

How to better reflect the idea of a “European Sport Model” in the European Sports Charter

10 March 2021

Strasbourg, France

The European Sport Model

The	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is clearly defined ? Recognised ?• Is there a single « sport model »?	Not really Not really
European	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do we refer to the UE or to the European continent ?	Looks very closely linked to EU issues
Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does it refer to sport as a whole or to a part of it ?	It refers to the organised competitive sports movement
Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a will to define a « model » or organisation of sport ?	Too prescriptive to refer to a « model » in a standard on sport

Why is it so important ?

The sports movement is under pressure

- from (corporate) competition organisers
 - Whose aim is to maximise their own profit
 - Whose event may compete with the main championship
 - Who do not contribute to solidarity schemes
 - Who may try to operate outside the framework of IFs
- from EU law
- from professional athletes
- from the COVID-19 crisis



COHERENCE

LEADERSHIP

REVENUES

From a Council of Europe perspective

1. European Sports Charter
2. Core values of the Council of Europe
3. Definition of Sport
4. Applying a purely market-based approach to sport
5. Partners of public authorities

From a Council of Europe perspective

1. European Sports Charter

Values-based
Sport

Comprehensive
approach to
sport for all

From a Council of Europe perspective

2. Core values of the Council of Europe

Democracy

Human Rights

Rule of Law

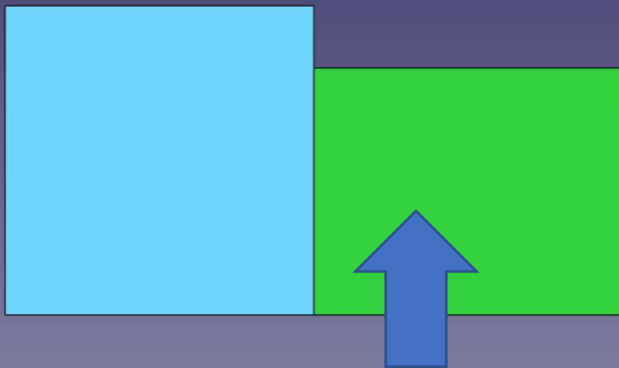
From a Council of Europe perspective

3. Definition of Sport

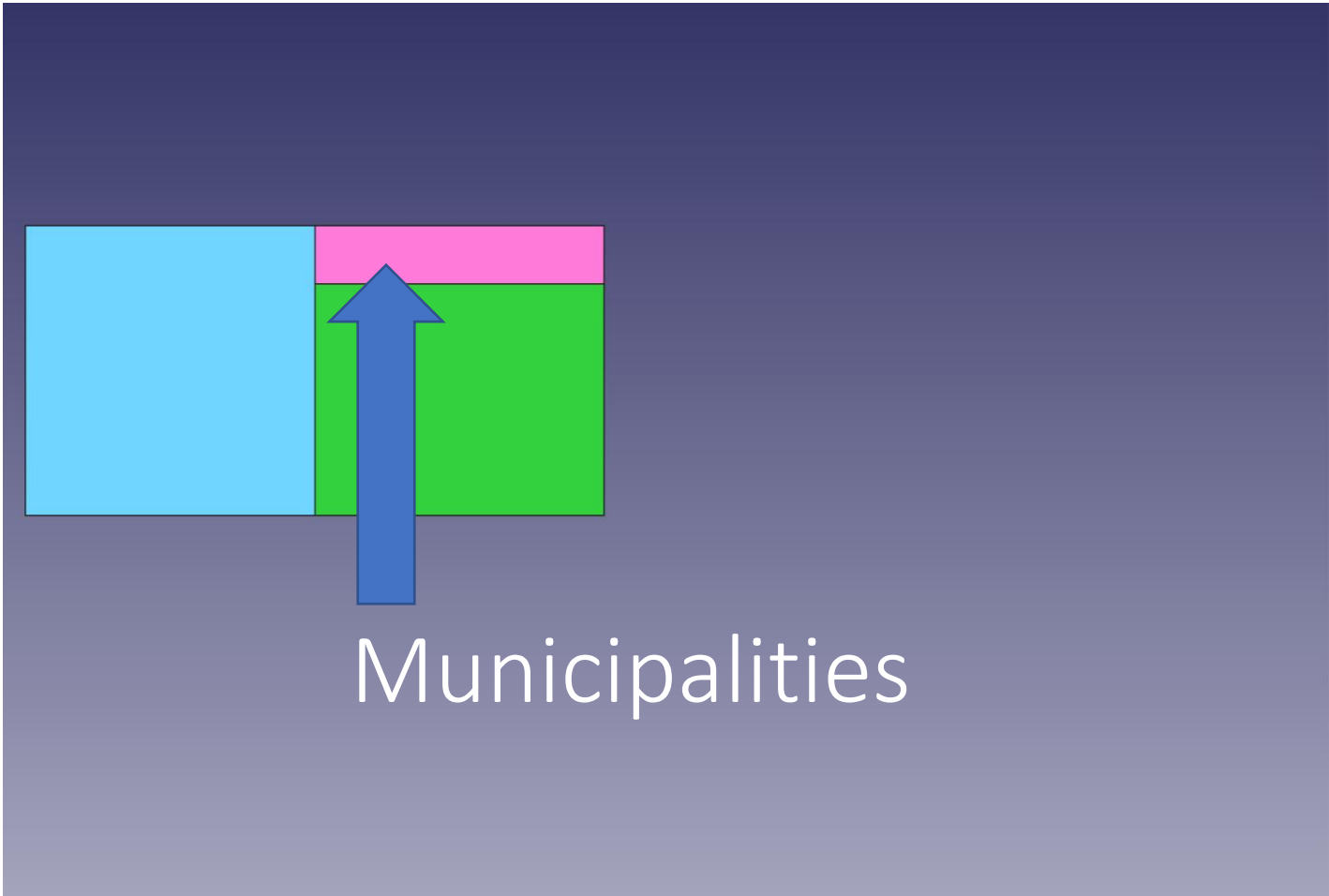
“For the purpose of this Charter, "Sport" means all forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at maintaining or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels.”

