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THE ENLARGED PARTIAL AGREEMENT ON SPORT (EPAS)

WHAT IS EPAS?

The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) provides a **platform for intergovernmental co-operation**. It facilitates **dialogue** between governmental representatives, the sports movement, other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), athletes, coaches and referees, corporate business and local authorities.

EPAS puts its know-how at the disposal of member states, sports organisations and NGOs to help them develop their policies and practices with the aim of making sport **more ethical, more inclusive and safer**.

EPAS promotes a **multi-stakeholder approach** to sport. Recognising the value of such an approach, the **European Sports Charter (ESC)** actively encourages the development of multi-sectoral partnerships and the leveraging of multi-stakeholder platforms to implement initiatives and policies.

WHY WAS EPAS SET UP?

EPAS was set up in 2007 to give fresh momentum to **international co-operation in sports policies**; to address the current **challenges** facing sport; and to ensure that sport thrives and is governed to meet high **standards** (e.g. in the areas of integrity, good governance and fair play).

WHAT DOES EPAS DO?



Develops **policies** (e.g. on safe sport) and international **standards**, such as the ESC, and supports their **implementation**.



Facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue by offering platforms for discussion and helps with **capacity-building** and the **exchange of good practices**.



Organises **Conferences of Ministers** responsible for Sport to discuss and decide on important sport-related issues.



Organises **thematic conferences** and seminars on various subjects concerning sport.



Publishes **handbooks, guidelines and research papers** on sport and sport policy making.

WHICH STANDARDS GUIDE EPAS' WORK?

EPAS bases its work on Council of Europe sport standards such as the ESC, the **Anti-Doping Convention**, the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (**Macolin Convention**) and the Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events (**Saint-Denis Convention**).

HOW DOES EPAS WORK?

EPAS is made up of three statutory bodies which hold annual general meetings:

Governing Board

- ▶ Composed of the member states' sports authorities. It is responsible for the general implementation of the tasks entrusted to EPAS.

Consultative Committee

- ▶ Composed of sports organisations, NGOs and international organisations. As a partnership body, it gives its opinion on the programme of activities and provides advice for Governing Board decisions.

Statutory Committee

- ▶ Composed of the member states' permanent representatives to the Council of Europe. It sets the financial contributions of EPAS member states, adopts the budget and is responsible for approving the annual EPAS accounts.

EPAS also has two non-statutory bodies:

The **Network of Magistrates and Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS Network)**, which aims to strengthen international co-operation and the exchange of information in the field of sport integrity.

The **Pool of International Experts on Safe Sport**, overseen within the Start to Talk project, is a unique source of multi-disciplinary expertise covering all forms of violence and abuse in sport.

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF EPAS?

EPAS currently has 41 **member states**: *Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine.*

Membership is open to any interested country whose application complies with Council of Europe standards.



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