

Promoting sport for all and access to sport has been a core objective of EPAS since its inception in 2007, as well as a backbone to all of the Council of Europe's work in the field of sport.

WHY SPORT FOR ALL?

Sport is a powerful tool for bringing people together, regardless of age, background, or ability. It promotes health and well-being, fosters social inclusion, and builds a strong sense of community. Through "Sport for all" initiatives, the Council of Europe encourages participation for everyone, creating a more active and vibrant society. This aligns perfectly with the Organisation's values of inclusivity, fairness, and respect for all.

SPORT FOR ALL IN THE EUROPEAN SPORTS CHARTER

The [European Sports Charter](#) (ESC) calls upon states to design their sports policies according to its guidelines, and stakeholders to take into consideration the principles enshrined therein. The "Sport for all" principle provided in the ESC is grounded in five fundamental aspects:



The **right to sport** (Article 10): Access to sport for all is considered a fundamental right. All human beings have an inalienable right of access to sport in a safe environment.



Building the **foundations for the practice of sport** (Article 11): All appropriate steps should be taken to develop physical literacy and physical fitness among young people, enabling them to acquire fundamental movement skills and to encourage them to practise sport.



Developing **participation** (Article 12): The practice of sport, whether for recreation, health promotion or improving performance, shall be promoted across the whole population through the provision of appropriate facilities and programmes, [...] access to qualified coaches [...] and opportunities to participate in sport at workplaces.



Improving **performance** (Article 13): The practice of sport at higher levels shall be supported and encouraged in appropriate and specific ways such as: talent identification, provision of suitable facilities, care and support using sports medicine and science in line with ethical standards, training for coaches and others with leadership functions and helping clubs to provide appropriate structures and competitive outlets.



Supporting **top-level and professional sport** (Article 14): Direct or indirect support should be provided to athletes with exceptional sporting qualities to give them opportunities to fully develop their abilities, ensuring respect for their personality and physical and moral integrity. Such support should include identification of talent, dual careers and their smooth integration into society. People engaging professionally in sport should have appropriate social status, ethical safeguards against all forms of exploitation and the enjoyment of economic and social rights.

