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ProS4+ – Promoting and Strengthening the Council of Europe standards to safety, security and service at football matches and other sport events (Erasmus+)

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Annual/season report 2017
on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity

*Analysis of current trends and emergent challenges
in connection with professional football matches in Europe
(and, where appropriate, other sports events)*

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Introduction

This report is the product of the Joint Project “**Promoting and Strengthening the Council of Europe Standards on Safety, Security and Service at Football Matches and Other Sports Events (ProS4+)**” co-funded by the European Commission and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

The project incorporates a number of sub-projects, including one focused on establishing a process for gathering authoritative data and information in respect of football and sports related incidents of violence, disorder and other associated criminality across Europe. The aim is to provide a sound factual basis for undertaking annual quantitative and qualitative analysis of current trends, identifying emergent challenges and determining work priorities.

Two versions of this report were already drawn up in the framework of ProS4 project, as a pilot project in 2015 and as annual/season report in 2016. The first edition incorporated contributions from NFIPs representing 17 Member States, while the second increased the number of replies to 29 Member States, highlighting the fact that this has become a useful and well recognized analysis tool as regards football policing figures across Europe. The outcome of the two previous versions provided the basis for a structured analysis on football-related violence across Europe for the years 2015 and 2016, for the use of the practitioners and the police management bodies.

The current version of the questionnaire has been refined and updated in order to facilitate a better response rate from the network members and, consequently, to offer a more accurate overview of the current trends and challenges across Europe.

To achieve this task, it is imperative that a source of comprehensive data and other information is established, along with a format for gathering the necessary data to meet the aims and objectives of the initiative.

Data and information presented in this report were provided by NFIPs according to their national legal provisions and the typology of incidents, as well as police recording methodologies. The rankings of national figures presented across this report should be interpreted in this context.

Two important legal provisions supporting the introduction of this questionnaire, on a yearly/season basis:

- article 2, section b, point 6 of the Council Decision 2002/348/JHA concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension, as amended by the Council Decision 2007/412/JHA of 12 of June 2007, which states: “National football information points shall produce

and circulate for the benefit or other national football information points regular generic and/or thematic national football disorder assessments” and;

- article 7 on “provision of information” of the 1985 European Convention on Spectator Violence requires that each Party shall forward to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, all relevant information concerning legislative and other measures taken by it for the purpose of complying with the terms of this convention, whether with regard to football or other sports”¹.

1. Role of NFIPs

The view of both the Council of Europe and the European Union is that the only potential and viable source of such data is provided by the European network of National Football Information Points (NFIPs). Previously, the data collection roles of NFIPs varied considerably across Europe and a more harmonized approach to data collection was necessary in order to implement this important initiative.

The questionnaire distributed on 8th of June 2018 aimed to provide a flexible format, which NFIPs should have been able to complete without generating a significant amount of additional work or completely transforming their current data collection activity. For example, the questionnaire was designed to enable each NFIP to provide data gathered on the basis of an annual period or on the basis of a football season (depending upon current practice or preference).

The questionnaire also sought information on matters like the number of arrests, convictions and exclusion measures imposed in accordance with national law, along with other relevant material such as attendance figures and stadium bans imposed by courts, national football associations and/or football clubs. In requesting this information, it was anticipated that some NFIPs would need to liaise with other relevant authorities or partner agencies responsible for recording the information concerned.

2. Format of Questionnaire

Section A of the questionnaire focuses on incidents, etc., in connection with national and international professional football matches played in a State with an NFIP (which covers almost all European States whose teams play in UEFA and other international competitions).

However, it is recognized that some, but not all, NFIPs also gather and record comparable data in respect of other sports events. Section B of the questionnaire, therefore, provides each NFIP with the (voluntary) option of supplying data on incidents, etc., committed in connection with other sports, if

¹ Article 12 on provision of information of the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events foresees the same provision (CETS no. 218).

any, where such data is routinely recorded. Section C provides opportunity to highlight any national trends or emerging challenges and to propose work streams for detailed consideration.

Section D is designed to offer a first overview of the NFIP network as regards the size, number of specialized officers involved in these activities, operational support missions, best practices/updates of national legislation and police training needs in order to complete the overall picture of the European policing efforts as regards football-related violence.

Each NFIP should fill in this questionnaire with the available data at this moment and try to adapt its procedures in the future in order to provide a comprehensive and complete overview of its national football disorder assessments.

This year's questionnaire format was a more robust one, aiming to deal with a reduced number of questions, but more focused on the topics of interest for the practitioners and experts in this field of work.

3. Findings of the questionnaire

The questionnaire was forwarded using the NFIP network and the Sport Conventions Secretariat of the Council of Europe to **48 European countries, most of them being States Parties to the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sport Events and in particular at Football Matches or to the new Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches or Other Sports Events (Saint-Denis Convention).**

33 replies were received from the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Monaco, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Ukraine.

An online version of the questionnaire is available since last year, prepared in cooperation with the University of Liverpool, in order to facilitate a higher rate of responses amongst the NFIPs across Europe. This decision proved to be a successful one as 23 replies were submitted via the online version of the questionnaire and only 10 via different formats (pdf or word documents).

The reply rate has increased compared to the previous edition of the annual report ($\nearrow 13\%$)², following a proper dissemination and awareness raising done via the NFIP network and the Standing Committee of the T-RV Convention and also due to the publishing of the previous report, which proved to be an useful tool by the experts from the Member States.

² 29 countries have responded to the previous questionnaire.

Due to the fact that most of the NFIPs were involved in the international police cooperation measures during the World Cup Russia 2018³, some delays were registered in the replying process for this report; nevertheless, taking into consideration the above mentioned tournament and the lack of resources in the case of some NFIPs, the deadline for the contributions was extended twice, in order to have a comprehensive and sufficient rate of responses, objective which in the end was achieved.

Some of the NFIPs informed us that they are currently reviewing their national data gathering and analyzing system in order to be compliant with the questionnaire and were not able to contribute to this edition of the report (e.g. Slovakia and Sweden).

Austria, Germany, Ireland, Portugal and the United Kingdom, provided updated versions of their initial contributions or further explanations which ensured a higher level of consistency and coherence for the data provided.

A detailed report regarding the responding countries to the questionnaire can be found as an annex to the report.

This report is not intended for criticism of the responding States, but it is aimed at delivering a snapshot of the current status and emerging trends as regards violence, disorder and other prohibited activity in connection with professional football matches (and, where appropriate, other sports events) in Europe, for the benefit of all the interested stakeholders and practitioners.

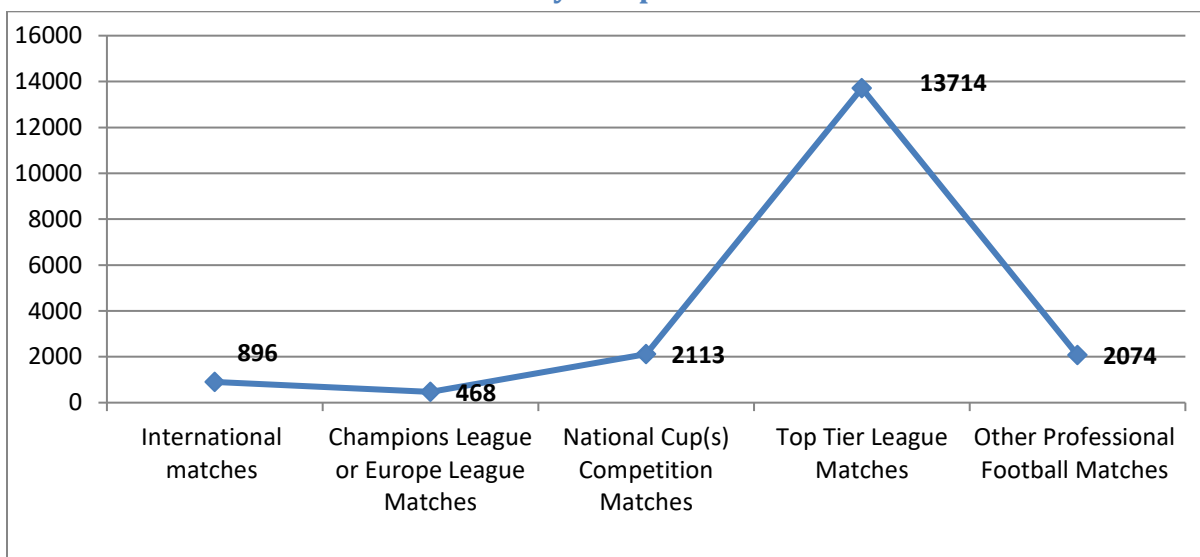
Also, it is acknowledged by the authors of the report that there is a wide variation of policing styles across European countries, this being the result of various factors like: national coordination, available resources, political engagement, integrated approach, exclusion strategy etc.

It is very important to highlight the fact that the figures below mentioned by the responding countries refer only to football matches or other sports events monitored by the police in that State and not all the football/other sport events.

³ Which took place from the 14th of June until the 15th of July.

