherlands), as Bureau member for region 2 for a mandate of two years,
- Re-elected Andrew Decelis (Malta), as Bureau member for region 3 for a mandate of two years,
- Re-elected Ioanna Paraskevopoulou (Cyprus), as Bureau member for region 4 for a first complete mandate of two years,

The Governing Board recalled the election in February 2023 of Diana De Aguiar Santos (Portugal) as additional member of the Bureau from the organising country of the next Ministerial Conference.

The Governing Board also re-elected Ioanna Paraskevopoulou as Gender Equality Rapporteur of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board designated the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Consultative Committee as the two representatives from the Consultative Committee to take part in the proceedings of the Bureau.

## **4. Consequences of the aggression against Ukraine**

The Governing Board expressed its unwavering solidarity with Ukraine and condemned the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine. It recalled that in Resolution No. 1 entitled "sport for all: uniting us for stronger societies", the Ministers responsible for Sport - at their 17th Council of Europe Conference (26 October 2022, Antalya, Türkiye) - considered that the Russian Federation and Belarus should not be represented in

international sport as long as the aggression continues and expressed their commitment to enable Ukrainians to participate in sport.

The Governing Board took note of the statement made by Andriy Chesnokov, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine (statement in Appendix III) and held a tour de table on possible initiatives by EPAS, instructing its Bureau to consider the follow-up to give to this tour de table and revert to the Governing Board with possible proposals.

## **5. Update by the Secretariat**

The Governing Board took note of the update provided by the Secretariat in respect of the withdrawal from EPAS as at 1 January 2024 notified by Canada and Belarus (the latter having been suspended by the Committee of Ministers on 17 March 2022).

Regarding the Consultative Committee, it recalled its decision adopted by written procedure to renew the membership of 12 organisations:

- European Athlete as Student Network (EAS)
- European Elite Athletes Association (EU Athletes)
- European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)
- European Paralympic Committee (EPC)
- European Physical Education Association (EUPEA)
- FARE Network (Football Against Racism in Europe)
- International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE)
- International School Sport Federation (ISF)
- International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA)
- Play the Game
- Sports Rights Owners Coalition (SROC)
- The European Olympic Committees (EOC)

It took note of the end of membership in the Consultative Committee of the International Sambo Federation (FIAS), Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) well as of Special Olympics Europe Eurasia (SOEE).

The Governing Board took note of the Reykjavík Declaration “United around our values” adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the IVth Council of Europe Summit of Head of State and Government held in Reykjavík on 16 and 17 May 2023, and how the outcomes of the Summit will be incorporated in the Council of Europe Programme and Budget 2024-2027.

The Governing Board took note of the recent work of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) presented by Roberto Fasino, Head of Secretariat of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media of the Parliamentary Assembly, notably the forthcoming urgent debate at the PACE summer session on the Participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes in the Paris 2024 Games.

Finally, the Governing Board took note of the results of the exercise of Review of the impact and future potential of the Council of Europe's work in the field of sport (document EPAS(2023)INF4), and notably of the importance for respondents to work on sport integrity and good governance.

## **6. Statutory issues**

The Governing Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat in respect of the ordinary account and the special account (documents EPAS(2023)39 and 43).

The Governing Board agreed to:

- transfer up to €50,000 from the unspent balance of the EPAS 2023 ordinary budget to the EPAS special account;
- allocate €45,432 from the special account reserve to project VC 3128 – BH 8798 to cover staff costs for one B5 temporary staff member working on the Start to Talk project for 6 months (July-December 2023);
- that an amount of up to €10,000 of the special account can be used by the Executive Secretary – upon prior consultation of the Chair of the Governing Board - to face urgent needs or to optimise the use of the EPAS liquidity.

Finally, the Governing Board took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the 2024-2027 Programme of Activity and Budget and decided that its validation would be subject to written procedure in order to allow delegations to comprehensively examine the proposals.

## **7. European Sports Charter: support and follow-up visit (in conjunction with item 13)**

The Governing Board took note of the information provided in respect of the visits held in North Macedonia (30 September 2022), Albania (14-15 December 2022) and Portugal (24-25 May 2023) and the forthcoming submission of the three corresponding reports to the Governing Board for adoption.

The Governing Board nominated Elvira Baze (Albania) as new member of the Working Group on the Implementation of the European Sports Charter.

## **8. Programme of activities**

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee took note of the 2022 Activity report of EPAS and welcomed its publication, reflecting the broad variety of initiatives and activities carried out by EPAS.

## **8.1 Ethical sport**

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee welcomed the organisation of a round-table on sport integrity (document EPAS(2023)38), opened by Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, who called upon all stakeholders to play their role in upholding integrity in every aspect of sport.

The Governing Board adopted the mandate (Appendix IV) of the Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors responsible for sports (MARS), praised by participants as an instrumental step forward in the protection of the integrity of sport.