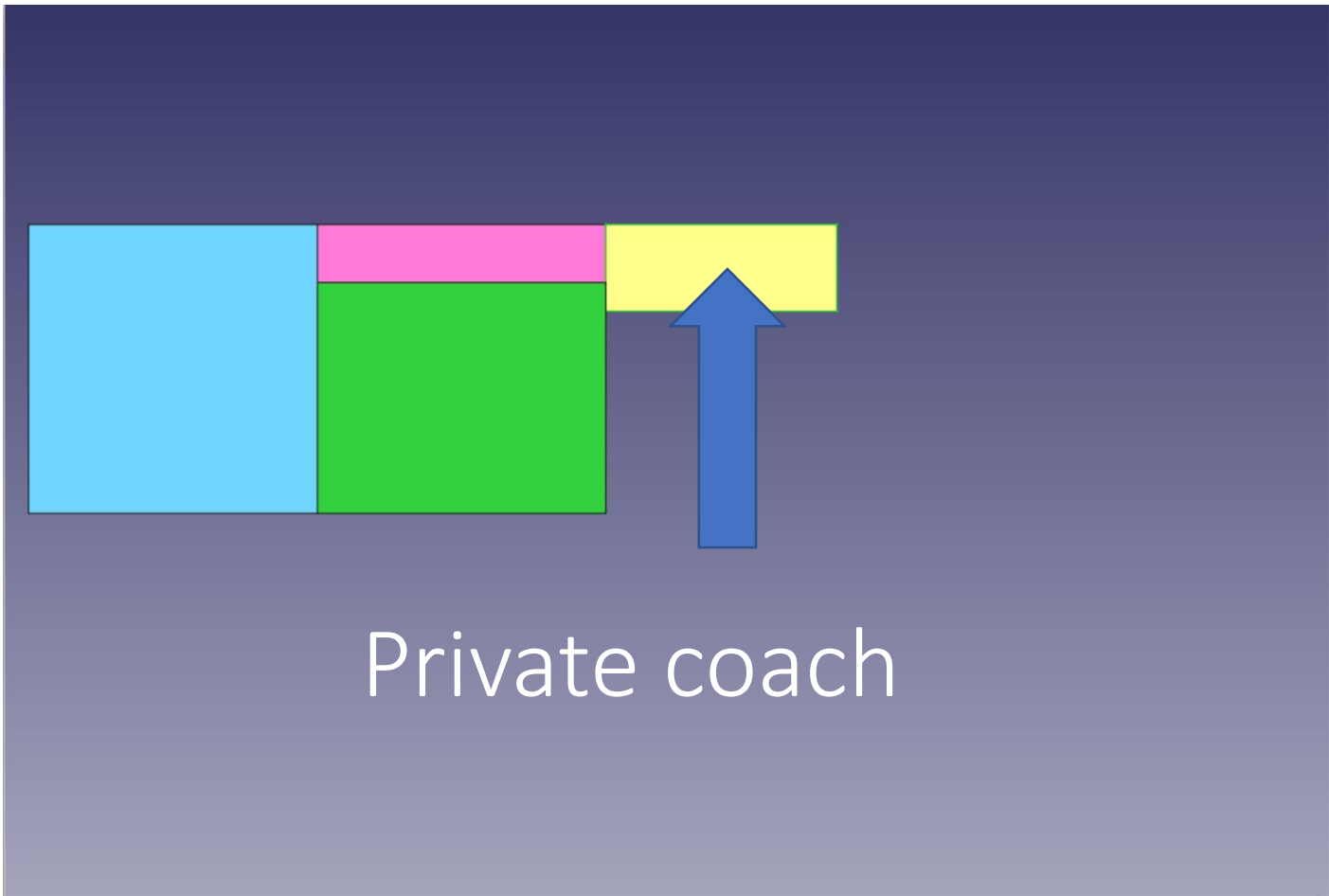


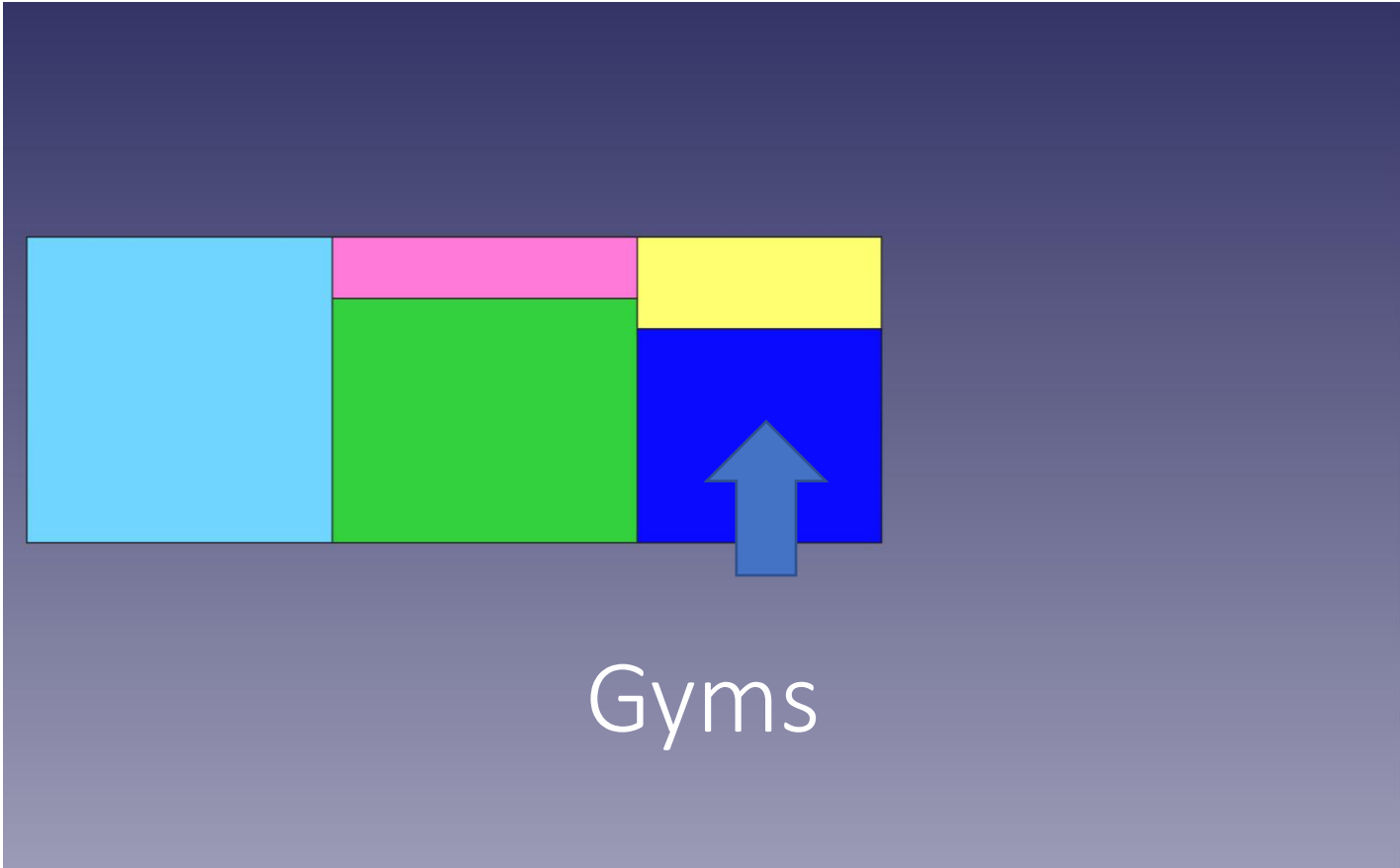
Self-organised sport

