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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+)

**Council of Europe and European Union Joint Project**  
**“Promoting and Strengthening the Council of Europe Standards to Safety, Security and Services at Football matches and other sport events” (ProS4+)**  
[www.coe.int/sport/proS4](http://www.coe.int/sport/proS4)

Strasbourg, December 2019

**Annual/season report 2018**  
**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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## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	5
1. Role of NFIPs .....	6
2. Format of Questionnaire .....	7
3. Findings of the questionnaire.....	8
Section A. Professional Football Matches.....	9
Question 1 - Number of football matches by competition for which data was collected? .....	9
Question 2 - Total attendances at football matches for which data was collected during the season/year? .....	10
Question 3 - Number of security personnel used for football matches during the previous season/year? .....	12
Question 4 - Total number of incidents in connection with professional football matches? .....	14
Question 5 - Severity of incidents? .....	15
Question 6 - Number of incidents by location and severity? .....	16
Question 7 - Character of incidents inside stadia? .....	18
Question 8 - Character of incidents outside of stadium? .....	19
Question 9 - Number of arrests? .....	20
Question 10 - Number of criminal or administrative convictions for a football specific or football related offence?.....	21
Question 11 - Number of banning orders imposed?.....	22
Question 12 - Number of banning orders imposed with geographical or other constraints on behaviour? .....	24
Question 13 - Number of banning orders imposed with a prohibition on travelling to football matches in another State?.....	25
Section B. Other Sports (Q14-22) .....	25
Section C. General Remarks .....	27
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? .....	27
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. ....	28
Section D. Racist and discriminatory behaviour .....	32
Question 26 - Do you consider racism and discrimination at sport events as being a significant problem in your country? .....	32

Question 27 - Do you have special programmes in place to prevent and respond to racist and discriminatory behaviour in sports? .....	32
Question 28 - Are racist incidents systematically investigated and prosecuted by the criminal justice system authorities? .....	34
Question 29 - Do you think that the regulations of the sports authorities (club, federation, league) regarding this topic are sufficiently enforced? .....	35
Question 30 - Do you think the current work done in your country in addressing racism and discrimination is effective? .....	35
Section E. NFIP network, legislation and training issues .....	37
Question 31 - Please provide the total number of police officers working in your NFIP national unit. ....	37
Question 32 - Please provide the total number of spotters used in the past season/year regarding football-related violence, disorder or other criminality in your country. ....	38
Question 33-35 Number of missions/spotters/costs of operational support undertaken in the previous season/year in relation to international football matches? .....	39
Question 36 – 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?.....	39
Section F. Legal framework and best practices .....	42
Question 37 - 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. ....	42
Question 38 - 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? .....	43
Question 39 – What are the most important challenges in your country in order to implement the provisions of the new Saint-Denis Convention (CETS 218)?.....	44
4. Main conclusions.....	45

## 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.

Three 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 and 2017. The first edition incorporated contributions from NFIPs representing 17 Member States, the second increased the number of replies to 29, whilst the third encompassed contributions from 33 Member States, confirming that this initiative has become increasingly recognised as being an extremely useful analysis tool in respect of football policing across Europe. The outcome of the three previous versions provided the basis for a structured analysis on football-related violence across Europe for the period 2015 - 2017, for football policing practitioners, strategists and decision makers.

Furthermore, the results were used as a starting point for discussions in several training activities delivered both by the Council of Europe and the European Group of Safety and Security Experts (Think Tank).

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 police data 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.

There are 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;

- article 12 of the 2016 “Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events” (Saint-Denis Convention, CETS no. 218) foresees the same on “provision of information”.

## **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 harmonised approach to data collection was necessary in order to implement this important initiative.

The questionnaire circulated on 8 July 2019 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, administrative authorities and 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

The questionnaire was divided in five sections, which refer to relevant topic areas of football (or other sports), notably: thematic summaries of police data; operational challenges; emerging trends; and good practices.

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

However, in recognition that not all NFIPs gather and record comparable data in respect of other sports events, Section B of the questionnaire provided each NFIP with the option of supplying data on incidents, etc., committed in connection with other sports, if any, where such data is routinely recorded.

Section C provided opportunity to highlight any national trends or emerging challenges and to propose work streams for detailed consideration.

Section D aimed to gather more detailed insights on an important challenge, such as - racist and other discriminatory behaviour, which is an increasingly high-profile category of football related criminality.

Section E was designed to offer an overview of the NFIP network as regards the size, number of specialised officers involved in these activities, operational support missions and police training needs, in order to complete the overall picture of European football policing efforts to prevent and counter football-related violence and other criminality committed in connection with professional football events.

Section F was dedicated to the latest developments as regards legal frameworks and good practices in responding countries.

The format of this latest questionnaire was designed to reduce the number of questions whilst increasing focus on topics of interest for practitioners and experts in this specialist field of work.

### 3. Findings of the questionnaire

The questionnaire was circulated 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).**

**39 replies were received from the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and Ukraine.**

As in the previous year, an online version of the questionnaire, prepared in cooperation with the University of Liverpool, was made available in order to facilitate a higher rate of responses from NFIPs across Europe. This decision proved to be successful, as 25 replies were submitted via the online version of the questionnaire and only 14 via different formats (pdf or Word documents).

The reply rate has increased compared to the previous edition of the annual report ( $\nearrow 18\%$ )<sup>1</sup>, following a proper dissemination and awareness-raising process undertaken via the European NFIP network and also by publication of the previous report by the Standing Committee of the T-RV Convention.

Due to the very busy agenda of the NFIP's, some delays were registered in replying to the questionnaire, with the last contribution being received on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December. Nevertheless, taking into consideration the lack of resources in the case of some NFIPs, the deadline for the contributions was extended in order to have a comprehensive rate of responses.

Andorra, Albania, North Macedonia, Slovakia and Sweden contributed for the first time to the report and the Council of Europe would like to thank the responsible NFIP contact points for this important step forward, which needs to be continued in the coming years.

The process of reviewing national data gathering and analysing the system in order to be compliant with the questionnaire is a priority for most of the countries contributing to the report and, by doing so, this should contribute to an ever more accurate overview of the data.

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<sup>1</sup> 33 countries have responded to the previous questionnaire.



Belgium, Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Germany, Georgia, Italy and Slovakia, provided updated versions of their initial contributions or further explanations, which ensured a higher level of consistency and coherence for the data processed.

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

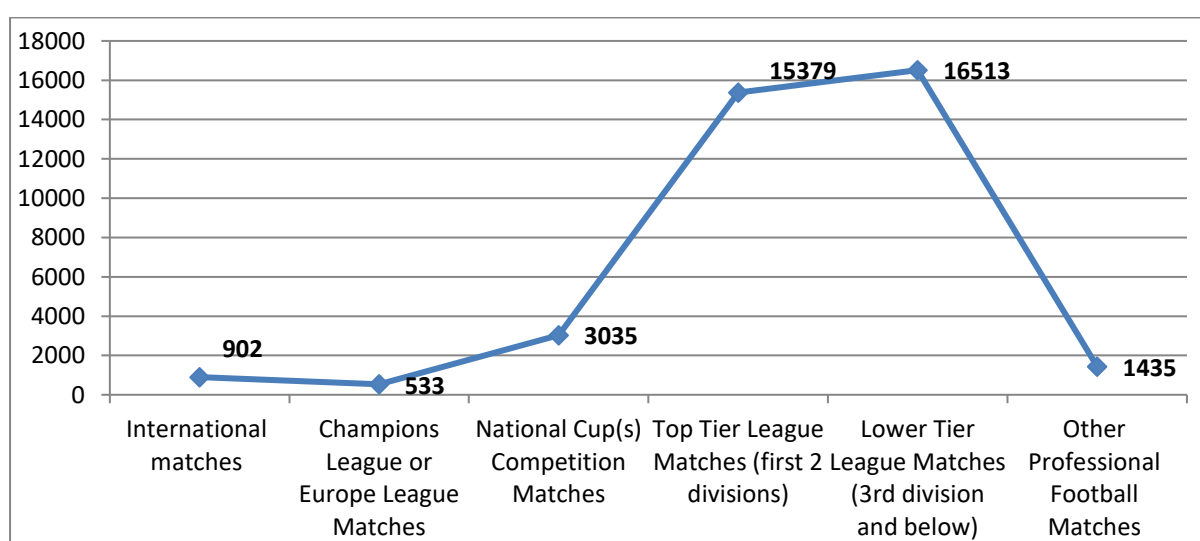
This report is not intended for criticism of the responding States, but is aimed at delivering a snapshot of the current status and emerging trends in respect of violence, disorder and other prohibited activity in connection with professional football matches (and, where appropriate, other sports events)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

Also, it is acknowledged that there is a wide variation of policing styles across European countries, this being the result of various factors like: national legal and administrative frameworks, 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 football/other sport events.

## Section A. Professional Football Matches

### Question 1 - Number of football matches by competition for which data was collected?<sup>2</sup>



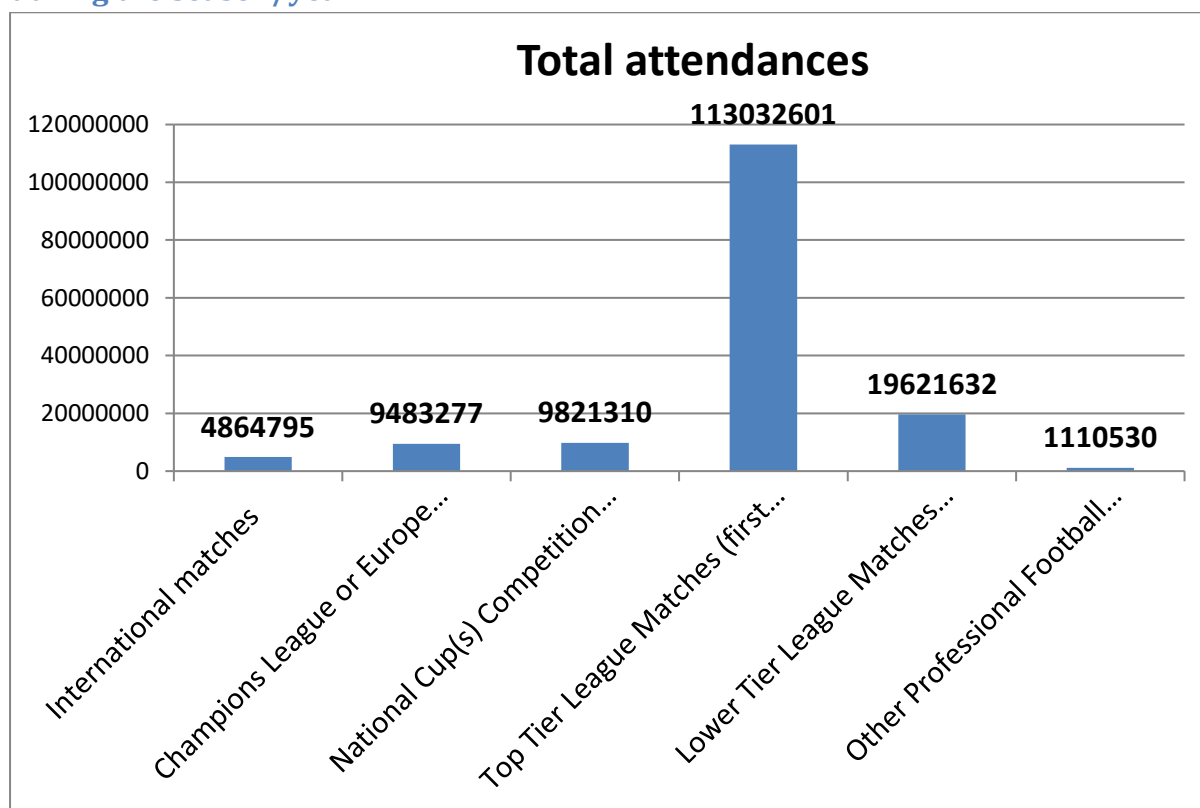
<sup>2</sup> 38 responses, only Albania did not reply.