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee agreed on the transmission to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of a draft declaration on sport integrity (Appendix V) for its possible adoption.

## **8.2 Inclusive sport**

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee welcomed the work carried out in the context of the following projects and initiatives, stressing their relevance and importance:

- “Combating Hate Speech in Sport” joint project (January 2022 – December 2023)
- EPAS webinar on protecting and promoting the human rights of transgender and intersex athletes in sport (24 April 2023)
- EPAS diversity conference 2023 – Inclusion of child migrants and refugees in and through sport
- “ALL IN +” joint project on promoting gender equality in sport.

## **8.3 Safe Sport**

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee expressed their support for the continuation of the Start to Talk project and took note of the activities implemented in the framework of the project, praising the organisation of a first ever participation of children in the context of the development of the Bulgarian roadmap on child safeguarding in sport. Calling for financial support and voluntary contributions to ensure sustainability of this important action, the Governing Board and Consultative Committee welcomed the information provided by the representatives of Monaco, and noted the willingness expressed by the representatives of Cyprus and Malta to engage in the Start to Talk project.

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee took note of the upcoming organisation of a webinar on risks to health.

## 8.4 Other upcoming events

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee took note of the organisation of the 3rd Edition of the Forum on Sport and Human Rights to be held on 30 June 2023, focusing on data protection in sport.

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee took note of the forthcoming publication of policy guidelines on the social sustainability of sport facilities as an outcome of the series of meetings on the mapping of sport facilities.

## 9. Exchanges on how to better promote EPAS and its activities

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee acknowledged the uniqueness of EPAS, bringing together their respective constituencies to form the most vibrant forum on the development of sport related policies and exchanged on possible avenues for making EPAS better known. The Bureau of the Governing Board was entrusted with the task to follow-up on this exchange and report back on possible actions at the next annual meeting.

## 10. Update by the Chair of the Consultative Committee

The Governing Board took note of the information provided by Charlotte Girard-Fabre (International Federation of Sport Officials - IFSO) newly elected Chair of the Consultative Committee.

Further to her election as Chair of the Consultative Committee, elections were held to fill the vacant seat on the Bureau and Andrej Pisl from the European University Sports Association (EUSA) was elected as new Bureau member.

The Chair of the Governing Board informed the Consultative Committee of the outcomes of the *in camera* meeting.

## 11. Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport

### 1. 17th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Antalya, 26 October 2022)

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee thanked the Turkish delegation for the excellent organisation of the Conference and the warm welcome extended to all participants, it took note of the report by the Secretary General (document CM(2023)40) as well as of the presentation by the Secretariat of the follow-up given by EPAS to the two Resolutions adopted by the Ministers in Antalya.

## **2. 18th Ministerial Conference – Portugal (8-9 October 2024)**

The Governing Board and Consultative Committee took note of the presentation by Diana De Aguiar Santos (Portugal) regarding the 18th. Ministerial Conference to be on the Atlantic side, bringing together the municipalities of Matosinhos, Porto and Vila Nova de Gaia.

The proposed topic of governing and governance of sport was welcomed by the Governing Board as being a crucial emerging topic for discussion at the highest level. The hosts would also intend to focus on the topics of dual careers and gender equality in sport in parallel sessions.

The Ministerial conference will be held in Porto, at the Congress Centre Alfândega Porto, on 8-10 October 2024 (to be confirmed).

## **12. Cooperation with the European Union**

The Governing Board and the Consultative Committee welcomed the information provided by Ambassador Vesna Batistić Kos, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe and marked its appreciation of the close cooperation between the EU and the Council of Europe in the field of sport.

## **13. Working group on the implementation of the European Sports Charter**

The Governing Board and the Consultative Committee took note of the information provided by Diana De Aguiar Santos (Portugal) as Chair of the Working Group, welcoming as new members in the Group Elvira Baze (Albania) and Guido Battaglia (Centre for Sport and Human Rights) and approved the ESC implementation methodology as detailed in document EPAS(2023)29. It noted that the proposed methodology was implemented for a first time in a pilot exercise during a follow-up and support visit carried out in Portugal on 24-25 May 2023.

## **14. European Sports Charter implementation by CC members**

The Governing Board noted with interest the numerous ESC focused presentations made by 18 member organisations of the Consultative Committee which all illustrated their contribution to some provisions of the ESC.

## **15. Any other business**

The Governing Board and the Consultative Committee took note of the information provided by Aurélie Bresson from the Alice Milliat Foundation on the proposal for the setting-up of a European Cultural Route on Sport (ECROS) which will be submitted in July 2024 for a possible accreditation by the Council of Europe's Cultural Route itineraries in 2025.

## **16. Date and place of the next meeting**

The Governing Board and the Consultative Committee took note of the proposed dates for the next annual meetings to be held in Strasbourg on 29-30 May 2024.



