

## 4th annual meeting of the Network of Magistrates / Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS Network)

1-2 July 2025, Strasbourg (France)

### Speakers' biographies

***Disclaimer:** Each speaker has provided their own picture and short biography which are published hereunder.*

#### Annual meeting (1st July)

**Jean-Yves Lourguilloux**  
Chair of the MARS Network



I have been a French judicial magistrate for 29 years and have spent most of my career in the Public Prosecutor's Office. After having held several positions within the jurisdictions of the South of France, I specialised in major complex crime, first as Head of the Organised Crime Section in Marseille and then as Deputy Public Prosecutor for the National Financial Prosecutor's Office. Since 2019, I have been Deputy Public Prosecutor in Marseille, Head of the Specialised Policing Division and in particular of Major Economic and Financial Crime.

**Sophie Kwasny**  
Executive Secretary, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe



Sophie Kwasny is the Head of the Sport Division of the Council of Europe (international organisation based in France). She is responsible for the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) and for the promotion and implementation of ground-breaking legal instruments upholding the integrity and values of sport. Combating doping and the manipulation of sport competitions, and promoting an integrated safety, security and service approach at sports events are the key aims of the three Council of Europe Sport Conventions. She is a graduate of the Strasbourg Law University and has been working for the Council of Europe for 28 years on a variety of topics ranging from data protection to prisons' reforms, or from the independence of the judiciary to nationality law. Her sole objective: Championing human rights in and through sport!

## **Madalina Diaconu**

**Law Professor, University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland)**



Madalina Diaconu is an Associate Professor at the University of Neuchâtel and a Swiss attorney-at-law specializing in Sports and Gambling Law. She is a renowned specialist in Sports Integrity, having worked and [researched](#) in this field for more than fifteen years.

A former magistrate in Romania, Dr. Diaconu notably worked for the [International Olympic Committee](#) (IOC), the Swiss lottery ([Loterie Romande](#)) and for the [European Court of Justice](#). She is also a member of the [UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body](#).

## **Elena Casero**

**Programme Manager, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe**



Elena Casero is a Programme Manager at the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport ([EPAS](#)), a Council of Europe intergovernmental platform of co-operation on sports policies. EPAS currently counts 41 member states and up to 30 partner sports organisations.

At EPAS, Elena Casero is the co-ordinator of the Council of Europe's Network of Magistrates / Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (the [MARS Network](#)) and of the DACCS database on alleged cases of corruption in sport. She is also responsible for the "[Start to Talk](#)" project on child safeguarding in sport.

She is a qualified lawyer with a six-year experience in private practice in Sport and Entertainment, Litigation and Arbitration at the Spanish law firm Garrigues. She has also served as an assistant lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights.

Elena Casero has written articles on child safeguarding in sport, anti-doping, dispute resolution and commercial rights in the field of sport, and on the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights concerning the rights of persons with migrant and refugee backgrounds and persons with disabilities. She has participated as a speaker in numerous conferences and seminars and has taught Master's level courses.

Elena Casero holds a Bachelor and Master of Laws and a BSc and Master of Management and Business Administration from the Carlos III University (Madrid, Spain).

### **Ana Boskovic**

**Programme Manager, MONEYVAL, Council of Europe**



I work as a Programme Manager at the Council of Europe Committee MONEYVAL, where I offer expert assistance in evaluating jurisdictions against FATF standards, with a particular focus on legal and law enforcement issues. Additionally, I am involved in the Conference of the Parties to the Warsaw Convention (COP 198), contributing to the analysis of the implementation of key provisions such as the reversal of the burden of proof, liability of legal persons, and asset management. Prior to working for MONEYVAL, I was a Special State Prosecutor in Montenegro, specialising in combating various types of crime, including organised crime, corruption, and money laundering.