Following the feedback of the contributors to the previous edition of the report, a distinction between top tier matches (first and second divisions) and lower tier matches (3<sup>rd</sup> and lower divisions) was made in connection with this question. This led to a more detailed overview of the police approaches towards the matches played in different tiers of the national football championships.

The total number of matches reported by the responding States is **37.797**, during one season or year, representing an increase of 96% compared to the last edition of the analysis<sup>3</sup>, which is in line with the increased number of responding countries.

**96,20% of this total** (36.362) is represented by national matches and **3,80%** are international matches (1435), percentages that are very similar to the last year's one.

### Question 2 - Total attendances at football matches for which data were collected during the season/year?<sup>4</sup>



The overall attendance of football matches in the responding States is **157.934.145 spectators** (↗7,04%)<sup>5</sup>, which confirms that football matches represent a highly important and popular event across Europe. 90,91% of the total was recorded at national matches and 9,09% at international fixtures – very similar to last year's edition. The above-mentioned numbers

<sup>3</sup> The total number for last year was 19.265.

<sup>4</sup> 37 responses, Andorra and Albania did not reply;

<sup>5</sup> Compared to 147.544.673 spectators last year;

confirm that international matches only account for less than a tenth of the total number of spectators recorded.

The **average attendance is 4136 persons/match** (decrease by 40%)<sup>6</sup> which is most probably determined by the increase in police data for lower tier matches (which usually attract a much lower attendance than top tier ones) in this year's report.

The highest attendance is recorded in the United Kingdom – **37.810.000 persons** -, which represents 24% of the overall attendances, followed by Germany – 24.510.715 - and Italy – 14.485.182. Lowest attendances were recorded in Luxembourg (46.832), Finland (96.154) and Estonia (97.330). These results are linked to the size, population and level of development of national football competitions in these countries.

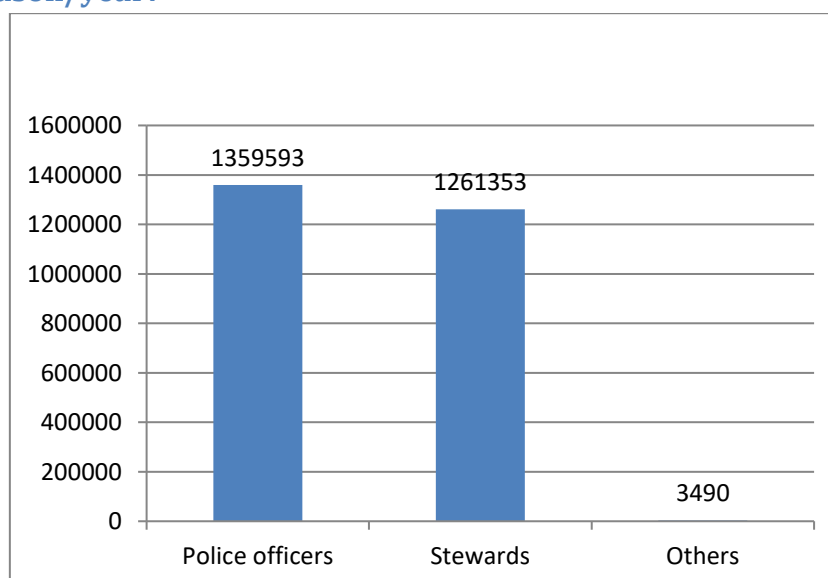
The **highest average attendance** is in Germany (21.653 spectators/match), followed by the Russian Federation (16.868) and France (12.512), whilst the lowest are in Lithuania (252), Bosnia-Herzegovina (196) and North Macedonia (159).

No.	Responding countries	Total attendances	Number of matches	Average attendance
1	Germany	<b>24510715</b>	1132	<b>21653</b>
2	Russian Federation	<b>4740000</b>	281	<b>16868</b>
3	United Kingdom	<b>37810000</b>	3022	<b>12512</b>
4	Netherlands	<b>6663144</b>	784	<b>8499</b>
5	Belgium	<b>3764811</b>	458	<b>8220</b>
6	France	<b>10715125</b>	1365	<b>7850</b>
7	Italy	<b>14485182</b>	2074	<b>6984</b>
8	Switzerland	<b>2607794</b>	442	<b>5900</b>
9	Czech Republic	<b>1849067</b>	335	<b>5520</b>
10	Sweden	<b>2568392</b>	480	<b>5351</b>
11	Denmark	<b>2233746</b>	524	<b>4263</b>
12	Norway	<b>1544750</b>	373	<b>4141</b>
13	Ukraine	<b>3113690</b>	759	<b>4102</b>
14	Hungary	<b>805330</b>	220	<b>3661</b>
15	Serbia	<b>1334920</b>	368	<b>3628</b>
16	Turkey	<b>8361415</b>	2317	<b>3609</b>
17	Spain	<b>8769957</b>	2544	<b>3447</b>
18	Croatia	<b>816054</b>	258	<b>3163</b>
19	Portugal	<b>5745506</b>	2093	<b>2745</b>
20	Luxembourg	<b>46832</b>	20	<b>2342</b>
21	Ireland	<b>734268</b>	327	<b>2245</b>
22	Austria	<b>2305120</b>	1040	<b>2216</b>
23	Romania	<b>1690610</b>	763	<b>2216</b>
24	Bulgaria	<b>635000</b>	332	<b>1913</b>
25	Poland	<b>4275801</b>	2591	<b>1650</b>
26	Slovenia	<b>331210</b>	234	<b>1415</b>

<sup>6</sup> Average of 6885 persons/match.

27	Georgia	<b>371430</b>	276	<b>1346</b>
33	Slovak Republic	<b>939000</b>	717	<b>1310</b>
28	Cyprus	<b>582377</b>	646	<b>902</b>
29	Greece	<b>1544698</b>	2010	<b>769</b>
30	Finland	<b>96154</b>	133	<b>723</b>
31	Malta	<b>157707</b>	292	<b>540</b>
32	Estonia	<b>97330</b>	222	<b>438</b>
34	Latvia	<b>192413</b>	640	<b>301</b>
35	Lithuania	<b>257650</b>	1021	<b>252</b>
36	Bosnia Herzegovina	<b>915370</b>	4670	<b>196</b>
37	North Macedonia	<b>321577</b>	2025	<b>159</b>
	<b>Average</b>			<b>4136</b>

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



No information was provided for this section by Albania, Norway, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Turkey.

“Security personnel” is referring to all staff included in delivering safety and security tasks at football events: police officers, stewards, private security and other similar categories.

The total number of security personnel used for football matches is **2.624.436** (↗34,34%)<sup>7</sup>, 1.359.593 police officers, 1.261.353 stewards (including private security personnel) and 3.490 others. This shows the significant resources put in place by States and other stakeholders in an attempt to provide safe and secure football events across Europe. Compared to last year, data reveals a similar increase both in the case of the police<sup>8</sup> and steward<sup>9</sup> deployment. The

<sup>7</sup> 1.953.516 – last year;

<sup>8</sup> 1.013.079 – last year;

<sup>9</sup> 937.822 – last year;

average ratio of security personnel (police personnel + stewards + private security personnel)/match is **69** (decrease of 31,68%)<sup>10</sup>.

The **average deployment of police personnel/match** is **50** (decrease of 13,79%)<sup>11</sup>. High level of police deployment is recorded in Ukraine (400), Bulgaria (135) and Hungary (106). Low levels were reported by Bosnia-Herzegovina (4,99 officers/match), Lithuania (1,4) and Estonia (0,81).

The **average ratio of police officers/total attendance** is 1 police officer to 121 spectators (decrease by 21,93%)<sup>12</sup>. Low level of police deployment is recorded in Estonia (an average of 1 police officer to 540 spectators), Denmark (1:365) and France (1:319). High levels were reported by North Macedonia (1 officer to 19 spectators attending), Bulgaria (1:14) and Ukraine (1:10). The average ratio of 1 police officer to 121 spectators should not be considered as a standard to be met by all European countries, as police deployment should always be based on an effective risk assessment process.

The **average ratio of stewards & private security personnel/total attendance** is 1 steward to 64 spectators (decrease by 32,63%)<sup>13</sup>. Low level of steward deployment is recorded in Slovenia (an average of 1 steward to 253 spectators), Malta (1:170) and Germany (1:134). High levels were reported by Finland (1 steward to 12 spectators attending), Ukraine (1:13) and Bulgaria (1:21). This average ratio refers to stewards deployed inside and in the proximity of the stadium and is not comparable with the police ratio, as their functions and tasks are different, although complementary.

No.crt.	Responding countries	Police officers	Stewards and private security	Total matches	Total attendances	Average ratio police officers/match	Average ratio police officers/fans	Average ratio stewards/total attendance
1	Andorra	50	120	9	0	5.56	0.00	0.00
2	Spain	68951	85422	2544	8769957	27.10	127.19	102.67
3	Romania	42287	42341	763	1690610	55.42	39.98	39.93
4	North Macedonia	16164	5261	2025	321577	7.98	19.89	61.12
5	Slovak Republic	6000	0	717	939000	8.37	156.50	N/A
6	Lithuania	1432	6750	1021	257650	1.40	179.92	38.17
7	Luxembourg	723	1337	20	46832	36.15	64.77	35.03
8	Czech Republic	32478	38748	335	1849067	96.95	56.93	47.72
9	Portugal	48187	45476	2093	5745506	23.02	119.23	126.34
10	Austria	32564	44617	1040	2305120	31.31	70.79	51.66
11	Belgium	33476	44472	458	3764811	73.09	112.46	84.66
12	Croatia	11526	13271	258	816054	44.67	70.80	61.49
13	Finland	800	7447	133	96154	6.02	120.19	12.91
14	Estonia	180	2385	222	97330	0.81	540.72	40.81

<sup>10</sup> 101 – last year;

<sup>11</sup> 58 – last year.

<sup>12</sup> 155 – last year;

<sup>13</sup> 95 – last year;

15	Ukraine	303600	227600	759	3113690	400.00	10.26	13.68	
16	Ireland	3932	0	327	734268	12.02	186.74	N/A	
17	Bulgaria	45000	30000	332	635000	135.54	14.11	21.17	
18	Denmark	6118	0	524	2233746	11.68	365.11	N/A	
19	France	33529	0	1365	10715125	24.56	319.58	N/A	
20	Cyprus	17753	15442	646	582377	27.48	32.80	37.71	
21	Slovenia	2950	1310	234	331210	12.61	112.27	252.83	
22	Germany	71976	182160	1132	24510715	63.58	340.54	134.56	
23	Greece	70790	18732	2010	1544698	35.22	21.82	82.46	
24	Hungary	23417	35672	220	805330	106.44	34.39	22.58	
25	Georgia	2188	4370	276	371430	7.93	169.76	85.00	
26	Italy	216406	266936	2074	14485182	104.34	66.94	54.26	
27	Latvia		7572	640	192413	N/A	N/A	25.41	
28	Malta	5152	925	292	157707	17.64	30.61	170.49	
29	Netherlands	32752		784	6663144	41.78	203.44	N/A	
30	Poland	205901	109586	2591	4275801	79.47	20.77	39.02	
31	Bosnia Herzegovina	23311	23401	4670	915370	4.99	39.27	39.12	
		<b>AVERAGE</b>					<b>50.10</b>	<b>121.59</b>	<b>64.65</b>

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

*No information was provided for this section by Andorra, Albania, Poland and Sweden.*

The total number of incidents in connection with professional football matches was **13.018** (↗32,98%)<sup>14</sup>. Consequently, incidents were recorded at 34,53% of the matches played in responding countries<sup>15</sup> (both at national and international level).

Interpreting this data is a sensitive issue due to variations in the national legal frameworks, policies and methodologies in recording incidents, all of which has an impact.

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 States describe 1 pyrotechnic device used at a football match as one incident whereas in others a criterion of 10 pyros is used to describe one incident.