## APPENDIX I

## Agenda

<b>Thursday 8 June: 9.30am-12.30pm (with coffee break included)</b> <b>First part of the meeting (<i>in camera</i> GB only)</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b>Opening of the meeting</b> The meeting will be opened by Mr Alexandre Husting, Chair of the Governing Board.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Adoption of the agenda</b>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)18rev</a>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Elections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Vacant seats on the Bureau of the Governing Board</li> <li>ii. Gender Equality Rapporteur</li> </ul>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)INF3rev</a>  <a href="#">EPAS(2022)39</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)40</a>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Consequences of the aggression against Ukraine</b> <i>Tour de table</i> on possible initiatives by EPAS	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Update by the Secretariat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. EPAS membership (including renewal of consultative Committee membership)</li> <li>ii. Council of Europe Summit (Reykjavik, 16-17 May 2023)</li> <li>iii. Committee of Ministers</li> <li>iv. Parliamentary Assembly</li> <li>v. Overview of the work of the Sport Division</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Reykjavík Declaration</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)02</a> <a href="#">CM(2023)40</a>  <a href="#">EPAS(2023)INF5</a>  <a href="#">EPAS(2023)INF4</a>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Statutory issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>6.1. Annual account</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ordinary Account – 2022</li> <li>ii. Ordinary Account – 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>6.2. Special account</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. GB authorisation on a specific transfer from the special account</li> <li>ii. GB authorisation to transfer the 2023 unspent balance of up to €50,000, to the EPAS 2024 special account</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>6.3. 2024-2025 Programme and Budget</b></li> </ul>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)39</a> <a href="#">CM(2023)88</a>  <a href="#">EPAS(2023)43</a>  <a href="#">EPAS(2023)33</a>
<b>7.</b>	<b>European Sports Charter: support and follow-up visits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. North Macedonia (30 September 2022)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Albania (14 - 15 December 2022)</li> <li>iii. Portugal (24-25 May 2023)</li> </ul> (in connection with item 13: designation of a GB member)	
	<b>In camera preparation of item 8.1</b>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)41</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)32</a>

(Lunch break: 12.30pm-2.00pm)

<b>Thursday 8 June: 2.00pm-5.00pm (with coffee break included) Second part of the meeting (with the Consultative Committee)</b>		
<b>8.</b>	<b>Programme of activities</b>	
	2022 Activity Report (for information)	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)02</a>
	State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law	<a href="#">Report by the Secretary General</a>
	<b>8.1. PILLAR 1: ETHICAL SPORT</b>	
	<b>Round table on sport integrity</b>	
	See separate programme	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)38</a>
	Decision regarding the Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS)	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)32</a>
	Draft Declaration	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)41</a>

Cocktail offered by the Permanent Representation of the Principality of Monaco: 5.30pm - 7pm

<b>Friday 9 June: 9.00am - 1.00pm (with coffee break included) Second part of the meeting (continued)</b>		
<b>8.</b>	<b>Programme of activities (continued)</b>	
	<b>8.2. PILLAR 2: INCLUSIVE SPORT</b>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)INF02</a>
	Delegations are invited to present relevant activities / best practices	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. “Combating Hate Speech in Sport” joint project (January 2022 – December 2023)</li> <li>ii. EPAS webinar on protecting and promoting the human rights of transgender and intersex athletes in sport (24 April 2023)</li> <li>iii. EPAS diversity conference 2023 – Inclusion of child migrants and refugees in and through sport</li> </ul>	<a href="#">EPAS(2023)01</a>

	<p>iv. “ALL IN +” joint project Presentation on the planned activities on promoting gender equality in sport</p>	
	<p><b>8.3. PILLAR 3: SAFE SPORT</b></p> <p>Delegations are invited to present relevant activities / best practices</p>	
	<p>Presentation on the “Start to Talk” project Webinar on risks to health</p>	
	<p><b>8.4. OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS</b></p>	
	<p>a. Human rights forum on data protection b. Mapping of sports facilities</p>	<p><a href="#">EPAS(2023)42</a></p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Exchanges on how to better promote EPAS and its activities</b></p>	<p><a href="#">EPAS(2023)45</a></p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Update by the Chair of the Consultative Committee</b></p>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Conferences of Ministers responsible for Sport</b></p> <p>11.1. Follow up to the 17th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Antalya, 25-27 October 2022) Report of the Secretary General</p> <p>11.2. 18th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Portugal, October 2024 (tbc))</p>	<p><a href="#">MSL17(2022)10</a> <a href="#">CM(2023)40</a></p>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>Cooperation with the European Union</b></p>	
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Working group on the implementation of the European Sports Charter</b></p>	<p><a href="#">EPAS(2023)26</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)29</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)21</a> <a href="#">EPAS(2023)77</a></p>
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>European Sports Charter implementation by CC members</b></p>	
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>ECROS cultural route</p>	
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>Date and place of the next meeting</b></p>	

