



Personal reflexions on the 13th ENGSO General Assembly held in Riga 15-16 April 2005

I always get very inspired when I meet representatives of our member organisations. I am glad that we, in spite of more and more members, succeed to keep a "family" atmosphere. This time we could also adopt the Bulgarian Union of Physical Culture and Sport as well as the Macedonian Olympic Committee as new ENGSO-members. I wish them hearty welcome and look forward to a mutual and stimulating co-operation.

The preconditions for the General Assembly were very good, thanks to the

perfect organisation and the great hospitality of our Latvian hosts, the Sports Federations Council of Latvia. We also had the favour of having the new Head of the Sport Unit of EU, Marianne Hildebrand as a guest.

The General Assembly unanimously adopted an ENGSO-statement, which stressed the importance of safeguarding income from state licensed national lotteries for the sports movement in Europe. I felt very glad that we reached 100% unanimity in this matter!

The situation was the same when it concerned the priorities of ENGSO for the period 2005-06. Sport political actions on European level, Youth Sports Development in Europe, ENGSO-Programme and support for ENGSO-members and Strengthened internal and external communication, all received clear support.

With best wishes to all of you!
Bengt Sevelius

Results of the 13th General Assembly in Riga and an outlook to the future

After warm words of welcome by the ENGSO President and the Latvian hosts the 13th General Assembly started with a speech by Marianne Hildebrand, head of the EU Sports Unit. She informed the participants about recent sport-related developments at the EU level and pointed out this year's main working areas and priorities of her Unit. An active participation of the NGOs in the opinion-building processes would be explicitly expected.

Subsequently the EU Working Group of ENGSO gave its report on 2004 and submitted an EU-related action plan for 2005/6. It also presented a position paper on the draft EU Services Directive.

The ENGSO Youth gave their activity report on 2004 and presented an action plan with three priorities for 2005/6 to the General Assembly. Parallel to the 13th GA, the ENGSO Youth held its 2nd Youth Assembly and a Youth Conference in Riga.

Following the principle of rotation only half of the ENGSO Executive Committee had to stand for election or re-election in Riga. Predrag MANOJLOVIC (NOC Serbia & Montenegro) was elected as the



From left to right: Bengt Sevelius ENGSO President, Birgitta Kervinen ENGSO Vice-President, Marlis Rydzy-Götz ENGSO Secretary General 1995-2005 and Jan Holze ENGSO Youth President

new ENGSO Secretary General. Vice President Birgitta KERVINEN (Finland) was re-elected as well as the Executive Committee members Jan BOHAC (Czech Republic) and Jeff ANGLES (France). The four-year-mandate of the remaining representatives in the Executive Committee, including the ENGSO President and the Treasurer, will only expire in 2007.

"The new Executive Committee is

going to face important challenges", says **Marlis Rydzy-Götz**. "The re-definition of the role of ENGSO within the changing European sports structures, the impact of the new EU Constitution, in which for the first time sport will have a legal basis, and further sharpening the ENGSO profile as a major European stakeholder and a service organisation for its member organisations are major sport policy areas to be taken up", she continues.

She reminds us that a systematic marketing approach, which will also ensure the financing of ENGSO, will be among the main tasks in the future. In addition, in the defence of the interests of grass root sports up to top level sports it is important to continue with ENGSO's bridge-building function. Ms Rydzy-Götz underlines that linking the "old" and the "new" Europe, linking the young and the older generation of sportsmen and women, promoting equality in sports and the practice of good cooperation and partnership between GOs and NGOs should be the core of ENGSO activities.

Marlis Rydzy-Götz



ENGSO Youths' priorities: **Voluntarism, the Social Possibilities of Sport and Youth Co-determination**

During the 2nd ENGSO Youth Assembly and Conference in Riga 14-17 April 2005 the Action Plan 2005-2007 proposed by the ENGSO Youth Committee was adopted by the delegates.

The important issues for ENGSO Youth will be Voluntarism, the Social Possibilities of Sport, and Youth Co-determination.