<sup>14</sup> Compared to 9.789 last year. This increase is heavily influenced by the Russian Federation contribution – 2184, which refer mostly to low risk incidents related to the alcohol consumption.

<sup>15</sup> decrease of 15% since last season.

Nevertheless, the average of **0,59 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.

In conclusion, more than half of matches played in Europe are affected by incidents, which determines the need for the relevant national governmental agencies and private stakeholders to strengthen their cooperation and improve their response towards the prevention and tackling of football-related violence, in order to reduce significantly the impact and severity of criminality and anti-social behaviour.

### 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.

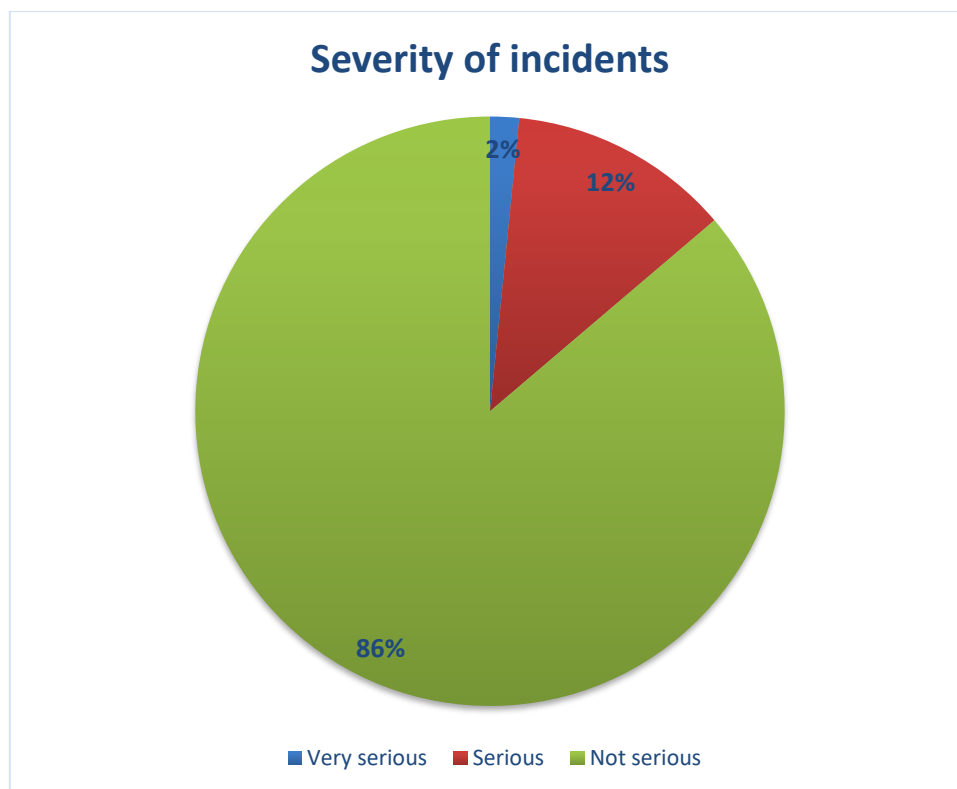
***Not serious*** - Isolated incidents of disorder involving few people and no significant damage to persons or property.

*Andorra, Albania, Germany and the Netherlands did not answered this question.*

The severity of incidents is distributed as follows: 2% are very serious, 12% serious and 86% are not serious.

Compared to the last edition of the analysis, the level of severity of incidents has recorded a significant decrease in the case of very serious incidents from a level of 10% to 2%, and of serious incidents from 15% to 12%. This was probably caused by a better understanding of the two categories by the contributors and a more accurate reporting pattern.

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



#### Question 6 - Number of incidents by location and severity?

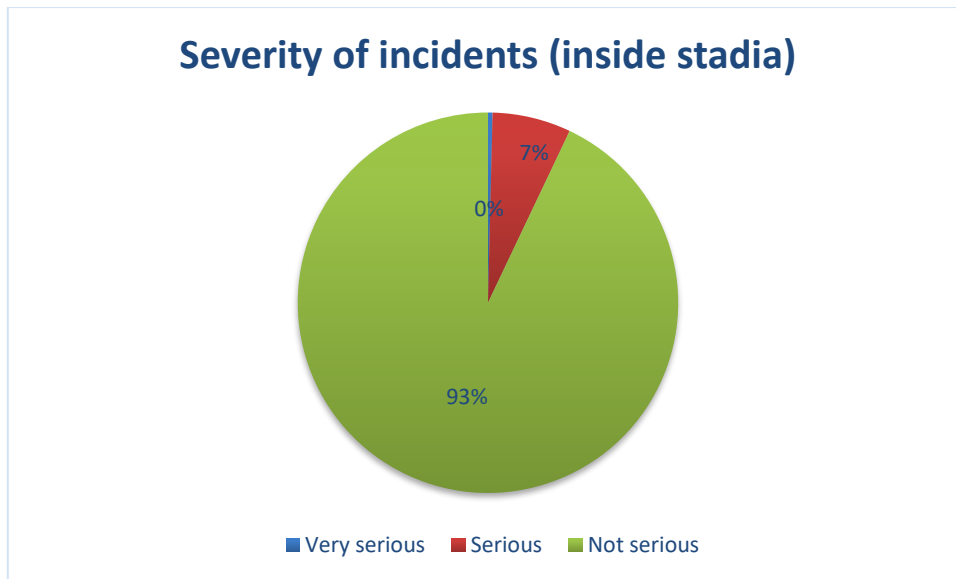
The final figures for this question were influenced by the fact that no replies were received from Andorra, Albania, Austria, France, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, Sweden and United Kingdom. The main reason for this is that whilst gathering the incidents data at national level, their system does not make a clear distinction as regards the location of the recorded incidents. 5674 incidents were recorded inside of stadia<sup>16</sup> and 2260 outside<sup>17</sup>. From those inside, 22 were very serious, 379 serious and 5273 not serious, whilst outside 32 were very serious, 296 serious and 1932 not serious. Notwithstanding gaps in the reporting process, the number of recorded incidents outside of stadia remains high and indicates that measures intended to prevent football-related violence and other criminality need to cater for what occurs outside, as well as inside the venue.

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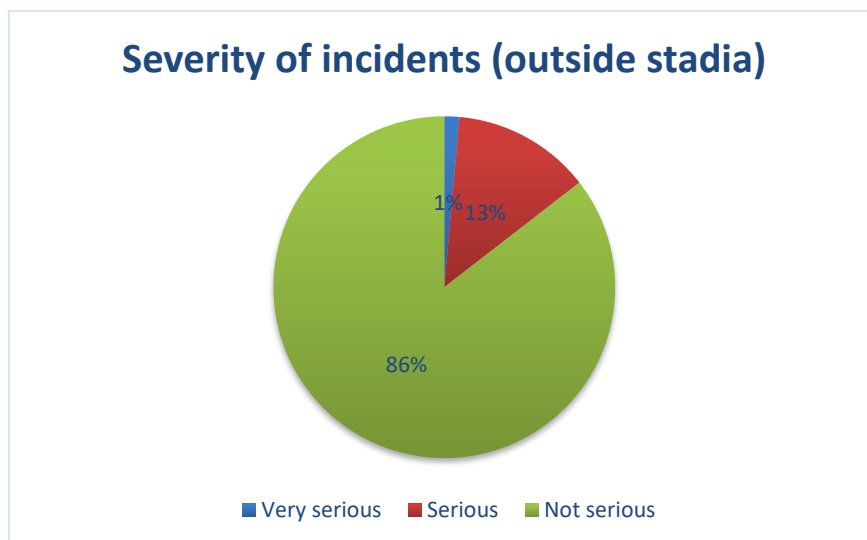
<sup>16</sup> 43,17% increase.

<sup>17</sup> 178,66% increase.





The very serious<sup>18</sup> incidents level recorded both outside and inside stadia have decreased abruptly from the last edition of the report, most probably due to a better understanding of the severity index by the responding countries.



The number of serious and not serious incidents inside of the stadia (5652) is considerably higher than the ones recorded outside of the stadia (2228). Also, the overall increase of the incidents levels is due mostly to the “not serious” category (5273 inside<sup>19</sup> and 1932 outside<sup>20</sup>).

The outcomes 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 of stadia and are connected to the sports event. This view is supported by the fact that in many countries the footprint of the sport arenas is considered to be directly linked to the event and not the outside perimeter or

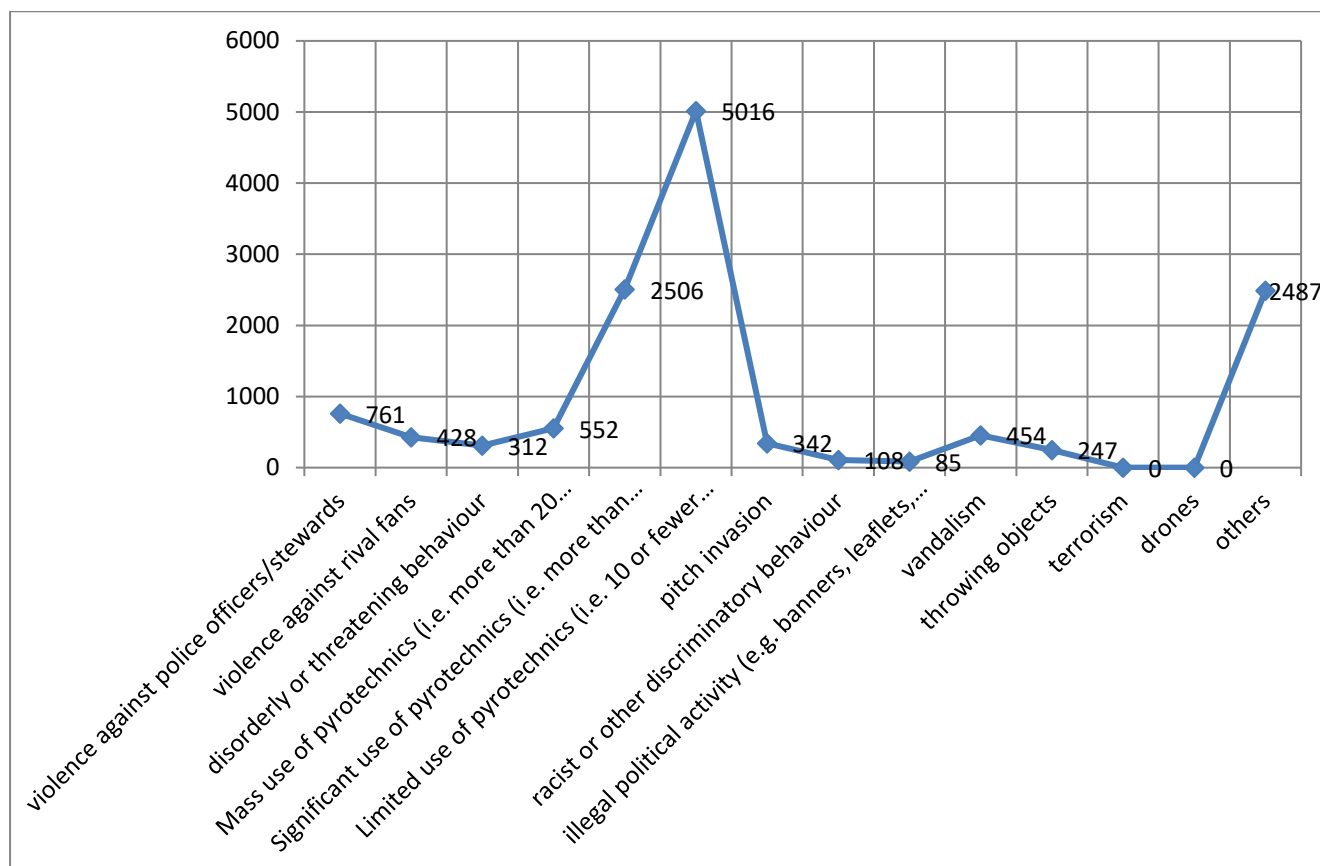
<sup>18</sup> From a total of 356 to 54;

<sup>19</sup> Increase of 62,94%;

<sup>20</sup> Increase of 325,55%;

neighbouring areas, which are considered to be part of the daily general policing measures. Nevertheless, since the last edition of the report, there is an increase of focus from the contributors on incidents occurring outside stadia, which certainly is helpful in building a more comprehensive overview of the antisocial behaviour of fans at football events and identifying the most suitable solutions.