Section A. Professional Football Matches

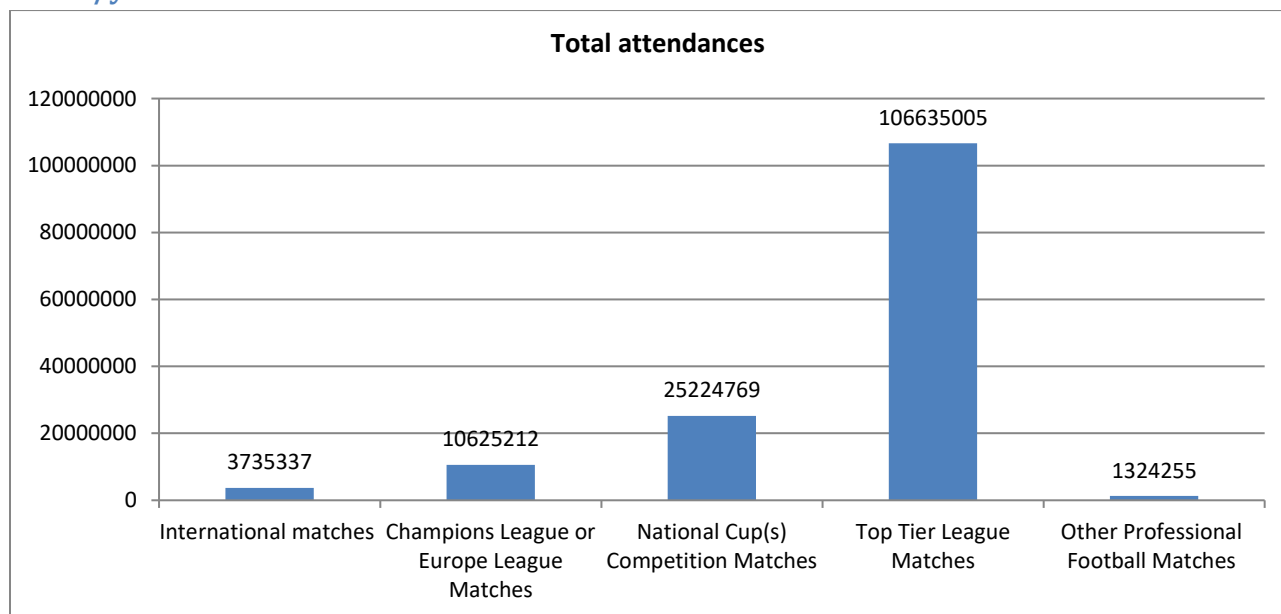
Question 1 - Number of football matches by competition for which data was collected?⁴



The total number of matches reported by the responding States is 19.265, during one season or year, representing an increase of 13% compared to the last edition of the analysis⁵ and in line with the increased number of responding countries.

92,92% of this total is represented by national matches and 7,08% by international matches, percentage very similar to the last year's one.

Question 2 - Total attendances at football matches for which data was collected during the season/year?⁶



⁴ 32 responses, only Hungary did not reply.

⁵ The total number for last year was 16.920.

⁶ 32 responses, only Hungary did not reply;

The overall attendance of football matches in the responding States is **147.544.673 fans** (↑11%)⁷, which shows the magnitude and importance of this kind of events and the impact it can have on the public order climate. 90,27% of that amount is recorded at the national matches and 9,73% at international fixtures. A slight increase was noted as regards the international and European fixtures (approximately 1,5% from the total), which comes to confirm the higher interest shown by the fans in these competitions. Also, a better separation in the data reporting regarding the national Cup matches and the top tier league matches was observed in this years report.

The **average attendance is 6885 persons/match** (very similar to the last years one)⁸ which underlines the fact that football matches are one of the most important public gatherings that occur on a recurrent time basis and require special attention and dedicated police deployment. In view of this, football stadia are a soft target that can be subject to a terrorist attack due to the high media exposure and the impact that they can have on large crowds.

The **highest attendance** is recorded in the United Kingdom – **42.000.000 persons**, which represents 28% of the overall attendances, followed by Spain – 22.430.320 and Germany – 16.686.325. Lowest attendances in Luxembourg (24.845), Estonia (50.691) and Latvia (102.000). These results are closely linked to these countries size, population and level of development of the national football competitions.

The **highest average attendance** is in Spain (51.211 spectators/match), followed by Germany (36.196) and France (14.635), whilst the lowest are in Bosnia Herzegovina (521), Malta (486) and Estonia (270).

No.	Responding countries	Total attendances	Number of matches	Average attendance/country
1	Spain	22430320	438	51211
2	Germany	16686325	461	36196
3	France	11122870	760	14635
4	United Kingdom	42000000	3044	13798
5	Netherlands	7086741	789	8982
6	Portugal	5047701	565	8934
7	Belgium	3755225	457	8217
8	Italy	15822258	2088	7578
9	Switzerland	2690393	444	6059
10	Poland	4878184	971	5024
11	Ireland	858043	214	4010
12	Czech Republic	1928797	530	3639
13	Norway	2132539	654	3261
14	Croatia	734666	230	3194
15	Georgia	310587	102	3045
16	Greece	1610834	619	2602
17	Finland	562838	218	2582

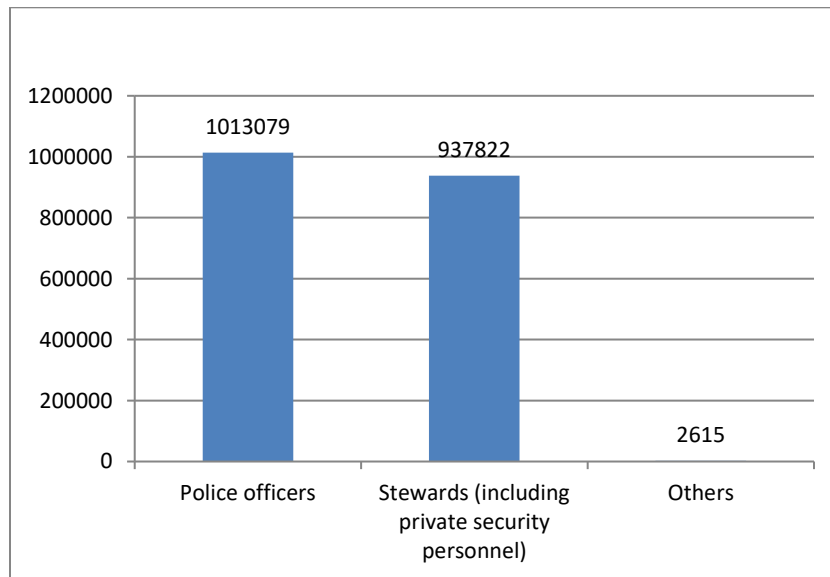
⁷ Compared to 132.733.814 spectators last year;

⁸ Average of 6896 persons/match.

18	Austria	2722193	1073	2537
19	Serbia	990480	438	2261
20	Luxembourg	24845	11	2259
21	Romania	1613810	768	2101
22	Latvia	102000	67	1522
23	Slovenia	336975	234	1440
24	Cyprus	613288	503	1219
25	Lithuania	267714	398	673
26	Bulgaria	282271	522	541
27	Bosnia Herzegovina	743020	1427	521
28	Malta	138970	286	486
29	Estonia	50691	188	270
				6855

Due to probable inconsistency of the data provided, the contributions of Liechtenstein, Monaco and Ukraine were not taken into consideration in the process of analysing the answers for this question. Hungary did not provide data for this question.

Question 3 - Number of security personnel used for football matches during the previous season/year?



No information was provided for this section by Hungary, Monaco, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Ukraine.

The total number of security personnel used for football matches is **1.953.516** (73,31%)⁹, 1,013,079 police officers, 937,822 stewards (including private security personnel) and 2,615 others. This shows the significant resources put in place by States and other stakeholders in order to properly secure football fixtures across Europe. Regarding the costs associated to these services, there is a wide

⁹ 1.890.917 – last year;

variation in Europe, in some MS all the costs are supported from the state budget, while in other MS part of the policing costs are met by the organizer (NA, club, other private entities).

The average ratio of security personnel (police personnel + stewards + private security personnel)/match is **101** (decrease of 23%).

The **average ratio of police personnel/match is 58** (decrease of 42%)¹⁰. High level of police deployment is recorded in Poland (an average of 216 police officers/match), Germany (198) and Greece (193). Low levels were reported by Lithuania (3,60 officers/match), Latvia (5,28) and Finland (7,47).

The **average ratio of police officers/total attendance** is 1 police officer to 155 spectators (↗21%). Low level of police deployment is recorded in Spain (an average of 1 police officer to 806 fans), Ireland (1:382) and Finland (1:345). High levels were reported by Greece (1 officer to 20 fans attending), Malta (1:19) and Bulgaria (1:7). The average ratio of 1 police officer to 155 spectators should not be considered as a standard to be met by all European countries, an adequate police deployment should be based only on a proper risk assessment.

The **average ratio of stewards & private security personnel/total attendance** is 1 steward to 95 spectators (↗26%). Low level of stewards' deployment is recorded in Spain (an average of 1 steward to 458 fans), Slovenia (1:295) and Malta (1:154). High levels were reported by Greece (1 steward to 12 fans attending), Bulgaria (1:18) and Luxembourg (1:34). The average ratio previously mentioned is referring to the stewards deployed inside and in the proximity of the stadium and should not be compared to the police ratio, as their functions and tasks are different, but complementary.