## APPENDIX II

### List of participants

#### GOVERNING BOARD / COMITE DE DIRECTION

#### CHAIR / PRESIDENT

**Alexandre HUSTING**

Attaché Education, Jeunesse, Culture et Sport

Ministère des Sports

Représentation permanente du Luxembourg auprès de l'Union européenne

#### VICE-CHAIR / VICE-PRESIDENT

**Andrea CARLETTI**

Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy

Department for Sport – International affairs

#### MEMBERS / MEMBRES

##### ALBANIA / ALBANIE

**Elvira BAZE**

Head of Drafting and Feasibility Projects in Sport

Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth

##### ARMENIA / ARMENIE

**Lena TERZIKYAN**

Deputy Permanent Representative

Permanent Representation of Armenia to the Council of Europe

##### AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE

**Claus FARNBERGER**

Deputy Head of division, Senior adviser

Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport

Department II/2 – Legal Sport Affairs, EU and International Sport Affairs

##### AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN

**Aysha GURBANOVA**

Head of the International Relations Division

Ministry of Youth and Sports

**BELGIUM / BELGIQUE**

**François TRICARICO**

Directeur  
Direction des Relations internationales  
Ministère de la Fédération Wallonie - Bruxelles

**BULGARIA / BULGARIE**

**Boris SHABANSKI**

First Secretary  
Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the CoE

**CROATIA / CROATIE**

**Lidija VIZEK MRZLJAK** (08.06.23 only / uniquement)

Deputy Permanent Representative  
Permanent Representation of the Republic of Croatia to the Council of Europe

**CYPRUS / CHYPRE**

**Maria CHARALAMBOUS – PAPAMILTIADES** (Head of Delegation)

Director General  
Cyprus Sports Organisation

**Ioanna PARASKEVOPOULOU**

EU and International Affairs Officer  
Cyprus Sport Organisation

**ESTONIA / ESTONIE**

**Margus KLAAN**

Head of Sports Department  
Ministry of Culture

**FINLAND / FINLANDE**

**Satu HEIKKINEN**

Senior Ministerial Advisor  
Ministry of Education and Culture

**FRANCE**

**Solène CHARUAU**

Cheffe de la mission des affaires européennes et internationales  
Ministère des sports

**GEORGIA / GEORGIE**

**Teona ASATIANI**

Senior Specialist  
Ministry of Culture, Sport & Youth / Sport and Youth Affairs Department

**GREECE / GRECE**

**Hélène KANAKI** (08.06.23 only / uniquement)  
Secrétaire d'Ambassade  
Représentation Permanente de la Grèce au Conseil de l'Europe

**HUNGARY / HONGRIE**

**Kitti VARGA**  
Legal adviser of sport affairs  
Ministry of Defence of Hungary  
State Secretariat for Sport / Department of Sport Governance

**Ágnes OSZTOLYKÁN**  
Deputy to the Permanent Representative  
Permanent Representation of Hungary to the Council of Europe

**ICELAND / ISLANDE**

**Örvar ÓLAFSSON**  
Senior Adviser  
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

**ITALY / ITALIE**

**Andrea CARLETTI**  
Presidency of the Council of Ministers  
Department for Sport – International affairs

**LATVIA / LETTONIE**

**Eduards DZENĪTIS**  
Deputy to the Permanent Representative  
Permanent Representation of Latvia to the Council of Europe

**LITHUANIA / LITUANIE**

**Sigitas STASIULIS**  
Chief Officer  
International Cooperation and European Integration Department

**LUXEMBOURG**

**Alexandre HUSTING**  
Attaché Education, Jeunesse, Culture et Sport  
Ministère des Sports  
Représentation permanente du Luxembourg auprès de l'Union européenne

**MALTA / MALTE**

**Andrew DECELIS**  
Adviser  
Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation

**MONACO**

**Michael LANDAU**

Documentaliste

Direction de l'Education nationale, de la Jeunesse et des Sports

**MOROCCO / MAROC**

**Hicham DRIOUACH**

Vice-Consul au Consulat du Maroc à Strasbourg

**NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS**

**Benthe TANGHE**

Policy Officer

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport / Sports Department

**NORWAY / NORVEGE**

**Trond GLASSER**

Director International Relations

Ministry of Culture and Equality

Department of Civil Society and Sports

**POLAND / POLOGNE**

**Anna ZDUNEK**

Chief Specialist

Division of International Cooperation, International Cooperation Department

Ministry of Sport and Tourism

**PORTUGAL / PORTUGAL**

**Diana DE AGUIAR SANTOS**

Adviser

Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Youth and Sport

**SERBIA / SERBIE**

**Uros PRIBICEVIC**

Assistant Minister for International Cooperation and European Integration

Ministry of Sports

**SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE**

**Adriana MICKOVICOVA** (08.06.23 only / uniquement)

Senior state adviser

Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport

**SWITZERLAND / SUISSE**

**Pascal CHATELAIN**

Responsable des affaires internationales / Office fédéral du sport

## **TÜRKIYE**

**Ahmet TEMURCI** (Head of Delegation)  
Director General of International Organisations and Foreign Relations  
Ministry of Youth and Sports

