

Gender equality has been one of the central themes of the Council of Europe's work in the field of sport for over a decade. EPAS has been addressing the gender inequalities that persist in sport across various areas, from participation rates and coaching opportunities to leadership roles and media representation. Through a comprehensive set of programmes and initiatives, EPAS is paving the way for greater gender equality in sport, thereby fostering a more equitable environment.

THE EUROPEAN SPORTS CHARTER AND GENDER EQUALITY

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.

Specifically: Article 6.2(c) of the Charter calls for all stakeholders to **“work towards gender equality in and through sport, in particular by implementing the strategy of gender mainstreaming in sport.”**

In turn, Article 10 restates the principle that **“no discrimination” on the grounds of “gender or sexual orientation [...] shall be permitted in the access of sports facilities or to sports activities.”**

GENDER EQUALITY: OUR ACTION

Through **intergovernmental work, co-operation projects** with relevant European Union bodies and a **gender mainstreaming** approach, EPAS actively carries out activities, promotes or implements targeted initiatives, and develops valuable tools. These resources empower countries and sports organisations to comprehend and address gender inequalities within the sporting domain.

For instance, EPAS is responsible for:

- ▶ Following up on the implementation of the Committee of Ministers' **Recommendation to member states on gender mainstreaming in sport** (2015). EPAS played an instrumental role in preparing this Recommendation.
- ▶ Organising **seminars, training courses and events in relation to gender equality in sport** such as unconscious bias training and annual Breakfast Roundtables on women in sport on the occasion of International Women's Day.
- ▶ Contributing to European Union - Council of Europe **joint projects** such as “All In Plus – Promoting greater gender equality in sport” (2023-2025).

WHAT AREAS OF GENDER EQUALITY AND SPORT DOES EPAS WORK ON?

-  Access to sport, physical education and physical activity for women and girls from all backgrounds
-  Access to positions of responsibility, participation in sports governing bodies and decision-making roles
-  Access to resources, salaries, financial incentives and sports facilities
-  Sensitised media coverage of women in sport and women's sport
-  Reintegration into the labour market after the end of an athletic career for girls and women (dual careers)
-  Combating gender-based violence including harassment and abuse

WHAT GENDER EQUALITY AND SPORT-RELATED TOOLS HAS EPAS DEVELOPED?

-  Analytical report on the data collection campaign [All In! Towards gender balance in European sport](#)
-  Interactive dashboard: [How gender equality is addressed in Europe](#)
-  Country-specific gender equality data information [factsheets](#)
-  Best practice toolkit: [How to make an impact on gender equality in sport – All you need to know](#)
-  [Online library](#) on gender equality in sport – a one-stop shop for the development of gender sensitive sport policies and programmes.
-  Good practice [handbook](#) on women's and girls' access to sporting activity



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LOOKING AHEAD

The “**All In Plus**” European Union - Council of Europe joint project (2023-2025) aims to provide support to public authorities and sports organisations when designing and implementing policies and programmes addressing gender inequalities in sport, and when adopting a gender mainstreaming strategy.

To further enhance the findings of the first data collection campaign carried out through the “**All In – Towards gender balance in sport**” project (2018-2019), All In Plus aims to fine-tune the data indicators and expand the list of participating countries, refining the data collected through the distribution of a new questionnaire in partner countries, sport federations, National Olympic and Paralympic Committees, umbrella organisations, etc.

“All In Plus” focuses on issues linked to representation of women in sport, but also gender-based violence in sport and how to tackle it, drawing upon the Council of Europe’s Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence ([Istanbul Convention](#)).

Working with experts from a range of institutional, academic and grassroots backgrounds is crucial to ensuring a profound impact on gender equality in the sports sector.



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Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport

Accord partiel élargi sur le sport

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