

**COMMITTEE ON SAFETY AND SECURITY AT SPORTS
EVENTS (T-S4)**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON AN INTEGRATED
SAFETY, SECURITY AND SERVICE APPROACH AT
FOOTBALL MATCHES AND OTHER SPORTS EVENTS
(CETS No. 218)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Saint-Denis Convention
Committee on Safety and Security at Sports Events (T-S4)

Policy Strategy 2026-2029

Prepared by the Secretariat

Saint-Denis Convention (CETS No. 218)
Committee on Safety and Security at Sports Events (T-S4)

POLICY STRATEGY 2026-2029¹

1) MISSION

To maximise States capacity to ensure safe, secure and welcoming sports events across Europe and worldwide, through standard-setting, monitoring, international co-operation, technical assistance and promoting the Saint-Denis Convention standards at football matches and other sports events.

The T-S4 Committee is the only competent body responsible for monitoring the application of the Saint-Denis Convention and for the interpretation of its provisions.

2) VISION

To make football and other sports events safer, more secure and welcoming, thus contributing to the protection and promotion of sport, the rule of law and human rights in and through sport.

The Committee is the international platform to exchange knowledge and experience, share good practices and develop co-operation on safety, security and service at football and other sports events.

3) VALUES

The Committee shares and promotes the Council of Europe 's core values: human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as well as sports core values, such as respect, tolerance, honesty, solidarity, health, fair-play, inclusion, diversity, equality, integrity and good governance.

The activities of the Committee are based upon and guided by these values.

¹ The duration of this T-S4 Policy Strategy should encompass with the forthcoming Secretary General's four-year strategic framework 2026-2029 reflecting the priorities for the Council of Europe's longer-term mission.

4) COMMITTEE'S STRATEGY (2026-2029)

Strategic Goal 1. Consolidate the monitoring mechanism under the Saint-Denis Convention

- **Objective 1:** Adopt and implement a biennial monitoring questionnaire and report on the implementation of the Saint-Denis Convention and ensure its regular revision.
- **Objective 2:** Consolidate the programme of monitoring and follow-up visits in States Parties and observers.
- **Objective 3:** Provide the States with necessary assistance in implementing the recommendations of the monitoring visits and monitoring reports.
- **Objective 4:** Ensure and promote the evaluation of major tournaments, namely through reports and comparative studies.

Strategic Goal 2. Promote the implementation of the Saint-Denis Convention through focused policy advice

- **Objective 1:** Identify priority areas for the normative and standard setting work, aiming at balancing the three pillars: safety, security and service
- **Objective 2:** Ensure that the dimensions of human rights, gender equality, fight against hate speech, anti-racism and any other type of discrimination are streamlined in any standard-setting work of the T-S4 or other policy advice.
- **Objective 3:** Support States in developing and implementing national strategies and legal frameworks based on the Convention.
- **Objective 4:** Ensure the regular update, promotion and implementation of the T-S4 Recommendations.

Strategic Goal 3. Reinforce the institutional role of the Committee

- **Objective 1:** Ensure a balanced integrated multi-agency composition of the Committee, namely by including new Observers.
- **Objective 2:** Establish an institutionalised process to promote the implementation of the provisions of the Saint-Denis Convention in the context of the major tournaments, such as men and women's FIFA and UEFA tournaments, Olympic and Paralympic Games, etc.

- **Objective 3:** Develop synergies with relevant Council of Europe bodies (Parliamentary Assembly, Congress, European Court of Human Rights, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, European Partial Agreement on Sport, etc.) and conventional committees.
- **Objective 4:** Invest in attracting new signatures and ratifications of the Convention by European countries and beyond, and showcase the Convention and the activities of the Committee.

Strategic Goal 4. Develop partnerships with relevant stakeholders
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- **Objective 1:** Establish, in the context of the implementation of the MoU between the Council of Europe and FIFA, a permanent bilateral co-operation mechanism; and ensure the adoption and implementation of annual co-operation plans.
- **Objective 2:** Establish, in the context of the implementation of the MoU between the Council of Europe and UEFA, a permanent bilateral co-operation mechanism; and ensure the adoption and implementation of annual co-operation plans.
- **Objective 3:** Involve, where relevant, municipalities and supporters' and other civil society organisations in the work of the Committee, as well as in the promotion of the achieved results.
- **Objective 4:** Exchange knowledge and expertise with relevant intergovernmental partners on promoting safety, security and service at sports events, including the United Nations agencies, the African Union and the Organisation of American States.

Strategic Goal 5. Promote international cooperation and technical assistance

- **Objective 1:** Strengthen institutional co-operation and coordination with the European Union, including through technical assistance joint projects.
- **Objective 2:** Establish partnerships with the sport movement, namely the International Olympic and Paralympic Committees, international federations and other sports bodies involved in the organisation of international major sports events in Europe and beyond.
- **Objective 3:** Influence and contribute to the implementation of the United Nations global programme on safety and security of major sporting events.
- **Objective 4:** Develop a clearing house on national strategies, legal and administrative frameworks, guidelines, training toolkits, good practices and lessons learned in the field of safety, security and service at sports and other mass events.