

# Identifying the features of “the European Model of Sport”<sup>1</sup>

IOC EOC	MESGO	European Council	Slovenian/Croatian amendments	Niels Nygaard	Comments	See articles....
<a href="#">Further Developing the European Sports Model</a> (by EOC et al.)	<a href="#">Group work exercise: the European model of sport and its challenges</a> Group Work – does a European model of sport exist?	<a href="#">Conclusions of the Council (...) on the impact of the COVID- 19 pandemic and the recovery of the sport sector.</a>	<a href="#">Amendments on MSL16 resolution 1</a>	<a href="#">MSL16 closing session address</a>		
Pyramid structure with a mutually reinforcing system of solidarity with grassroots and top sport	Pyramid organisation of the sports movement	pyramid structure			✗ Difficult to formulate, and difficult to agree upon, as it does not refer to sport, but to organised competitive sport	Solidarity in art. 4.4 as well as in 5.2d
Values-based model		social and educational function	not driven by commercial interests  in order to promote the role of volunteers in sport, social inclusion, the development of grassroots sport and the European values in sport	the safety and integrity of sport.	✓ Already included	Values-based sport in art. 1.2 and art. 6 to 9. Inclusion in art. 1, 1.1 and 10 to 14.  Economic growth is acknowledged as a positive externality of sport, but is not a social benefit for the development of sports policies; the mentioned social benefits remain public health, inclusion and education.
Financial solidarity scheme	Redistribution/financial solidarity within the pyramid	the grassroots approach and solidarity	principles of financial solidarity solidarity funding	solidarity between top level and grassroots sport	✓ Already included, with various dimensions of solidarity	Solidarity in art. 4.4 as well as in 5.2d
One federation per sport and per country (IOC) / One federation per sport or per multisport sectoral activity and per country (EOC)			The sport movement (...) is based on the principle of sport organised on a national basis around one federation per sport and per multisport sectoral activity*, allowing for a comprehensive approach to rules, regulations, standards as well as to competition calendars		✗ Difficult agreement  Criteria for recognition of Federation is not easy to mention; however, the regulatory role of sports regulatory bodies is mentioned (as regards rules of the game and integrity)	The regulatory role of sports governing bodies is referred to in preamble (7) as well as in art. 13.1.  The recognition of “one federation per sport and per country” is difficult, as it does not reflect the reality of all countries and some governments don’t want to get involved in that kind of consideration.
Open competitions	Promotion/relegation		openness of competition	the openness of competition.	✓ No agreement on “promotion relegation”, which is specific to team sports and not observed by every competition organiser, but “openness in sporting competitions” or “based merit”	Art. 14.3
Structure based on voluntary activities		structures based on voluntary activity	volunteerism		✓ Already included	Art. 4.2 (as regards the Sports Movement) and art. 16.3 (as regards Human Resources)
Legitimate autonomy of sport					✓ Already included	Art. 4.3 refers to “enjoy autonomous decision-making processes” in Sports Movement Organisations
	Strong link between professional clubs and their area and with organised sports practice in all territories				() Ignored (not so important)	
	Training of athletes within the sport movement itself				() Ignored (not so important)	
		role in national identity		the release of players for the national teams.	✓ Reference to national, continental and inter + local and national teams	Reference to national organisation in preamble (7) and to national teams in art. 14.3

<sup>1</sup> Additional background is also available in the article [Where does the “European model of sport” stand, 25 years on from the Bosman ruling?](#) (Colin Miège, Sport & Citizenship)