**İnanç ÖZÇAKMAK**  
Deputy Director General  
Ministry of Youth and Sports

## **UKRAINE / UKRAINE**

**Andriy CHESNOKOV**  
Deputy Minister for Youth and Sport  
Ministry of Youth and Sports

## **CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE / COMITE CONSULTATIF**

### ***CHAIR / PRESIDENT***

**International Federation for Sports Officials (IFSO)**  
Charlotte GIRARD FABRE  
Secretary General

### ***VICE-CHAIR / VICE-PRESIDENT***

**International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA)**  
Mogens KIRKEBY  
President

### ***MEMBERS / MEMBRES***

**Alice Milliat Foundation**  
Aurélie BRESSON  
President

**Centre for Sport and Human Rights**  
Guido BATTAGLIA  
Head of Policy & Outreach

**European Association for Sport Management (EASM)**  
Anton BEHRENS  
Secretary General

**European Athlete as Student Network (EAS)**  
Laura CAPRANICA  
President



**European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)**

Baiba VEISA  
Vice-President

**European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF)**

Hugh TORRANCE  
Co-President

**European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO)**

Elisabeth STROBACH  
Policy and Coordination Officer

**European Olympic Committees (EOC)**

Mr Tone JAGODIC (08.06.2023 only / uniqueness)  
Consultant

Annamarie PHELPS  
Vice Chair of the British Olympic Association,

**European Athletic Association (European Athletics)**

Jean GRACIA  
First Vice-President

**European Elite Athletes Association (EU Athletes)**

Anna SEMENOVA  
Project & Policy Officer

**European University Sports Association (EUSA)**

Andrej PISL  
Communications & Projects Manager

**International Basketball Federation (FIBA)**

Theren BULLOCK

**International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE)**

Gerald Fritz  
Member of the Executive Board

**International Dance Organization (IDO)**

Patrick PEROSA  
Advisor to the President

**International Federation for Sports Officials (IFSO)**

Mr Patrick VAJDA  
President of IFSO and President of AFCAM

Charlotte GIRARD FABRE  
Secretary General

**International School Sport Federation (ISF)**

Ophélie DELOBEL  
Executive Officer

**Panathlon International**

Pierre ZAPPELLI  
President

**Peace and Sport**

Pauline JOHANET  
External Relations Manager

**Play the Game**

Jens Sejer ANDERSEN  
International Director

**Sports Rights Owners Coalition (SROC)**

Mark LICHTENHEIN  
Chairman

**TAFISA EUROPE**

Janez SODRZNIK  
TAFISA Treasurer

**UEFA - Union of European Football Associations**

James OGILVIE  
EU & Governmental Affairs Manager

**GUESTS / INVITES**

**Giuseppe DELEONARDIS**

Deputy Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer  
International Olympic Committee

**Grit HARTMANN**

Journalist  
Leipzig, Germany

**Jean-Yves LOURGOUILLOUX**

Deputy Public Prosecutor  
Judicial Court of Marseille, France

**OBSERVER / OBSERVATEUR**

**Rodrigo CAVALEIRO**

Vice-Chair of the Saint-Denis Committee

**George MAVROTAS**

Chair of the Follow-up Committee of the Macolin Convention

**European Union / Union européenne**

**Vesna BATISTIĆ KOS**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Head of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe

**Sophie KAMMERER**

First Secretary

European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

**Bjørn BERGE**

Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

**Roberto FASINO**

Head of Secretariat

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Parliamentary Assembly

**Irena GUIDIKOVA**

Head of the Children's Rights and Sport Values Department

**Gabriela MATEI**

Senior Project officer / "Combating Hate Speech in Sport" joint EU-CoE project

Sport Division

**Olivia CONRAD**

ALL IN+ Project Manager

Sport Division

**Kateryna LAVRYK**

ALL IN + Project Assistant

Sport Division

**EPAS SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DE L'APES**

**Sophie KWASNY**

Executive Secretary

**Francine HETHERINGTON RAVENEY**

Deputy Executive Secretary

**Cassandra MACTAVISH**

Senior Project Manager

**Elena CASERO-CANAS**

Project Officer / Start to Talk

**Caroline LARGHI**

Administrative Support Assistant

**Despina TRAMOUNTANI**

Administrative Support Assistant

**Emma ZANICHELLI**

Communications Officer

**Eliot CHAUVIN**

Trainee

### APPENDIX III

#### Statement made by Andriy Chesnokov, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sport of Ukraine

Dear colleagues,

Allow me to express my gratitude to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe and delegations of EPAS member states for the fruitful cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, as well as for supporting Ukraine and Ukrainian sports in the conditions of large-scale Russian aggression against our country.

I would like to make some points on **the situation in the Ukrainian sport sphere** nowadays.

