

Strasbourg, 10 August 2023

EPAS(2023)55

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

15th meeting of the Consultative Committee

Strasbourg, 8 June 2023
9.30am – 12.30pm

Meeting report

1. Opening of the meeting

Irena Guidikova, Head of the Children's Rights and Sport Values Department opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

The quorum was confirmed by the Secretariat. The list of participants is appended to this report (see Appendix II)¹.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as set out in document EPAS(2023)24 was adopted (see Appendix I).

3. Update by the Secretariat

Irena Guidikova informed the delegations of recent developments. The Consultative Committee took note of the cessation of membership of Canada and Belarus of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) as of January 2024 and a request for all CC members to advocate for EPAS membership, of the context and results of the IVth Council of Europe Summit of Head of State and Government held in Reykjavík on 16 and 17 May 2023, including the creation of a Register of Damage for Ukraine, of the latest initiatives in sport by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and of an overview of the results of the survey conducted on behalf of the Sport Division.

4. CC membership

Based on the final decision of the Governing Board, 11 of the 12 organisations who had requested renewal of their membership of the Consultative Committee, had their membership renewed.

Results:

- 25 member States voted.
- 11 organisations obtained 25 votes in favour of their renewal.
- The FARE Network (Football Against Racism in Europe) obtained 24 votes in favour of its renewal and 1 abstention.
- The International SAMBO Federation (FIAS) obtained:
 - 5 votes in favour of its renewal
 - 17 votes against
 - 3 abstentions

	Requested renewal	Renewed
European Athlete as Student Network (EAS)	✓	✓
European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)	✓	✓
European Olympic Committee (EOC)	✓	✓
European Paralympic Committee (EPC)	✓	✓
EU Athletes	✓	✓
European Physical Education Association (EUPEA)	✓	✓
International Sambo Federation (FIAS)	✓	
Football Against Racism (FARE)	✓	✓
International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE)	✓	✓
International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA)	✓	✓
International School Sport Federation (ISF)	✓	✓
Play the Game (PTG)	✓	✓
Special Olympics Europe Eurasia (SOEE)		
Sports Rights Owners Coalition (SROC)	✓	✓

Jens Sejer Andersen, Play the Game, commented that an email had been received from Michal Buchel expressing his disappointment on behalf of FIAS for not having their membership renewed. Jens Sejer Andersen, said that having worked with FIAS and Michal Buchel closely at the CC, he was surprised that their mandate had not been renewed as EPAS had benefited from the hard work of promotion of EPAS in a very difficult environment. He queried the current state of affairs vis-à-vis FIAS non-renewal.

The Secretariat responded that the decision by the Governing Board to renew or not any member organisation of the Consultative Committee was final. EPAS was also grateful for Michal Buchel's contribution to the CC and had shared these thoughts with FIAS in a letter.

Andrej Pisl, EUSA, mentioned that he found it a bit strange because in the past, the Consultative Committee was consulted on renewals and questioned whether he had missed this step in the process.

The Secretariat explained that an email had been sent to the CC at the beginning of the year with a list of member organisations due for renewal with a request for comments and that no responses had been received from the CC.

James Ogilvie, UEFA mentioned that several members of the CC had raised some concerns regarding the non-renewal of FIAS and would like some clarifications. This should be reported back to the Governing Board.

The Secretariat took note of these comments.

5. Elections

Elections were held for the following positions:

- Chair
- Bureau member

Pauline Johanet (Peace and Sport) and Ophelie Delobel (ISF) were nominated as scrutineers for all elections at this meeting.

24 organisations were entitled to vote. 24 ballot papers were received (including the 2 proxies from Alice Milliat to IFSO and GAISF to CSHR).

Chair

A first election was held to elect a new Chair for the remainder of the current mandate (one year).

Candidacies received in advance of the meeting by the Secretariat were as follows:

Charlotte Girard-Fabre, IFSO
Mogens Kirkeby, ISCA

No additional candidates for the position of Chair of the CC were submitted at the meeting.

Both candidates were given an opportunity to introduce themselves before the voting.

The results of the election were:

Candidate	Votes in favour
Charlotte Girard-Fabre	14
Mogens Kirkeby	10

Bureau member

As the newly elected Chair - Charlotte Girard-Fabre – had previously been a Bureau member, a second election was held to fill her vacated position on the CC bureau.

Only one candidacy was submitted by Andrej Pisl and therefore it was decided to conduct the election by acclamation.