No.crt.	Responding countries	Police officers	Stewards and private security	Total matches	Total attendances	Average ratio police officers/match	Average ratio police officers/total attendance	Average ratio stewards/total attendance
1	Finland	1628	5780	218	562838	7.47	345.72	97.38
2	Czech Republic	53696	0	530	1928797	101.31	35.92	N/A
3	Romania	49548	40074	768	1613810	64.52	32.57	40.27
4	Liechtenstein	1340	2500	67		20.00	N/A	N/A
5	Luxembourg	167	718	11	24845	15.18	148.77	34.60
6	Georgia	7701	7900	102	310587	75.50	40.33	39.31
7	Austria	37248	45273	1073	2722193	34.71	73.08	60.13
8	Cyprus	19218	15197	503	613288	38.21	31.91	40.36
9	Belgium	35295		457	3755225	77.23	106.40	N/A
10	Estonia	362	1319	188	50691	1.93	140.03	38.43
11	Portugal	41971	41516	565	5047701	74.28	120.27	121.58
12	Spain	27807	48913	438	22430320	63.49	806.64	458.58
13	Netherlands	31172		789	7086741	39.51	227.34	N/A

¹⁰ The decrease was influenced also by the fact that this year the Russian Federation did not contribute to the report (average of 409 officers/match last year) and neither did Ukraine (average of 544 officers/match).

14	Poland	210027	102924	971	4878184	216.30	23.23	47.40
15	Bulgaria	39510	15000	522	282271	75.69	7.14	18.82
16	Malta	7000	900	286	138970	24.48	19.85	154.41
17	Ireland	2244		214	858043	10.49	382.37	N/A
18	Bosnia Herzegovina	33058	13846	1427	743020	23.17	22.48	53.66
19	Croatia		19631	230	734666	N/A	N/A	37.42
20	Germany	91301	175970	461	16686325	198.05	182.76	94.82
21	Greece	76936	128076	619	1610834	124.29	20.94	12.58
22	Italy	202731	267355	2088	15822258	97.09	78.05	59.18
23	Latvia	354	956	67	102000	5.28	288.14	106.69
24	Lithuania	1432	2834	398	267714	3.60	186.95	94.47
25	Slovenia	3087	1140	234	336975	13.19	109.16	295.59
26	France	38246		760	11122870	50.32	290.82	N/A
AVERAGE						58.21	155.04	95.28

Question 4 - Total number of incidents in connection with professional football matches?

The total number of incidents in connection with professional football matches is 9.789 (decrease of 33%)¹¹. Consequently, incidents are recorded at 50% of the matches played in responding countries¹² (both at national and international level), which is similar to the one recorded by UEFA at European competitions (approximately 47%).

This is a very sensitive question that needs careful handling in interpreting the data, due to the variation in the national legal frameworks and methodologies in recording of incidents which has an impact of the final results.

The criteria applied in determining severity varies from country to country in terms of reference and national perception. Whilst some of the countries adopt a very strict policy and report all the minor offences as incidents, resulting in a high number of incidents, other countries consider only the high profile incidents/disorder and select them very carefully before reporting. In order to illustrate that we can give the following example: some of the MS count 1 pyro used at 1 football match as 1 incident whilst some other MS count 10 pyros used also as 1 incident.

From an objective point of view, especially in the case of the countries with a very low level of incidents, the data gathering and reporting system should be reviewed in order to avoid any inconsistencies.

Nevertheless, the average of 0,50 incidents/match at European level, which is similar to UEFA statistics, comes to confirm that this statistical exercise is quite accurate and in line with football policing status quo at European level.

¹¹ This decrease is heavily influenced by the lack of contribution from the Russian Federation (1961 recorded incidents in the previous version of the report) and the review of the Portugal reporting system (decrease from 2851 incidents to 245 in the current edition, due to the fact that they do not record each pyrotechnic lit as a single incident).

¹² decrease of 42% since last season.

What is very important is the fact that the level of incidents remains quite high, and the ongoing battle of the public and private security forces should continue with an increased pace, using all the available tools and putting an emphasis on the integrated approach, in order to reduce the number of antisocial behaviour significantly in the forthcoming years.

Question 5 - Severity of incidents?

Defining the severity of incidents can be subjective; however, we tried to use the following criteria as indicator:

Very serious - Incidents generating significant media coverage, involving a high number of persons engaged in violence or disorder, or resulting in serious injury to persons or major damage to property.

Serious - Incidents generating some media or no media coverage and involving a low number of persons engaged in violence or significant disorder resulting in serious injuries or significant damage to property.

Not serious - Isolated incidents of disorder involving few people and no significant damage to persons or property.

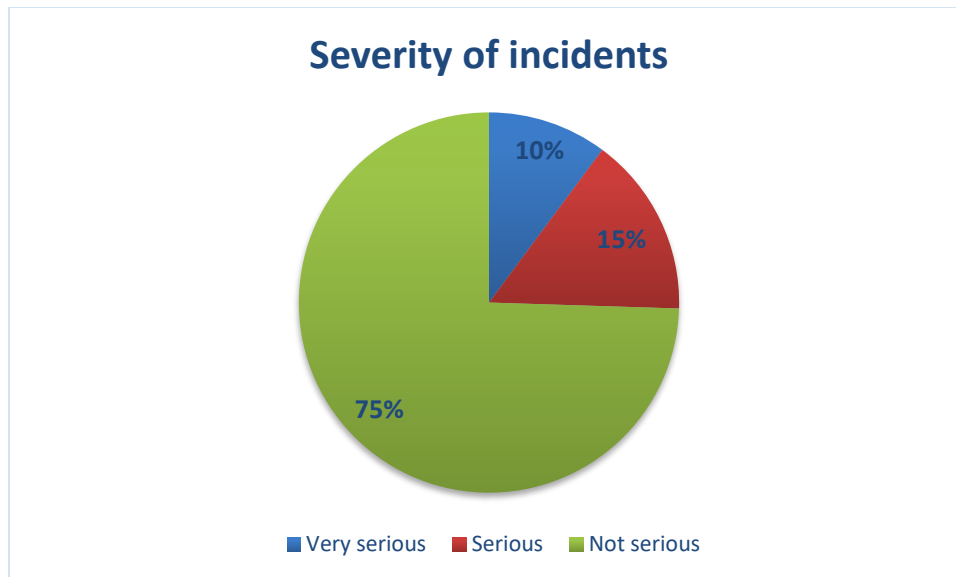
The severity of incidents is distributed as following: 10% are very serious, 15% serious and 75% are not serious.

Compared to the last edition of the analysis, the level of severity of incidents has recorded a significant increase in the case of very serious incidents from a level of 0,97% to 10%¹³, and of serious incidents from 12% to 15%.

It is recognised that figures reported can be influenced by the subjectivity of the local or central police forces, for a wide range of reasons, which can affect the overall results of the report.

Bosnia Herzegovina, Hungary, Germany and the Netherlands did not answered this question.

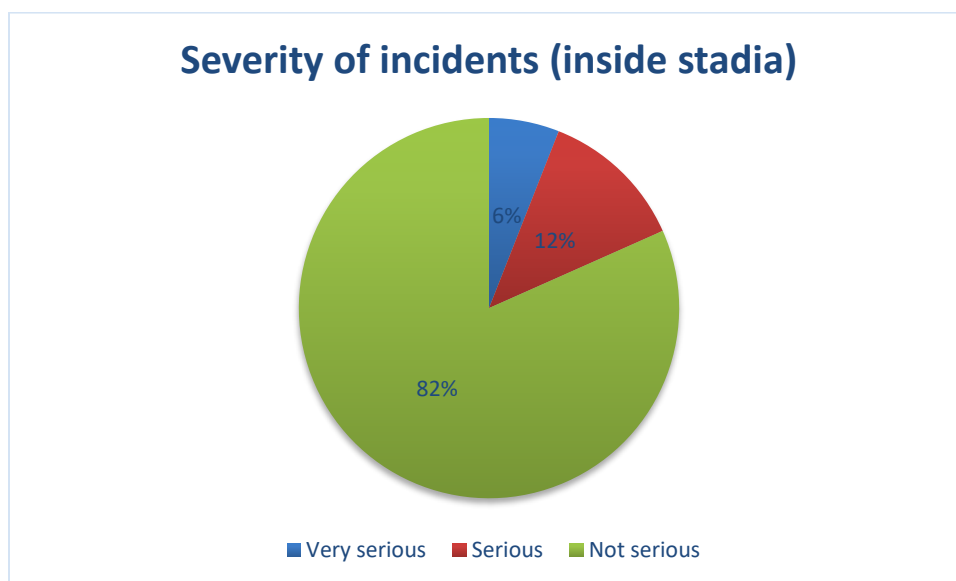
¹³ Heavily influenced by the 486 very serious incidents reported by France this year, compared to 1 reported last year.



Question 6 - Number of incidents by location and severity?

The final figures for this question were influenced by the fact that countries like Austria, Hungary, Germany, United Kingdom and the Netherlands, whilst gathering the incidents data, they do not make a clear distinction as regards of the location of the incidents in their own reporting.

