

# NEWLY ARRIVED MIGRANTS AND THEIR INTEGRATION VIA SPORT

Conference organised by  
the Council of Europe  
in co-operation with  
the Ministry of Defence  
and Sports of Austria

Enlarged Partial Agreement  
on Sport (EPAS)

Vienna  
2-3 June 2016



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AGENDA: JUNE 2

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15:30 **Registration**

16:30 **Opening of the plenary session**

17:00 **High level panel discussion: Integration,  
sport, and values**

17:45 **Signature of Council of Europe  
Convention on the Manipulation of  
Sports Competitions**

19:00 ***Dinner***

*Dinner has been kindly organized by the Ministry of Defence and Sports. A shuttle bus service will take participants from the conference venue to dinner. This service will depart from the Haus des Sports at 18:30.*

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AGENDA: JUNE 3

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- 9.30 **Registration**
- 10:15 **Welcome address and Keynote speech**
- 10:30 **Round table: Newly arrived migrants and their integration via sport- Presentation of national and international practice**
- 11.30 *Coffee break*
- 11.45 **Round table: Role of sport clubs and educators as distributors of social capital in the integration process**
- 12:45 *Lunch*
- 14:15 **Round table: Facilitating access to local networks and communities**
- 15:15 **Coffee break**
- 15:30 **Role of sport in newly-arrived migrants' integration: towards an evidence base**
- 16:30 **Closing of the conference**
- 17:00 **End of conference**

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## INTRODUCTION

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Welcome to the EPAS Annual Conference in Vienna. We are delighted that you are joining us here for this theme of "Newly arrived migrants and their integration via sport".

We are hugely grateful to the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sport for co-organising this conference, and for hosting us in the magnificent surroundings of the Haus des Sports.

Sport, while being of benefit to participants' physical and mental health, can also give a sense of common ground and a clear sense of shared aspirations and values, focused on what people have in common rather than their differences. It is for this reason that sport can be an important part of any toolkit used to foster social inclusion and integration of migrants.

This participation and empowerment plays a part in ensuring that people of all backgrounds have the opportunities to take part and be active members of local communities, as well as having cross-sector impact on issues such as language, health, and employability.

The Council of Europe is working hard to help build inclusive societies across the continent and beyond, and the sport movement can play an important role in this; both as a forum for social inclusion and a distributor of social values. We must, together, look to maximize the potential of sport to help newly-arrived migrants integrate into new communities.



Stanislas Frossard  
Executive Secretary  
Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport

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## CONFERENCE DEFINITIONS

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### **Newly arrived migrant:**

A person who has been resident in the receiving country for less than five years. It comprises a heterogeneous group of individuals including those moving for economic reasons (often referred to as 'economic migrants'), refugees, those seeking asylum, and persons displaced who are in need of assistance and/or international protection.

### **Integration:**

The dynamic, two-way process of mutual accommodation by all immigrants and residents in a host country."

### **Sport:**

"All forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels." (Council of Europe, Mar 26, 2001)

2 JUNE  
17:00 – 17:45

## HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION: INTEGRATION, SPORT, AND VALUES

**Moderator:** Mr Piara  
Powar, Executive Director,  
FARE Network

**Panellists:**

Ms Gabriella Battaini-  
Dragoni, Deputy Secretary  
General, Council of Europe

Mr Hans Peter Doskozil,  
Minister of Defence and  
Sport, Austria

Ms Maja Makovec Brenčič,  
Minister of Education,  
Science and Sport,  
Slovenia

Mr Lahcen Sekkouri,  
Minister of Youth and  
Sport, Morocco (tbc)

Mr Rauf Dimraj, Deputy  
Minister, Education and  
Sport, Albania, (tbc)

Mr Gert Westerveen,  
UNHCR

The first session of the EPAS Annual Conference looks at why the need for holistic and well-formed integration policies is of such importance currently.

Ministers from countries signing the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions join us to outline how their country is using sport to integrate newly arrived migrants, the values sport can transmit to its participants, and to discuss future action in this area.

The Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe will also join this discussion to highlight the current and future work of the Council of Europe to build inclusive societies, and uphold the Council of Europe values of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

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## SIGNING OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON THE MANIPULATION OF SPORTS COMPETITIONS

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The manipulation of sports competitions is a complex and difficult subject, and match-fixing represents one of the most challenging issues that sports currently faces.

The Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions ('the Match-fixing Convention') is designed to prevent, detect, and sanction the manipulation of sports competitions. The Convention aims to help stakeholders, and particularly public authorities, in fulfilling their responsibilities in the fight against match-fixing. The Council of Europe's priority is therefore to encourage the swift ratification of a maximum number of countries and to set up a follow-up committee for the Convention.

The Council of Europe is a pioneer in providing a common legal framework on this topic via the Convention and responds to the necessity to provide an appropriate legal instrument in order to guide the adoption of adequate laws and specific measures by public authorities. The Convention emphasises the importance of regional and international co-operation. It encourages the exchange of information, as well as national and international co-operation between relevant public authorities.

The Convention calls on governments to adopt measures to prevent conflicts of interest between sports betting operators and sports organisations, as well as to encourage sport betting regulatory authorities to increase the fight against fraud; and to fight against illegal sport betting.

The Council of Europe therefore welcomes the new signatories to the Convention today, in addition to the 24 Member States who are already signatories, including two ratified member states.