### Question 7 - Character of incidents inside stadia?



The use of pyrotechnics is clearly the most common incident – 8074 (60,71% of the total)<sup>21</sup>. This remains one of the most important challenges faced by the law enforcement agencies across Europe which needs to be addressed by implementing an integrated approach in order to reduce the impact and risks associated with this kind of anti-social behaviour.

Compared to the last edition of the report, the following categories of incidents have more significant impact: violence against police – 761 (5,72%)<sup>22</sup>, violence against rival fans – 428 (3,21%)<sup>23</sup> and vandalism – 454 (3,41%)<sup>24</sup>. The increase in these types of violence indicators shows a continuous tendency of fans to act in a more anti-social way inside stadia, despite all

<sup>21</sup> Increase of 8% since last season. This number includes the 3 pyrotechnics categories (mass, significant and limited use) and the 2606 pyrotechnics incidents that could not be divided into the 3 categories by in the case of France and were included in the „limited use“ category.

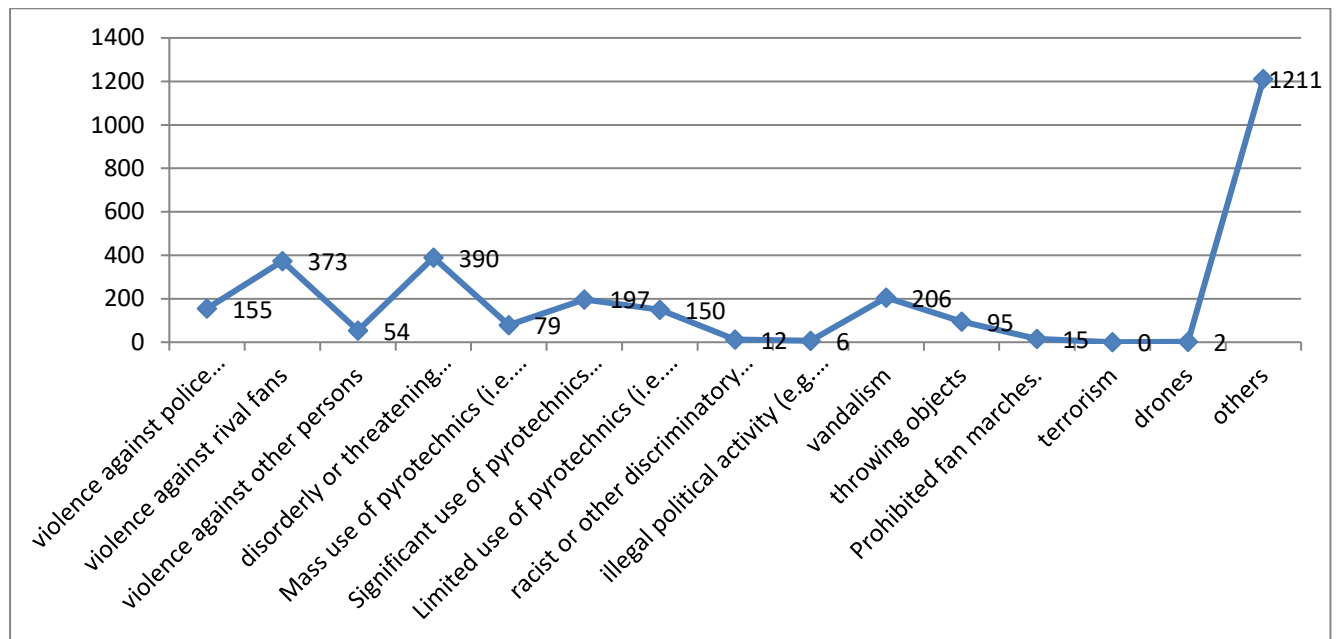
<sup>22</sup> Compared to 397 incidents last year;

<sup>23</sup> Compared to 247;

<sup>24</sup> 229 last year.

the safety and security measures adopted by the stakeholders involved. 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. Definitely, specific national and local circumstances also contribute to the impact of the incidents and customized solutions need to be put in place in order to deal with these challenges.

### Question 8 - Character of incidents outside of stadium?



Incidents outside stadia mark a general quantitative increase in this years edition, determined mostly by the more consistent contributions received. The illegal use of pyrotechnics outside of stadia – 426 (14,46%) has become the number one issue also under this reporting item, after being ranked only the third last year<sup>25</sup>. The risk associated with the use of pyrotechnics outside stadia, notably in confined spaces, is still high and can determine serious incidents and injuries to the persons who use them and the persons close by. The problem of pyrotechnics cannot be dealt with in isolation (outside or inside stadia only) as it can impact the overall football policing operation and needs an integrated complex approach, that needs to include preventative measures designed to raise awareness, among both the users and the other spectators, about the risks involved in using such devices and the need for effective penalties and exclusion orders in case of illegal use.

The anti-social and violence levels are higher than in the last report, but they follow the general pattern and ranking as previously: disorderly or threatening behaviour – 390<sup>26</sup>

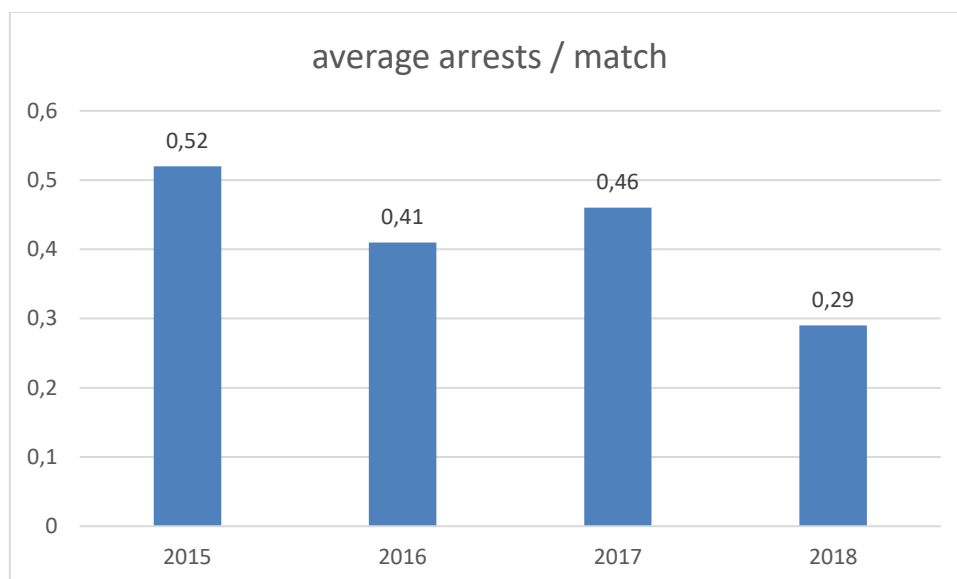
<sup>25</sup> 157 in the previous edition;

<sup>26</sup> Compared to 201 last year;

(13,24%), violence against rival fans – 373<sup>27</sup> (12,66%), vandalism – 206<sup>28</sup> (6,99%) and violence against the police – 155<sup>29</sup> (5,26%).

### Question 9 - Number of arrests?

11063 people<sup>30</sup> (722,92%) were arrested during the matches reported by the contributing States (8072 inside<sup>31</sup> and 2991 outside<sup>32</sup>), with an average of 0,29 arrests/match<sup>33</sup>.



The analysis of the previous years average rate shows the fact that this year a steep decrease of this indicator was reported compared to the last year level.

Arrests inside of stadia account for 72,96%, whilst arrests outside account for 27,04% of the total number.

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<sup>27</sup> Compared to 134 last year;

<sup>28</sup> Compared to 58 last year;

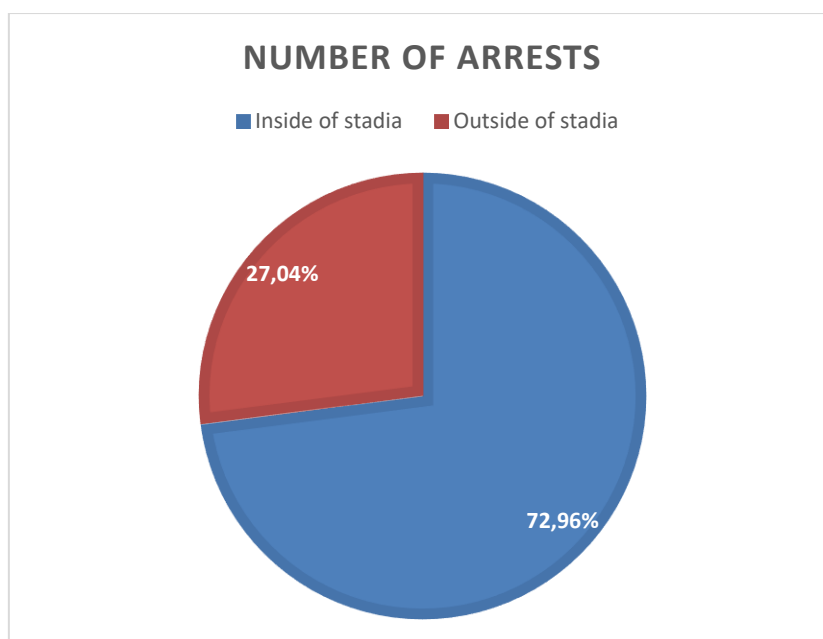
<sup>29</sup> Compared to 74 last year;

<sup>30</sup> 9000 last year;

<sup>31</sup> Compared to 5203 last year – increase of 55,14%;

<sup>32</sup> Compared to 3797 last year – decrease of 21,22%;

<sup>33</sup> Compared to 0,46 arrests/match last year;



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

**4683<sup>34</sup> criminal or administrative convictions** (↗21,54%) for football related offences were issued by courts and administrative authorities in the responding States, from which 1601<sup>35</sup> (34,19%) were convictions following a judicial procedure in accordance with national law<sup>36</sup> and 3082<sup>37</sup> (65,81%) were convictions following an administrative procedure in accordance with national law<sup>38</sup>.

We can observe that in this edition there is a swap between the criminal and administrative convictions, the last ones becoming majority. The most probable explanation for this is the duration of the judicial process, which can take some time in most of the countries and this determines the authorities to find more quick solutions in order to apply a sanction and ensure a faster punishment for offenders and effective exclusion from the football experience.

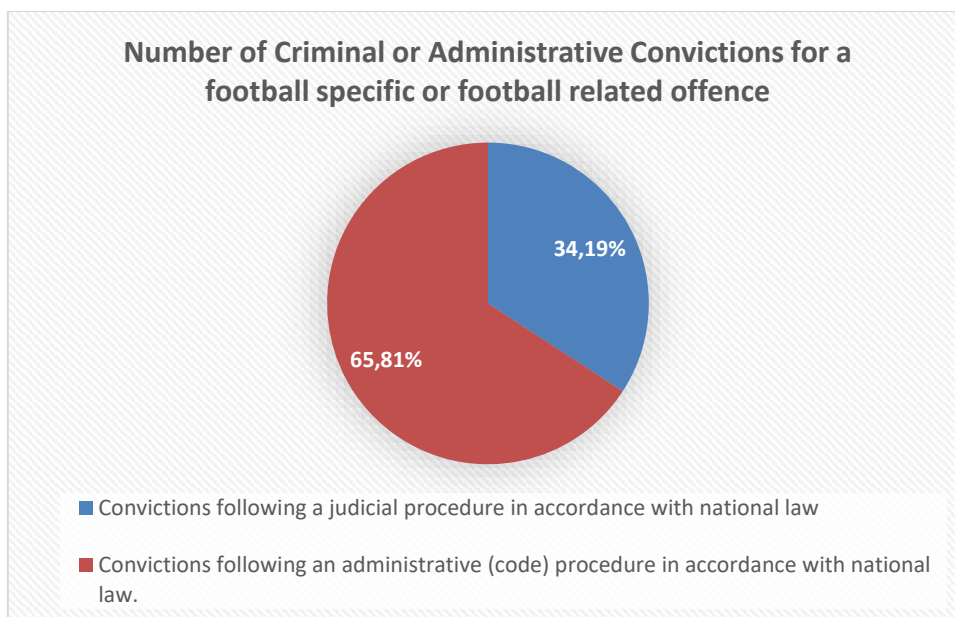
<sup>34</sup> Compared to 3853 last year;

<sup>35</sup> Compared to 2416 last year.

