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THE INTEREST TOWARDS ENGSO' S ACTIVITIES IS GROWING

ENGSO has its roots in so-called "NGO Club" that was established to define common sport political objectives in the early 1960's. This year the 20th Jubilee ENGSO General Assembly will bring together our members and partners to Bulgaria on May 25 and 26. ENGSO has always been a bridge builder between NGO's and GO's and this tradition remains strong. More and more sport organisations and partners in different fields related to sport have expressed their will to join our work. The importance of networking and sharing experiences and good practices has become essential in influencing international sport policies. ENGSO offers a good platform for its members to become active in this field.

Voluntary grassroots sport movement makes it possible for people, from youngsters to the elderly, to participate in sport in a safe environment. Activities in the clubs are excellent for health protection and are also promoting active citizenship, and thus supporting the wellbeing and competitiveness of Europe. In the long run physically active citizens will help to cut healthcare costs at national and European level.

Sport at its best is a major social asset. The core values of the voluntary sports movement should reflect the needs of our members and individuals taking part in sport. Good governance, health-enhancing physical activity, voluntary work in sports clubs, equal possibilities for participating in sport and wider understanding of the importance of international cooperation are matters that are important for ENGSO and should be promoted also in the future at European level.

It is important that the sports movement is truly and effectively heard by the public authorities in matters that concern and affect the sports movement itself. This has to be something else than just a formal technical consultation, like the structured dialogue meetings with the sports movement, that has often failed to meet the characteristics of good governance and is far from equal dialogue. In turn, the sport movement should take seriously the weak signals in the society and maintain active relationships with decision makers, both nationally and internationally.

ENGSO's cooperation with the European Union and the Council of Europe is well-established. This makes it possible for us to influence the most important European sport policy issues. I want to express my sincere thanks to our member organisations, to the previous ENGSO Executive Committee members, to ENGSO Youth and to all our partners. Without your hard work, active involvement and constant support ENGSO would not have reached this widely recognized position within the European sports that we today have. I hope that after our GA in Bulgaria we will be able to welcome new members to join us in our important and challenging work.

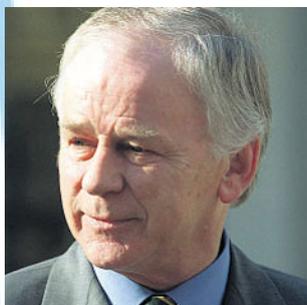
Lastly I would like to encourage all ENGSO members to create better conditions for young people and women to influence and take part in the decision-making in sports. Vibrant and strong citizens' movement arises from the cooperation of different generations and both men and women.

I'm looking forward to meeting you in Bulgaria at the end of May



Birgitta Kervinen
ENGSO President

In Memoriam



ENGSO ExCom Member, Louis Kilcoyne, lost his last match last April 1st, following a short and very difficult illness.

Former FAI President and Olympic Council of Ireland Vice-President, he was a dedicated contributor to Irish sport, football and young people in particular.

Representing for many years the ENGSO Member, Olympic Council of Ireland, Kilcoyne was elected an ExCom member during the General Assembly in Helsinki in 2007 and was re-elected in 2011.

During these several years in ENGSO ExCom, he contributed new ideas to assisting children in sport, always committed to making new generations of those who would be as dedicated to sport as he was.

He was always great company, knowledgeable and very supportive of ENGSO activities.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his dearest, his family members and friends.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON ERASMUS FOR ALL PROGRAMME



The European Commission published their proposal for the new funding programme for education, training, youth and sport "Erasmus for All" for the next multiannual financial framework 2014-2020 in November 2011. This programme would set up a funding programme for sport for the first time with its sport chapter.