The actions by ENGSO Youth will focus on two directions, internal and external. The internal youth policy aims at a closer work with and for its member organisations. ENGSO Youth wants to consolidate new youth structures within the member organisation. At least youth and sport should be on the agenda of the national sport bodies. Therefore, the member organisations should carry out European national youth conferences, contact making seminars and multilateral youth exchanges. The topics of the meetings can vary from sport and anti-doping, sport and anti-racism, sport and tolerance, sport and

voluntary leadership, sport and health to other areas. The aim is to strengthen the network of ENGSO Youth member organisations dealing with youth topics.

ENGSO Youth will also intensify the relations with other governmental and non-governmental organisations. This includes networking and cooperating with other bodies dealing with children, youth and sport matters. ENGSO Youth wants to enhance the general recognition of the specific needs of young people in sports in Europe. Monitoring the developments in youth policy, youth advocacy, and lobbying are the main services that ENGSO Youth offers its members when it meets other bodies in Europe dealing with children and youth matters. Therefore, ENGSO Youth needs the contribution of its members. We are open to welcome your ideas and support.

Jan Holze
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New ENGSO Youth Committee

In April 2005 the second ENGSO Youth Committee was elected by the Youth Assembly in Riga.

Chair

Jan Holze (Germany) holze@dsj.de

Vice-chair

Rosemary Paul (France)
rpaul@laligue.org

Members

Barbara Hubmayer (Austria)
Doitchin Ninolaev Angelov (Bulgaria)
Päivi Laihonon (Finland)
Eszter Rudas (Hungary)
Ilonda Luse (Latvia)
Anders Rönmark (Sweden)
Judith Wood (UK)

Secretary

Jennifer Hedderich (Germany)
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Please see www.engso.com for further contact details.

Inspiration from the ENGSO Youth Assembly and Conference

Over 40 participants from 17 member countries gathered in Riga for the 2nd Youth Assembly and Conference. The programme focused on three main areas: voluntarism, the social possibility of sport and youth co-determination. The topics chosen for Riga were excellent: they raised questions and developed enthusiastic discussion. Furthermore, the informal activities and various working methods made the atmosphere open and innovative.

I believe that this event gave the participants what they came to look for, and even more. We left with new contacts, new ideas and inspiration and determination to further develop the youth sport both at home and internationally.

In order to get youth across Europe active with the themes discussed in Riga, hopefully, there will be participants from the whole ENGSO family in 2007 at the next Youth Assembly and Conference.

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The participants left with their backpacks full of new ideas.

Youth, Sport and Voluntary leadership in Europe

The German Sports Youth (dsj) held this conference during the International German Gymnastics Festival in May 2005. 32 young volunteers from France, Germany, Czech Republic, Luxembourg and Poland learnt about the possibilities that sport can offer for youth in Europe. Together the young participants initiated new projects on bi- or multilateral level. This event showed that young volunteers in sport are motivated to do projects on European level, but often do not know how to initiate projects and how to get financial support from a suitable funding programme. Events like this help to overcome this gap.

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London 2012 Volunteering Summit

On Thursday 2 June, representatives of various organisations gathered in London to discuss the volunteering strategy for the London 2012 Olympic Bid. "Particular emphasis in the strategy has been placed on the education and training of volunteers. Plans are in place to ensure Olympic volunteers will be given skills and training that will help them in the future", says **Judith Wood**, CCPR Policy Officer and ENGSO Youth Committee Member. She has been a part of the Volunteering Strategy Team for London 2012.

One aim of the strategy is to widen the diversity of volunteers. "London is keen to attract volunteers from abroad, and will seek to use the Olympics as an opportunity to teach developing countries, or those without a strong culture of citizenship and volunteering, how to embrace the Olympic spirit and 'sport for all' ethos", explains Wood.

CCPR has requested that the UK Government include volunteering on the agenda for the Sports Ministers' meeting in September, and it is hoped that the UK will use its Presidency of the EU as an opportunity to further promoting volunteering and citizenship across the Member States.