### **Giorgi Jokhadze**

**Programme Manager, Cybercrime Division, Council of Europe**



Giorgi Jokhadze currently works as Programme Manager at the Cybercrime Division of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, having worked previously at Cybercrime Programme Office (Bucharest, Romania). Since 2015, he is in charge of joint EU/Council of Europe regional projects addressing cybercrime and electronic evidence in the Eastern Partnership region, with particular focus on Ukraine since 2022.

He has previously worked, in various management and consulting posts, with the Government of Georgia, international organizations (ICRC, UNODC, OECD, etc.) and non-profit organizations in Georgia and abroad on a variety of matters related to public international law, criminal justice, intellectual property and personal data protection, specializing in regulatory aspects and practice of cybercrime and information/cyber-security in recent years.

Giorgi Jokhadze holds degrees in International Law from Tbilisi State University (Georgia) and Lund University /Raoul Wallenberg Institute (Sweden).

### **Jens Sejer Andersen**

**Founder and Senior Advisor, Play the Game**



Jens Sejer Andersen is a journalist, founder of and senior advisor at Play the Game, an initiative aiming at raising the ethical standards of sport and promoting democracy, transparency, and freedom of expression in world sport.

Through its 13 international conferences since 1997, its website, news production and research initiatives, Play the Game has become a unique platform for raising

awareness on challenges to modern sport, such as corruption in organizations, match-fixing, doping, unsustainable mega-events and the need for more active sports participation policies.

Andersen has acted as a coordinator of several international research projects aiming at raising governance standards in sport. The first was the EU-supported "Action for Good Governance in International Sports Organisations" (2012-2013) which led to a new benchmarking tool for sports governance, the [Sports Governance Observer](#).

This tool was first used in 2015 for the most comprehensive analysis so far on the governance of the 35 international Olympic federations. The SGO tool has later been refined and applied on 11 of the same federations in 2018 and 2019, and it is available for online benchmarking.

He is also coordinated the "[National Sports Governance Observer](#)" which enjoyed EU support from 2017-2018 and later evolved to include data from 25 countries around the world. Other projects include "[National Anti-Doping Governance Observer](#)" (2019-21) and "[Strengthening Athlete Power in Sport](#)" (2020-23).

Within the Council of Europe, Jens Sejer Andersen chaired the Consultative Committee for the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) 2016-2020. He is a member of the Permanent Consultative Committee of UNESCO and regularly attend expert meetings on sports integrity in the European Union.

Moreover, Jens Sejer Andersen is an active sports political commentator, and a frequent speaker at international conferences, having addressed several high-level conferences in the realms of UNESCO, the Council of Europe, and the European Union.

## **Corentin Segalen**

### **Chair of the Group of Copenhagen, Council of Europe**



Corentin Segalen joined the French Gambling Authority (ANJ) in 2015 and has been coordinator of the French national platform against match-fixing since its establishment in 2016. In the same year, he contributed to the creation of the international network of national platforms, the Group of Copenhagen, and was elected Chair of this network in 2021, with subsequent re-election in 2023. Since 2022, he has been the main coordinator of the MotivAction project, co-funded by the European Union. This is the first Erasmus+ project run by national platforms against sports manipulation, which aims to encourage athletes, referees and coaches to report all attempts to approach match-fixers. Last year, Corentin coordinated the monitoring of sports manipulation during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, with the help of 24 countries.

**Ignazio Francesco Abbadessa**  
**Deputy Public Prosecutor, Italy**

I am a magistrate, I am working as Deputy Prosecutor of Prosecutor Office's Bari, specialised in matters of domestic violence, safety on workplace, hate crimes. Before I worked in Cremona, where I directed the investigations on the case "Lastbet". In Bari, I have dealt with several cases about doping, violence in sport events, match-fixing, crime organisations, suprematism and extremism.

I am a member of the European Judicial Network and responsible in my office for Information Technology.

I am a PhD in Administrative law and I wrote several articles for specialised journals on corruption and administrative law.

As a speaker, I have participated in numerous conferences and meetings regarding matters of integrity in sport, money laundering, corruption in public administrations, hate speech.

