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**European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events
and in particular at Football Matches (T-RV)**

Compliance with Commitments Project
Respect by Baltic States of the Convention

**Follow-up Report to the Consultative Visit
of 5-8 November 2000**

Follow up report to the Consultative visit in Baltic states

Round Table on the European Convention on Spectator Violence

Consultative visit took place in Riga, November 6-8, 2001 and gathered specialists from 3 Baltic states.

After the meeting main purpose for Estonia was to ratify convention;

- Calculation of economic expenditures:
- Prognosis of eventual legal, economic and social results related with ratification;
- Cooperation between sport units and ministries.

Before ratification aim of keeping spectator violence at sport events low level was improve co-operation between Estonian police and national football information points or liaison police officers from abroad and make regular meetings between police, Estonian Football Association and national fan club where the main purpose was to introduce public order policy and present possible demands when needed

Estonia ratified convention in Government on 18.02 2003 and treaty came into the force on 01.04.2003.

After ratification situation was following:

The Police guarantee public order in the city and around the stadium; public order on the stadium is guaranteed by the security company or the attendants hired by the organizer of the match. The Police will remain at the stadium as a subsidiary law enforcement body. The Police will enter the stadium only in case the security company and the attendants are unable to maintain public order, for example when they are attacked by a group of spectators. In normal circumstances the security company will escort the rioters out of the stadium and turn them over to the Police. The fire service and emergency medicine service will perform their normal duties. Such a division of tasks has developed over a long-term period of co-operation with the Estonian Football Association.

Sport Department under Ministry of Culture of Estonia dealing with all problems related with sport. Under the Ministry of Internal affairs of Estonia is The Police Board where Central Law Enforcement Police dealing specially with spectator violence questions during the football matches.

Responsible police officers:

At the year 2003 The Contact Point of Football Information acts according to Council Decision 2002/348/JHA of 25 April 2002 concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension, OJ L 121, 8.5.2002, was founded.

The Contact Point of Football Information situated under Central Law Enforcement Police. Postal address: Central Law Enforcement Police, Pagari 1, Tallinn, 15060 Estonia. E-mail: julgestuspolitsei@jp.pol.ee. General phone +372 6931645. Fax +372 6931644

After ratification Estonia started to carry out statements of convention and recommendations and on 2006.01.01 went into force new Estonian Sport Act where established requirements for Organisation of Sport Events

Abstract of Sport Act

Requirements for Organisation of Sports Events

§ 20. Application for permit for organisation of sports event

(1) The organiser of a sports event (hereinafter organiser) shall, at least one month before the date on which the sports event is organised, submit to the rural municipality or city government of the location where the sports event is organised a written application for the receipt of a permit for organisation of the sports event (hereinafter permit) which sets out:

- 1) the name of the sports event, the time and place of the sports event;
- 2) the name, residence or address, date of birth or registry code of the organiser;
- 3) the names of the participating clubs and leagues;
- 4) the presumed number of spectators and, separately, the number of persons who support each team;
- 5) information on the person responsible for the public order and security;
- 6) information concerning the security undertaking and circumstances provided for in clause 9 (2) 4) of the Security Act (RT I 2003, 68, 461) or the number of stewards provided by the organiser and a description of their duties;
- 7) information on organisation of the ticket sale;
- 8) information on the organisation of separation of persons supporting the participating teams from each other;
- 9) if the retail trade of alcohol beverages is planned at the pace of the competition, information on the organisation thereof;
- 10) information on organisation of parking of vehicles;
- 11) the assessment by the organiser of the sports event concerning the security risks which may arise during the competition.

(2) The following are the sports events for the organisation of which a permit specified in subsection (1) of this section must be applied for:

- 1) an A-league game or tournament of a football, ice-hockey and basketball;
- 2) a UEFA Cup game or tournament of a football club;
- 3) a friendly sports meeting of a Masters League football, ice-hockey or basketball club with a club or league of a foreign state.

(3) A rural municipality or city government shall forward an application for a permit specified in subsection (1) of this section immediately to the police prefecture or rescue service of the region for approval and, if necessary, also to other agencies which approve or refuse approval of the application for the permit within five working days after submission of the application for the permit for approval. The specified agencies may grant approval for the application for the permit conditionally in order to ensure security.

(4) A rural municipality of city government may transfer the competence provided for in §§ 21, 22 and 24 to a rural municipality or city administrative agency.

§ 21. Grant of permit

A rural municipality or city government shall grant a permit within ten working days after submission of an application for the permit. The permit shall set out:

- 1) the name of the sports event;
- 2) the name, residence or address, date of birth or registry code, and telephone number of the organiser;
- 3) the location of the place of the competition;
- 4) the date and time of the beginning and end of the sports event;
- 5) the conditions set by the agencies which approved the application.

§ 22. Refusal to grant permit

A rural municipality or city government may refuse to grant a permit within ten working days after submission of an application for the permit and shall notify the organiser thereof in writing within three working days. The rural municipality or city government may refuse to grant the permit if:

- 1) the required information is not submitted in the application for the permit or other deficiencies exist and the deficiencies are not eliminated within a term;
- 2) the application for the permit is not submitted on time;
- 3) the organiser fails to comply with the conditions of approval of the agencies which approved the application for the permit, which must be complied with before the grant of the permit.

§ 23. Obligations of organiser

Upon planning, preparation and organisation of a sports event, an organiser is required to:

- 1) ensure the security of those participating in the sports event;
- 2) ensure strict monitoring of the ticket sale such that persons who support different competitors are separated from each other;
- 3) organise the parking of vehicles;
- 4) ensure the public order and maintenance of general order at the place of the competition;
- 5) comply with the conditions set by the agencies which approved the application.

§ 24. Application for permit to organise home games, grant of permit and refusal to grant permit

(1) The organiser of home games shall submit a application for a permit which sets out information specified in subsection 20 (1) of this Act concerning all known home games at least one month before the beginning of the season to the rural municipality or city government of the location where the home games are organised.

(2) In the case of a sports club belonging to the Masters League of football, ice-hockey or basketball, a home game is a game against another sports club in its own home field or local hall and, in the case of a national league, a game against the league of another state in the Republic of Estonia.

(3) A permit specified in subsection (1) of this section shall be granted or grant thereof shall be refused under the conditions and pursuant to the procedure provided for in §§ 21 and 22 of this Act.

Chapter 4
Liability

§ 25. Violation of requirements for organisation of sports events

(1) Organisation of sports events without permission or violation of the obligations of organiser is punishable by a fine of up to 200 fine units.

(2) The same act, if committed by a legal person, is punishable by a fine of up to 30 000 kroons.

In Future:

Estonian Football Association is starting new project to train stewards for football matches.