<sup>36</sup> 17 responding States, as following: Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, and Spain;

<sup>37</sup> Compared to 1437 last year;

<sup>38</sup> 14 responding States – Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Portugal, Serbia, Spain and Ukraine.



### Question 11 - Number of banning orders imposed?

10.936<sup>39</sup> (76,31%) banning orders were imposed in the above mentioned period (7955<sup>40</sup> – 72,74%<sup>41</sup> were issued following a criminal or administrative procedure<sup>42</sup> and 2981<sup>43</sup> – 27,26% by a national football authority or football club<sup>44</sup>).

<sup>39</sup> Compared to 10.286 last year;

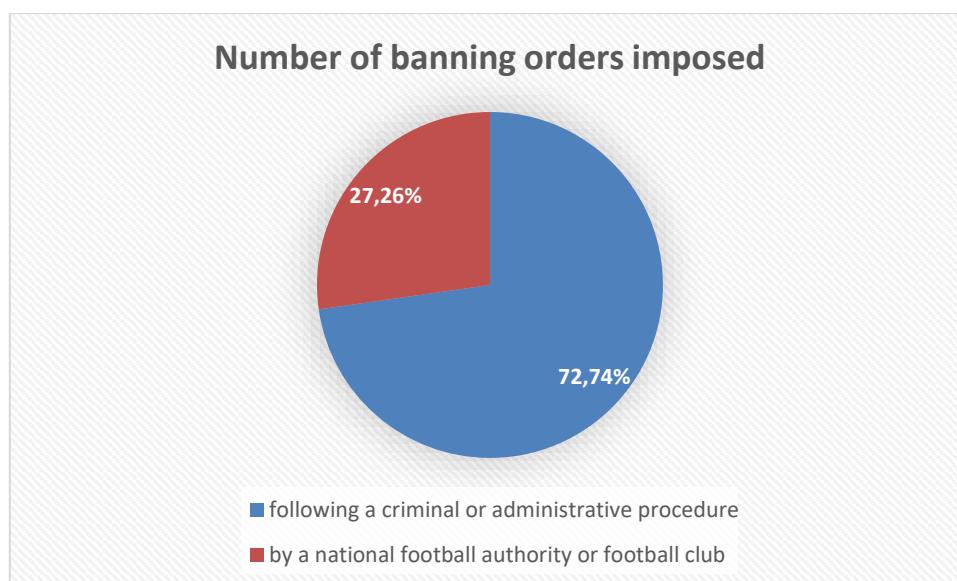
<sup>40</sup> Compared to 6954 last year;

<sup>41</sup> Increase by 5,13% since last year;

<sup>42</sup> 25 responding States, as following: Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom;

<sup>43</sup> Compared to 3332 last year; 2754 (92,38%) are issued by 4 countries: Belgium, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland;

<sup>44</sup> 12 responding States – Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal and Switzerland;



Comparing to the total attendance in Europe, the ratio of banned individuals is **1 to 14.378** spectators attending, which is very similar to the last edition<sup>45</sup>.

While the criminal or administrative procedure is present and applied in approximately 25 responding States, the one in which the national football authority or football club have the primacy is only reported by 12 States with an over emphasis on 4 of them which count for more than 92,38% of the total for this category. Future research should explore these two models in order to identify their effectiveness and success as regards the impact on 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.

No.	Responding countries	Number of banning orders imposed		
		following a criminal or administrative procedure	by a national football authority or football club	Total
1	<b>Albania</b>	0	0	0
2	<b>Andorra</b>	0	0	0
3	<b>Austria</b>	0	80	80
4	<b>Belgium</b>	980	54	1034
5	<b>Bosnia Herzegovina</b>	1	0	1
6	<b>Bulgaria</b>	91	0	91
7	<b>Croatia</b>	0	0	0
8	<b>Cyprus</b>	25	0	25
9	<b>Czech Republic</b>	39	0	39
10	<b>Denmark</b>	124	0	124
11	<b>Estonia</b>	0	0	0

<sup>45</sup> 1 to 14.344.

12	<b>Finland</b>	0	0	0
13	<b>France</b>	339	75	414
14	<b>Georgia</b>	0	0	0
15	<b>Germany</b>	0	570	570
16	<b>Greece</b>	41	0	41
17	<b>Hungary</b>	17	4	21
18	<b>Ireland</b>	0	2	2
19	<b>Italy</b>	3392	0	3392
20	<b>Latvia</b>	0	2	2
21	<b>Lithuania</b>	0	0	0
22	<b>Luxembourg</b>	0	0	0
23	<b>Malta</b>	10	0	10
24	<b>Netherlands</b>	11	595	606
25	<b>North Macedonia</b>	1	0	1
26	<b>Norway</b>	0	12	12
27	<b>Poland</b>	591	50	641
28	<b>Portugal</b>	18	2	20
29	<b>Romania</b>	336	0	336
30	<b>Russian Federation</b>	594	0	594
31	<b>Serbia</b>	129	0	129
32	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	12	0	12
33	<b>Slovenia</b>	11	0	11
34	<b>Spain</b>	974	0	974
35	<b>Sweden</b>	91	0	91
36	<b>Switzerland</b>	394	573	967
37	<b>Turkey</b>	147	0	147
38	<b>Ukraine</b>	0	0	0
39	<b>United Kingdom</b>	549	0	549
		<b>7955</b>	<b>2981</b>	<b>10936</b>

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

From the total of 10.936 banning orders imposed, 4878<sup>46</sup> (approximately 44,60%<sup>47</sup>) were imposed with geographical or other constraints on behaviour<sup>48</sup>. This is important given the number of incidents which occur outside of football stadia.

<sup>46</sup> Compared to 2644 last year;

<sup>47</sup> Increase by 18,90% compared to last year;

<sup>48</sup> 10 responding States, as following: Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



### **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 1969<sup>49</sup> of the banning orders imposed included such a prohibition on travel<sup>50</sup>.

The low level of the banning orders imposed with a prohibition on travelling to football matches in another State should raise concerns amongst the MS as this is an indicator that not enough measures are in place to discourage the export of violence and anti-social behaviour abroad and there is a clear need for a more strengthened cooperation and more effective national measures on this important topic.

### **Section B. Other Sports (Q14-22)**

Whilst the majority of NFIP's focus only on football events, there is an increased tendency amongst the members of the network to extend their remit to other sports, due to increased attendances and level of risks, which triggered the need to exchange information at European level in this area.

Only 14 countries responded to this Section<sup>51</sup>, with references mainly to basketball, handball, volleyball, ice-hockey and rugby (total attendances monitored 13.907.394<sup>52</sup> spectators across all disciplines put together).

The incidents in connection with these sports are lower than the level at football events<sup>53</sup>, 681 being recorded inside sports venues and 105 outside<sup>54</sup>.

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<sup>49</sup> Compared to 2206 last year;

<sup>50</sup> 6 responding States – Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Poland, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

<sup>51</sup> Compared to 12 last year;

<sup>52</sup> Compared to 9.007.840 last year.

<sup>53</sup> Very serious – 7, serious – 66 and not serious – 766, compared with last year: Very serious – 31, serious – 158 and not serious – 187;

<sup>54</sup> Compared to 162 inside and 59 outside last year;

Similar trends apply in terms of the character of the reported incidents: disorderly and violent behaviour of the fans (175)<sup>55</sup>, use of pyrotechnics (82)<sup>56</sup>, throwing objects (41)<sup>57</sup> and violence against rival fans (39)<sup>58</sup>.

The number of arrests in connection with sports other than football is 302 (161 – inside sports venues and 141 outside). The number of criminal or administrative convictions is 109 (69 – inside and 40 outside), whilst the number of banning orders continues to be very low – 81 (79 - were imposed following a criminal or administrative procedure and only 2 by national sports authority or club).

Although sports other than football do not have the same volume of audience and the risks associated can be different, attention should be paid by the police forces across Europe in order to provide spectators with a safe and secure environment.

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<sup>55</sup> 151 inside and 24 outside;

<sup>56</sup> 58 inside and 24 outside;

<sup>57</sup> 34 inside and 7 outside;

<sup>58</sup> 33 inside sport arenas and 6 outside;

## 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 countries<sup>59</sup> refer to:

- the most important challenge reported by the contributing countries continues to be the use of pyrotechnics, both inside and outside football and other sports grounds, with an impact on the health and safety of spectators and also of the other participants involved in the running of the sport event;
- violence against the police/stewards is a recurrent problem that most of the responding States report, with negative implications as regards the safety and security environment;
- organised fights between rival fan groups (outside football grounds) are still indicated as problematic by the States, with links to organised crime activities and intimidation of club representatives. This evidences the need for an enhanced cooperation between the different sections of police forces (organised crime and public security), as this kind of misbehaviour is overlapping and consequently requires a multi-disciplinary response;
- match-fixing has been referred to as a challenge for the first time, with the mention that this is a fast-growing issue. The Macolin Convention of the Council of Europe<sup>60</sup> is providing guidance on this matter to the States and the topic raised confirms that all the sport Conventions of the Council of Europe have a highly complementary remit and close cooperation is needed in order to overcome all the emerging issues;
- drugs and alcohol use by the fans has been highlighted by some of the responding countries as being a risk factor in connection with sports events;
- some of the countries reported an increase of the level of hate crime, racism and other discriminatory behaviour at football matches, which can impact the overall safety and security environment; and

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<sup>59</sup> 32 contributions received: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Turkey.

<sup>60</sup>

<https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016801cdd7e>

- stronger links between the risk fan groups from different countries were mentioned as a challenge for police forces and a need for mapping these links was raised in order to properly address them.

These topics identified by the responding countries (use of pyrotechnics, violence against the police/stewards, organised fights between rival fan groups, match-fixing, drugs and alcohol use, hate crime, racism and other discriminatory behaviour and mapping the links between fan groups) need further exploring and research in order to find the root causes and efficient ways to address them.

**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.**

22 contributions<sup>61</sup> were received in connection with this question, as follows:

**Austria** - "On December 16, 2018, during the "corteo" of the Rapid Vienna fans to the game FK Austria Wien vs. SK Rapid Wien from Hütteldorf to the Generali Arena in Vienna, numerous criminal offenses were committed. A total of 1,382 fans from SK Rapid Wien were stopped after and subject to an identity check."

**Belgium** - "Standard Liège - Anderlecht on April 12th, 2019: maybe not the most important, since less violent than some other incidents, but for sure the incident with the most media attention. Belgian "Classico" was abandoned after only 30 minutes when visiting supporters threw fireworks and smoke bombs onto the pitch. Fans were very angry against players and staff as the results of the last months were very bad. The referee already had to interrupt the match after 9 and 22 minutes for similar behaviour of the supporters. Anderlecht was fined 50.000 € and lost the match 5-0. Some supporters were identified for the use of pyros and also fined. This incident made the headlines of all Belgian and some international media.

After this incident, the Minister of Interior met with all relevant stakeholders and decided to step up the fight against pyrotechnics. Control procedures at the entrance were put as top priority on the continued training sessions of stewards and a circular letter with guidelines is currently being elaborated by the Football Unit of the Ministry of Interior for all stakeholders."