3 JUNE  
10:30 - 11:30

**Moderator:** Ms Wendela  
Kuper, Chair of EPAS  
Governing Board, Council of  
Europe

**Panellists:**

Mr António Silva Mendes,  
Director, European  
Commission, DG Education  
and Culture

Ms Pamela Vipond, Deputy  
Director of Olympic  
Solidarity, International  
Olympic Committee

Ms Heike Kübler, Head of  
Equal Opportunities and  
Diversity, Deutscher  
Olympischer Sportbund

Ms Elisabeth Trautinger,  
Austrian National Olympic  
Committee

**Objectives of the  
session:**

Understand the challenges  
for States of integrating  
large numbers of migrants.

Understand the challenges  
facing sport programmes  
for integration.

Create awareness of the  
benefits of integration  
through sport in the host  
society.

Create awareness among  
national governments of  
the importance of funding  
sport programmes for  
integration purposes.

## ROUND TABLE: NEWLY ARRIVED MIGRANTS AND THEIR INTEGRATION VIA SPORT- PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE

By bringing together both state actors, and members of international and national sport organisations, this session will facilitate a discussion on what policies and projects these bodies have been putting in place to try and use sport as a tool for integration.

With this year an Olympic year, this panel has a strong focus on what the Olympic movement has been doing to spread their underlying philosophy of excellence, friendship, and respect.

Equally, the European Union has been taking a leading role in promoting social inclusion and integration via sport, and this session will explore the steps that have been made at this level.



3 JUNE  
11:45 – 12:45

**Moderator:** Ms Fanny Riaboff, National resource sector, 'Sport, education, diversity, citizenship', French Ministry of Sport

**Panellists:**

Mr Des Tomlinson,  
Intercultural Officer,  
Football Association of  
Ireland

Ms Ana Znidarec, Pestalozzi  
Programme

Mr Thomas Jäger, Caritas  
Styria (Austria), Project  
SIQ, Team Manager  
Homeless World Cup  
Austria

**Objectives of the  
session:**

Highlight the role of  
educators in the integration  
process.

Explore how intercultural  
policies of a sport  
organisation have been  
formulated.

Look at policies that  
actively encourage sport  
clubs to engage people with  
migrant backgrounds as  
coaches.

Encourage members of  
communities to serve as  
coaches to be role models  
who reinforce positive  
values, such as by offering  
coaches techniques to  
promote tolerance.

## ROUND TABLE: ROLE OF SPORT CLUBS AND EDUCATORS AS DISTRIBUTORS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN THE INTEGRATION PROCESS

The integration process is not a one-way process; the burden of integration does not fall alone on the shoulders of those who have come to a new country. Host communities must also adapt, with integration defined as a dynamic, two-way process of mutual accommodation.

This session aims to highlight the importance of ensuring that all educators, regardless of origin, have appropriate training in intercultural education and promoting collaboration between the sport club and the community. How can clubs and coaches work to manage and cultivate tolerant, safe spaces for bridging and bonding to take place?

Equally, what can clubs and sport federations do to help migrants volunteer and work in sport? Hiring more coaches from migrant or minority backgrounds can be beneficial as a part of wider sport policies that promote trust and bonding between educators and communities. They may serve as role models and improve self-confidence and motivation- potentially presenting a step towards establishing mutual trust.

3 JUNE  
14:15 – 15:15

## ROUND TABLE: FACILITATING ACCESS TO LOCAL NETWORKS AND COMMUNITIES

**Moderator:** Mr Laurent Thieule, President, Sport et Citoyenneté

**Panellists:**

Ms Carmen Kiefer, Deputy Mayor of Kuchl (Austria), Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe

Ms Claire Donaldson, The Bike Project, London (United Kingdom)

Mss Emma Arnesson and Anne Lundberg, Hej Främling!, Sweden

**Objectives of the session:**

Understand challenges that may prevent people from accessing sport.

Understand what obstacles may exist.

Discuss methods for overcoming these issues and facilitating access.

Learn the difficulties of implementing such programmes, as well as possible solutions to overcome them.

The social and societal contribution of sport does not always reach its full potential as there may be numerous factors that may hinder the ability of someone who has newly-arrived in the country from participating in sport and community activities that would aid their integration. The membership of migrants, refugees, and groups such as migrant women, in sport clubs has remained comparatively low.

Central to this round table will be a discussion on issues of access, participation and exclusion of migrants in local activities. How can access be improved? How have communities and local authorities maximized the inclusiveness of physical activity? What barriers to entry and participation are frequently cited? How can these be overcome?

3 JUNE  
15:30 – 16:30

## ROLE OF SPORT IN NEWLY-ARRIVED MIGRANTS' INTEGRATION: TOWARDS AN EVIDENCE BASE

### **Speakers:**

Mr Kurt Wachter, European  
Sport Inclusion Network,  
Fairplay Initiative, VIDC

Mr William Gasparini, Sport  
Science Faculty, University  
of Strasbourg

### **Objectives of the session:**

Understand the difficulties  
in measuring the role of  
sport in integration.

Explore how evidence has  
been gathered on the topic.

Look at the benefits of  
having greater levels of  
research on the topic.

How can the effect of sport projects on integration be evaluated? What would signify a successful project, and how can we move towards a stronger evidence base? This session looks at how the experience and effect of sport on target groups has been evaluated, and how this can be used to inform future policy and projects.

Evaluating social behaviour and social phenomena is a challenging task, and with integration particularly so as it comprises the evaluation of two processes: looking at both the migrant population, and the host society population.

The basic dimensions of integration can be seen as the social, economic and cultural role migrants play in their new environment. The Common Basic Principles of Integration (EU) noted that developing clear goals, indicators and evaluation mechanisms to adjust policy; evaluating progress; and making the exchange of information more effective, should be part of the integration process. However, it remains the case that there have not been sustained or consistent efforts to measure the impact of integration programmes, and thus it makes it harder to formulate outcome specific projects