**Agnieszka Ostrowska**  
**Intelligence and Investigation Officer, Polish Anti-Doping Agency**



Agnieszka Ostrowska is an expert in pharmaceutical, migration-related, and anti-doping crime.

She collaborates with EUROPOL and EUROJUST and serves as an ad hoc forensic expert in cases involving organised and pharmaceutical crime. Acted as an ad hoc expert for the Council of Europe's Expert Group on Whistleblower Protection (T-DO WP).

As Head of Intelligence and Investigations Team at POLADA, she coordinated POLADA's involvement in three EUROJUST Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) – the first anti-doping agency worldwide to do so. In 2024, the investigative work of her team, carried out in close cooperation with Polish law enforcement authorities, was recognised with a special award from the EU and WADA for actions targeting illegal steroid laboratories.

Regularly delivers specialised training to prosecutors, police officers, including participants from international law enforcement agencies in organised pharmaceutical crime and anti-doping investigations. Cooperates with the Medical University of Warsaw in the areas of criminology and pharmaceutical sciences.



## **Cleo Schyvinck**

**Postdoctoral researcher in sport management at Ghent University (Belgium)**



Cleo Schyvinck is a post-doctoral researcher at Ghent University at the department of Movement and Sport Sciences. Her expertise centres around responsible management in sport. The past four years, she coordinated the Prevention of Fraud in Sports (PrOFS) project. In March 2025, she joined the Safe Sport Lab to conduct research on creating safe and motivating climates in sport organisations.

## **Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux**

**Chair of the MARS Network**

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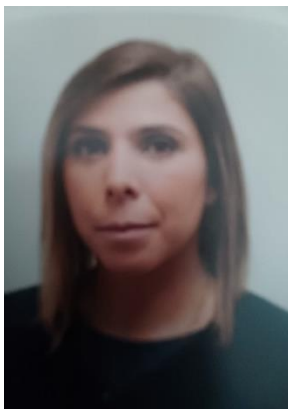
## **Ignazio Francesco Abbadessa**

**Deputy Public Prosecutor, Italy**

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## **Catarina Susana Oliveira e Sousa Esteves de Azevedo**

**Public Prosecutor, Portugal**



Graduated in Law from the University of Coimbra in 2001.

Postgraduate degree in Business Law from the University of Coimbra in 2005.

Master's degree in Forensic Legal Science from the University of Coimbra in 2015.

Between 2001 and 2009 worked as a lawyer.

In 2010, training to be a public prosecutor.

Public Prosecutor since 2011.

In 2017, specialized in the area of criminal investigation and in 2020 started to work in the area of investigation of violent crime, and economic-financial crime.

Since September 2022, work in the Porto Regional Penal Investigation Department, in the area of investigation of highly organized and economic and financial crime.

### **Humaid Alameemi**

#### **Anti-Corruption Coordinator, INTERPOL Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Center (IFCACC)**

Humaid is leading anti-corruption operations at INTERPOL. He is a seconded officer from UAE to INTERPOL since December 2016. He has a 24-year experience working in LEAS, which covers AML, CFT and corruption as well as Asset recovery. He has a masters' degree in transnational crime prevention, a banking diploma as well as a bachelor's degree in law.

### **Pablo Salazar Mendías**

#### **Head of Office, Europol – European Financial and Economic Crime Centre (EFECC)**



52 years old, studied Law degree and Criminology.

Member of the Spanish National Police for more than 20 years, he is Chief Inspector and led a unit dealing with Economic and Financial Crime in the region of Gran Canaria (Spain).

He joined Europol in 2017 as specialist in the Analysis Project Corruption, this is a project that provides analytical and operational support to Member States in on-going investigations in public and private corruption investigations.

Since 2024 he is the Head of the office of the Analysis Project Corruption at Europol.