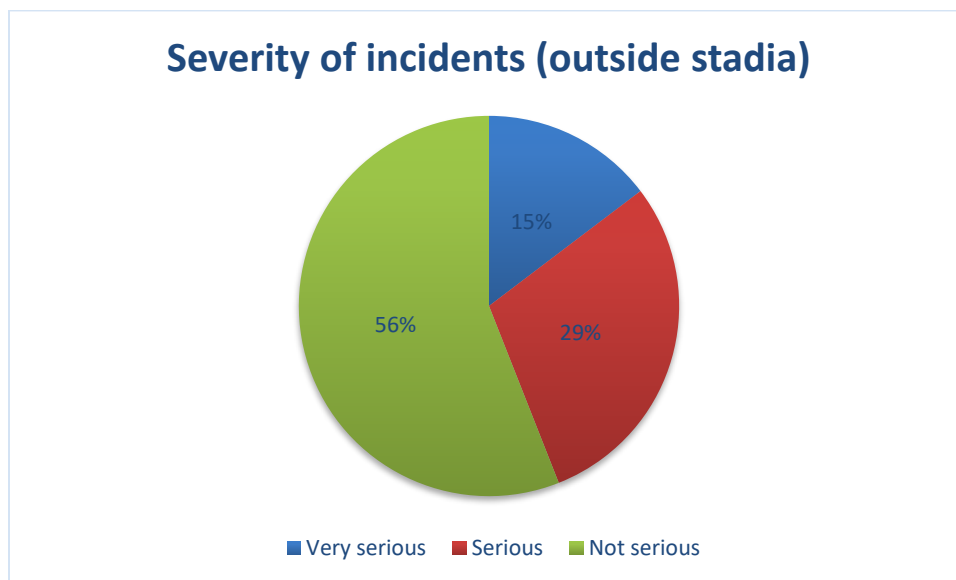
3963 incidents were recorded inside of stadia¹⁴ and 811 outside¹⁵. From those inside, 237 were very serious, 490 serious and 3236 not serious, whilst outside 119 were very serious, 238 serious and 454 not serious.



¹⁴ Decrease of 42%.

¹⁵ Decrease of 73%.

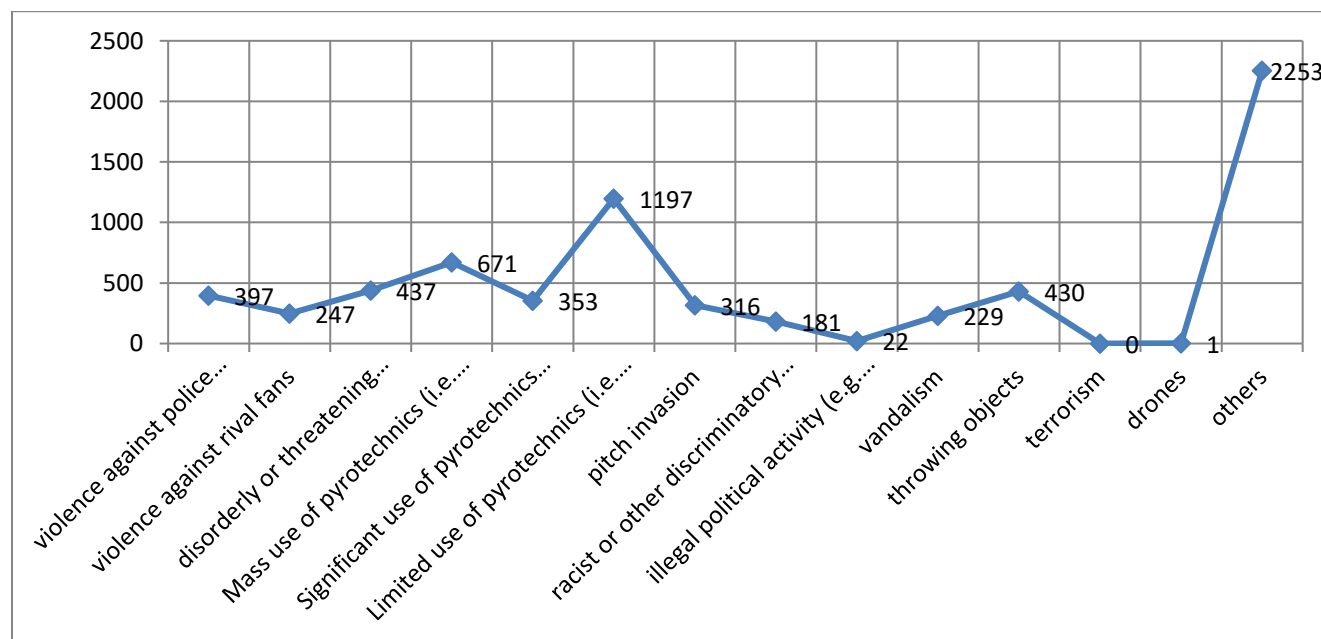
The very serious incidents recorded outside of the stadia (119) are less consistent than comparable data for incidents inside of the stadia (237), which is probably influenced by the high level of incidents associated with the use of pyrotechnical devices.



On the other side, the number of serious and not serious incidents outside of the stadia (454) is considerably lower than the ones recorded inside of the stadia (3236).

The results of this question confirm the fact that police forces across Europe focus more on the incidents taking place in the football stadia and do not necessarily record the incidents connected to the football event that occur outside the stadia and are connected to the “event flow model”.

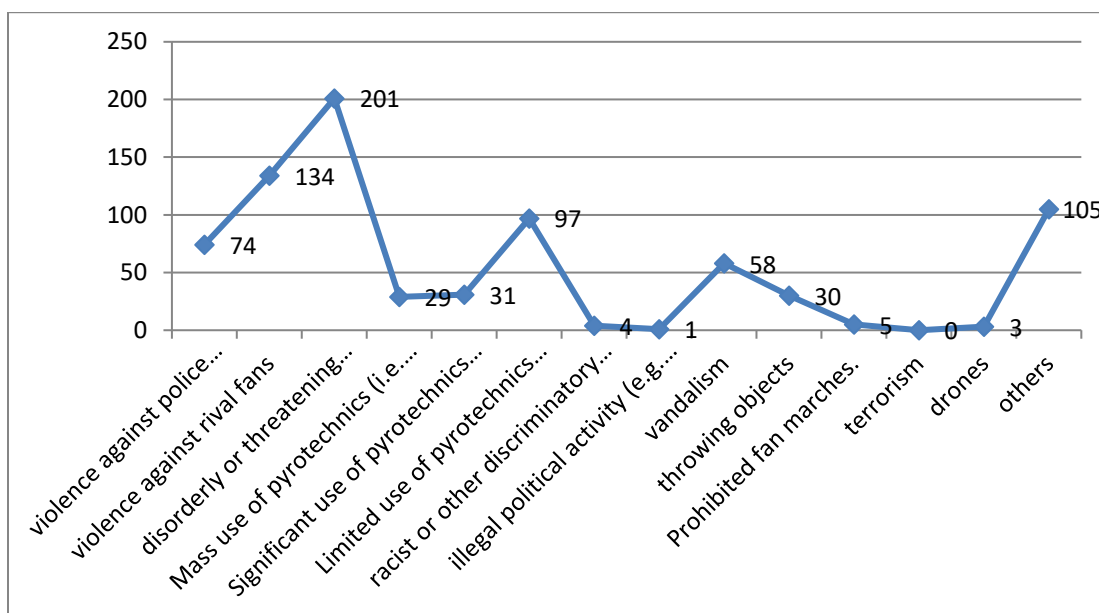
Question 7 - Character of incidents inside stadia?



The use of pyrotechnics is clearly the most common incident – 3604 (53% of the total)¹⁶. This is one of the most important issues that need to be tackled in an integrated way, both at national and European level, in order to find solutions that can contribute to the decrease of this kind of antisocial behaviour in football stadia.

Violent behaviour of the fans is reported in the following category of incidents: disorderly or threatening behaviour - 437 cases (6,49%), violence against police – 397 (5,89%), throwing objects – 430 (6,38%) and vandalism & illegal political activity – 251 (3,72%). The increase in the three out of four violence indicators shows a tendency of the fans towards violent behaviour. The reasons for it may vary, which are in the excess of data analysed in this report, but can be subject to a further research. Nevertheless, targeted exclusion of the troublemakers and enhanced dialogue with the fans are practical measures that can diffuse some of the violent behaviour and consequently the number of incidents.

Question 8 - Character of incidents outside of stadium?



