

Strasbourg, 5 December 2022

EPAS(2022)58rev

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

## **Annual meeting of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport**

Tuesday, 6 December 2022

9.00-13.10 and 14.30-17.00

Hybrid meeting

Room 9, Palais de l'Europe

Online on the Kudo platform

**Concept note and agenda**

## Background

The [Revised European Sports Charter \(ESC\)](#) calls upon Council of Europe member states to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to take part in sport in a safe, secure and healthy environment. Article 8 of the ESC calls upon stakeholders to *protect all people, particularly the young, from violence, harassment and abuse, ensure the safety and security of individuals and foster respect for and protection of internationally recognised human rights, including social rights.*

The Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport was set up in the context of the EU-CoE [“Child Safeguarding in Sport”](#) (CSiS) project to contribute to the work on safe sport issues. The Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport is the single-entry point to a unique source of multi-disciplinary expertise covering all forms of violence and abuse against children in sport. Furthermore, this pool provides opportunities for peer-learning, capacity building and fostering exchanges among those who have a role to play in combating and preventing violence and abuse in sport. After the finalisation of the CSiS project in June 2022 and in order to sustain its impact and relevance, the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport of the Council of Europe has supported the continuation of the work of the pool, linking it to another ground-breaking project of the Council of Europe: [“Start to Talk”](#).

According to the mandate of the Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport, its members are invited to take part in the annual meeting to discuss their annual working programme, provide insights into EPAS activities and share their experience and network.

Following the interest in the pool of experts' activities expressed by members of the Governing Board and Consultative Committee of EPAS, their members have been invited to participate in the afternoon session of the annual meeting.

## Objectives of the meeting

The objectives of the morning *in camera* meeting:

- Discussing the pool of experts' goals' and defining priorities for the work of the pool of experts during 2023 and 2024, including specific deliverables.
- Setting up the 2023 and 2024 working programme for the pool of experts:
- Exchanging information on activities relating to safe sport:
  - o update on the activities of the Council of Europe in the field of safe sport;
  - o update on the activities of the pool members.
- Presenting the annual activities' template (to be submitted by 31 January 2023).
- Discussing relevant points on the pool procedures and functioning.

The objectives of the afternoon meeting, to be attended by a broader audience:

- Discussing a model of child participation in the development of a roadmap on the implementation of child safeguarding policies.

## Preparing for the meeting

Pool members are invited to reflect on the following points:

For the morning session

- What should be the goals of the pool of experts?
- What kind of deliverable(s) should be prepared by the pool of experts?
- What would be your contribution in the preparation of this/these deliverable(s)?
- Present an update on your relevant activities in the area of safe sport during the last half of 2022 and present upcoming events in 2023 that might be of interest to other experts. Kindly limit your intervention to **one minute maximum. If you would like to present an update on your relevant activities, please let the EPAS Secretariat know.**

For the afternoon session

- What are the risks/benefits of child participation in child safeguarding policymaking in the field of sport?
- How can we make sure that children's voices are heard in policymaking processes?
- What could we do to help sport organisations to effectively include children's voices?

**If you would like to intervene providing your views on these questions during the afternoon session, please, let the EPAS Secretariat know.**

## Practical arrangements

The meeting will be held in room 9 of the Palais de l'Europe, Avenue de l'Europe, Strasbourg. Please, allow enough time for identification and security access to the building and have with you a passport or identity card, which you will be required to show 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.

Working languages will be English and French with simultaneous EN/FR interpretation provided.

## Agenda

*The meeting will be co-moderated by Sophie Kwasny, Head of the Sport Division and EPAS Executive Secretary, Francine Raveney, EPAS Deputy Executive Secretary, and Elena Casero, Senior Project Officer (Start to Talk)*

	<b>MORNING SESSION (technical session – pool members only)</b>	
1.	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Sophie Kwasny, Head of the Sport Division, Council of Europe</i>  <i>Óskar Þór Ármannsson, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Education and Children, Iceland</i>	9.00-9.10
2.	<b>Adoption of the agenda</b> <i>EPAS(2022)58</i>	9.10-9.15
3.	<b>CoE work relevant to safeguarding in sport</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Start to Talk</a></li> </ul> <i>Elena Casero, Senior Project Officer, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport, Council of Europe</i>	9.15-9.25
4.	<b>Presentation, Communication Counselor, Iceland</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Communication Counselor for sports and youth in Iceland</li> </ul> <i>Sigurbjorg Sigurpálsdottir and Aron Freyr Kristjansson, Sports and youth Activities Communication Counselor, Iceland</i>	9.25-9.40
5.	<b>Tour de table</b> Pool members briefly present an update on their work (maximum 1 minute)	9.40-10.20
6.	<b>Pool procedures and functioning</b>	10.20-10.40
	<b>Coffee break</b>	10.40-10.55
7.	<b>Working group session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the tasks</li> <li>• Group discussion on the pool's goals, deliverables and working programme for 2023 and 2024</li> </ul>	10.55-12.55
8.	<b>Presentation of the annual activities template</b>	12.55-13.05

9.	<b>Any other business</b>	13.05-13.10
	<b>Lunch break</b>	13.10-14.30
	<b>AFTERNOON SESSION (hybrid - open)</b>	
10.	<b>WELCOME</b> <i>Francine Raveney, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe</i>	14.30 – 14.35
11.	<b>Round table: Child participation in safeguarding policymaking</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations <i>Laura Lundy, Professor, Queen University Belfast, United Kingdom</i> <i>Melanie Lang, Reader (Associate Professor), Edge Hill University, United Kingdom</i> <i>José Ignacio Alonso Romero, Child Protection Manager, Athletic Club de Bilbao, Spain</i> <i>Iris Hugo-Bouvier, Football and Social Responsibility Coordinator, UEFA</i> <i>Maria Asensio Velasco and Anna Bracco, Children's Rights Division, Council of Europe</i></li> <li>• Round table: participants are invited to present views on the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What are the risks/benefits of child participation in child safeguarding policymaking in the field of sport?</li> <li>○ How can we make sure that children's voices are heard in policymaking processes?</li> <li>○ What could we do to help sport organisations to effectively include children's voices?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	14.35-16.45 (inc. 15m break)
12.	<b>Closing words</b>	16.45-17.00