

DECLARATION

Participants in the Conference marking the 10th anniversary of the Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions (“the Macolin Convention”), organised by the Council of Europe on 8 October 2024 in Porto on the occasion of the 18th Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport:

ACKNOWLEDGE THAT

1. The manifold social, educational, recreational and health benefits of sport can only materialise where sport thrives and its integrity is protected;
2. The Council of Europe’s work in combating corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing, cybercrime, human trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse of children, violence against women, and addiction must be leveraged to enhance sport integrity, as these areas are key to ensuring safety and transparency in sports;
3. All regions of the world and all sports are impacted by the drastic surge in manipulation of sports competitions, which are also connected to other serious threats to the rule of law such as money laundering and corruption;
4. The global expansion of sports betting comes with acute challenges for civil society and public authorities;
5. There is a need to reinforce global cooperation, including public-private partnerships, to ensure the integrity of both sports competitions and sports betting activities;
6. The Macolin Convention, opened for signature 10 years ago, remains the only legally binding international instrument dedicated to protecting sport from the manipulation of competitions and promoting the integrity of sports betting.

THEY DECLARE THAT

1. Preserving the integrity of sport is a fundamental pillar of their policy and actions and the manipulation of sports competitions must be addressed with the utmost severity;
2. Protecting sport integrity contributes to combating international organised crime and to preserving the rule of law;
3. The Macolin Convention provides a unique framework with innovative tools for national and international cooperation and coordination in the fight against the manipulation of sports competitions and inter-related criminal activities;

THEY COMMIT TO

1. Promoting and supporting the expansion and implementation of the Macolin Convention with a view to increasing the number of countries signing and ratifying it;
2. Ensuring that appropriate resources are allocated to the work of the Macolin Committee.