Judith Wood
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2007 – The European Year of Equal Opportunities

The summer holidays are getting closer and closer in Europe. After holidays we will be full of energy for future challenges. One challenge and opportunity will be in year 2007; it will be the "European Year of Equal Opportunities for All". One of the ENSGO's tools to contribute to the equality work is Enter! mentoring programme.

At best, sport can be a major contributor to the well-being of the society. In addition to the positive health impact of regular physical activity, it offers the opportunity to a pleasant and creative leisure hobby and social interaction. That is why physical activity may be very important for example to unemployed, elderly, disabled people, immigrants and other special groups. Equal opportunities to take part in physical activity and sport have a great

impact on our social equality.

ENTER! is an ENSGO Leadership and mentoring programme. At the moment it is in the stage of planning and preparation. **ENTER!** is about being seen and heard as an equal. When you **ENTER**, you get involved. Our vision is that the European sport culture recognises and supports leadership shared equally by men and women – young and old.

The European Commission has designated 2007 as the "**European Year of Equal Opportunities for All**" as part of a concerted effort to promote equality and



non-discrimination in the EU. This is a good opportunity to advance the equality through sport as well.

Birgitta Kervinen
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Albanian NOC and Sport for Development Initiatives in Albania

The launching ceremony of the Joint Program on Youth and the International Year of Youth & Sports for Development took place on April 2005 in Albania. It was given by **Hysen Domi** – President of the Albanian national Olympic Committee, **Anna Stjärnerklint** - UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Representative, **Edlira Haxhiymeri** – Deputy Minister of Education and Science and **Edmond Dragoti** – Deputy Minister of Culture Youth and Sport.

The main objective of the event was to make a presentation of the Joint Programming Document, "**Advocating**

for the Millennium Development Goals Through Youth and Sport for Development".

Expected Results:

1. Partnership – a common framework
2. Publicity – improving public awareness of Albanian youth and MDGs
3. Prospects – Reviews and recognizes numerous players in society
4. Capability – real commitment pledged by differing partners

Stavri Bello, Secretary General

Women's Euro 2005

The European Women's Football Championship were hosted by the UK and hopes are high that the tournament and the media attention it has attracted will boost the profile of women's sport and encourage more girls to become physically active.

The Prime Minister and many famous football celebrities expressed their support for the Championships. Indeed, the BBC agreed to show all England games live on television, radio and the internet and had daily highlights of all other matches. This was a level of coverage for a women's tournament previously unseen in the UK. The Championships got off to a great start, with a record attendance for the opening match of England vs Finland.

The CCPR has proposed a number of initiatives that could encourage female participation, including a wider variety of activities in schools and better use of female sports stars as positive role models. The interest already being shown in the Championships will hopefully strengthen CCPR's campaign and ensure that women's sport receives greater attention in the future.

The position of sport in the EU remains uncertain

France and the Netherlands voted against the European Constitutional Treaty in the end of May and in the beginning of June 2005. The European Council with the heads of states and governments are now negotiating about the possible options and consequences of these results.

The new constitutional treaty would give sport a legal recognition. Sport would be a supporting and complementary action, which means that EU's competence would not replace member states' competence. Sport policies would be decided at national levels, but the so called "sports article" would enhance the chances of sport organisations getting their voices heard in the decision making processes. In addition, it would open sports the possibility for its own funding.

If the European Constitution is not ratified by all EU member states, it will not enter into force. Therefore, the Treaty of Nice - without a legal recognition for sport – will remain the political framework of the European Union.

**EU Office of German Sport
Finnish Sports Federation**

News from the EWS Steering Group

The EWS Steering Group had its recent meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus. A lot of media interest accompanied the steering group meeting. It demonstrated the great interest in women and sport issues.

The meeting dealt with questions of membership in the EWS Steering Group,

the ESC Conference in Athens in September 2005 and the 7th European Conference on Women and Sport in Vienna in 2006. This conference will be the last following the old scheme of conferences in even years. The next EWS conference will be staged in 2009, and will then again be staged every 2 years.