15 months passed since Russia with the support of Belarus attacked Ukraine violating the Olympic Truce. Unfortunately, nothing has changed during this time. The situation on the ground is deteriorating. The world is shocked by atrocities and war crimes have been committed by Russian troops with the full support of Belarus.

305 Ukrainian athletes and coaches were killed, about 40,000 athletes were forced to move abroad among 7 million Ukrainian refugees. 343 sports facilities were severely destroyed or damaged. And we need 250 million euros to restore them.

In the difficult conditions of wartime, Ukraine is implementing projects and initiatives aimed at improving the mental and physical health of Ukrainian citizens, rehabilitation of war-affected citizens through physical activity.

As part of the All-Ukrainian mental health program "How are you?", initiated by our First Lady Olena Zelenska the **Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine implements the social project "Active parks - healthy locations of Ukraine"**.

The purpose of the project is to help various population groups, including internally displaced persons, persons with disabilities, war veterans, military personnel and their family members, in overcoming stress related to war, prevention of mental disorders, recovery of mental health through involvement in recreational activity.

The project currently counts more than 700 modern sports grounds with free access, an online platform and a mobile application with materials for physical activity, as well as a professional team of 750 coordinators.

The implementation of this project in 2023 will allow to attract about 1 million people and involve about 750 communities in the project, what will ensure the restoration and preservation of the mental health of the population, an active and healthy lifestyle, as well as meaningful leisure and longevity of people.

Despite the conditions of Russia's full-scale military aggression against Ukraine, many project's goals and plans were achieved. At the same time this project needs support and attention from the international partners.

We sincerely appreciate the support that Ukraine, Ukrainian people and Ukrainian sports movement receive from EPAS member states. With this help and despite the war, Ukrainian athletes can train in safe conditions.

Despite the war and its terrible consequences, Ukrainian athletes continue to represent our country in international sports arenas and win the highest awards in fair competitions. But now we face other obstacle for our national teams to be present at the international sports competitions.

The Ukrainian side condemns the partial change of the position of the International Olympic Committee regarding the non-admission of Russian and Belarusian athletes to international sports competitions in connection with the publication on March 28 of the "Recommended Conditions of Participation for Individual Neutral Athletes and Support Personnel with Russian and Belarusian Passports in International Sports Competitions Organized by the International Federations International Sports Events Organisers". Ukraine's position remains unchanged: as long as Russian troops, with the help of the Belarusian government, continue armed aggression against the Ukrainian people, Russian and Belarusian athletes should be prohibited from participating in any international competitions in any status, including neutral.

The decisions and recommendations taken by the IOC on 28 February 2022 to prevent Russian and Belarusian athletes from participating in international competitions were logical and absolutely fair. They were based on the exceptional circumstances of the situation as the IOC stated. Then the IOC distinguished the Russian-Ukrainian war among other conflicts in the world. However, under the current circumstances the non-transparent procedures of the IOC and some ISFs are the great hinder for Ukrainian athletes.

IOC failed to establish an effective mechanism of prevention of using of sports as a tool of propaganda by Russians and Belarusians who represent only the governments through the state funding. Moreover, there are no prevention security measures for Ukrainian athletes and fans as well as spread of hate speech against them.

**The Ukrainian side expects the EPAS member states to support its position regarding the complete ban on the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes in international competitions and the ban on the entry of citizens of aggressor states to participate in sports competitions on the territory of the EU.**

Taking into account the consequences of the ongoing armed aggression of Russia against Ukraine, including for the sphere of physical culture and sports, which is socially important both during the war and in the context of the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine, the inclusion of a **separate section "Sport" in the Action Plan of the Council of Europe for Ukraine for 2023-2026** shows the special support from the Council of Europe.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, when formulating policies in its areas of responsibility, focuses on the high standards of the Council of Europe and pays considerable attention to the fulfillment of international obligations within the framework of Ukraine's membership in the Council of Europe. I would also like to note that the provisions of the Action Plan in terms of the sports component is correlated with the projects of the Recovery Plan of Ukraine, as well as strategic and programmatic documents in the youth and sports sphere.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine is ready to start the implementation of "the Sports component" of the Action Plan of the Council of Europe for Ukraine for 2023-2026

but unfortunately no financial support is available for this aim. That's why we would like to initiate the call for voluntary contributions from EPAS member states in order to fully implement following objectives:

- ensuring implementation of the Revised European Sports Charter during the war and in the post-war context;
- implementation of the anti-doping legislation and regulations in order to strengthen the Ukrainian anti-doping system in line with the Anti-Doping Convention;
- prevent, detect and sanction the manipulation of sports competitions;
- adopting and implementing a national strategy on safety, security and service at football matches and other sporting events and improve the legal, regulatory and administrative framework in this field.

I would like to add also, that **principles of non-discrimination** remain among the priorities of the Ministry's work. However, in Ukraine there are still problems with accessibility and discrimination on various grounds.