### **Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux**

#### **Chair of the MARS Network**

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### **Extended session (2 July)**

Facilitated by **Elena Casero**

**Programme Manager, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe**

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### **Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux**

#### **Chair of the MARS Network**

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## **Hanne Juncher**

### **Director of Security, Integrity and Rule of Law, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe**



Before becoming Director of Security, Integrity and Rule of Law, Hanne was the Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and in charge of the Council of Europe's action against economic crime, including MONEYVAL and large-scale technical assistance programmes on economic crime.

Before that she headed the Council of Europe's work on justice and legal co-operation, including the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), on private and public law, and on judicial reform.

Prior to that, she worked for the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT), represented the Council of Europe in North Macedonia, and headed the Council of Europe's human rights support and awareness-raising work.

Hanne joined the Council of Europe as a legal adviser in 1997. She also worked for the Ministries of Defence of Denmark and the United Kingdom. She has postgraduate degrees in law from Copenhagen and Essex Universities.

## **Giuseppe Deleonardis**

### **Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer at the International Olympic Committee (IOC)**



Giuseppe has served as the IOC Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer since July 2025. In this capacity, he leads the continual updating of the IOC Code of Ethics and its implementing provisions, guides improvements to sports integrity frameworks, and oversees the IOC's ethics agenda through multi-stakeholder engagement in an evolving international environment.

Giuseppe joined the IOC in 2017 and the Ethics and Compliance Office in 2020, later serving as Deputy Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer and coordinating integrity education, cooperation efforts between sports, criminal justice and law enforcement, and stakeholder engagement across the Olympic Movement.

Before the IOC, he spent more than a decade in management consulting, advising global financial and telecommunication groups in governance, risk and compliance.

An Italian national, he holds an MSc in Business Administration from Bocconi University and completed a Leadership Development Programme at IMD. Giuseppe frequently represents the IOC in international fora and is a regular speaker at ethics and compliance conferences, promoting collaborative solutions to protect sports integrity.



## **Jenni Kennedy**

### **Senior Director, Intelligence and Investigations, International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITA)**



Jenni joined the ITIA in September 2022 and leads a team of intelligence specialists, data analysts and experienced investigators. She oversees the sourcing of intelligence from a wide range of sources in addition to the investigations into breaches of both the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program and the Tennis Anti-Doping Program in professional international tennis. She is a member of the ITIA's executive management team and has played a key role in developing the ITIA's first strategy since it became an independent entity. Jenni started her career in law enforcement before moving to sports integrity. Prior to joining the ITIA, she spent more than 15 years at the English Football Association as Head of Integrity. Jenni has led on some of the most high-profile investigations in both football and tennis in recent years. Her work in both sports has involved concerns regarding organised crime syndicates and she continues to regularly work in liaison with international law enforcement and statutory agencies.

## **Benjamin Schindler**

### **Senior Legal Affairs Manager, International Basketball Federation (FIBA)**



Benjamin Schindler is a Legal Counsel specialised in Sports Law and with over 10 years' experience in the sport sector.

Benjamin Schindler is currently employed by the Fédération Internationale de Basketball (FIBA) as their Senior Legal Affairs Manager. Although his focus has been on various areas such as regulations, transfer disputes, disciplinary, governance, eligibility, event hosting agreements, compliance, disputes in front of CAS and IP, he has been tasked to develop FIBA's efforts against Match Fixing at FIBA since 2019. Before this, he worked as a sponsoring contract specialist in Audemars Piguet (luxury Swiss watches). Benjamin Schindler is also the IOC Single Point of Contact for integrity for FIBA and handles integrity related investigations as well as its relevant disciplinary process. He is lecturer from time to time for the FIFA Master, AISTS Master, MESGO, University Neuchatel and other universities.

Benjamin Schindler studied law in Geneva, Switzerland and then obtained a Master in Sports Law in University of Neuchatel writing a thesis about Intellectual Property in Sport. In 2023, he obtained from the University of Lausanne (in cooperation with UEFA) a certificate for the successful completion of FIGHT THE FIX, an anti match-fixing education programme.