**Bulgaria** - "Use of pyrotechnics and violence and fights between firms."

**Croatia** - "Seriously injured firefighter due to the explosion of the pyrotechnical device (he picked it up from the pitch and it exploded in his hand);

- Damage on the coffee bar caused by a pyrotechnical item during the fight of two opposing supporter groups;

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<sup>61</sup> Compared with 16 last year.

- Seriously injured bystander attacked by members of one of the supporter groups on the way to the stadium”.

**Czech Republic** - "A female supporter was injured during the match AC Sparta Prague vs. FC Viktoria Pilsen played in March 2019 by thrown firecracker which burst just next to her head.

- A group of FC Banik Ostrava ambushed another group of supporters when returning from an away match. They pretended a car accident so that the van with rival fans could not go through. When the van stopped to help a group of roughly 20 fans, these people attacked their rivals, broke the car and robbed them of flags, backpacks, etc. The interesting thing was that they committed the crime as an organised crime group and everything was very well prepared and organised.

- Slavia Prague supporters attacked stewards in live broadcasting, which rose a big media coverage."

**Cyprus** – “The incident that was considered important in Cyprus occurred in the Europa League match Apollon – Eintracht Frankfurt, when German fans used flairs inside the stadium. 7 of them were arrested and banned from the stadiums in Cyprus for 3 years.”

**Denmark** – “On 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018, at the Copenhagen Derby Brøndby vs FCK, police came under attack after the match. Missiles were thrown towards police officers and a number of 34 cases of assault on police officers were recorded. It was the most serious incident for many years”.

**Finland** - "A group of supporters managed to take themselves right in front of the guest supporters stands. This caused a significant fight between the supporter groups. The stadium infrastructure was enhanced, so that this will not be possible in the future."

**Ireland** – “On August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, a serious incident of organised disorder occurred between supporters of Shamrock Rovers FC and Bohemians FC at a location across the city from the match venue. This incident involved a crowd of approx. 100 males fighting with each other and involved the use of items such as a metal bar, scissors, pint glass, umbrella handles and a claw hammer. Investigating Gardaí (National Police) received no complaints from any of the injured parties involved in this incident. This organised incident occurred as a result of long running animosity between both sets of supporters. There is anecdotal information that Scottish risk supporters and UK nationals were involved. Representatives from both Bohemians and Shamrock Rovers were contacted by Gardaí. Fixtures between Bohemians and Shamrock Rovers have always required robust policing, both pre and post fixture, however, we are now more cognisant of the potential for disorder to occur far away from the match venue. This *modus operandi* is difficult to mitigate against, as the disorder can be planned for any part of the city at any time. Effective mitigation against such strategies is heavily reliant on intelligence. The cultivation of reliable sources of information amongst those involved in football related disorder is difficult in this jurisdiction due to the relatively

small numbers involved and inherent issues with penetrating such groups. This office maintains close liaison with the UK FPU in advance of contentious fixtures between these clubs. Any intelligence indicating travel by UK risk supporters to such fixtures may signal the potential for organised disorder”.

**Italy** – “Before the match “Inter Milan – Napoli”, scheduled on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, near the stadium, there was a clash between opposing fans. An ultras supporter was seriously injured and died in hospital. In order to reduce risk level at matches, on some occasions, competent authorities have issued travel bans to host supporters”.

**Latvia** – “11.07.2018. CL Qualification game between FC Spartak and Crvena Zvezda (Belgrade) in Skonto Stadium, Riga, Latvia. Approximately 50 aggressive CZ fans clashed with police inside and outside the stadium throwing the objects to police officers. Riot police engaged with pepper spray and arrested perpetrators.”

**Lithuania** – “Most of the incidents were related to the limited use of pyrotechnics and use of uncensored chants and words inside arena or the other public places during basketball games. In order to prevent such an unacceptable behaviour in the future, the regulations of the National Championships have been supplemented with a clause stating that all liability for incidents involving club supporters and club fans is the responsibility of the club whose fans violate the rules. In this way, clubs are encouraged to collaborate and communicate with their fan groups.”

**Malta** – “Violence against public officers, whereas the offender after being prosecuted in Court was handed a suspended prison term, a fine of €5,000 and a one-year ban from all stadia.”

**Netherlands** – “On 22.10.2018, after the match NAC-Willem II in Breda, there were severe riots. Unique for these riots was the high level of organisation within the rioting supporters. There were several group charges against police officers with a high level of organisation.”

**North Macedonia** – “On 13.01.2018, at the end of the basketball match between KK Skupi and KK Pelsiter, violence occurred between rival fans at the stadium. Several persons took part and they injured each other. While the police intervened, they attacked two police officers, which were injured. Participants who injured the police officers were prosecuted and the others got convicted following an administrative procedure”.

**Romania** – “On 02.11.2018, in Craiova, at the match between the two local teams in the 3<sup>rd</sup> League, violent incidents were recorded both outside and inside of the venue between the 2 sets of rival fans. The Gendarmerie forces had to intervene, and 9 officers were injured. Massive usage of pyros was recorded in connection with this match”.

**Serbia** – “On the 23rd May 2018, on highway, there was a confrontation between two opposing factions of FC Partizan fans. 7 fans were arrested, and few police officers were

injured. No other important incidents last year to be worth of describing. Most cases are related to the use of pyros.”

**Slovenia** – “7 risk supporters arrested in 1st League football match Mura v. Gorica.”

**Spain** - "At the Spanish Cup Final, played in Seville on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2019, F.C Barcelona vs. Valencia C.F, the night before the match around 75 ""Boixos Nois"" (risk supporters from F.C Barcelona) joined by 8 "Supporters Sur" (risk supporters from Betis) attacked the pub of "Biris" (risk supporters from Sevilla) while around 50 "Biris" fans were present at the pub; in the end, 28 people were arrested, the majority "Boixos" and "Supporters Sur".

The measure taken by Police was to have under control the pubs of Biris and the pub of Supporters Sur, because the social networks revealed that a confrontation could be possible.

Another incident occurred after the match of Real Betis vs. Real Madrid, on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. There was a big fight, with two people being stabbed, both were Betis risk fans because there was a struggle for power between "Supporters Sur" and "United Family", all of them are risk supporters from Betis.

The measures in place included the surveillance of the pub (meeting-point of the Supporters Sur) for this reason and 12 people from both groups were arrested."

**Sweden** – “There were no incidents of such importance which would render a change in the general strategy or tactics for the police in 2018 or 2019. Below are some of the most severe incidents noticed in 2019. In April 2019, there was a major incident involving the use of pyrotechnics at Bravida Arena in Göteborg when IFK Göteborg faced GAIS in the Swedish cup. The IFK supporters discharged a big amount (hundreds) of rockets, flares and bangers as a protest against the club, after which the game was stopped. At the AIK vs Maribor Champions League qualification fixture in Stockholm on 31<sup>st</sup> of July, there were a lot of disturbances such as riots, pitch invasions, attacks on security personnel and massive use of pyrotechnics. Severe disturbances were also reported at the AIK vs Celtic Europa League qualification fixture in Stockholm, on 30 August.”

**Switzerland** - "16.03.2019, FC Sion - Grasshopper Club: the match was stopped after massive use of pyrotechnics and throw of pyrotechnics on the pitch. Measures taken: wide discussion with all relevant stakeholders and politicians. The net in front of the away sector will be enlarged so that it will be impossible to throw pyrotechnics and other items on the pitch.

- 12.05.2019 FC Luzern - Grasshopper Club: the match was stopped after Grasshopper-supporters were angry with their team and went on the pitch. The Grasshopper players were forced to hand out their shirts. Measures taken: wide discussion with all relevant stakeholders and politicians. The football clubs will pronounce more strictly stadium bans. The police authority will pronounce more obligations to report at the police station (instead of “just”

area bans). The University of Berne will evaluate the existing legislation and its implementation until spring 2020."

**United Kingdom** - "Helicopter crash involving the death of the owner of Leicester City FC and others, post-match at Leicester City v West Ham United match. It has led to highlighting of unexpected issues that may occur at a football fixture. Lessons learned have been feedback in to the police/ fire/ ambulance service as a whole".

The inputs of the contributing States confirm that the challenges which they are confronted with are overarching across Europe - the most important one being the use of violence and pyrotechnics -, and greater efforts need to be put in place in order to reduce their numbers and impact. What is very difficult to aggregate and add up are the incidents which were prevented by the police work and other stakeholders involved and, by doing so, they have provided a safe and welcoming environment for the fans attending football matches.

## Section D. Racist and discriminatory behaviour

### Question 26 - Do you consider racism and discrimination at sport events as being a significant problem in your country?

**36 replies** were received in connection with this question, from which **33 mentioned "No"** as an answer and **3 "Yes"** (North Macedonia, Italy and United Kingdom). While some countries put in place specific procedures or even governmental institutions to monitor this kind of behaviour, there is clearly a need for more data to be gathered by the national authorities on this topic. Although it is sometime very difficult to identify the perpetrators (especially in the case of verbal abuse), these incidents should be given a high priority by the law enforcement, as racist and other discriminatory behaviour affect the pillars of the European human rights values and standards and undermine the need to make the football experience an inclusive one for all.

### Question 27 - Do you have special programmes in place to prevent and respond to racist and discriminatory behaviour in sports?

**35 States** responded to this question, with a total of **16 mentioning that they have special programmes in place** to prevent and respond to sport-related racist and other discriminatory behaviour<sup>62</sup>, whilst **20 do not**. The programmes mentioned are a joint effort by the law enforcement agencies and the sport national authorities, which try to address this important

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<sup>62</sup> Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Switzerland, Spain, United Kingdom and Turkey.



issue by using an integrated approach as regards the prevention and response to racism and discrimination in sports.

Examples were formulated by 13 States:

**Belgium** - "A circular letter date from December 2006 provides guidelines to public authorities (this includes police), football clubs (staff, players, ...), football association, referees, stadium speakers, ... on what to do in case of hurtful, racist and discriminatory statements or chanting during football matches.

NFIP Belgium is not aware of all social and educational prevention programs that could be developed by federal, regional or local authorities (as for example <http://www.ethicsandsport.com/english>)".

**Croatia** - "Central State Office for Sport runs programme "Prevention of violence through sport in schools".

**Estonia** - "Not yet. Estonia is in process of creating a new Foundation on Sports Integrity, which should take care of all sports integrity issues, including the racist and discriminatory behaviour.

Supporters with racist behaviour get excluded by the supporter clubs."

**France** - "NGO called SOS RACISME and French football league organise preventive action. A new plan is deployed this season against homophobia."

**Germany** - "In annual meetings, the German FA (DFB) reminds the clubs to follow the security guidelines in which it is outlined how to deal with racism and discrimination. Common goal is to prevent unlawful behaviour."

**Hungary** - "If such event occurs, the national sports federations shall institute disciplinary proceedings. The Police is not involved in providing security to a significant proportion of sporting events. However, if the Police notice such behaviour, the necessary measures will be taken to bring the perpetrators to justice."

**Italy** – "Beyond the specific national law to counter the phenomenon, the Italian Football Federation has introduced new procedures in order not to start or to suspend the matches if such expressions take particularly serious connotations. In particular, the new power of the referee to order the temporary interruption when, during the match, discriminatory events occur for the first time. The prerogatives of the police match commanders remain in the other phases of the sport events, in the presence of the same expressions, to guarantee public order."

**The Netherlands** – "The FA is very active on preventing and punishing racism and discrimination at all levels (amateur to professional)".

**North Macedonia** – “Yes. Police officers who are contact point for fan groups have activities with their leaders to prevent racism and discriminatory behaviour. Football federation produced some videos against racism and displays them before all the significant matches”.

**Romania** - "Some examples are mentioned in the last ECRI report on Romania, which mentions at paragraph 46 (p.20):

"ECRI commends the Romanian Football Federation for having adopted an explicit provision on diversity and non-discrimination in its internal regulation. It also notes with satisfaction the initiatives of several State authorities including the Gendarmerie and the Department for Interethnic Relations, in, for example, the prevention campaign ‘Invitation to Fair Play’ and the ‘Diversity Cup’, which were launched with the Romanian Football Federation as a way of using sports to promote diversity."