In recent years, significant efforts have been made to develop the relevant national legislation. Ukraine has committed itself to taking all measures necessary to eliminate discrimination in all its forms and manifestations, but still needs to make efforts to harmonize its legal system and practices in line with its international obligations, including through its membership in the Council of Europe.

In addition, in the new social conditions and with Russia's large-scale military invasion of Ukraine, there is a significant risk of increased hate speech and discrimination on any grounds.

In view of the above, we already asked the Council of Europe to consider the possibility to engage a fact-finding mission to Ukraine to conduct an expert discussion of the problem of combating discrimination in sports and want to ask EPAS member states to support this.

To conclude, let me again express our gratitude for your help and support. In these difficult times, your countries, all European sports movement helped our citizens, our athletes, federations, young people, children. Ukrainian people highly appreciate this solidarity with my country.

I thank you.

**Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine**  
**“Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023-2026**

**Strengthening the society through sport and reinforcing sport integrity**

**Objective:** Assist in rebuilding the sport sphere in Ukraine, to support and strengthen capacities of the Ukrainian authorities in promoting the integrity of sport as an instrument for social recovery, notably in better fighting against doping in sport and manipulation of sports competitions, as well as improving safety, security and services in sporting events.

**Proposed Action:**

- provide expert and methodological support to the authorities aimed at ensuring implementation of the Revised European Sports Charter during the war and in the post-war context;
- assist the authorities and, notably, the Ukrainian National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADC) with the promotion and implementation of the anti-doping legislation and regulations in order to strengthen the Ukrainian anti-doping system in line with the Anti-Doping Convention;
- assist the established National Platform of Sport Integrity to better prevent, detect and sanction the manipulation of sports competitions (Macolin Convention);
- provide legal and technical assistance to the national authorities in adopting and implementing a national strategy on safety, security and service at football matches and other sporting events and improve the legal, regulatory and administrative framework in this field.



## APPENDIX IV

### Mandate of the Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors responsible for sports (MARS)

#### INTRODUCTION

- For five decades, the Council of Europe has advocated fair play and respect in sport, tackling corruption and helping make sport safe, ethical, and accessible to all. This work is today mainly articulated around the following intergovernmental structures:
  - The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport ([EPAS](#));
  - The Ad hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency ([CAHAMA](#));
  - The Monitoring Group of the Anti-doping Convention ([T-DO](#));
  - The Follow-up Committee ([T-MC](#)) of the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (the Macolin Convention) and its Advisory Group forming the Network of National Platforms (the [Group of Copenhagen](#));
  - The Committee on Safety and Security at Sports Events ([T-S4](#)).
- Threats and challenges to sport integrity are not new. They are diverse, complex and have evolved significantly in recent years due to multiple factors, some being external to the world of sports and national borders. Sport is affected by corruption organised and financial crime, too often with seldom investigation, prosecution and sanctions, thus making sport corruption a low-risk crime and high-reward activity for criminals.
- The transborder dimension of the threats and challenges to sport integrity requires coordinated international cooperation of many actors and intergovernmental action. Prosecutors have an essential role in the protection of sport integrity at the level of investigations, trials and sanctioning procedures, however few prosecutors are aware of the seriousness of the threats and often lacking the necessary financial and human resources and international network to work effectively.

#### OBJECTIVES

- The Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS) set up under the authority of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)<sup>1</sup> of the Council of Europe shall strengthen international co-operation and exchange of information in the protection of the integrity of sport.
- The Network will:
  - Promote the exchange of information and good practices among its members, in partnership with the concerned entities and international organisations (such as the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE), the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), the Committee of Experts on the

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Article 10.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Board of EPAS.

Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL) or INTERPOL).

- Provide an international “forum” (reference body) devoted to investigation and criminal proceedings; capable of responding to sectorial expectations and facilitating the cooperation between prosecutors and relevant stakeholders, law enforcement and judiciary, integrity agencies, National Platforms, anti-doping agencies, sport movement, sports betting representatives, etc.
- Mobilise the Prosecutors in a maximum of countries, enabling them to know their counterparts in other jurisdictions and have direct contacts;
- Provide practical, educational and operational tools to facilitate the work of Prosecutors;
- Serve as a knowledge hub on the specific legal and institutional situations in the different countries regarding criminal cases related to sports integrity,

## MEMBERS

- Representatives of the prosecution system from member States of EPAS are members of MARS.
- Members shall be nominated by the national authorities responsible for managing the prosecution service. They shall be selected among serving prosecutors having a thorough knowledge of questions relating to the functioning of the prosecution system and where possible of sport integrity cases.
- EPAS will allocate resources to the Network based on the programme of activities and will, subject to their availability bear the travel and subsistence expenses for the participation of one representative per member State in Network meetings.
- Each member shall have one vote. Where more than one representative is nominated to attend the meeting, only one of them shall be entitled to take part in the voting.

