

STANDING COMMITTEE (T-RV)

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON SPECTATOR VIOLENCE AND
MISBEHAVIOUR AT SPORT EVENTS AND
IN PARTICULAR AT FOOTBALL MATCHES



Strasbourg, 8 December 2011

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

Project on Compliance with Commitments

Respect by the Czech Republic of the Convention

**Follow-Up Report by the Czech Republic
on the recommendations of the Standing Committee
following the evaluation visit on 27 November - 1 December 2004**

FINAL

Adopted at the 33rd meeting of the Standing Committee

Following the recommendations of the evaluation team and the measures taken by Czech republic:

Recommendation 1 (Article 2)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to review the composition of the Co-ordination Committee and clarify the roles and powers of its member bodies</i>
Measures taken	In 1999, publication of the Ministry of the Interior's binding instruction no. 39 of 1999 establishing the activities of the Coordination Commission on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular at football matches. In this document, the composition of the Committee and the tasks of the individual members are clearly defined. The composition of the Co-ordination Committee was last reviewed in 2006.
Recommendation 2 (Article 3.1. a)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to identify what facilities, equipment and procedures are required to improve communication with spectators and between the responsible parties;</i>
Measures taken	More clubs improve the conceptual work with fans – e.g. establishing and supporting official fan clubs, presenting their activities in the schools and cultivating a helpful steward service.
Recommendation 3 (Articles 3.1.c, 3.3, 3.4.d)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to undertake further consideration of the possibility of introducing a civil stadium ban, into the legislation of the Czech Republic;</i>
Measures taken	Since 2010 new criminal legislation has come into force. New Criminal Code (Law No. 40/2009 Coll.) specifies that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stadium bans can be imposed by the courts (“Prohibition on entering sports, cultural and other social events”) for up to ten years • there is an obligation to report to the police station and, if the probation officer considers it necessary, to appear according to instructions at a designated police station in the Czech Republic during the prohibited event. • in 2010, 8 stadium bans were imposed, in 2011 (from January to June) 20 stadium bans were imposed.
Recommendation 4 (Article 3.2.)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to clarify the stewards' powers and responsibilities and promote a suitable training programme;</i>
Measures taken	The Czech Football Association intends to establish a procedure concerning how the organisers should behave and deal with different (problematic) situations. The organisers should take training courses and obtain the corresponding license. Without this license, the organisers will not be able to organise sports events. According to the Agreement between the Police Headquarters and the Czech Football Association from February 2009 onwards the police should, among other things, co-operate with football clubs in training stewards at the beginning of the football season and during the season prior to high-risk football matches.
Recommendation 5 (Articles 3.4.a, 3.1.a)	

Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to consider what additional measures should be taken to secure the necessary improvements in stadia facilities, crowd management and safety monitoring;</i>
Measures taken	<p>On 23 July 2008 the Czech Government adopted Resolution No. 912 by which the Government approved a conceptual document of the Ministry of the Interior entitled “Draft Proposals for Solving the Issue of Spectator Violence”. This document defined the basic problems and proposed solutions which effectively helped to fight against spectator violence. Police forces are not present inside stadiums and intervene only in the event of serious disorder. (lives in jeopardy, serious material damage, security service unable to control the situation...). New legislation allows the Ministry of Interior to close a stadium for one year if security is frequently not in compliance. Police forces operate close to the stadium so they can be focus on public order and safety.</p> <p>The main feature is that the police forces should not be the only party responsible for solving problems, but that other entities, in particular sports clubs and organisers of sporting events should also assume their share of responsibility.</p> <p>More clubs are improving our conceptual work with fans – e.g. establishing and supporting official fan clubs, presenting their activities in the schools, encouraging a helpful steward service.</p> <p>Clubs have more respect for police recommendations, they improve stadium facilities, conduct thorough checks and searches before people enter the stadium (tickets, alcohol, fireworks ...), sell ID tickets (tickets in individuals’ names) and check ID at the entrance.</p> <p>On 1 December 2010, the Czech Government adopted Resolution No. 860 with a new update of “Draft Proposals for Solving the Issue of Spectator Violence” with new tasks and proposals, given that previous tasks had been fulfilled and the nature of incidents had slightly changed (violence against police officers, violence against stewards, less violence against fans of another clubs, racist incidents had almost disappeared, more incidents were taking place outside the stadiums or had moved to lower football leagues or to other sports).</p>
Recommendation 6 (Article 3.4.f)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- to take the necessary steps either to enforce the prohibition or to regularise the sale of alcohol in stadia;</i>
Measures taken	<p>According to the Tobacco Law (in force since 2006), it is prohibited to sell or serve any alcohol (except beer) at all sporting events.</p> <p>Since February 2009, the Agreement between the Police Headquarters and the Football Association of the Czech Republic stipulates that there is a ban on sales of alcohol (except beer). in stadiums during football matches</p>
Recommendation 7 (Article 3.4.g)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	<i>- in agreement with the police and the Football Association, to identify whether the controls against the importation of prohibited items, such as fireworks, need to be strengthened and how they should be enforced.;</i>
Measures taken	<p>Since February 2009, the Agreement between the Police Headquarters and the Czech Football Association stipulates that football clubs have to improve stadium facilities, conduct thorough checks and body searches prior to admission to the stadium (tickets, alcohol, fireworks ...). Police forces closely cooperate with football clubs (stewards, the security service) and, where necessary assist body search, banned articles control, alcohol testing at the entrance to the grounds</p>
Recommendation 8 (Articles 3.4.h, 3.4.b)	

Recommendation of the evaluation team	- to examine how the system of crowd management and safety could evolve from being conducted by the police to one where the stewards have a more effective role and the responsibilities of the local authority are better understood;
Measures taken	The main feature of all measures is that the police forces should not be the only party responsible for solving the problems, but also other entities, in particular sports clubs and organisers of sporting events, should assume their share of responsibility.
Recommendation 9 (Article 5)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	- to consider how best to update the legislation on identification and prosecution to ensure that prosecutions are faster and more consistent;
Measures taken	New criminal legislation came into force in 2010. Prohibition on entering sports, cultural and other social events can be imposed for up to ten years. This punishment (for up to five years) can be also imposed by the court in summary proceedings.
Recommendation 10 (Articles 6.1, 6.2)	
Recommendation of the evaluation team	- to clarify what safety standards and quality controls are required for all sports facilities (not only football stadiums) and by whom they should be enforced;
Measures taken	<p>The Law on Supporting Sport (Law No. 115/2001 Coll.) came into force in 2009, .</p> <p>This Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lays down the main rules, obligations and responsibilities to be observed when organising sports matches • allows the Ministry of Interior to close a stadium for one year if security measures are frequently not in compliance • allows the police to ask the organiser to pay the costs incurred in restoring safety and public order if the organisers failed to comply with the rules or fulfil their obligations. <p>Safety standards and quality controls are included in internal regulations of the individual sports associations.</p>

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