**Spain** - "The Law 19/2007 against Violence, Racism, Xenophobia and intolerance in sports events regulates these phenomena. Moreover, there is a National Plan against hate speech and racism".

**Switzerland** - “Football clubs have to follow the UEFA 10-point plan on racism to get the licence to play in the Swiss Football League”.

**United Kingdom** - “There is a weekly conference-call with UK Football Policing Unit. The English FA and the ‘Kick it out’ charity. Also, a specialist database has been created to record the incidents”.

### **Question 28 - Are racist incidents systematically investigated and prosecuted by the criminal justice system authorities?**

The total **number of replies provided** for this question was **36**. The majority of countries (30) mentioned that racist incidents are systematically investigated and prosecuted by the criminal justice system authorities, while 5 provided a negative answer<sup>63</sup> and North Macedonia “partially”. The main reason raised by the 5 countries is that it can be difficult to identify a person from a crowd who is chanting racist or discriminatory songs and, consequently, makes it impossible to start the criminal proceedings in these cases.

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<sup>63</sup> Andorra, Belgium, Latvia, Portugal and the Russian Federation.

## Question 29 - Do you think that the regulations of the sports authorities (club, federation, league) regarding this topic are sufficiently enforced?

**32 States provided an affirmative answer to this question**, whilst **3** (Belgium, Croatia and Lithuania) considered that the enforcement of the regulation of the sport authorities is not sufficient. The main challenges mentioned were:

- although respect, integrity and anti-discrimination are a priority for the National Football Association and Pro League (manager of the professional competitions), the disciplinary procedures associated with this kind of behaviour don't always finish with a sanction;
- football authorities should more often apply procedures to stop/abandon the match according to UEFA and national football regulations (not waiting for the State authorities – meaning the Police – to react instead);
- lack of an adequate sanctions in individual cases, but legislation must be fully applied, possibly adopt the practice from countries of top 5 European football leagues, increase the sanction policy, including the ban on match attendance;
- the legislation on sports violence is fragmented and there is no single national law for the whole country (there are some provisions in place, but only those at the level of the regional level).

## Question 30 - Do you think the current work done in your country in addressing racism and discrimination is effective?

The overwhelming majority of the responding States (32) mentioned that the current work done in addressing racism and discrimination is effective and only 2 considered the opposite. The reasons for adopting this view were the following:

**Bulgaria** – “We need more precise definition of racist and discriminatory behavior in the national legislation”.

**Lithuania** – “Data collection and classification should be improved. We are currently collecting information by motive, but sport environment as a place of crime is not separately identified. Judicial practice is different and complicated; victims not always report to the police and often refuse to participate in the pre-trial investigation”.

The information gathered and analysed in this section confirms that racism and discrimination is a topic that needs more investment from the States, ranging from refining and implementing more effectively the relevant legislation to educational and preventative programs. The integrated approach between the private and public stakeholders is clearly not up to speed and more energy and resources should be invested in order to improve the pace and the effectiveness of the measures adopted.



## Section E. NFIP network, legislation and training issues

### Question 31 - 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 States<sup>64</sup> is 158<sup>65</sup>, with an average of 4,27 officers per State<sup>66</sup>. The EURO 2020 is going to test the capacity of the NFIP network at the maximum, as for the first time in history the tournament will be hosted by 12 host cities and a massive movement of fans across Europe is expected.

The composition of the NFIP's varies across Europe from 1 officer (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Luxembourg, North Macedonia and Malta) up to 16 (United Kingdom).

No.	Country	Number of staff
1	United Kingdom	16
2	Germany	13
3	Turkey	13
4	Serbia	10
5	Romania	8
6	Croatia	6
7	Georgia	6
8	Poland	6
9	Russian Federation	6
10	Slovak Republic	5
11	Spain	5
12	Portugal	5
13	Bulgaria	5
14	Norway	5
15	Italy	5
16	Netherlands	5
17	Belgium	4
18	France	3
19	Cyprus	3
20	Greece	3
21	Lithuania	2
22	Czech Republic	2
23	Finland	2
24	Estonia	2
25	Ireland	2
26	Slovenia	2
27	Hungary	2
28	Latvia	2

<sup>64</sup> 36 States responded, no contributions from Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine;

<sup>65</sup> Compared to 130 officers in 33 responding States last year;

<sup>66</sup> Compared to the average of 3,94 officers/State last year.

29	Sweden	2
30	Andorra	1
31	TFYR Macedonia	1
32	Albania	1
33	Luxembourg	1
34	Austria	1
35	Denmark	1
36	Malta	1
37	Bosnia Herzegovina	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>158</b>

**Question 32 - 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, 29 States replied to this query and stated that they are using 1950 spotters, resulting in an average of 69 spotters in the States concerned<sup>67</sup>. Spotters sit at the core of the football-related violence prevention and tackling systems, their input being extremely valuable for the coordinating NFIPs. The number of spotters used by each State is of course to be agreed, based on the national circumstances and in accordance with the risk assessment and police resources available.

No.	Responding countries	Number of spotters
1	Portugal	203
2	Austria	195
3	Germany	168
4	Hungary	162
5	Czech Republic	140
6	Italy	131
7	Turkey	130
8	Romania	112
9	Denmark	100
10	Slovenia	75
11	Serbia	72
12	Russian Federation	72
13	Sweden	60
14	Croatia	51
15	Andorra	50
16	Finland	50
17	Poland	40
18	Ireland	27
19	Spain	21
20	North Macedonia	20

<sup>67</sup> Compared to an average of 62/State last year;

21	Norway	20
22	Cyprus	11
23	Lithuania	10
24	Luxembourg	6
25	Estonia	6
26	Latvia	6
27	Bosnia Herzegovina	6
28	Georgia	6
<b>European average</b>		<b>69.64</b>

**Question 33-35 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, 356<sup>68</sup> referred to receiving support (927 spotters involved<sup>69</sup> - resulting in an average deployment of 2,6 spotters/mission) and 300<sup>70</sup> to providing support to other countries (746 spotters involved<sup>71</sup> – average 2,5 spotters/mission). The costs associated with this kind of missions cannot be referred to, as not all the States responded to this question and, consequently, the totals are misleading.

Compared to last year’s report, there is an average increase of 44% for operational support missions in connection with the international football matches and a similar growth in the case of number of spotters used (36%).

Despite the obvious expansion of this kind of international police cooperation, there are still some refinements needed, especially regarding the implementation of the logistical and financial arrangements in connection with the deployment of spotters abroad in accordance with the provisions of the EU International Police Cooperation Handbook (444/01 2016).

**Question 36 – 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), 22 of the 39 responding countries (56,41%)<sup>72</sup> reported that they

<sup>68</sup> Compared to 236 last year;

<sup>69</sup> Compared to 642 last year;

<sup>70</sup> Compared to 219 last year;

<sup>71</sup> Compared to 583 last year;

<sup>72</sup> Compared with 51% last year.

have set up national training schemes. Training of the key personnel involved in football policing should be a priority of all States, as these functions need to be filled by highly qualified officers, capable of carrying out their tasks in an effective and integrated way. 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.

No.	Country	Details about the training
1	Spain	The NFIP is delivering the training. Match Commander, twice a year, 6 days. Spotters, usually twice a year, could be more, 10 days.
2	Romania	Only for spotters. The course is 2 weeks long and it is delivered by the Romanian NFIP.
3	Albania	The Security Academy of Police and also other missions that support Albanian State Police.
4	Czech Republic	There are two training modules for spotters and match commanders separated from each other. Such courses last 2-3 days organized twice a year. Composition of lecturers varies from each training and depends on current needs. Most often lecturers are represented by NFIP staff, representatives of MoI, public authorities and private entities as well as other practitioners.
5	Portugal	A sports intelligence course is provided for spotters. The course is delivered by the Intelligence Department, where the NFIP is based. The course length is 65 hours (2 weeks). We are not delivering match commander specific training but we are planning to do that in the next years.
6	Austria	An annual networking meeting is held with representatives of the authorities, match commanders and the Heads of the Spotter Units in the Federal Police Directorates. This event is led by the National Football Information Point Austria.
7	Belgium	Training course for new spotters. This training is coordinated by the NFIP, organized 3x each year for about 20 persons/training session. Duration : 2 days We had a training course for new FIO (coordinated by NFIP) but still need to redesign it and adapt the course items. The turnover for FIO is very low so we don't have new FIO very often Duration : 1 day (but they first have to follow the course spotters). No specific course for match commanders. Gold and Silver officers have a specific course public order. Duration : 10 days. Provided by National Police Academy
8	Croatia	No as specific training - match commanders and spotters have been trained through practical work with experienced match commanders and spotters during the preparation and policing of the matches.



9	Finland	We have had on spotter-training course 2015, but after that one we have not had the chance to organize one again. This is due to lack of funding and a tight schedule at the police academy.  We would love to offer a training course in Helsinki, but so far we have not had the chance.
10	Switzerland	Organised by the Swiss Police Institute Duration of the courses is one week.
11	Bulgaria	Standard training programmes provided by the Police academy
12	France	Annual workshop organized by NFIP France
13	Cyprus	The police organize special training programs for the above topics in cooperation with stewarding committee, the ministry of Justice and public order, and of course UEFA.
14	Slovenia	NFIP Slovenia is providing the training.
15	Germany	Each year/season there are trainings for match commanders, spotters and football intelligence officers, delivered by different institutions of the 16 Lander
16	Hungary	For the match commanders: 1 day theoretical instruction and 3 days practical training/year, 2 days crowd management training/year. For the spotters: 2 days training/year
17	Netherlands	This is not arranged on a national level but on a local level. There are several operational training programmes usually delivered by the training departments of the local police (who also deliver normal police training)
18	Poland	Most of them are organised at the Police Academy in Szczytno and one course lasts two weeks.
19	Sweden	The HR-department is organizing the training and it's delivered by the National Police Academy. The duration of the course depends on the position
20	Russian Federation	There is «All Russian Advanced Training Institute» training program exists. It provides different training sessions for plenty of directions.
21	United Kingdom	It is delivered at by us at the UK Football Policing Unit on behalf of the College of Policing.
22	Turkey	Experts on sport security from Police, Universities and FA are giving the training. It is 40 hours long.

As it can be observed from the answers provided, the NFIP's are the key player in delivering training for all the football policing functions, mostly using the police academies infrastructure and assistance. This comes to confirm one of the core functions of the NFIP's: they should act as the central pool of expertise at the national level as regards the prevention and tackling of sport related violence.

At the international level dedicated one-country customized training events (N-FPT) are offered by the Council of Europe under the ProS4+ umbrella. Two of these events were

organized in Romania (9-11 May 2018 Bucharest) and in the Czech Republic (06-10 January 2020). Specific police training sections were included as part of the dedicated Saint-Denis Convention training seminar programme who took place from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 in Vilnius (Lithuania).

## Section F. Legal framework and best practices

**Question 37 - 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 the field of sport-related violence were adopted/drafted during the last year/season. 12 countries replied, as follows:

**Albania** - The Law on Sport and also the Criminal Code.

**Belgium** - The football law was updated in June 2018 but this was already mentioned in the last questionnaire. The Football Unit of the Ministry of Interior is now finalising new legislative documents about Stewards (update), Security Officer (new) and SLO (new).

**Bulgaria** - Personalisation of tickets. Ticketing on match day for risk matches is restricted to be operated only online.

**Cyprus** - FAN CARD: according to the law in Cyprus, in order to enter in the stadium and watch any professional league football match, you need to be a fan card holder. Without this card, you cannot get a ticket. This brought the reaction of the ultras of the clubs and they decided not to come to the stadiums. At the same time, these reactions helped to reduce violent behavior outside and inside the stadiums, since among the supporters of these categories are also risk supporters.