## OBSERVERS AND INVITED PARTNERS

- The Network may invite observers, including representatives of the prosecution system from other member States of the Council of Europe, from other States Parties to one of the sport-related conventions ([ETS No. 135](#), [CETS No. 215](#) and [CETS No. 218](#)), from Observers States to the Council of Europe and of other Council of Europe bodies or external organisations, to attend its meetings and participate in its work, without the right to defrayal of expenses nor right to vote.

The Network establishes its working methods.

## APPENDIX V

### Draft declaration on sport integrity

The Committee of Ministers,

*Acknowledging* the importance of sport for society and its contribution to the promotion of the Council of Europe's values - human rights, democracy and the rule of law;

*Concerned* by the constantly evolving threats to sport integrity, thereby undermining the potential of sport and its role as a social, educational, cultural and economic asset, ultimately calling into question the public's trust and interest in sport;

*Determined to effectively combat the various threats to the integrity of sport in terms of combating the manipulation of sporting competitions and doping, but also corruption and all forms of violence, and ensure fair and clean competitions at all levels, in partnership with the organised sport movement and the entire sport community;*

*Acknowledging the global nature of these challenges and emphasising the significance of international cooperation and the relevance of the Council of Europe's conventions and their monitoring mechanisms;*

*Bearing in mind* the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ETS No. 5);

*Recalling* the Anti-Doping Convention (ETS No. 135), the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (CETS No. 215) and the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events (CETS No. 218);

*Considering* that the Council of Europe's Criminal Law Convention on Corruption (ETS No. 173), Civil Law Convention on Corruption (ETS No. 174) and the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198) can be instrumental in preserving sport integrity by providing comprehensive frameworks for preventing, investigating, and prosecuting corruption and money laundering in sports-related activities;

*Underlining* the importance of the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights for fighting discrimination and abuse in sport, and the recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe regarding good governance and ethics in sport;

*Recalling* Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States

on the Revised European Sports Charter adopted on 13 October 2021 which promotes a values-based sport and defines sport integrity as encompassing the components of personal, competitive and organisational integrity, the pursuit of which should commit all stakeholders;

*Bearing in mind* that the Council of Europe's strategic priorities in the field of sport (2022-2025) refer to the work of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) in promoting a holistic sport integrity policy;

*Convinced* of the need to secure a comprehensive approach to effectively protect and promote sport integrity and *considering* that the Council of Europe is uniquely placed to make significant further contributions thereto;

- 1) Stresses the importance of ratifying and implementing the above-mentioned sport-related Conventions as well as the conventions against corruption and money laundering which act as complementary instruments in the protection of persons, competitions and organisations in the context of sport,
- 2) Invites member States and sport organisations to enact, where appropriate, comprehensive legislation, regulations, codes of conduct and guidelines – ensuring their effective enforcement – to promote transparency, accountability, democracy and ethical behaviour in sport, including the establishment of robust governance systems, conflict-of-interest policies, whistle-blower protection mechanisms, effective investigation and prosecution of corruption, competitions manipulation, violence and other infringements of human rights and the rule of law in the sport context and to provide sufficient budgetary resources for these purposes,
- 3) Stresses the importance of educational programs and campaigns targeting athletes, coaches, support personnel, administrators, and other stakeholders to raise awareness about the risks and consequences of unethical and unlawful behaviour in the sport context,
- 4) Encourages enhanced cooperation among member States and relevant organisations acting at national, European and International levels to combat cross-border crime linked to sports,
- 5) Supports EPAS' initiative to strengthen the establishment of an international Network of magistrates and prosecutors responsible for sport integrity (MARS), with a view to promoting the collection, management and exchange of information, intelligence and good practices,
- 6) Encourages EPAS to review the policies and practices related to sport integrity in the context of the implementation of the European Sports Charter by its member States,
- 7) Welcomes the work of the International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) and calls upon it to pursue its transversal and multi-stakeholder approach and enhance the implementation of the highest applicable standards aimed at combating corruption and promote a culture of good governance in sport,
- 8) Invites EPAS to explore how to reinforce the standards in relation to sport integrity, including through a possible legal framework for upholding such integrity,
- 9) Invites EPAS to continue facilitating dialogue and co-operation in the field at national and international levels between the sports movement, public authorities, and all other key stakeholders, calling upon more countries to engage in this unique collaborative forum and to join EPAS,
- 10) Invites the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL) to specifically consider sport integrity

related matters in their future work, paying attention to corruption, money laundering and organised crime linked with sport,

11) Notes with interest the establishment at international and national levels of integrity entities entrusted with the safeguarding of various integrated dimensions of sport integrity,

12) Calls on member States to develop and enforce efficient policies protecting the various dimensions of sport integrity, underlining the shared responsibilities of all stakeholders in safeguarding a values-based sport, including sports organisations, athletes, civil society, and corporate and professional sectors.