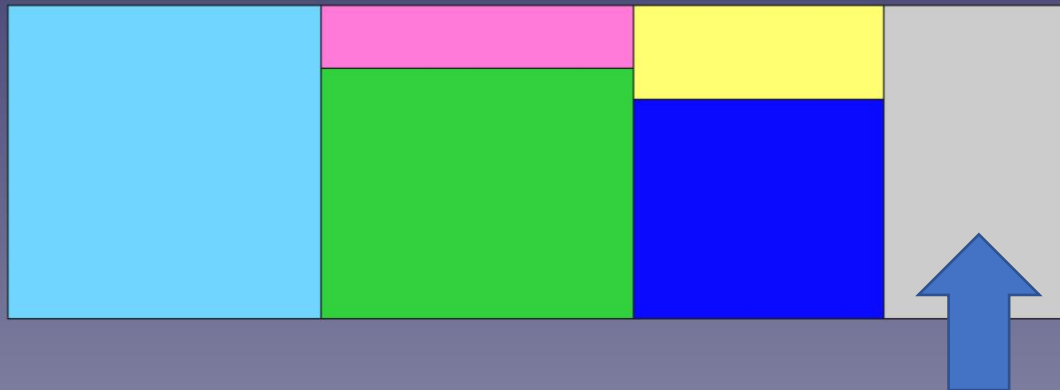


Physical education
School - University