**France** - Since the new law voted on May 2016, which improves the dialogue with supporters groups, a new instance has been created. This instance named “ Instance Nationale du Supportérisme ” is attached to the Ministry of Sports and allows dialogue between the different ultras groups chiefs and police authorities and sports authorities. This place of exchange offers the possibility to talk more peacefully about violence problems in sport and to propose some concrete experimentation in the stadiums (safe standing, SLO, learning...).

**Hungary** - Law I of 2004 on Sport was amended on 01.01.2019. Exclusion due to disorder within the sports facility has become more widely applicable. The new Criminal Code, which came into force in 2013 (with minor changes due to over-regulation), has effectively helped to reduce the number of acts pertaining to sporting events.

**Italy** - In 2018, a new law was adopted which extended the application of banning orders to attend sporting events for particular categories of subjects.

**Lithuania** - Sport Law - Obligation for organizer to do risk assessment before the match and in the case of high risk to agree on safety rules of the event with the police.

**Portugal** - The law on sport-related violence prevention was changed, improving the exclusion mechanism and reinforcing Police powers to prevent violent behaviour. The relevant changes are on the enforcement of the law and hardening the fines and the sanctions both on clubs and supporters. A matter of concern is changes related to weapons and explosives which decriminalise the use of many pyrotechnic devices in stadia.

**Serbia** - During 2018, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Prevention of Violence and Misconduct at Sports Events was adopted. The amendments introduced new categories of crimes.

**Spain** – A National Plan against hate speech and racism was adopted, the impact is under study at this moment.

**Turkey** – The relevant law was updated as follows:

- 1 - Exclusion period: It was only one year. Now it is one year for the first violation, 3 years in the second and 5 years in the third.
- 2 - Increased the punishment for violation of the law.
- 3 - Increased punishment for the people engaging in crime by hiding their faces with the aim not to be identified.

**Question 38 - 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?**

Six countries submitted best practices:

**Austria** - "In February 2019, a cooperation event between the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Federal Ministry of Public Service and Sport was held, during which the secretary generals of both ministries entered into a proactive, open dialogue with fan representatives from all over Austria.

Representatives of the Austrian Football League, as well as the Austrian Football Association, were also invited in their role of cooperation partners. The aim of the "Dialogue with Perspective" was to depict the various perspectives and establish a common basis for

discussion between the existing stakeholders. In addition to the main topic of the illegal use of pyrotechnics in connection with football sports events, the following favourite topics of the invited fan representatives were also included and discussed in the forum:

- The mediation of a more positive image of the "football fan" by politics on society and the media, or thereby the promotion of trust between football fans and the ministries;
- Improvement of the common basis for discussion (i.e., regular meetings with fan representatives, evaluation and discussion of current topics, increased use of the scene-oriented officers as an interface to the Federal Ministry of the Interior, and installation of a contact person at the Federal Ministry of Public Service and Sport);
- Support in guest-friendly stadium buildings and consideration of fan-specific concerns such as the good view of the field from the fan sectors, preventing a "caged atmosphere", sufficient bus parking lots in the immediate vicinity of the stadium, etc.;

**Czech Republic** - "Anti-conflict teams: specially trained police officers designated to dealing with crowds. Their goal is to explain what crowds are allowed to do and vice-versa, what is going to happen if a person acts against instructions given by the Police. They have very positive approach and are bridge between the crowd and riot police."

**Cyprus** - "With the fan card system we can know at any time who is inside the stadium. If anybody is arrested for an offence in connection with the law, he/she is brought by the police before the court within 24 hours. The court immediately gives a banning order at least until the trial of the case."

**France** - "Experimentation with Daniel Nivel -Foundation: Police Liaison Officer appointed in some stadiums in order to improve movement and management of visitor supporters".

**Spain** - "During the Spanish Cup Final and the UEFA Champions League Final, we started to work with the FIT (Football Information Team), one per team, comprising: Spanish Police, supporters of the team, police officer of the finalist and network expert (police officer). All of them working together with a twitter account per team to solve problems, give advice, detect problems, control risk supporters and whatever necessary."

**Sweden** - Sweden and Denmark have come a long way to integrate police officers with police authority given in accordance with the Prüm Council Decision into each other's commands at major sport events. ENABLE Sweden project has done some interesting work in the field of dialogue between different actors (security, fans, etc.)

**Question 39 – 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 contributors<sup>73</sup> referred to:

- lack of human and financial resources;
- stadium infrastructure and compliance with international standards;
- certification and inspection of sports venues;
- the need for a proactive and effective communication with supporters and creating a welcoming environment;
- adopting a risk-based deployment of police forces and proportional police intervention;
- the need for a major improvement of the stewarding system;
- the problem of pyrotechnics.

The main challenge as regards the EU Member States has been solved on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2019, following the adoption of the Council Decision 2019/683 authorising Member States to become Parties, in the interest of the European Union, to the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events (CETS No 218)<sup>74</sup>. Consequently, the ratification process in the case of many Member States of the European Union is expected to accelerate accordingly. Now the focus of Member States must be on implementing the key principles and actions enshrined in the Convention.

#### 4. Main conclusions

The annual report on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity at football matches and other sport events produced by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the NFIP network has become one of the most important tools available at a strategic level and is steering joint European efforts in order to reduce the level of violence and other anti-social behaviour in connection with sport events.

The fourth edition of the analysis, based on the contributions of 39 States, provided the grounds and sufficient data for an in-depth overview of the trends, best practices and challenges that European States are facing in preventing and tackling football and other sport-related violence. The challenge for the next edition of this important document is to continue to raise the awareness of the need to further invest in the quality of the data provided by the contributors, as this will certainly enhance the analysis and findings of the annual reports.

This year's edition included a special section dedicated to **racism and discrimination**, following the debate held during the 48<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting in 2019 and an increase in the reporting of such incidents across Europe. The outcomes of the responses show a stringent necessity for the States to adopt dedicated national policies and legislation

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<sup>73</sup> 17 States responded, as follows: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

<sup>74</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/GA/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019D0683>

in order to deal effectively with this kind of criminal behaviour. Whilst some of the States have already established specific mechanisms in order to prevent and tackle racism and discrimination, further steps need to be put in place in order to gather detailed data regarding this phenomenon, this being the starting point of identifying the size and extent of the problem and the adoption of effective and customized solutions. The work and expertise of the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network in this field can help and support the efforts of the States in pursuing a coherent and adequate response.

The total attendances of approximately 157 million spectators at football matches across Europe, complemented by nearly 13 million to other sports, reported by the States, refer only to the sports events monitored by the police forces and not to all such events at national level. This shows the extent of resources that need to be made available by the law enforcement agencies across Europe in order to provide a safe and secure environment for the spectators attending these sporting events.

The **use of pyrotechnics** continues to represent the most important challenge confronting almost all States. Compared to the last year edition of the report, there is an increase in the usage of such devices. 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 sports events. Customised national strategies should facilitate an integrated response to a threat that is heavily affecting the safety and security at sports events across Europe. To assist in this process, a model multi-agency approach will be included in the revised edition of the Standing Committee Recommendation Rec (2015) 1. This should provide a framework for each State to develop a more effective response to preventing and tackling the use of pyrotechnics in football stadia and beyond.

In order to raise awareness and provide support to the national strategies, there is a need for further research on this matter, especially regarding the impact on the human health and injuries suffered by the users of such devices and other spectators and stakeholders. This needs to be pursued in cooperation with medical entities, who are best placed to provide such data in a manner that protects patient's confidentiality.

Moreover, further scientific measurements are needed, especially in order to provide details regarding the short and long term impact of pyrotechnic smoke on spectators and safety and security personnel in order to raise awareness of about the risks.

The use of pyrotechnics by UEFA at the two finals has seriously undermined the credibility of the campaign developed by UEFA and partner institutions at European level and by federations, clubs, police and others at a national level to rid the game of the threat posed by

pyrotechnics, each and every one of which is an explosive device producing combustion by-products that can and do cause short and long term health risks to all exposed to their effects.

Following the discussion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting in June 2019, a formal letter was sent to the UEFA President regarding the use of pyrotechnics during the opening ceremonies of UEFA's premier club competitions and inviting UEFA to consider alternative options to pyrotechnics to be used at their events. An announcement to this effect would also confirm and add weight to the message that there can be no safe use of the devices in football stadia and will be welcomed by the States Parties to the Council of Europe Saint-Denis Convention.

**Supporter liaison** continues to be a topic on the agenda, with positive results being reported in several States (Austria, France, Spain and Sweden) and by Supporters Direct Europe and their LIAISE project.

EURO 2020 will be also an opportunity for the fan organisations to play an active role in providing service to the travelling fans especially via fan-embassies and, by doing so, being a part of the integrated approach as promoted by the Saint-Denis Convention.

Some of the contributing States mentioned that their **national legislation** is currently being updated in order to address new or emerging safety and security challenges. The same process is underway for the Recommendation Rec (2015) 1. 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.

The various **police training** schemes that are in place at international and national level, either delivered on-site (ProS4+ project's National Football Policing Trainings – NFPT or CEPOL) or online MOOC's (ProS4+ MOOC on the Saint-Denis Convention<sup>75</sup> and HELP MOOC on Human Rights and Sport<sup>76</sup>) are very important tools in the process of implementation of an uniformed European approach as regards football and other sports policing, as mentioned in the new Saint-Denis Convention and its complementary Recommendation 1 (2015) and also in relevant EU Decisions and Resolutions. The high interest among States in participating in these programs is a positive indicator of the quality and course design, which is always customised to include local perspectives and solutions to be compliant with the European requirements.

In conclusion, the questionnaire provided an in-dept overview of the emerging trends and challenges regarding football and other sports-related violence and disorder for the benefit of the practitioners and strategists from the States which contributed.

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<sup>75</sup> <https://pip-eu.coe.int/en/web/security-safety-sport/pros4-e-learning-enrolment-form>

<sup>76</sup> <http://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/login/index.php>

Although the emphasis of the research is placed on security, it must be stressed that solutions to these problems cannot be identified in isolation, as there is a strong overlap between all the 3 pillars of safety, security and service, which lie at the heart of the 2016 Saint-Denis Convention, and other measures and initiatives in this area, all of which stress that in order to be successful, an integrated approach must be adopted. Similarly, all the relevant stakeholders have to be involved, starting with the European organisations (Council of Europe and European Union) and continuing with European States, sports authorities entities (UEFA, FIFA, clubs etc.) and other non-governmental bodies (supporters associations, etc.), in order to obtain the desired objectives.

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

		Response							
No.	Country	Online	Document	Incomplete	Opt-Out	Delayed	No Details	Nothing	COMMENTS
1	Albania	X							
2	Andorra	X							
3	Armenia							X	
4	Austria	X							
5	Azerbaijan							X	
6	Belgium	X							
7	Bosnia & Herzegovina		X						
8	Bulgaria	X							
9	Croatia	X							
10	Cyprus		X						
11	Czech Republic	X							
12	Denmark	X							
13	Estonia	X							
14	Finland	X							
15	France	X							
16	Georgia		X						
17	Germany		X						Update provided 4th of November
18	Greece		X						
19	Hungary	X							
20	Iceland							X	
21	Ireland	X							
22	Israel							X	
23	Italy		X						
24	Latvia		X						
25	Liechtenstein							X	
26	Lithuania	X							
27	Luxembourg	X							
28	Malta		X						
29	Moldova							X	
30	Monaco							X	
31	Montenegro							X	
32	Netherlands	X							
33	Norway	X							
34	Poland		X						
35	Portugal	X							
36	Romania	X							
37	Russian Federation		X						
38	San Marino							X	
39	Serbia	X							
40	Slovak Republic	X							
41	Slovenia		X						
42	Spain	X							
43	Sweden		X						
44	Switzerland	X							
45	North Macedonia		X						
46	Turkey	X							
47	Ukraine		X						
48	United Kingdom	X							
		<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Incomplete</b>	<b>Opt-Out</b>	<b>Delayed</b>	<b>No Details</b>	<b>NOTHING</b>	<b>39</b>