Now the discussions on the content and funding continue at the Council and the European Parliament. According to the Commission's proposal the programme should mainly focus on grassroots sport and the following specific objectives: 1) tackle cross-border threats to sport such as doping, match fixing, violence, racism and intolerance; 2) promote and support good governance in sport and dual careers of athletes; 3) promote voluntary activities in sport, as well as social inclusion, equal opportunities and health-enhancing physical activity through increased participation in sport. The cooperation should be pursued through transnational activities such as collaborative projects. On the Commission's proposal also capacity building in sport, e.g. good governance of sport organisations and structural support for organisations, and non-commercial European sporting events were proposed as eligible activities. However, at the moment including these activities is endangered. ENGSO will update its position paper and lobby for including the structural support and grassroots sport events as eligible activities. In addition to these the programme will support the strengthening of the evidence base for policy making, e.g. studies, and dialogue with relevant European stakeholders.

"Erasmus for all" was discussed in the Council on May 11, 2012. It is foreseen that the CULT Committee of the European Parliament will vote on the "Erasmus for All" proposal in October 2012 and the voting in plenary is expected to take place in January/February 2013.

Heidi Pekkola

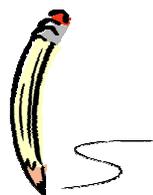
ENGSO AS AN OBSERVER IN FOUR OF THE COUNCIL EXPERT GROUPS

Six Expert Groups were established by the Council's Resolution on an EU Work Plan for Sport for 2011-2014 to carry out specific tasks within the 2011-2014 timeframe. They are composed of experts appointed by the Member States with some observers from sport movement. ENGSO is an observer in the following Expert Groups: 1) Sport, Health and Participation (representative of ENGSO *Romana Caput-Jogunica*, Executive Committee Member), 2) Good Governance (*Heidi Pekkola*, ENGSO Policy Officer) 3) Education and Training (*Poul Broberg*, ENGSO EU Working Group Chair), and 4) Sustainable Financing of Sport (*Jan Holze*, ENGSO Youth Chair). The two other Expert Groups are Anti-doping and Sport Statistics. The Good Governance Group is mandated by the Council to recommend ways to promote the integrity of sport, in particular the fight against match-fixing and the promotion of good governance. The Sport, Health and Participation Group is mandated by the Council to identify measures to promote health-enhancing physical activity and participation in grassroots sport. The Expert Group of Sustainable Financing and Education and Training haven't had yet their meetings with observers.

The Resolution can be found on

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2011:162:0001:0005:EN:PDF>

Heidi Pekkola



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OUTCOME OF THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF VOLUNTEERING



Last year 2011 was the European Year of Volunteering. One of the main partners of the Commission in implementing the year has been the EYV2011 Alliance, a network of civil society organisations working in the field of volunteering. ENGSO represents sports in the Alliance being the only sport organisation in the Steering Group. ENGSO had also representatives in five of the six working groups of the Alliance. ENGSO wants to thank its representatives for their active contributions in the working groups during the year.

As a legacy of the year the Alliance adopted the Policy Agenda on Volunteering in Europe (P.A.V.E.) which provides recommendations for a more efficient and effective Euro-

pean policy framework to support and promote volunteers, volunteering, volunteer-involving organisations and their partners.

The year and cooperation within the Alliance have been considered so successful that the members of the Alliance want to continue the work even after the year. The structure of the future Alliance will take its shape during this year.

The Policy Agenda can be found on

http://www.ev2011.eu/images/stories/pdf/EYV2011Alliance_PAVE_copyfriendly.pdf

Further information on EYV 2011 Alliance can be found on

<http://www.ev2011.eu/resources-library/item/501-policy-agenda-on-volunteering-in-europe-pave-ev2011-alliance-2011>

Heidi Pekkola

COUNCIL OF EUROPE MINISTERIAL MEETING

12th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for sports, as the only political forum addressing sports issues at a pan-European level, was held on March 15, in Belgrade, Serbia. The Conference was attended by 124 delegates from 43 countries, including 22 participants at the level of Minister, Vice-Minister or Secretary of State, 7 experts, and 30 delegates from 28 partner institutions and organisations, including ENGSO represented by President Birgitta Kervinen.

One of the key speakers in the welcome address of the opening of the Conference was Mr. Predrag Manojlovic, ENGSO Secretary General, as Chair of the EPAS Consultative Committee, highlighting the major points of the Conference topics.

