



**ENDING SEXUAL ABUSE
OF CHILDREN IN SPORT
INVITATION**
**to a dialogue between
public authorities
and the sports movement**
Tuesday 6 November 2018



start to talk.org

to stop child sexual abuse in sport

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport
epas
Accord partiel élargi sur le sport

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Organised by the Council of Europe,
the Dutch Government and
the Dutch Olympic Committee

Venue: Ministry of Justice and Security,
Turfmarkt 147, The Hague

WHY?

It is estimated that in Europe, about one in five children are victims of some form of sexual violence. Sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment happen in the context of sport too. Public authorities and the sports movement share the responsibility of protecting children, preventing and responding to sexual violence in sport.

WHAT?

This event aims at strengthening the dialogue among key stakeholders and identifying the measures that must be taken to make sport a safe and empowering environment for all children.

WHO?

Participants include members of the Council of Europe Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Committee), representatives of various Dutch ministries and institutions responsible for issues related to children and/or to sport, members of the Council of Europe pool of experts on sexual violence in sport, the Dutch National Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF), sports federations and clubs, researchers, NGOs, athletes' and coaches' organisations, academia, media, young athletes and sponsors.



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PROGRAMME

REGISTRATION (8:45-9:45)

OPENING (9:30-10:15)

- Welcome statements:
 - **Ms Annelies Pleyte**, Director of Sport, Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
 - **Mr Jeroen Schokkenbroek**, Director of Anti-discrimination, Council of Europe
 - **Mr Gerard Dielessen**, Director of the Dutch National Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF)
- Launch of the Start to Talk campaign in the Netherlands: screening of the Dutch version of the Start to Talk video
- Breaking the silence, committing to action: involving silence breakers and game changers
 - **Ms Mélina Robert-Michon**, Olympic silver medallist, Discus thrower, Rio 2016
 - **Mr Renald Majoor**, Director of the Break the silence Foundation

ROUND TABLE

(10:15-12:15, with a 15-minute break)

Let's start a conversation... What do we know about child sexual abuse in sport? Who is responsible for preventing and responding to child abuse? Why is it so difficult for children to talk? What happens after disclosure? What should be done? How is this problem addressed in the Netherlands? What are the issues that arise in the context of major sport events?

These and more questions will be put to the panellists during this round table and to the participants at the event.



Moderator: Mr Pieter Hemels, Founder of FutureProof, The Netherlands

In the panel:

- **Mr George Nikolaidis**, Chair of the Lanzarote Committee (Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse), Council of Europe
- **Ms Marianne Cense**, Senior Researcher, Rutgers, NGO working on sexual and reproductive health and rights
- **Ms Karen Leach**, ex-swimmer, Child protection advocate
- **Mr Guido Davio**, Director of the Dutch Volleyball Federation (NeVoBo)
- **Ms Sarah de Carvalho**, CEO of the It's a Penalty campaign
- **Ms Mélina Robert-Michon**, Olympic silver medallist, Discus thrower, Rio 2016

NETWORKING LUNCH (12:30-14:00)

Upon invitation only, some of the guests from the groups above will join multi-stakeholder tables and discuss a series of proposed topics over lunch.

SEMINAR: PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN IN SPORT (14:00-18:00, with a 30-minute break)

Objective: engage in an in-depth discussion on a number of critical issues, sharing good practices and experience with a view to:

- allowing the Lanzarote Committee members to grasp the specificities of abuse in the context of sport and identify ways in which the Lanzarote Convention and governments' efforts at national level could help to address them;
- identifying steps that the sports movement and public authorities could/should take, in particular while implementing the Lanzarote Convention;
- further developing the community of practice and on-line resources made available at the Council of Europe.

[@EPAS_APES](#) [@CoE_children](#) [@CoE_StartToTalk](#)



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Moderator: Ms Elda Moreno, Head of Children's Rights and Sport Values Department, Council of Europe

In the panel:

- Scaling up action to embed children's rights in sport
 - **Ms Marija Crnković**, Member of the EPAS Governing Board Bureau, Council of Europe
- Screening of adults coming in contact with children in the context of sports activities.
 - **Mr Maarten Schallenberg**, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, The Netherlands
 - **Ms Esther Vogelesang**, Justis (Dutch Screening Agency)
- How to prevent and how to deal with cases
 - **Mr Havard B. Ovregard**, The Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sport (NIF)
- Integrating child safeguarding in rugby
 - **Ms Colette Eden**, Safeguarding Manager, Rugby Football League, United Kingdom
- The importance of solid reporting mechanisms: the example of Portugal
 - **Ms Maria José Castello Branco**, Member of the Lanzarote Committee, Portugal
- Managing cases in the context of sport
 - **Ms Miriam Reijnen**, Dutch National Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF)