FACTSHEET 10

Checklists: tools for self-assessment

Objectives of the checklists

Annex D of Recommendation T-S4 Rec(2021)1 provides four checklists to assist States in assessing the compliance of their safety, security and service arrangements with the good practices set out in the Recommendation.

These lists are valuable self-assessment tools and thus enable States to monitor the implementation of safety, security and service measures at sports events in their country. They help States to assess the extent to which their national arrangements comply with good practices in this area. The checklists each consist of a series of questions relating to both the policies and guidance detailed in the various annexes on safety, security and service.

If States provide the expected answers to all these questions, the checklists can also serve as a basis for national self-assessment reports on the implementation of the Saint-Denis Convention.

57 The checklists are intended to help States assess the compliance of their arrangements with the Saint-Denis Convention



Checklists are valuable tools for States Parties self-assessment of the implementation of the Convention standards

Content of the checklists

The first checklist focuses on the fundamental principles of the Recommendation, with particular attention to the integrated multi-agency approach.

The second concerns safety measures, detailed in Annex A of the Recommendation, and enables to check that effective arrangements are in place to protect the health and well-being of all persons attending or participating in a sports event.

The third checklist focuses on the good security practices presented in Annex B. These good practices are mainly measures to prevent, reduce risks and/or respond to possible violent or criminal activity at a sporting event, inside or outside a stadium.

The final list looks at service measures, described in Annex C of the Recommendation. The aim is to ensure that all arrangements are in place to ensure that all participants feel welcome and valued at a sports event. Providing friendly welcoming allows spectators to better enjoy their experience of the sports event and this can have a positive impact on the safety and security dynamic.

During the preparation period for the safety, security and service for the UEFA EURO 2020 tournament, the Standing Committee of the European Convention on Spectator Violence received checklists from each of the organising countries. These checklists were then used as the basis for the Committee to conduct a series of four consultative visits and two peer review exercises with half of the organising countries, between 2018 and 2019





Stewards must ensure a good welcoming, so that spectators have a positive experience

Recommendation T-S4 Rec(2021)1: an operational tool for States

Recommendation T-S4 Rec(2021)1, which was adopted by the Saint-Denis Committee in April 2021, is the ideal complement to interpret and implement the articles of the Saint-Denis Convention. It consists of the body of the Recommendation and four interdependent annexes, each relating to a specific area:

- Annex A: Safety Recommended Good Practices;
- Annex B: Security Recommended Good Practices;
- Annex C: Service Recommended Good Practices; and
- Annex D: Checklists.

These annexes enable States to assess the effectiveness of their own safety, security and service arrangements for football matches and other sporting events, and to check that they comply with the good practices set out in the Recommendation.

77 The checklists can also be used as a basis for national self-assessment reports



The checklists also serve as a basis for monitoring visits by the Saint-Denis Committee

The Recommendation focuses on the recognised need to develop and implement an integrated multi-agency approach to safety, security and service¹ at sports events. To this end, the Recommendation specifies the importance of establishing comprehensive national, regional and local co-ordination arrangements, as well as effective partnerships at international level.

The Recommendation is a dynamic and evolving document, in the sense that it will have to be updated and completed with new good practices identified as recommendable at the level of the States Parties or observers, in particular following a major tournament, such as the final phases of the Football European Cup or the World Cup.

77 This Recommendation is the ideal complement to interpret and implement the articles of the Saint-Denis Convention

1. For more information on this subject, please refer to Factsheet 2: A multi-agency integrated approach – what is it about?



The Saint-Denis Convention

The Council of Europe Convention on an integrated approach to safety, security and service at football matches and other sports events was opened for signature on 3 July 2016 in Saint-Denis (France), on the occasion of the UEFA EURO 2016 championship. It entered into force on 1st November 2017 after 3 ratifications – France, Monaco and Poland – and now has a large number of States Parties.

It promotes an integrated multi-agency approach, covering three complementary and interdependent pillars: safety, security and service. It is the only legally-binding international instrument establishing institutional co-operation between all relevant stakeholders to make football matches and other sports events safer, more secure and more welcoming.

Useful links

- 1. Saint-Denis Convention https://www.coe.int/en/web/sport/safety-security-and-service-approach-convention
- 2. Recommendations T-S4:
 - i. Rec(2021)1: Recommended good practices on safety, security and service
 - ii. Rec(2022)1: Model structure of a national strategy on safety, security and service
 - iii. Rec(2022)2: Model national legislative and regulatory framework on safety, security and service https://www.coe.int/en/web/sport/t-s4-recommendations
- 3. To learn more about the Convention and Recommendation Rec(2021)1, you can register for the following open online courses:
 - i. MOOC on Human Rights in Sport (available in English, Russian, Slovak and Spanish) http://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/course/index.php?categoryid=590
 - ii. MOOC on Safety, Security and Service at Sports Events (available in English, Polish and Portuguese) https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/security-safety-sport/pros4-e-learning-enrolment-form