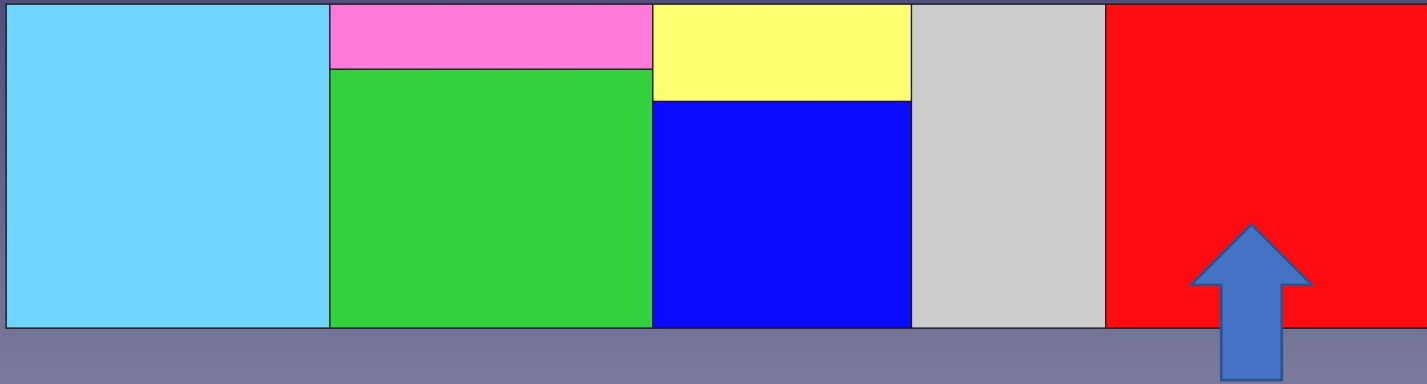






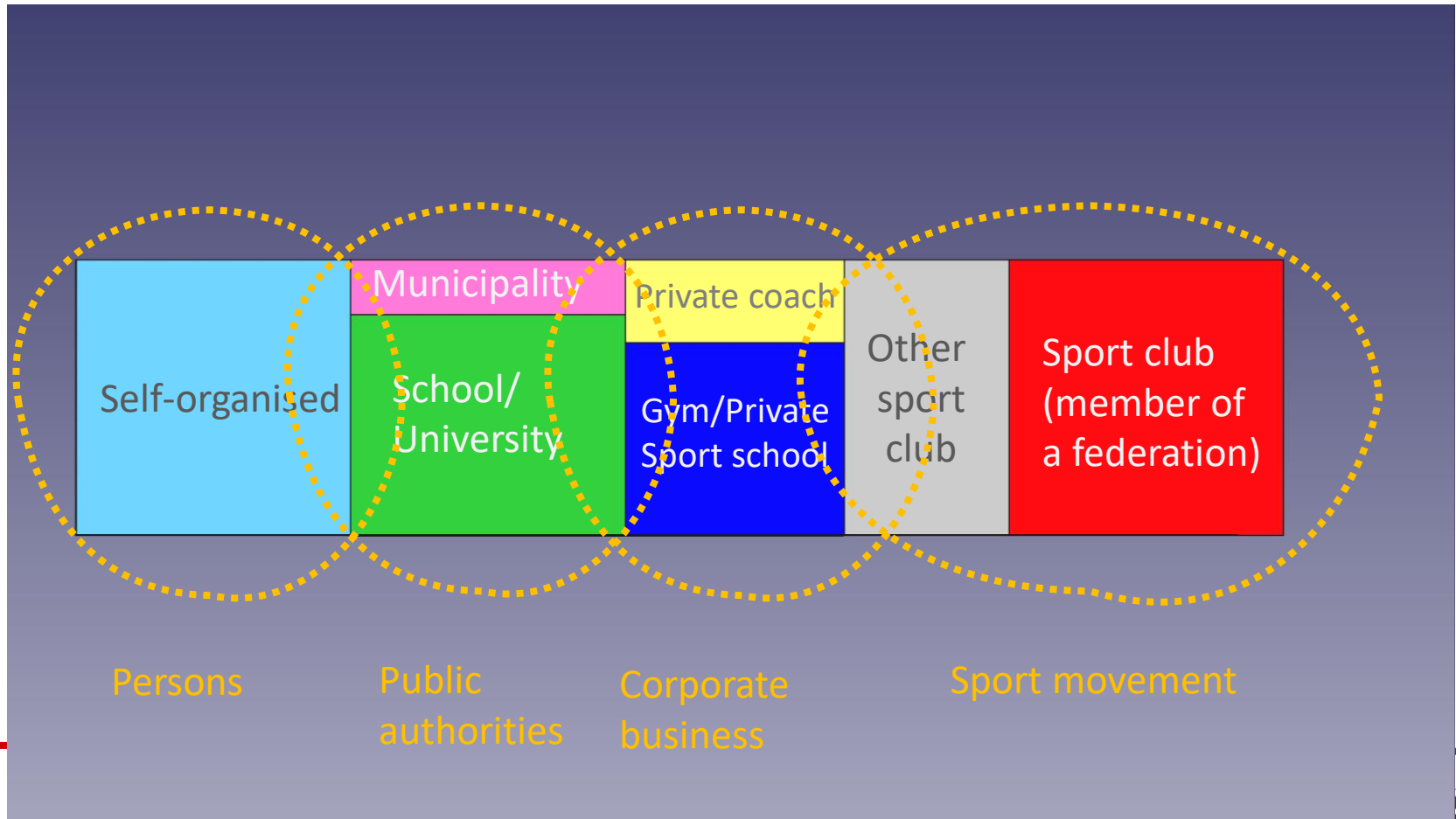


Sport for all associations



Sports clubs
(member of a federation
commercialising top events)

Who is providing sport ?