The main themes of the Conference were "Promotion of the integrity of sport against manipulations of results (match fixing)" and "Current political issues of pan-European sports co-operation". Both themes were introduced by speakers presenting the challenges from various perspectives, with contributions from many country members and observers.

The Ministers amended and adopted two resolutions concerning the priorities expressed by the member states of EPAS and the sports movement.

The 12th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport defined the principles of a new instrument concerning promotion of the integrity of sport against the manipulation of results (match fixing). These principles will help EPAS members and observer states to lay the foundations for a possible new convention on the manipulation of results, and to submit it to the Committee of Ministers, which may decide to finalise it either as a convention or as another instrument.

The Ministers discussed issues related to co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Union in the field of sport, and in particular whether progress had been made by the two institutions. They expressed their expectations arising from the entry into force of the EU Lisbon Treaty, and also concerning co-operation in the fields of sport policies, programmes of activities and conventions (doping and violence) between the Council of Europe and the European Union.

On pan-European sports co-operation, the Conference stressed the potential of the Convention on Spectator Violence and, 27 years after its entry into force, the importance of examining and updating its content and working methods. It underlined the unique role of the Council of Europe in the field of sport, with its Conventions and its Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport, and supported the continuous development of co-operation with the EU.

Both the hosts and the participants of the event expressed sincere contentment with the organisation and the results of the 12th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for sports.

Snežana Mišić

20TH ENGSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN BULGARIA



20th ENGSO General Assembly takes place this year in Sunny Beach, Nesebar, Bulgaria, May 25-26, 2012, hosted by our member, Bulgarian Union of Physical Culture and Sport. Parallel to ENGSO General Assembly, ENGSO Youth will hold the ENGSO Youth Forum "Mind the Movement".

The events will be held in Helena Hotel Resort on the beautiful Black Sea coast, located approximately 35km north of Burgas in Nessebar municipality, Burgas Province.

ENGSO General Assembly needs to resolve some very significant issues, including the possibility of including other organisations as associate members of ENGSO. As this calls for modifications in ENGSO Statutes, this will be deliberated by the Extraordinary Assembly, the only body entitled to make such decisions according to the ENGSO Statutes. There will also be election for two ExCom members.

A midday session of an EU Pre-Seminar is planned for Friday morning, May 25, followed by the Official Opening of

the General Assembly. After the Opening Ceremony, an Extraordinary General Assembly should take place with the aim to adopt the modifications of the Statutes. Thereafter, the ordinary GA should follow and go on until about 18:30h the same day, discussing, among other things, the following topics:

- Budget of ENGSO and Auditing
- Strategic Plan – Report and Discussion about the Future
- ENGSO Priorities 2012-2013
- Possibilities for Financial Support
- Cooperation with European partners
- Some concrete membership/partnership, etc. issues
- Reports and Proposals of ENGSO Youth and EU WG
- Next General Assembly and Fora

The whole of Saturday shall be dedicated to General Assembly topics and workshops. Sunday morning would be left for social programme and some visits, when and if arranged by the Organizer, and thereafter for departures.

The significance of attendance in this edition of both Extraordinary and Ordinary General Assembly is great. Active participation and contribution of ENGSO members regarding all topics will have a direct impact on the future of ENGSO.

Welcome to Bulgaria and its Sunny Beach!

KPMG CZECH REPUBLIC HAS CALCULATED BENEFITS OF SPORT TO SOCIETY



Sport is an important part of Czech economy. Sport industry contributed nearly € 2.1 billion (3.3%) to the budget of the Czech Republic in 2011.

That is one of the conclusions of KPMG CZ study "Conception of financing of sport in the Czech Republic".

The study confirms the importance of sport for national economy. Benefits of sport industry for the GDP and employment are comparable to production of plastics, food or mining industry. "Every single crown of public support for sport returns as income of 3.55 CZK. Czech sport and related industry creates more than 180 thousand work places" says Petr Bučík partner responsible for Management consulting in KPMG Czech Republic.

Nearly 80% of the whole sport consumption is covered from family households and only 12% from public resources. Due to tax legislation, every 100 CZK invested to support sport from public budgets, 42 CZK are paid back as tax.