Unlike incidents inside of stadia, incidents outside are mostly marked by violent behaviour of fans: disorderly or threatening behaviour – 201 (26%), violence against rival fans – 134 (17%), violence against the police – 74 (9,58%), vandalism – 58 (7,51%); the illegal use of pyrotechnics outside of stadia remains an important problem (ranked third) – 97 (12,56%). Although the use of pyrotechnics outside stadia does not pose the same level of risks as inside, these risks can still produce serious injuries to human health and can even cause death. Therefore, this issue needs to be addressed in an integrated manner as it may have an impact on the level of antisocial behaviour displayed by the fans during the match. On the other hand, the disruption in the life of local communities near the stadia or on the

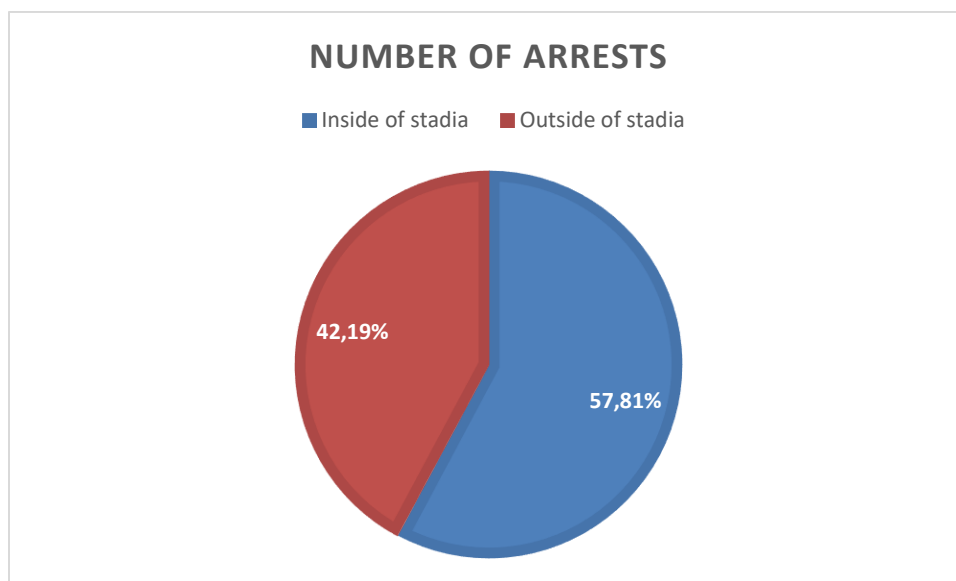
¹⁶ Decrease of 12% since last season. This number includes the 3 pyrotechnics categories (mass, significant and limited use) and the 1383 pyrotechnics incidents that could not be divided into the 3 categories by in the case of Portugal and were included in the „others“ category.

routes to stadia caused by the usage of pyrotechnical devices should be treated very seriously by the police and appropriate deterrent measures should be adopted in order to tackle this problem. Facilitating the use of pyrotechnics outside the stadia in exchange of a promise from the fans side that they would not cause any problems during the match, should not be accepted as a solution by the police, as this would only shift the problem from inside to outside – and would cause more problems, than solving them.

Question 9 - Number of arrests?

9000 people (734%) were arrested during the matches reported by the contributing States (5203 inside and 3797 outside), with an average of 0,46 arrests/match¹⁷.

Arrests inside of stadia account for 57,81%, whilst arrests outside account for 42,19% of the total number.



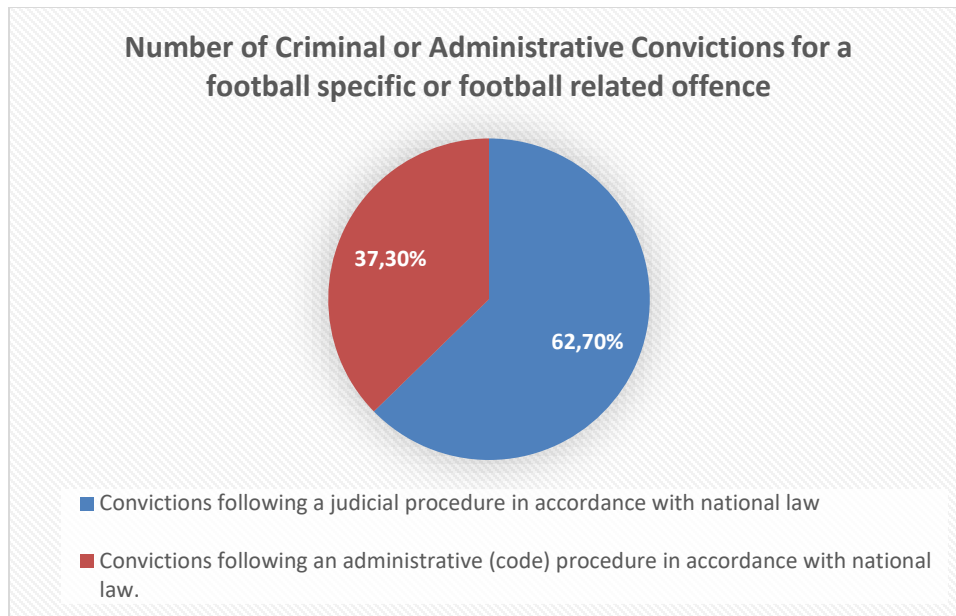
Question 10 - Number of criminal or administrative convictions for a football specific or football related offence?

3853 criminal or administrative convictions (32%) for a football specific or football related offences were issued by courts in the responding States, from which 2416 (62,70%) were convictions following a judicial procedure in accordance with national law¹⁸, and 1437 (37,30%) were convictions following an administrative (code) procedure in accordance with national law¹⁹.

¹⁷ Increase by 0,05%;

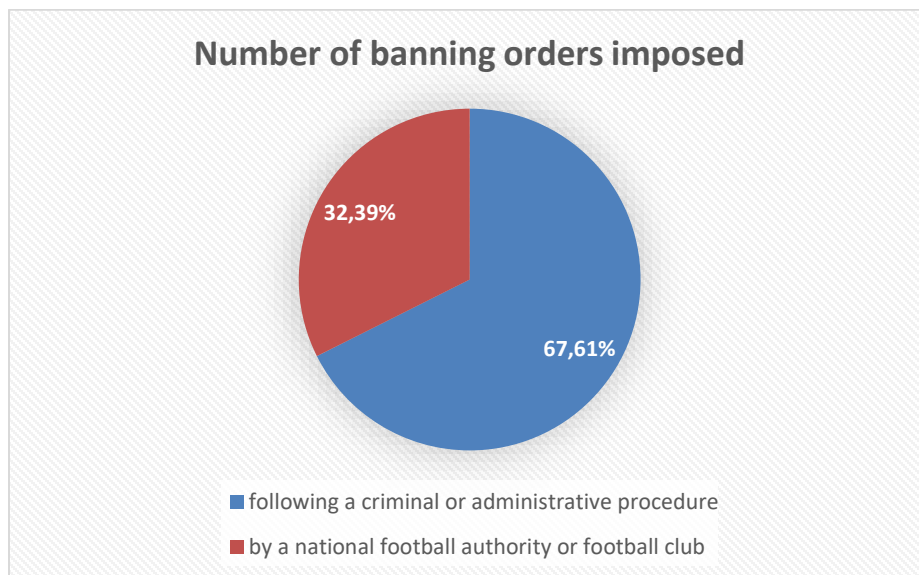
¹⁸ 17 responding States, as following: Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Italy, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Spain.

¹⁹ 9 responding States – Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Spain and Ukraine.



Question 11 - Number of banning orders imposed?

10.286 banning orders were imposed in the above mentioned period (6954 – 67,61% were issued following a criminal or administrative procedure²⁰ and 3332²¹ – 32,39% by a national football authority or football club²²).



²⁰ 20 responding States, as following: Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom;

²¹ From which 1852 (55,59%) are issued by Germany;

²² 10 responding States – Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Germany, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Switzerland.

Comparing to the total attendance in Europe, the ratio of banned individuals is **1 to 14.344 fans** attending²³.

Nevertheless, the number of banning orders should not be regarded as the only indicator of success, but only a part of it – the essential element is the impact on the level of violence and the level of recurrence of antisocial behaviour. Extremely important for implementing a successful strategy are the mechanisms put in place in order to implement and monitor compliance with the banning orders issued by the State/other entities.

As the exclusion strategy sits at the core of the prevention and tackling of the sports related violence system and it is the key for success, further research is going to be done in this area via a subproject of the ProS4+ project.

No.	Responding countries	Number of banning orders imposed	
		following a criminal or administrative procedure	by a national football authority or football club
1	Austria	0	80
2	Belgium	841	40
3	Bosnia Herzegovina	6	1
4	Bulgaria	24	0
5	Croatia	156	0
6	Cyprus	33	0
7	Czech Republic	103	0
8	Estonia	0	0
9	Finland	0	0
10	France	277	0
11	Georgia	0	0
12	Germany	0	1852
13	Greece	35	0
14	Hungary	0	0
15	Ireland	0	0
16	Italy	2274	0
17	Latvia	0	1
18	Liechtenstein	0	6
19	Lithuania	0	0
20	Luxembourg	0	0
21	Malta	40	0
22	Monaco	0	0
23	Netherlands	1	658
24	Norway	1	18

²³ Compared to 1 to 13.181 fans last year.

25	Poland	99	6
26	Portugal	47	0
27	Romania	211	0
28	Serbia	128	0
29	Slovenia	15	0
30	Spain	355	0
31	Switzerland	455	670
32	Ukraine	0	0
33	United Kingdom	1853	0
		6954	3332

Question 12 - Number of banning orders imposed with geographical or other constraints on behaviour?

From the total of 10.286 banning orders imposed, 2644 (approximately 25,70%) were imposed with geographical or other constraints on behaviour²⁴.

Question 13 - Number of banning orders imposed with a prohibition on travelling to football matches in another State?

Although the relevant legal and administrative framework in a number of States makes provision to preclude travel to football matches in another State, only 2206 of the banning orders imposed included such a prohibition on travel²⁵. This is a disappointingly low number which could be attributed to a number of factors related to application of national law or the wording of the legal provisions. This is an area which warrants and will receive a more detailed examination in the months ahead, including via a study regarding the exclusion measures systems available in Europe.

