

Strasbourg, 13 September 2025

EPAS-SC(2025)01

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)

Statutory Committee

FINANCIAL YEAR 2024

Budgetary Management Accounts
approved by written procedure on 12 September 2025

OPINION OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR



External Auditors' Opinion

on the Budgetary Management Accounts of the Council of Europe for the year ended 31 December 2024

OPINION

The Portuguese Court of Auditors has audited the 2024 budgetary management accounts of the Council of Europe (CoE), for the year ended 31st December 2024, including a global overview of the budget implementation and the reconciliation of the budget outcome and the approved budget for each budget, subsidiary budget, partial agreements and special accounts.

Unqualified Opinion of budgetary management accounts

In our opinion, the budgetary management accounts present a true and fair view, in all material aspects of the financial records and transactions of the Council of Europe for the year ended 31 December 2024, in accordance with the budget reporting policies stated in the Financial Regulations.

BASIS FOR OPINION

As External Auditor (EA), we conducted the audit in accordance with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs) issued by the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), and the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs).

These standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the budgetary accounts of the CoE are free from material misstatement and the transactions underlying them are legal and regular.

All the rules, instructions, procedures, documentation and other evidence, as well as the information and explanations required have been provided timely and adequately.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the budgetary management accounts and for such internal control as it deems to be necessary to allow the preparation of these accounts and ensure that they are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

We operated independently and performed such audit as deemed necessary to meet financial audit obligations regarding the Committee of Ministers.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the budgetary management accounts as a whole are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an audit report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance means a high level of assurance but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISSAIs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud

or error and are considered material if, individually or taken together, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken based on these financial statements.

As part of the audit and in accordance with the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions, we exercised professional judgment and maintained professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement in the budgetary management accounts, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures that are responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omission, misrepresentation, or the overriding of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control of CoE.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the budgetary management accounts, including the disclosures, and whether the budgetary management accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves a fair presentation.

The audit involved performing procedures to obtain sufficient and appropriate evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the budgetary management accounts to provide a basis for our opinion. The procedures selected relied on the auditor's professional judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatements of the Budgetary Management Accounts, whether due to fraud or error.

In making those risks assessments, the auditor considered the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the budgetary management accounts to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

We believe that the audit evidence is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

COMMUNICATION TO MANAGEMENT

We communicated with managers charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Lisbon, 12th May 2025.

The External Auditor,

signed
Filipa Urbano Calvão
President of the Court of Auditors of Portugal

signed
Maria da Luz Carmezim
Member of the Court of Auditors of Portugal

Auditors' team :

- Mr Nuno Miguel Martins Lopes (chief auditor)
- Ms Sandra Reis (auditor)
- Mr Joel Gustavo Silva Ribeiro (auditor)

Budget of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport – EPAS

BUDGETARY RESULTS

	2024						2023	
	Approved Budget	Adjustments to Budget (a)	Transfers	Final Budget	Actual Expenditure/ Receipts	Balance compared to Approved Adjusted Budget	Balance compared to Final Budget	Actual Expenditure/ Receipts
	€K	€K	€K	€K	€K	€K	€K	€K
Staff expenditure	678.8	21.0	(12.0)	687.8	677.7	22.1	10.1	640.9
Salaries and related costs	590.6	21.0	(12.0)	599.6	589.5	22.1	10.1	554.7
Contributions to the Pension Reserve Fund	88.2	0.0	0.0	88.2	88.2	0.0	0.0	86.2
Non staff expenditure	514.3	24.2	12.0	550.5	510.8	27.7	39.7	550.7
Other expenditure (b)	514.3	24.2	12.0	550.5	510.8	27.7	39.7	550.7
Total Expenditure	1 193.1	45.2	0.0	1 238.3	1 188.5	49.8	49.8	1 191.6
Contributions	1 193.1	0.0	0.0	1 193.1	1 193.1	0.0	0.0	1 192.6
Obligatory contributions (c)	1 193.1	0.0	0.0	1 193.1	1 193.1	0.0	0.0	1 192.6
Other receipts	0.0	45.2	0.0	45.2	(2.5)	(47.6)	(47.6)	1.0
Provision for bad debts (d)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(47.6)	(47.6)	(47.6)	0.0
Other income	0.0	45.2	0.0	45.2	45.2	0.0	0.0	1.0
Total Receipts	1 193.1	45.2	0.0	1 238.3	1 190.6	(47.6)	(47.6)	1 193.6
Net surplus/(deficit) (e)					2.2			2.0

- (a) The budget has been adjusted to reflect actual income including the accession of Denmark and Ireland.
- (b) Following a decision from the EPAS Governing Board, €25 K has been transferred to EPAS' special account to contribute to its projects.
- (c) Of which €20.4 K remains unpaid at 31.12.2024 (Montenegro and Morocco).
- (d) The provision for bad debts includes a provision for obligatory contributions for 2022-2024 for Morocco and for 2022-2023 from Belarus. Belarus is no longer member of the agreement.
- (e) The surplus will be treated as outlined in the Draft Resolution.

