

Strasbourg, 28 August 2009

EPAS(2009)37

## **Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS)**

### **Recommendation no. R (92) 14 rev. of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the revised Code of Sports Ethics (rev. 2)**

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The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe;

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage and facilitating their economic and social progress;

Wishing to see sport develop in the spirit of the European Sports Charter;

Aware of the pressures which the race for success, commercialisation, the need for stars and exposure to the mass media bring to bear on sport;

Convinced of the need to provide sportsmen and women with a system of values which will enable them to make responsible choices when facing such pressures;

Convinced that including the principles set out in the code in physical education curricula and in the policies of sports organisations will favourably influence the attitudes of athletes and the general public to sport;

Wishing to supplement Recommendation no. R (92) 14 rev on the European Sports Charter with Resolution no. 1 on ethics in sport, adopted at the 11th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport in Athens in December 2008, which invites the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) of the Council of Europe:

#### **Concerning the promotion of ethics in sport:**

- to continue to disseminate its work on ethics in sport;

- to identify and promote educational and preventive measures for strengthening sports ethics and to support increased resources for that purpose;
- to draft an update of the Code of Sports Ethics to ensure strong support for the standards and values of sport and offer responses to the new challenges to ethics in sport as mentioned hereafter and others such as sexual harassment in sport and misuse of nutritional supplements;
- to develop operational indicators to supplement the Code of Sports Ethics and continue to work on a monitoring mechanism to advise its member states on promoting ethics in sport;

**Concerning the new challenges to ethics in sport and in co-operation with the bodies and organisations concerned:**

- to promote best practices to tackle the challenges to sports ethics posed notably by match fixing, corruption; illegal betting;
- in co-operation with its Consultative Committee, to continue the work on possible ways to enhance co-operation between government and the sports movement on combating corruption;
- to draw up a new draft recommendation to states on corruption, match fixing and illegal betting which could form the basis of a possible new convention on these subjects to help achieve increased integrity controls and a ‘fair return’ to sport for grassroots funding from betting revenues;

**Concerning genetic engineering:**

- to promote and disseminate best practices in combating the use of genetic engineering for purposes which are contrary to sports ethics;

**Concerning the trafficking of young sports people:**

- to build on initiatives taken by international federations and the EU in order, if possible, to promote quality standards to regulate the activity of players’ agents;

**Concerning discrimination:**

- to hold exchanges of views with the sport movement on rules governing eligibility and the organisation of categories in competition in the light of the principles of ethics in sport;

- to disseminate examples of best practices in promoting diversity through sport and combating discrimination including the integration of disabled persons, which could be addressed in co-operation with CAHPAH<sup>1</sup>;
- in co-operation with the sports movement and the Standing Committee of the Convention on Spectator Violence, in particular at football matches, to continue promoting and monitoring Recommendation Rec(2001)6 on the prevention of racism, xenophobia and racial intolerance in sport;

**Recommends that the governments of member states:**

- give their full support to the Code of Sports Ethics, as it appears in the appendix to this recommendation;
- disseminate the code in their own language or languages to sports organisations and encourage its dissemination among all appropriate target groups, particularly those working with young persons;
- encourage the authorities responsible for school and out of school education to introduce the principles set out in the Code of Sports Ethics into physical education syllabuses;
- encourage regional, national and international sports organisations to take account of the principles of the code in their activities to strengthen sports ethics, based on enhanced co-operation between government and the sports movement;

**Instructs the Secretary General to transmit this recommendation to:**

- a. the governments of states party to the European Cultural Convention of the Council of Europe ;
- b. international organisations, international sports organisations and the sports movement.

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<sup>1</sup>. European Co-ordination Forum for the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan (2006-2015)