Andrej Pisl was voted unanimously to the Bureau of the Consultative Committee.

Position	Name of Candidate	Votes in favour
Bureau member	Andre Pisl	24

6. European Sports Charter Working Group (ESC WG)

The Secretariat explained the context of the ESC WG and provided updates. According to the mandate of the ESC WG, CC should be represented by one member. Careful attention was taken to clarify the difference between the ESC WG and the expert team invited to participate in specific Support and Follow-up visits on the European Sports Charter in a member State.

Following a show of hands, three CC members expressed interest in the role of CC representative on the ESC WG:

- Guido Battaglia, Centre for Sport and Human Rights;
- Baiba Veisa, European Fair Play Movement;
- Mark Lichtenhein, Sports Rights Owners Coalition.

Ballots were then distributed, and the results of the vote were noted with the help of the same two scrutineers. Guido Battaglia received the most votes and was elected to be part of the ESC WG.

Position	Name of Candidate	Votes in favour
ESC WG member	Guido Battaglia, CSHR	11
ESC WG member	Baiba Veisa, EFPM	7
ESC WG member	Mark Lichtenhein	4
	Spoiled ballots	2

Following the vote for the member of the ESC WG, the Chair asked, by show of hands, which members of the CC would like to be considered for the role of CC representative on the expert team for European Sports Charter Support and Follow-up Visits. As a reminder, for each visit (three per year), a new team is constituted including one CC member. Five members of the CC (including the Chair) expressed interest in participating in Support and Follow up visits. The following members of the CC will therefore be considered first when appointing each member to the ESC S&F team (in no particular order).

- Annamarie Phelps, European Olympic Committee (EOC);
- Hugh Torrance, European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF);
- Charlotte Girard Fabre, International Federation for Sports Officials (IFSO);
- Jens Sejer Andersen, Play the Game (PTG);
- James Ogilvie, Union of European Football Associations (UEFA).

7. Events

The Secretariat provided information on the events calendar, providing information on upcoming events and bringing additional insight into the previous events. CC members were thanked for their attendance at previous events and highly encouraged to keep up with the upcoming events such as the Forum on Sport and Human Rights (June 2023) and the Diversity Conference (November 2023).

James Ogilvie of UEFA requested further understanding as to why the *Webinar on risks to health from sport, including concussion* was no longer on the agenda for 2023. The Secretariat responded that the team was making every attempt to optimise its resources, particularly human resources and for this reason, the webinar would take place at a later date when the workload was a little lighter.

8. Tour de table

The Chair invited those organisations who had prepared and shared a presentation in advance to present first: CSHR, EAS, EUSA, IDO, ISCA, SROC. Each organisation shared both its upcoming events and most importantly, how its work was directly linked to the European Sports Charter. Following this first phase of presentations, a tour de table took place where each CC member present was also able to do the same in a few minutes.

9. AOB

No items.

10. Date and place of the next meeting

The next Consultative Committee meeting will take place at the next EPAS Plenary meeting (date communicated on 9 June at the joint meeting with the Governing Board: 29-30 May 2024).

Appendix 1: Agenda

1.	Opening of the meeting Irena Guidikova, <i>Head of the Children's Rights and Sport Values Department.</i>
2.	Adoption of the agenda
3.	Update by the Secretariat
4.	CC membership Overview of membership 4.1. Renewals
5.	Elections 5.1. Information on candidatures received in writing 5.2. Oral nominations of candidates 5.3. Introduction round of candidates 5.4. Information on the organisation of the elections 5.5. Election 5.5.1. Election of the Chair
6.	European Sports Charter Working Group 6.1 CC Representative
7.	Events 7.1. Webinar on protecting and promoting the human rights of transgender and intersex athletes in sport, 24 April 2023 7.2. "All In Plus" joint EU-CoE project launch event, 10 May 2023 7.3. Unconscious bias training session, (Strasbourg), 7 June 2023 7.4. Forum on Sport and Human Rights - Third edition on Data Protection, Hybrid (Strasbourg), 30 June 2023 7.5. Annual meeting of the Pool of International Experts in Safe Sport, Hybrid (Strasbourg), 5 December 2023 7.6. Follow-on meeting of the Mapping of Sports Facilities (TBD) 7.7. Diversity Conference on the Inclusion of Child Migrants and Refugees in and through Sport, (Liechtenstein), 28-29 November 2023 7.8 Other events
8.	Tour de Table
9.	Any other business
10.	Date and place of the next meeting

Appendix 2: List of Participants

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