

Council of Europe
The Deputy Secretary General

Strasbourg, 20 April 2021

Dear Chair,

I am writing regarding the recent announcement by twelve European elite football clubs of their intention to launch a European Super League. Governments, sports organisations, as well as European institutions, have stressed that this initiative could have a devastating impact on football and sports as we know it.

I have been following closely the work of our Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) to revise the European Sports Charter which was strongly endorsed at the 16th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport in February.

I believe that it is important and timely to organise an urgent exchange between public authorities and the sport movement to address the possible implications of such an unfortunate initiative and how the future European Sports Charter would safeguard a value-driven sport. In particular, it would be key to discuss how the principles of solidarity, sporting merit, openness in competitions, sport integrity and inclusion, could help governments and sports organisations to protect sports from initiatives that completely deprive sport governing bodies of their fundamental regulatory role.

I expect that the matter will be considered in the EPAS Governing Board and look forward to the outcomes of this discussion.

Yours sincerely,



Bjørn Berge

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