Section B. Other Sports (Q14-22)

Most NFIP's focus only on football events, as they pose higher risks and public order issues than in the case of other sports. Nevertheless, an increased number of NFIP's extended their remit to other sports, due to the need to deal with the challenges which they were facing in connection with these sport events (*the most important one being that part of the risk football fans groups tend to migrate to other sports played by the teams of the same club and consequently cause similar problems*), which triggered the need to exchange information at European level in this area.

²⁴ 7 responding States, as following: Cyprus, France, Greece, Poland, Norway, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

²⁵ 8 responding States – Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Romania and United Kingdom.

Only 12 countries responded to this Section²⁶, with references mainly to basketball, handball, volleyball, ice-hockey and rugby (total attendances monitored 9.007.840 across all disciplines put together).

The incidents in connection with these sports are lower than the level at football events²⁷, 162 being recorded inside sport arenas and 59 outside.

Similar trends apply in terms of the character of the reported incidents: violence against rival fans (63)²⁸, usage of pyrotechnics (41)²⁹ and disorderly and violent behaviour of the fans (28)³⁰.

The number of arrests in connection with sports other than football is 294 (97 – inside sports arenas and 197 outside). Consequently the number of banning orders is very low – 71, all of which were imposed following a criminal or administrative procedure.

Policing other sports remains in the shadow of the football policing, but special attention should also be paid to them based on a proper risk assessment and having in mind the consistent attendance of fans, albeit most of them with a different profile than those involved in football, but with the potential of generating risks to public order and safety.

Section C. General Remarks

Question 23 and 24 - Please provide a brief outline/presentation of any emerging trends over the past season/year regarding football-related violence, disorder or other criminality in your country?

The emerging trends identified by the responding countries³¹ refer to:

- the use of pyrotechnics both inside and outside football and other sports grounds continue to be one of the most important challenges for police forces across Europe. The extensive use of such devices is perceived by the fans as a way of protesting against public and private football authorities;
- violence against the police is a constant problem that most of the responding States report with negative implications in the public order area;

²⁶ Compared to 10 last year.

²⁷ Very serious – 31, serious – 158 and not serious - 187.

²⁸ 53 inside sport arenas and 10 outside.

²⁹ 36 inside and 5 outside.

³⁰ 25 inside and 3 outside.

³¹ 23 contributions: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

- organised fights between rival fan groups (outside football grounds) remain a trend, as the safety and security measures adopted inside sport arenas discourage this kind of behaviour; the social media distribution of these fights is done afterwards, which contributes to the promotion of this kind of antisocial behaviour;
- violence between groups or factions of risk fans of the same club is increasingly reported as a challenge faced by the police forces from several responding States; this is mostly a consequence of the assertion of power by the fans and the continuous struggle for supremacy, especially in the ultras stands;
- some of the contribution from the MS mentioned the reduction in police resources being deployed inside stadia, therefore potentially less law enforcement activity from previous years;
- the use of drugs and alcohol by the fans has been highlighted by some of the responding countries as being a contributory factor in generating incidents in connection with sport events;
- racism and discriminatory incidents level increased in some of the responding countries with an impact on the antisocial behaviour at football matches;
- the risk of a terrorist incident is an ongoing issue of concern which requires an enhanced cooperation between public order and safety and counter-terrorist experts, in order to reduce risk levels.

Question 25 - Please provide a brief description of the most important incident occurred in your country over the previous season/year. Please mention the causes and the measures taken in order to prevent those incidents to reoccur.

16 contributions were received in connection with this question as following:

Austria – “At the cup final in Klagenfurt, the fans from Sturm Graz wanted to attach an oversized banner before the match in the guest section. The banner was initially prohibited by the competent authorities. As a result, risk-supporters from Sturm Graz who were not yet in the stadium were putting so much pressure on the security forces at the entrance that there was the risk that the security forces at the intake controls would be overrun. In order to prevent further threats, the banner was finally approved by the competent authorities”.

Belgium – “Club Brugge - Antwerp dd 22-10-2017: These are the two most rival groups in Belgium and it is the first season in the highest division again for Antwerp. Based on initial information, a huge (for Belgian police norms) police deployment of about 500 police officers was on the field. There were a lot of provocation between rival supporters in the stadium but, outside the canalization of supporters worked well and no possible contact between the risk groups occurred. This was very frustrating for the home risk supporters and there were confrontations between police forces and Bruges risk supporters. Traffic signs were thrown in direction of police forces. A small car was returned on the roof

by supporters and they tried to set it on fire to make the progression of police forces more difficult. Police could deploy around the supporters and 123 people were arrested (so this also means that Belgian police season statistics of 316 arrests has to be read with this incident in mind)".

Bosnia-Herzegovina – “The assault made by the fans of football club FK Iskra (from town Bugojno, Bosnia) on the fans of football club FK Travnik (from town Travnik) at football match of 1st League of Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina between FK Iskra – FK Travnik, due to long-lasting fan rivalry between both football clubs. In total, 13 misdemeanor fines have been issued by police against the fans”.

Bulgaria – “A police officer was injured as a result of a thrown bomb during the derby between CSKA and Levski (the most conflict internal match in Bulgaria)”.

Czech Republic – “Before the match of Czech highest division between Bohemians 1905 and SK Sigma Olomouc that was played on 4th of November 2017, a group of 20 football hooligans attacked a male from Cameroon in public transport when travelling to the stadium just because of his race. The victim was seriously injured and end up in hospital. The Criminal Police and Investigation Service uncovered perpetrators and detained them on the match day and accused them of grievous bodily harm. Consequently, there were charges with grievous bodily harm against the perpetrators and they were convicted at the end of the trial. The stadium bans have also been imposed. This case is one of the most important incidents as it got huge attention by media immediately”.

Finland – “A 25/25 fight occurred in a remote area outside Helsinki, were the two Helsinki clubs supporters confronted each other. A Polish football supporter, who was fighting with the other clubs’ supporters got badly injured and entered into a coma”.

France – “On 30th September 2017, during the Amiens-Lille match a crowd movement causes the breakthrough of separation wall between the stands and the field. Many supporters fell in the field and 29 of them were injured. The match which had just begun was stopped. This spectacular incident opens a reflection on the experimentation of secure standing places which are currently prohibited in France. During the 2018-2019 season four clubs will be testing this kind of stands in their stadium”.

Ireland – “Disorganized / Organized disturbances outside stadium between 2 Dublin based clubs with a history of disorder and friction. A fixture that was attended by circa 3000 required a sizeable deployment of Police, including mounted, dog and public Order units as well as Air support.

This fixture started with a n incident of vandalism (graffiti) at the away stadium which was assessed to have been done by home support.

There was an incident of assault on police in the pre-match and it required police to use all resources to ensure violence between fans did not escalate. While there were arrests made it was not tactically prudent to arrest more persons at the scene due to the potential for escalation and containment of the situation was the appropriate course of action”.

Lithuania – “Misbehaviour, violation of public order and use of pyrotechnics of FC “Zalgiris” ultra’s groups supporters during national league matches”.

Malta – “A person was arrested during a particular match for letting on pyrotechnics. When the Police proceeded to arrest him, he turned violent against the Police causing further unrest in the stands”.

Monaco – “On 17th October 2017, AS Monaco played against Besiktas in Champions Leagues. All supporters of Besiktas were banned to travel to in Monaco or to carry the colours of their team. On that day, Monaco Police had to bring 68 Besiktas fans back to the frontier”.

The same problem happened on 12th of May 2018, when Monaco was receiving AS Saint-Etienne for a French national championship match. 10 people were put in custody and 18 brought back to frontier, after judicial signalling.

Norway – “A flashbang thrown at a young steward nearby the Pitch almost damaged his hearing. The incident made as an example to motivate for better searches”.

Portugal – “During the past season, there were two significant incidents that raise a lot of issues in the media, with a massive impact on society. One of them concerned a mass disorder outside the SL Benfica stadium, among its own supporters, after losing a very important league game to FC Porto. There were some police officers who were injured. After this incident, the match commander improved the planning and learned from the experience, making changes in the police deployment planning and requested for the city hall to take some measures regarding the bottle banks, in order to prevent the risk supporters to throw empty bottles against the police officers.

Another significant incident was the invasion of the training centre of Sporting CP, where about 30 risk supporters attacked their supporting team coach and players because of poor results. This situation made the politicians acknowledge that the sports-related violence is a serious issue and it led to the beginning of a revision of law.

Sometimes in order not to create disturbance within the stands, if the situation is not particularly threatening to third parties, the Police carry out arrests during half time or at the end of the match. They also make use of CCTV cameras and sometimes arrest a person from his home rather than at the stadia”.

Romania – “The most important incident recorded last year was linked to the 4th League match between Steaua and Rapid Bucharest. Major use of pyrotechnics and incidents between the 2 sets of fans were recorded inside of the stadium. The causes of this were the inefficient stewarding system and the lack of coordination with the public order forces”.

Serbia – “During the 3rd Champions league qualification game between Spartaks Jurmala and Crvena Zvezda, Belgrade police officer was deliberately attacked in stadium by group of Crvena Zvezda supporters. Police officer sustained minor head injuries and perpetrator was arrested”.

