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11/2024 - 05/2025



start to talk

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



Strasbourg, 2 December 2024

EPAS(2024)54rev

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

Annual meeting of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport

Seminar on trauma-informed child safeguarding practices in sport

Organised in the framework of the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe by Luxembourg

Tuesday, 3 December 2024
9.30am – 12.30pm (CET)

Hybrid seminar
Room 7 – Palais de l'Europe
Online on the Kudo platform

Working languages: English and French
(with simultaneous interpretation)

Concept note and programme

Background

Governments and sport associations acknowledge the crucial need to ensure child safeguarding as a way of creating safer sport environments for all, especially the most vulnerable.

The Council of Europe's [Pool of Experts on Safe Sport](#) is a unique group of multidisciplinary experts covering all forms of violence and abuse against children in sport. The Pool brings together policy-makers, researchers and academics, specialists supporting people with lived experience, (child) safeguarding officers, trainers/consultants and agents of change. The Pool provides opportunities for peer-learning, capacity building and dialogue amongst those who have a role to play in combating and preventing violence and abuse in sport.

The work of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport is supported by [“Start to Talk”](#), a child safe guarding in sport flagship project of the [Council of Europe's Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport \(EPAS\)](#).

During 2024, “Start to Talk” and the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport have explored different ways of incorporating a trauma-informed approach into child safeguarding practices and, as part of this work, this seminar provides an opportunity for discussion between high-level experts in the field.

This seminar has been co-organised within the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Pool of Experts on Safe Sport, which takes place this year in the framework of the Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Objectives

The aim of this seminar is to support the development of effective child safeguarding policies and practices by focussing on an essential dimension: the need for a trauma-informed approach.

What is trauma-informed practice? Why is it vital and how can it be embedded in the development and implementation of child safeguarding practices, for instance in policy-making, the training of relevant stakeholders and the engagement of people with lived experience of abuse?

This seminar will provide an opportunity for professionals from different sectors to exchange views and knowledge on trauma-informed child safeguarding practices. The seminar will offer a reflection on how to better understand the pervasive nature of trauma (that has occurred in, through and around sport) to promote healing and recovery environments rather than sport practices that may inadvertently re-traumatise.

Registration

This seminar is open to the public, subject to prior registration.

Practical arrangements

The seminar will be held in Room 7 of the Palais de l'Europe in Strasbourg. Please arrive in advance allowing enough time to come through security as December can be particularly busy. You will need to bring your passport or identity document. You will be required to show this at the entrance of the Council of Europe premises. For those unable to attend in person, a hybrid option is available on the Kudo online platform.

The seminar will be followed by a buffet lunch offered by the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the Council of Europe from 12.30pm to 1.30pm at the Bar des Parlementaires, Palais de l'Europe.

Working languages

The working languages will be English and French, with simultaneous interpretation in both languages.

Programme

Moderator: *Francine Hetherington Raveney*, Deputy Executive Secretary, EPAS, Council of Europe.

9.30am-9.45am **Opening words**

Hanne Juncher, Director of Security, Integrity and Rule of Law, Directorate General: Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe.

Georges Mischo, Minister of Sport, Luxembourg.

Delphine Costantini, Chargée de Mission, Directorate of National Education, Youth and Sport, Monaco.

9.45am-11.00am **First panel: The importance of adopting a trauma-informed approach to ensure better protection of children in sport**

Catherine Moyon de Baecque, President, Commission for the Fight against Sexual Violence and Discrimination in Sport, French National and Olympic Sports Committee.

Alexandre Husting, Adviser, Ministry of Sport of Luxembourg, Permanent representation of Luxembourg to the EU, President of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), and member of the Council of Europe's Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport.

Mathilde Grenet, Founder, *En Garde*, member of the Council of Europe's Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport.

Claudia Villa, Safeguarding Specialist, Centre for Sport and Human Rights (CSHR), member of the Council of Europe's Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport.

Katie Fudakowski, Partner, Farrer & Co, member of the Council of Europe's Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport.

11.00am-11.15am **Coffee break**

11.15am-12.20pm **Second panel: Examples of trauma-informed practice in child safeguarding**

Emily Austin, Senior Policy & Advocacy Specialist, The Army of Survivors.

Elena Casero, Programme Manager, EPAS, Council of Europe.

Paul Bercea, International child safeguarding trainer and consultant, member of the Council of Europe's Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport.

Ovidiu Măjină, Senior Project Officer, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe.

Francesca Montagna, Programme Manager, Secretariat of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO), Council of Europe.

12.25pm-12.30pm **Closing words**

Sophie Kwasny, Executive Secretary of EPAS, Council of Europe.

Georges Mischo, Minister of Sport, Luxembourg.

12.30pm-1.30pm **Reception** hosted by the Permanent Representation of Luxembourg
Bar des Parlementaires, Palais de l'Europe.