

European Union and the Council of Europe:
co-operation on issues relating to sport in 2016 and beyond

A buffet lunch event to mark the launch of three landmark EU-CoE joint projects within the field of sport

Thursday 21 January 2016, 12:30-14:00
Portuguese Gallery (Restaurant Bleu)
Palais de l'Europe
Strasbourg, France

In 2016, the European Union and the Council of Europe will continue to develop their partnership in the field of sport by embarking upon the co-funding of three new joint projects. They will be implemented by the Council of Europe, in close co-operation with relevant stakeholders and partners. Two of the projects are the subject of Direct Grant Agreements with the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme; the third project was awarded as a result of the Council of Europe's successful bid to a DG Home call for proposals on "New integrated mechanisms for cooperation between public and private actors to identify sports betting risks".

This buffet lunch is an occasion to mark this collaboration, and to bring together the stakeholders of the projects during the official kick-off meetings of the two Erasmus+ projects. It will also enable members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament to be kept up to date on co-operation initiatives in the area of sport by both Organisations.

STATEMENTS BY:

- Ms Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe;
- Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of Human Dignity and Equality, Council of Europe;
- Mr António Silva Mendes, Director for Youth and Sport, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission;
- Mr Santiago Fisas, Co-President of the European Parliament's Intergroup on Sport (tbc).

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GETTING TO KNOW THE THREE PROJECTS

Promoting the Council of Europe Standards on safety, security and service at football matches and other sport events (ProS4)

Objectives

The ProS4 project aims to improve the competence of relevant governmental agencies as well as sport event organisers in ensuring the Council of Europe standards on safety, security and service at sport events, by:

- assessing the current situation in Europe, to identify shortcomings and to recommend constructive solutions in the form of action plans;
- offering appropriate follow-up activities to the countries which have recently undertaken monitoring exercises within the compliance with commitments project under the T-RV (Standing Committee), with a view to providing them with support (in Croatia, Romania and Slovakia).

Partnership

The T-RV Bureau members together with representatives of the three countries involved and the Chair of the EU Think Tank, will work in partnership to give guidance, to co-ordinate this project, follow its implementation and evaluate the results.

This is a joint project under a direct grant agreement between the European Union (within the framework of Erasmus+) and the Council of Europe, lasting for one year: 1 January – 31 December 2016.

Contact

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Balance in Sport (BIS) – tools to implement gender equality

Objectives

The BIS project aims to identify and test generally agreed upon gender equality indicators in sports which will enable a uniform approach when collecting relevant data on gender equality. It should map the *de facto* situation of women's participation in sport, including in leadership and coaching, the portrayal of women athletes in the media and the prevalence of gender-based violence. Tools will be developed to facilitate the use of these indicators by public authorities in charge of sport and sport organisations.

Partnership

The BIS project co-operates closely with stakeholder organisations such as public authorities responsible for sport, sports organisations and specialist organisations promoting gender equality in sport.

This is a joint project between the European Union (within the framework of Erasmus+) and the Council of Europe, lasting for one year: 1 January – 31 December 2016.

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Keep Crime Out of Sport: together against criminal manipulations of sports competitions (KCOOS)

Objectives

The KCOOS project aims to raise awareness on the issues of match-fixing and sports betting risks, as well as to promote the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions. It aims to assist countries in implementing the various measures of the convention within their national systems, in particular, in the fight against match-fixing and in the regulation of sports betting. The main objectives of the project are:

- to gather information on the current status in the fight against match fixing and sports betting regulations within countries as well as to build a network of national contacts in these areas;
- to offer practical assistance and to facilitate the exchange of good practices among countries through regional seminars, study visits and expert missions;
- to assist with the setting up of national platforms, regulatory structures and other supporting structures;
- to strengthen the institutional capacity of relevant authorities;
- to provide technical assistance with the transposition of the Convention into national legislation.

Partnership

This project is implemented by the Council of Europe along with its project partners, namely, ARJEL (French Betting Regulatory Authority), European Lotteries, European Sport Security Association, the Finnish National Olympic Committee, Gambling Commission UK, the International Olympic Committee, INTERPOL, Norwegian Ministry of Culture and Oxford Research, who will be organising various events, as well as providing their input, expertise and support to the project objectives.

This is a joint project between the European Commission (DG HOME) and the Council of Europe (Sports Division), lasting for 18 months: 1 January 2016 – 30 June 2017.

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