This is the first study on the economic value of sport in the Czech Republic and is based on data from all important Czech sport institutions, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, and Ministry of Finance.

Jan Boháč

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR PREPARATORY ACTIONS IN THE FIELD OF SPORT 2012



The European Commission launched the 2012 Call for Proposals for Preparatory Actions in the field of sport. This call for proposals will support transnational projects. Eligible applicants are public bodies or non-profit organizations and the objective is to identify and test suitable networks and good practices in the following fields:

1. The fight against match-fixing,
2. The promotion of physical activity supporting active ageing,
3. Awareness-raising about effective ways of promoting sport at municipal level,
4. Trans-frontier joint grassroots sport competitions in neighbouring regions and Member States.

The official announcement of the 2012 call for proposals was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on April 17, 2012: 2012/C 110/04 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2012:110:0004:0005:EN:PDF>). The budget available for this call for proposals is 3.5 million EUR. Projects must start between January 1, 2013 and March 31, 2013 and end no later than June 30, 2014. Deadline for the applications is **July 31, 2012**.

Contrary to the last calls, the grant of the Commission will only be at maximum 60% of the total eligible costs. At least 20% of financing must be provided by private partners (meaning other than public bodies). The Commission wants to test this if it would be suitable for the upcoming Erasmus for All Programme.

You can find more information on the Commission's website: http://ec.europa.eu/sport/preparatory_actions/eac-s06-2012_en.htm

CREATING A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FINAL CONFERENCE



The final conference of the ENGSO "Creating a Level Playing Field" project took place in Helsinki on 22-23 March, 2012. More than 40 participants both from partner organizations as well as decision-makers, e.g. Bart Ooijen from the Sport Unit of the European Commission and ENGSO President Birgitta Kervinen, attended the meeting. The conference presented the findings of the project and focused on concrete recommendations to decision-makers in order to encourage social inclusion of migrants and ethnic minorities in sports.

A panel discussion with representatives from European, national, regional and local level rounded up the discussions. A booklet illustrating good practice examples and key elements will be disseminated among partner organizations and their networks. To access the booklet online, please visit <http://www.levelplayingfield.eu/admin/upload/Booklet.pdf>.

ENGSO would like to thank all the partner organisations and other stakeholders involved for their active contributions and valuable expertise during the project.

Heidi Pekkola

"SPORT 4 GOOD GOVERNANCE" IN FULL SWING

Presently, the EU funded project "Sport 4 Good Governance" implements a questionnaire on how sport organizations in Europe implement good governance principles. Although final results of the questionnaire will be only available in June 2012, sport organizations seem to be very much aware of the importance of good governance principles in running their business according to a preliminary draft report on the questionnaire.

ENGSO is a partner of the project and ENGSO members were also asked to fill in the questionnaire. ENGSO will also participate in designing a useful toolkit for sport leaders – of these are 90% volunteers – to promote good governance. ENGSO President Birgitta Kervinen states: "We are very happy to cooperate on good governance issues with the EU Office of the European Olympic Committees and the European Commission. With this project we can actively contribute to the promotion of good governance. Together we can make a difference and achieve a lot."

For further information on the project "Sport 4 Good Governance" visit also its website: www.s4gg.eu.

Michael Trinker

5TH IOC WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND SPORT - TOGETHER STRONGER: THE FUTURE OF SPORT

The 5th IOC World Conference on Women and Sport was held in Los Angeles, California on February 16-18, 2012. The high level conference was attended by over 800 participants from more than 130 countries representing, National Olympic Committees, International Federations, Non-Government Organizations (NGO), universities and other organisations promoting gender equality. The quadrennial event was organised with the objective of analyzing the progress made within the Olympic Movement and identifying ways to increase the participation of women in the world of sport. ENGSO was represented in the conference by President Birgitta Kervinen.