## **Pedro Fonseca**

**Director, National Anti-Corruption Unit, Judicial Police, Portugal**



2022-2025 – Director of the National Anti-Corruption Unit of the Judicial Police

SENIOR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COORDINATOR: 2018-2022 – Lisbon Directorate and National Anti-Corruption Unit

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION COORDINATOR: 2001-2018 - National Anti-Corruption Unit and Setúbal Directorate

Professional Training:

- 1998 – Inspector Training Course
- 2001 – Coordinator Training Course

Academic Background:

- Law Degree (Law School of Lisbon)
- Postgraduate degree in Economic and European Criminal Law (Law School of Coimbra)

Teaching activity:

- Trainer (criminal law and criminal procedure) at the Judicial Police and Criminal Sciences Institute
- Trainer in Postgraduate courses at Lisbon Law School and at the Accounting and Administration Institute of Lisbon

## **Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux**

**Deputy Public Prosecutor, France**

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## **Ann Lukowiak**

**Federal Magistrate, Belgium**



Federal magistrate working at the Federal prosecutor's Office from Belgium, working in the team of organised crime. Since 2009 my main focus is on trafficking in human beings, migrant smuggling and CSAM (child sexual abuse material).

Organised crime is an offence affecting the society and so is fraud in Sport in general as well. Beloved Eric Bisschop asked me to look into the case of Maestro not sure of its outcome at that moment. For me it was the first encounter with match fixing. It became soon clear that we had to deal with organised crime affecting the market place. Furthermore, this was not a local crime, but a transnational crime needing the cooperation of other countries.

Each investigation shows possible vulnerabilities of our legal system, prosecution and police capacity and with proper evaluation changes can be made. As organised crime works beyond borders the international cooperation is essential.

**Mikołaj Tyburchy**  
**Prosecutor, Poland**



On 1 August 2007 Mikołaj Tyburchy became the lowest-level prosecutor at the District Public Prosecutor's Office in Chełmno and Grudziądz, and then, from 27 November 2023, a prosecutor at the Circuit Prosecutor's Office, initially in Bydgoszcz and then in Warsaw. His duties included the conduct and supervise of all types of investigations, including cases related to the manipulation of sports competitions and the security of mass events, including sports competitions. Above all, however, I specialises in economic cases, particularly those involving VAT fraud and extortion of European Union funds.

As of 1 January 2019, seconded to the Ministry of Justice in the Criminal Law Legislative Department as Chief Specialist within the Criminal Division and the European and International Criminal Law Division. As this time becomes member of the Polish National Platform created by the Ministry of Sport and Tourism within the framework of the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions.

From 1 March 2023 to the present, seconded to the Economic Crime Department of the National Prosecutor's Office with the main responsibilities: supervising proceedings in multithreaded and factually and legally complex cases, including those under superior official supervision, in particular in the field of VAT extortion and cases related to EU funds, coordination of cases concerning violation of EU sanctions.

Prior to the formal establishment of the MARS Network was actively involved in pilot projects organized by the Council of Europe and the Copenhagen Group, namely: Global Football Alert Analysis Workshop (GFAAW) and Football Local Alerts Global Strategy (FLAGS), which aimed to improve the framework for cooperation in combating soccer match tampering among all stakeholders.

Member of the MARS Network created by the Council of Europe and member the Bureau, actively participating in meetings at the international level in connection with the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (most recently at the Interpol Match-Fixing Task Force and INTERPOL-IOC Regional Integrity in Sport Workshop, held in Prague on October 15-16, 2024).

**Konstantinos Spyropoulos**  
**Prosecutor, Greece**

Konstantinos Spyropoulos is a Sports Prosecutor in the First Instance Court of Athens (Greece). He has the authority to conduct investigations and prosecute for all crimes related to sports activity such as match fixing, illegal betting, money laundering and criminal organisations. He is also a member of the national platform of sports integrity in Greece.

**Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux**  
**Chair of the MARS Network**

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