Slovenia – “42 risk supporters arrested in a derby match (NK Olimpija Ljubljana v. NK Maribor) in Ljubljana due to disorderly behaviour of away supporters. Measures: violators arrested and further preventive measures by police spotters”.

The responses provided in this section by the contributing States confirm that the challenges which they are confronted with are not country specific, but they are common across Europe (the most important one being the use of violence and pyrotechnics) and need to be tackled by adopting an integrated approach as regards safety, security and service.

Section D. NFIP network, legislation and training issues

Question 26 - Please provide the total number of police officers working in your NFIP national unit.

The total number of police officers working in the NFIP’s of responding States³² is 130³³, with an average of 3,94 officers/State³⁴. This decrease on the both indicators is raising serious concerns especially having in mind the extensive effort that the NFIP network will have to put in place in order to efficiently deal with the challenges associated with the international police cooperation for the EURO 2020.

The composition of the NFIP’s varies across Europe from 1 officer (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Hungary, Luxembourg, Norway and Slovenia) up to 16 (United Kingdom).

Question 27 - Please provide the total number of spotters used in the past season/year regarding football-related violence, disorder or other criminality in your country.

In relation to the national network of spotters, 21 States replied to this query and stated that they are using 1317 spotters, resulting in a average of 62 spotters in the States concerned³⁵. Spotters lie at the heart of the information gathering arrangements used to prevent and tackle sports related violence and this should be clearly understood at national level and customized deployment, training and resources for spotters should be put in place.

No.	Country	Number of spotters
1	Austria	191
2	Portugal	184
3	Czech Republic	145
4	Germany	143

³² 31 States responded, no contributions from Switzerland and Ukraine

³³ Compared to 135 officers in 29 responding States last year

³⁴ Compared to the average of 4,65 officers/State last year

³⁵ An increase of 6% compared to last year

5	Liechtenstein	134
6	Romania	132
7	Slovenia	78
8	Finland	70
9	Spain	60
10	Greece	36
11	Poland	30
12	France	30
13	Serbia	23
14	Ireland	15
15	Monaco	10
16	Lithuania	10
17	Bulgaria	7
18	Georgia	6
19	Latvia	6
20	Estonia	4
21	Cyprus	3
	European average	62,71

Question 28-30 Number of missions/spotters/costs of operational support undertaken in the previous season/year in relation to international football matches?

Regarding the number of visiting police delegation missions in relation to international football matches undertaken in the previous season/year, 236³⁶ referred to receiving support (642 spotters involved³⁷ – costs associated 31.613 euros) and 219³⁸ to providing support to other countries (583 spotters involved³⁹ – costs associated 72.999 euros).

Compared to last year's report, there is an average increase of 52% for the operational support missions in connection with the international football matches, which comes to confirm that this kind of police cooperation proved to be efficient and it is a model of good practice in reducing the risks and providing assistance to the fans while travelling abroad. An important contribution to the increase in this area is probably determined by the new-established Nations League, a UEFA competition which replaced the friendly matches and raised the stakes for the participating teams and consequently the interest of the fans, as well as, the associated risks.

³⁶ Increase of 66%;

³⁷ Increase of 22%;

³⁸ Increase of 38%;

³⁹ Increase of 12%;

Question 31 - What new pieces of legislation in relation to sport-related violence were adopted in your country during the last year/season? Please state the most important updates and their impact on the football policing issues.

In some of the responding States new pieces of legislation in relation to sport-related violence were adopted/drafted during the last year/season. Seven countries replied, as following:

- **Belgium** - football act updated in June 2018. Some points about supporters (mis)behaviour are now applicable for more leagues, some youth or women matches. New points in the law:
 - introduction of the obligation to have a SLO for professional clubs (2 highest leagues)
 - possibility to use stewards at football events (for instance fan days, viewing areas in stadium)
 - new offences :
 - being present inside the stadion or trying to enter a stadium whilst under a civil stadium ban (ban ordered by a club/FA - as these are not official authorities, not following their rules was not an offense in the past)
 - possession or use of pyro in an area around the stadium (area is delimited by a Kings Decree and can go up to 5 kilometers around the stadium).
 - use of pyros on the Belgium territory on the way to/from the stadium in a period of time going from 5 hours before the match to 5 hours after the match. This was added to avoid use of pyros by supporters in trains or at parking areas from gas stations along the highways.
 - travel ban: it is now possible for the Ministry of Interior to forbid some supporter to leave the country for certain matches and in certain circumstances. This is written in the new football act but the practical details are still to be determined in a Kings Decree.

- **Bosnia – Herzegovina** - Having in mind the specific police structure in Bosnia-Herzegovina, every police agency responsible for security of public gatherings has own legal framework related to subject topic. Recently, a new Law was adopted on sport's competitions in Zenica-Doboj Canton, Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Also, there is an ongoing process of amendments on two laws related to this topic – Law on preventing the violence and inappropriate behaviour at sports events and Law on public gathering in Sarajevo Canton. If there are no specific laws on preventing the violence at sports events in certain cantons in Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, police implements its capacities within its Laws on public gatherings and Laws on public order. The present situation is that there is no one, unified specific law on sport-related violence on state level in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

- **Bulgaria** - Amendments of the Act on public order at sports events were adopted in the middle of 2018.

- **France** - Since the new law voted on May 2016 which improved the dialogue with supporter and the fight against hooliganism, a new instance has been created. This instance named ‘Supporters National Instance’ (SNI) is attached to the Ministry of sports and allows dialogue between the different ultra group leaders and public authorities and sport authorities. This place of exchanges offers the possibility to talk more peacefully about violence problems in sport in order to fight against them.
- **Lithuania** - Prohibition on attending sport/mass events (stadium ban) for violation of public order, pyrotechnics use and other disorder or crime.
- **Romania** – The law for the ratification of the new Convention CETS 218 (Law no.6/2018) was signed by the President of the Republic and published in the Official Journal;
- **Slovenia** - Banning order measure has effect now for 2 years (previously only 1 year). Interruption of travel to sporting events – measure more easy to be implemented than before.

Question 32 - Are there any examples of best practices / lessons learnt and projects undertaken in your country regarding football-related violence in the previous season/year, which would be worth sharing or exploring further across the network?

Five countries submitted best practice:

Finland - more involved within the EU Think Tank meetings. Finland hosted the first UEFA Pyrotechnics seminar in the spring 2018.

Hungary - The application of the above mentioned 3 sanctions:

- registered ticket sales
- internal CCTV system
- the exclusion from the matches provides sufficient dissuasive effects for the fans. Unfortunately, it might be terminated or withdrawn as a result of political pressure. There is fear that this might happen in the near future since there are less and less spectators in the stadiums, there is a will to terminate the sanction.

The positive effect of the entry by registered cards is noticeable by the behaviour of the fans.

The Hungarian Football Federation is considering terminating the usage of the registered cards due to the low attendance of fans.

Unfortunately, the Act no. V of 2011 on the obligation of establishment of internal CCTV system in every first league stadiums entered into force only in 2014.

At the request of the Police the courts started using the exclusion as a separate ancillary penalty. The courts apply this penalty since 2015.

Lithuania - Training on the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events, 13-15 March 2018, Vilnius. The aim of the training seminar was to promote the adoption of an integrated approach to safety, security and service in connection with football matches and other sports events in the Republic of Lithuania.

NFIPs and police commanders from the Ministry of the Interior, Department of Physical Education and Sports under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, Football and Basketball associations, Club Safety Officers, local / municipality authorities as well as interested parties from the private sector were involved in organizing events.

The training seminar provided a series of thematic plenary and panel sessions, discussions and a platform for exchanging opinions/sharing experiences among key Council of Europe and other international experts with subject matter expertise drawn from across Europe, and the decision-makers and practitioners in the Republic of Lithuania.

Spain - The last season we hosted two visits (in Madrid and Sevilla) from the FSE and it was really positive. We want to implement the SLO system in order to deal with the police and give all the information to his colleagues.

United Kingdom - We are working very closely with the English FA and the football charity “Kick-it-out” with regards to common goal of a reduction of all types of discrimination with better joint working and report of incident.

Question 33 – In your country, do you have in place a training scheme for match commanders, spotters and football intelligence officers? If yes, who is delivering the training and what is the duration of the courses?

Regarding the training of the football policing personnel (match commanders, spotters and football intelligence officers), 17 of the 33 responding countries (51%)⁴⁰ reported that they have set up national training schemes. The increase since last year it is commendable, but the final aim should be that all the MS put in place such a training scheme in order to have fully trained police personnel in this field. As was seen previously in the case of many disasters, the lack of training for the football policing officers can be the cause of major incidents, resulting in the death and injury of spectators attending the sport events. At this point, positive references were made in connection with the joint CEPOL & EU Think Tank - Pan European police training programme, Interpol (Project Stadia training programme) and UEFA training schemes for stewarding and joint match commanders and safety officers.

⁴⁰ An increase of 13% since last year.

Question 34 – What are the most important challenges in your country in order to implement the provisions of the new Saint-Denis Convention (CETS 218)?