Self-organised

School/University

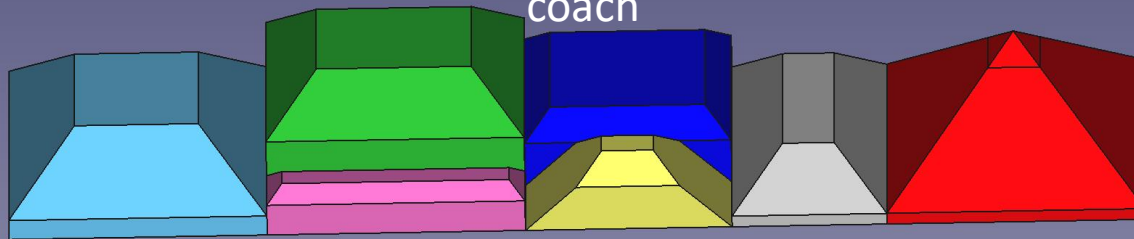
Gym/Private Sport school

Other sport club

Sport club (member of a federation)

Municipality

Private coach



Persons

Public authorities

Corporate business

Sport movement

From a Council of Europe perspective

4. Applying a purely market-based approach to sport ?

Definitely not !

Market regulation, business ...

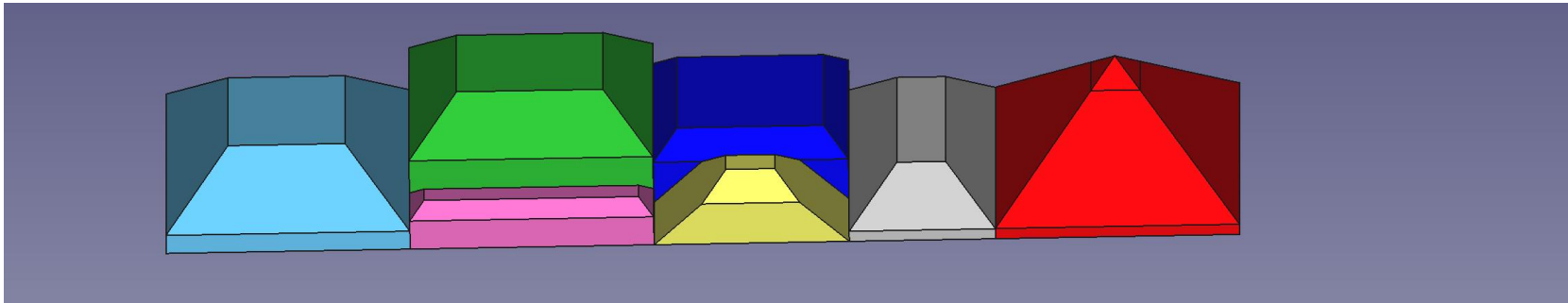
... is not our business

Potential conflicts with EU law ...

... should be addressed by EU bodies

From a Council of Europe perspective

5. Partners of public authorities



Public
authorities

Corporate
business

Sport movement

Sport movement ?

Art. 4 ESC

- Non-governmental
- Non-profit
- Volunteering
- Freedom of association
- Autonomous decision making

= main partner of public authorities for
the implementation of sports policies

Sports movement organisations earning revenue from the sports entertainment market shall be committed to financial solidarity from top sport to grassroots sports.

The way forward...

Since a reference to « the European Sports Model » is not supported by CoE MS to be included in the European Sports Charter, let's look at commonly recognised features of such a model and try to include them in the European Sports Charter.

Questions for the Workshop

- Do you agree that the principle of **financial solidarity** (applicable to sports movement organisations earning revenue from the sports entertainment market) refers not only to solidarity from top sport to grassroots sports, but also to solidarity among sport organisations and international solidarity within sport?
- Does it mean that the organisation of professional competitions should be promoted within sports movement with a **pyramid structure** encompassing grassroots sport and top sport ?
- Would it be possible to refer to the principle of «**openness in sporting competitions**» ?
- Should the ESC acknowledge the **regulatory role of the sports Federations** (e.g. in setting the rules of sports, co-ordinating the calendar, safety and integrity) ?
- Should the ESC acknowledge **the relevance of the national level** in the organisation of sport (with national organisations and competitions between national teams) ?



Thank you for your attention
Questions ? Comments ?

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