The conference theme "Together Stronger: the Future of Sport" was approached from various angles in keynote speeches, panel discussions and workshops. Among the speakers were such celebrities as Geena Davis, Nadia Comaneci and Michelle Kwan. One of the most inspiring and encouraging speech was given by the 62-year-old extreme swimmer Diane Nyad who reminded the participants that age is not an obstacle to fulfilling your dreams.

The three-day event ended with the delegates approving "The Los Angeles Declaration", a series of recommendations aimed at promoting gender equality in sport and using sport as a tool to improve the lives of women around the world. The Declaration stated among other things

that "the number of women being elected has not increased at the same pace as their participation on the field of play" and that "the IOC's decision to link gender equality to good governance within the Olympic Movement should be adopted as policy by sports organisations". Read the full statement on http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Commissions_PDFfiles/women_and_sport/Los-Angeles-Declaration-2012.pdf.

More information on the conference can be found on <http://www.iwg-gti.org/catalyst/march-2012/iwg-aims-to-spark-change-at-ioc/>.

Kristiina Heinonen

SPORTS CLUB FOR HEALTH – IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINES

Sports Club for Health (SCforH) programme is actively influencing the sports world to act in the field of health promotion within a club setting. The new guidelines have been translated into different languages and various countries have started to create national Sports Club for Health projects.

The SCforH guidelines were represented in Sportvision2012 in Copenhagen last March. The debate around the guidelines is currently questioning how the guidelines work in practice. "There is an urgent need to start generating national projects in order to see how the guidelines can be used in local level. We need more national organisations in our network and also create an evaluation system to follow up the processes" comments Sami Kokko from the SCforH coordination group. "The main aim in the SCforH work is to create more possibilities for everyone to get involved in voluntary based sports clubs and this is possible when clubs start to develop health oriented sports activities" continues Sami.

"In Finland we are planning a campaign for the sports clubs. During 2012 different sport federations and district federations have been planning how they can be a part of SCforH work. The idea is first to acknowledge the existing work done by the clubs to enhance physical activity. In the second phase the aim is to increase the amount of people active in the clubs by 10 percent. That is our common vision for 2020" says Eerika Laalo-Häikiö from the Finnish Sport for All Association.

All the major Sport for All organisations in Europe have started to develop ways how to tackle the new demands for HEPA. Sports Club for Health programme has started a network for all organisations. "Our message is clear: sports organisations need to start taking health promotion seriously. We need international, national, regional and local level sport organisations to start taking real steps towards moving more people. Sports Club for Health provides information, a tool for development, workshops and expert meetings. The next workshop will be held 6th of July in Siauliai, Lithuania. The network is open to everybody" continues Eerika.

SCforH booklet was published in English in September 2011. Now the booklet has been translated into Croatia, Polish, Finnish and Hebrew.

The SCforH booklet can be downloaded in pdf form: <http://www.kunto.fi/en/sports-club-for-health/>

Finnish Sport for All Association

ENGSO CALENDER

ENGSO Executive Committee, EU Seminar and 20th General Assembly

- May 24-27, 2012, Sunny Beach, Bulgaria

Expert Group on "Sustainable Financing of Sport"

- May 22, 2012, Brussels

Informal meeting of EU Sports Directors

- May 31-June 1, 2012, Copenhagen

Expert Group on "Good Governance"

- June 5-6, 2012, Brussels

Expert Group on "Sport, Health and Participation"

- June 27, 2012, Brussels

Preparatory Actions in the Field of Sport - Deadline to submit applications

- July 31, 2012

ENGSO Youth Forum and Assembly 2012 "Mind the Movement"

- May 24-27, 2012, Sunny Beach, Bulgaria

European events

- 5th TAFISA World Sports for All Games, July 5-11, 2012, Lithuania
- International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport (ICSEMIS), July 19-24, 2012, Glasgow

ENGSO President
Radiokatu 20, Helsinki
FI-00093 SLU, Finland

ENGSO Secretariat
35, Terazije (II floor)
11000 Belgrade, Serbia

ENGSO Policy and Communication Officer
EOC EU Office
Bureau des COE auprès de l'UE
52, avenue de Cortenbergh
B - 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
e-mail: pekkola@euoffice.eurolympic.org