The most important challenges mentioned by the contributors⁴¹ referred to:

- the need for a coherent and comprehensive national strategy;
- lack of human and financial resources;
- stadium infrastructure and compliance with international standards;
- certification and inspection of sport arenas;
- the need for a proactive and effective communication with supporters and creating a welcoming environment;
- adopting a graded and risk-based deployment of police forces and proportional intervention;
- the need for a major improvement of the stewarding system;
- creating a common understanding from all stakeholders (supporter unions, clubs, leagues, local government, health care authorities and police) that use of different types of pyrotechnics are dangerous and a threat towards public safety.

The moratorium by the Council of the European Union on the ratification of the Saint-Denis Convention has been provided, by many, as the main challenge and barrier to the implementation of the provisions of the new Convention. According to the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, this problem should be solved in the first semester of 2019 and by this, the ratification process in the case of many member states of the European Union is expected to accelerate accordingly.

4. Main conclusions

The higher reply rate (33 States) for the third edition of this analysis, gave consistency to the report and facilitated a more comprehensive and in-depth view of the violence, disorder and other prohibited activity in connection with professional football matches (and, where appropriate, other sports events).

The findings of this report are to be made available to the police practitioners that contributed to it, with the goal of making an impact and positively influencing the national approaches and procedures in this field, with the overall objective of reducing the level of violence and other criminal behaviour in connection with national and international sport events.

The total attendances of approximately 147 million spectators at football matches across Europe, complemented by 9 million to other sports, reported by the MS, refer only to the sport events monitored by the police forces and not to all such events at national level. In conclusion, the attendances are much higher and require the public authorities to implement specific measures in

⁴¹ 17 States responded, as following: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania Malta, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Spain.

order to deal with the challenges and the risks associated with these events. Only by adopting an integrated approach and a national government-led strategy that will determine and empower all the stakeholders to enact in a structured and coordinated way will lead to a successful management of sport events that consequently will provide a safe and welcoming environment for all the spectators. Police forces stand at the forefront of this quest and they need to be properly staffed, equipped and trained in order to perform their tasks efficiently and provide a source of expertise on this matter.

The movement of millions of fans is an important challenge for the State authorities and other stakeholders, who are tasked with securing the well-being of their citizens and transit individuals and no interference of barrier should be allowed to hinder this mission, either we are speaking about policing budgets cuts or procedural/legislative aspects.

A hot topic on the agenda for the near future is EURO 2020, a unique competition that will be hosted for the first time in history by 12 cities across 12 countries in Europe, which will pose additional and major challenge that will test to the maximum the international police cooperation capabilities across the whole continent (especially the NFIP network). In some of the hosts countries additional resources will be needed to support the NFIPs during this important event. At European level, an International Police Cooperation Center will be set up during the tournament in den Haag, at Europol headquarters, where liaison officers from the host, neighbouring and transit countries will be deployed in order to exchange information and provide support to the MS involved. This is a practical example of how international police cooperation provided by the NFIP network can contribute significantly to the overall safety and security of the spectators attending major sport events.

Police training events, either we refer to customised national training (National Football Policing Trainings - NFPT) initially held under the auspices of ProS4+ by the Council of Europe or international training (organised by the EU Think Tank and CEPOL, based on the Pan-European Football Policing Training Project - PE-FPTP), represent important tools towards the uniformed implementation of the football policing standards and best practices highlighted in the new Convention, and set out in more detail in Standing Committee Recommendation 1/2015, along with other important EU measures. There is an increased interest from the MS regarding these training schemes which confirms the high quality of the products and their capacity to influence football policing practitioners in adopting established good practices.

The use of pyrotechnics remains the most important challenge that the Member States are confronted with according to their assessment of the current situation. The liability issue, that resides with all the stakeholders, depending upon the content of national legal and regulatory frameworks, should oblige and encourage them to combine their efforts in tackling an issue which poses major risks to spectators, police, stadium safety and security personnel, players, officials and all other participants at football and other major sports events. Customized national strategies should facilitate an integrated response to this threat that is heavily affecting the safety and security at sports events across Europe.

In November 2018, a major blow to the illegal European distribution chain for pyros was determined by a Europol operation, in which 80 tons of Pyrotechnics were seized and 4 webshops were closed⁴². This is an ongoing battle in which the pace should be kept at the same level in order to disrupt the distribution and in conjunction with other preventative measures, to gradually reduce the impact of pyrotechnics at sport events.

Preventing and tackling the use of pyrotechnics requires a government-led multi-agency approach comprising a number of measures both repressive and inclusive in character. Empowering and encouraging supporters to develop and use safe alternatives to the use of pyrotechnics is clearly a high priority. One alleged alternative option promoted in recent times, especially in Denmark by some groups of fans is centred on the so called use of what are described as “cold pyrotechnics”. However, research demonstrated that, whilst these devices burn at a less hot temperature than other pyrotechnics, they still pose a serious threat to human health and cannot be safely used in a stadia environment and, as a consequence, are not a viable alternative to pyrotechnics.

Following an initiative of UEFA, starting November 2017, expert seminars on pyrotechnics have been made available for the NFIP network members, safety officers of the FAs and UEFA security officers. A series of training events already have been delivered in Finland, Poland, Croatia, Netherlands, Slovenia, Cyprus and Hungary. Many of them will follow in 2019 (e.g. Russian Federation, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Turkey etc.) and by this will contribute to the awareness raising of all the stakeholders with responsibilities in this field.

As regards to supporter liaison, positive developments were reported, especially in France where the SLO concept became mandatory in national law. Also, following discussions with FSE, new supporter dialogue bridges were launched by the police side in Spain.

The threat of terrorism remains at a high level in many States, which can potentially impact on a huge numbers of sport events across Europe given the high profile media coverage which such an event would generate. As a consequence, some Member States recorded higher deployments of policing personnel in order to disrupt and reduce the risk, and provide reassurance to public, through high visibility operations. This kind of deployment can have also a negative side as the spectators might feel unwelcomed and under threat, but this can be overcome by good fan dialogue, proactive interaction with spectators and explanation of the reasons for this tactical approach.

New pieces of national legislation were recently launched (along with the 6th edition of the Green Guide) and also Recommendation 1/2015 is in the process of being updated to address new or emerging safety and security challenges and provide a reliable source of good practices. These new standards will provide expert advice to police and other safety and security practitioners, but also new challenges which can have an impact in the integrated approach model, such as the controversial concept of safe standing, which has already triggered lively debates in France and the United Kingdom.

⁴² <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/international-cooperation-disrupts-illegal-fireworks-network>

In conclusion, the questionnaire provided an opportunity to identify the current trends and challenges across Europe in respect of football related violence, and to contribute to the development of adequate and proportional means for responding to associated risks in a manner that will contribute to the enhanced safety and security environment for European citizens. It must be stressed that solutions to these problems cannot be identified in isolation, but only by working together and involving all the relevant stakeholders; therefore the Council of Europe is cooperating with both public (European Union, European States), private (UEFA, FIFA) and non governmental (supporters associations, etc.).

The author of the report, the ProS4 + Secretariat and the Council of Europe Sport Conventions Division would like to thank the responding countries for their important contribution to this document and consequently to developing an ever more effective, comprehensive and integrated safety, security and service approach at football matches and other sports events.

The Council of Europe established this questionnaire on a yearly basis as from 2016 to be able to collect relevant data and present an annual overview of European current trends and emerging challenges in connection with professional football matches in Europe (and, where appropriate, other sports events).

Annex A

Questionnaire distribution list

No.	Country	Response						No reply	COMMENTS
		Online	Document	Incomplete	Opt-Out	Delayed	No Details		
1	Albania							X	
2	Andorra							X	
3	Armenia						X		
4	Austria	X							
5	Azerbaijan						X		
6	Belgium	X							Completed (3 - Sep)
7	Bosnia & Herzegovina		X						
8	Bulgaria	X							Completed (15 - Oct)
9	Croatia		X						Completed (22 - Oct)
10	Cyprus	X							
11	Czech Republic	X							
12	Denmark							X	
13	Estonia	X							New link (11 - Sep) and completed (21 - Sep)
14	Finland	X							
15	France		X						Completed (22 - Oct)
16	Georgia	X							
17	Germany		X						
18	Greece		X						
19	Hungary	X							
20	Iceland							X	
21	Ireland	X							Completed (20 - Oct)
22	Israel							X	New link (3 - Oct)
23	Italy		X						
24	Latvia		X						
25	Liechtenstein	X							
26	Lithuania		X						
27	Luxembourg	X							
28	Malta	X							New link (11 - Oct) and completed (16 - Oct)
29	Moldova							X	
30	Monaco	X							
31	Montenegro							X	
32	Netherlands	X							New link (2 - Oct) and completed (11 - Oct)
33	Norway	X							
34	Poland	X							New link (10 - Oct) and completed (12 - Oct)
35	Portugal	X							New link (24 - Sep) and completed (2 - Oct)
36	Romania	X							
37	Russian Federation							X	
38	San Marino							X	
39	Serbia		X						
40	Slovak Republic							X	
41	Slovenia		X						
42	Spain	X							Completed (3 - Oct)
43	Sweden							X	
44	Switzerland	X							
45	TFYR Macedonia							X	
46	Turkey							X	New link (10 - Oct)
47	Ukraine			X					
48	United Kingdom	X							Completed (3 - Oct)
		22	10	1	0	0	2	13	TOTAL
No.	Country	Online	Document	Incomplete	Opt-Out	Delayed	No Details	No reply	35