ENGSO CALENDAR

ENGSO Executive Committee

17-19 June Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro

8-9 August Helsinki, Finland

ENGSO Youth Committee

27-28 June Frankfurt, Germany

8th ENGSO Forum

28-29 October Madeira-Funchal, Portugal

13th Congress of the European Association for Sport Management

7-10 September, Newcastle-Gateshead, England

7th European Women and Sport Conference

24-26 March 2006, Vienna Austria

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ENGSO NEWSLETTER

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We would like to hear from you

The success of the ENGSO communications depends on the active participation of the ENGSO members. Should you have any ideas for articles about current topics, interviews and/or short news from your organisation, please contact Essi Puistonen at the Finnish Sports Federation, SLU: essi.puistonen@slu.fi, tel. +358 9 3481 2600.

At the Service of ENGSO between 1995 –2005: from London to Riga

When ENGSO elected its first Executive Committee in 1995, I was entrusted with the position of the Secretary General. I still remember how proud I was that as a woman I had made it to the Board of a European sports organisation and thus increased - although only by a split of a percentage - the amount of women in leadership positions.

At the ENGSO General Assembly in Riga this year ENGSO celebrated its 10th anniversary as a formal organisation and I, who would finish my third and last possible term as a Secretary General, had the pleasure to also conclude ten years of activities on behalf and at the service of ENGSO. It was a whole decade of exciting developments in Europe, which also had significant effects for sport. If you look into the history of ENGSO, you can see what have been the most important achievements and work results so far.

I would like express my sincere thanks to ENGSO, to all my former colleagues in the Executive Committee, in particular ENGSO President Bengt Sevelius, and all delegates and friends of the ENGSO member organisations for their trust and support.

Working for ENGSO has been a wonderful time for me, thanks to your excellent co-operation and your warm friendship, which I had the privilege to enjoy during my time as your Secretary General!

Wishing ENGSO and each and everyone of you the best of success for the future, I remain

Yours in friendship
Marlis Rydzy-Götz
Secretary General of
ENGSO 1995 – 2005



After 10 years of engaged, successful and highly respected work, the ENGSO Secretary General, Ms. Marlis Rydzy-Götz, left her position. I do hope that she did feel our great appreciation for her ENGSO-devoted work!

Mr. Pedrag Manojlovic, Secretary General of the Olympic Committee of Serbia and Montenegro, was elected as her successor. I really look forward to our further co-operation!

Bengt Sevelius
ENGSO President

New Office of ENGSO Secretariat in Belgrade

The new ENGSO Secretariat is situated in the downtown Belgrade, together with the office of the Association of Sports of Serbia and Montenegro and offices of many National Federations.



The new numbers of the ENGSO Secretariat to be used are:

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For all information, please use the above numbers or the following e-mails:

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- Ms. Snezana Misis, Secretary: s.misis@eunet.yu.

7th European Women and Sport Conference

The 7th European Women and Sport Conference under the headline "Good governance in Sport - sport as a role model for the new civil society- will be staged during the weekend of March 24-26, 2006 in Vienna.

The early date is connected with the fact that Austria will preside the European Union - and it was possible to have "Women and Sport" as an official theme of this presidency. This in turn means that the conference will be an official part of the governments programme. More info on the conference is available at www.ews-online.org

Karin Mattsson new head of Swedish sport

33 year old Ms Karin Mattsson has been unanimously elected as president of the Swedish Sports Confederation. The historic event took place at the general assembly in Västerås May 22.



Karin Mattsson has been a member of the Confederation's Executive Committee since 1995. Since 2001 she has been the vice-president. Karin Mattsson is the first female chairperson in the over one hundred years long history of the Swedish Sports Confederation. Apart from a couple of princes from the royal family in the early years she is also by far the youngest.

Henri Sérandour re-elected as president of the CNOSF

The General Assembly of the CNOSF was held on the 11th of May in Paris. During this meeting, Henri Sérandour has been re-elected for his fourth four-year mandate.

The French sports movement focuses now its efforts on the last steps to be done for the candidacy of Paris to the games of 2012. .