SPECIAL ACCOUNT

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport – EPAS

BALANCE AT 31/12/2024

	Cumulative Appropriations as at 31/12/2024 € K	Cumulative Actual as at 31/12/2023 € K	Yearly Actual 2024 € K	Balance as at 31/12/2024 € K
Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)	338.7	169.5	72.5	96.7
Start to Talk + / The next level (VC3128)	78.5	74.9	(0.3)	3.9
Partnership between public authorities and sports movement (2010/EPAS/VC/2394)	93.4	84.2	0.0	9.2
Start to Talk - protecting the present, protecting the future VC3686	72.8	0.0	72.7	0.1
Funds pending allocation	94.0	10.4	0.0	83.6
Total Expenditure	338.7	169.5	72.5	96.7
Total Receipts	338.7	296.8	42.0	0.0
Balance as at 31/12/2024				96.7

Following the decision taken by the EPAS Governing Board, €25K has been transferred from the Agreement budget to the special account (EPAS(2024)50).

**Resolution EPAS/Res(2025)01
concerning the budgetary management accounts of the Enlarged Partial Agreement
on Sport (EPAS) for the year ended 31 December 2024**

(Adopted by the Statutory Committee on 12 September 2025)

The Statutory Committee, under the terms of Article 5.4 of the Statute of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), and in its composition restricted to the representatives of the States members in 2024 of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport,¹

Having regard to Resolution [CM/Res\(2010\)11](#) establishing the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport as amended by [CM\(2015\)4](#);

Having regard to Article 68 of the Financial Regulations;

Having regard to the budgetary management accounts of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport for the year ended 31 December 2024, as presented by the Secretary General;

Having regard to the opinion of the External Auditor;

Having regard to the report of the External Auditor;

Having regard to the report of the Budget Committee,

Decides:

1. The budgetary management accounts of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport for the year ended 31 December 2024 are approved ([CM\(2025\)100-add](#), page 46).
2. The unexpended appropriations for the financial year 2024 before provisions amounting to €49 803.20 as shown in the budgetary management accounts presented by the Secretary General, are cancelled.
3. Agreed that the 2024 financial year net surplus of €2 177.95 will be credited among the members of the Enlarged Agreement as indicated in the appendix to this Resolution.
4. The share of the surplus of the Enlarged Partial Agreement budget due to each member will be applied to meet any additional contributions for which members may become liable, should supplementary appropriations be granted in the 2025 budget, any part of the share that remains being considered as an advance on its contributions for 2025 or subsequent years.

¹ States concerned: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, and Israel and Morocco as non-members of the Council of Europe.

Appendix to Resolution EPAS/Res(2025)01

**Apportionment of the surplus of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)
for the financial year 2024**

Member States of the Council of Europe	Scale of contributions for the financial year 2024 Resolution EPAS-SC(2023)2 %	Amount of credit balance €
ALBANIA	0.7846	17.09
ANDORRA	0.7846	17.09
ARMENIA	0.7846	17.09
AUSTRIA	3.3684	73.36
AZERBAIJAN	0.7846	17.09
BELGIUM	4.1112	89.54
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	0.7846	17.09
BULGARIA	0.7846	17.09
CROATIA	0.7846	17.09
CYPRUS	0.7846	17.09
ESTONIA	0.7846	17.09
FINLAND	2.0740	45.17
FRANCE	16.5866	361.24
GEORGIA	0.7846	17.09
GREECE	1.7196	37.45
HUNGARY	1.4504	31.59
ICELAND	0.7846	17.09
ITALY	16.5866	361.24
LATVIA	0.7846	17.09
LIECHTENSTEIN	0.7846	17.09
LITHUANIA	0.7846	17.09
LUXEMBOURG	0.7846	17.09
MALTA	0.7846	17.09
MONACO	0.7846	17.09
MONTENEGRO	0.7846	17.09
NETHERLANDS	6.9781	151.97
NORTH MACEDONIA	0.7846	17.09
NORWAY	3.0017	65.38
POLAND	5.4779	119.30
PORTUGAL	1.9663	42.83
SAN MARINO	0.7846	17.09
SERBIA	0.7846	17.09
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	0.9177	19.99
SLOVENIA	0.7846	17.09
SWITZERLAND	5.4814	119.37
TÜRKIYE	7.9541	173.23
UKRAINE	2.5805	56.20
Non-Members of the Council of Europe		
ISRAEL	1.5109	32.91
MOROCCO	0.9734	21.20
TOTAL	100.0000	2 177.95