

## Changes in the European Sports Political Field – the Lisbon Treaty and competence for Sport

An active ENGSO year 2009 is coming into its end. The Lisbon Treaty came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2009 and was a significant date for the European sports policy. Sport has received an EU competence for the first time. The article 165 of the Treaty says: "The European Union shall contribute to the promotion of sporting issues, while taking into account the specific nature of sport, its structure based on voluntary activity and its social and educational function". The European Commission will launch both a Communication on sport and a proposal for the upcoming EU sports program next year. In this process the Commission has promised to ensure broad consultation with the European sports movement. This structural dialogue will be an important part of ENGSO activities in 2010.

Let me turn to the end of this year. The ENGSO Forum was held in the beautiful city of Oeiras in Portugal on 28-30 October. ENGSO project EU:Sport:Future had its final conference with the panel discussions on sport's role in health, education, volunteering, employment and society. Some 100 participants, citizens, sport officials and civil servants discussed the results of the EU wide discussion project on the future of sport in Europe. Discussions during the conference were lively and it was interesting to hear the views of participants from different organisations. Finally, the participants adopted the final declaration providing recommendations for the future EU sport policy. I want to warmly thank our partner organisations from Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Hungary, Slovenia and United Kingdom for participating in this project. Heartfelt thanks to the whole project management team: Sophie Christ, Andrea Greis and Michael Trinker.

In the framework of the ENGSO Forum the Sport for All Associations had the Round Table Meeting which was a good restart for the cooperation after few years break. You can read more about this meeting from the report in this newsletter. The ENGSO Forum dealt with the Sport and Social Inclusion. We heard an interesting example from the local Portuguese level. Women and sport were on the agenda as well and we were happy to hear that ENGSO had been successful in the European Union 2009 Preparatory Actions in the field of sport. Michal Krejza, Head of Sport Unit of the European Commission, announced that ENGSO Project WILD (Women's International Leadership Development) had been granted.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Portuguese organisers, the Portuguese Sports Confederation for their excellent organisation and hosting of the ENGSO Forum 2009. Portugal has always been an exemplary ENGSO member: active and helpful whenever it's needed. One reason which pleased me to be in Oeiras was the cooperation which the Portuguese Sports Confederation has with their local actors. It is grassroots sport at its best. In addition, of course the beautiful surroundings, sunshine and warmth offered a perfect place for ENGSO Forum. Portuguese organisers had done their best and I want to thank them for this unforgettable event.

With these words I thank all our members and partners for all the support and your activity in 2009.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2010!



Birgitta Kervinen

ENGSO President

# 12TH ENGSO FORUM IN LISBON



For those who had the chance to be there, warm Portugal offered even warmer ENGSO events that caused intense change of weather and provided sunshine for all days of our stay in Linda-a-Velha, lovely outskirts of Lisbon, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

Starting with ENGSO ExCom, EU Working Group and Policy Review Working Group Meetings, the atmosphere heated with the Round Table of Sports for All organisations Meeting. There, the major organisations of the Sports for All sector gathered after some time to consider their position in the light of the Lisbon Treaty. It seems that the sun caused more boiling of different opinions around the same issue with the same mission and the same goal. The conclusions made were a small step forward, but with a grand wish to gather again and be joined around that same goal.

It was the compact building and isolated position of the venue offered higher level of unity and joint action, providing to those tricked by the sun, deep enjoyment of all the benefices of the swimming pool (and hope that no one caught any of the A H1N1 buggies).

The temperatures under the sun were certainly the hardest for our hosts, the great Portuguese Team, headed by the President of the Portuguese Sports Confederation, Mr. Carlos Paula Cardoso. We are sure that Rita Nunes, Paulo Ferreira, Gerson Melo, Ana Rodrigues and Eduarda Reis Pinto spent many sleepless nights and sunny days changing the colour of skin in accordance with various combinations ENGSO had in organisation of the whole event (with more than 100 participants from more than 25 countries!). It may be that those left without transportation at the airport were not of the same opinion, but...

The Final Conference of EU:Sport:Future brought on the declaration that will be forwarded to the European Parliament, governments of the 27 EU Member States and European and national sport umbrella organisations. The declaration voiced the wish of European citizens for sport and physical activities to be recognized as one of the key factors in European society, having huge impact on the life of all (volunteering, health, societal role of sport, education and employment, etc.) that should be supported by

the European Union, as well as the wish to have 2014 be the European Year of Sport and Physical Activity.

The sun had to shine again after the presentations of the EU and CoE, confirming their continuous support in realization of our projects. It is a nice feeling that ENGSO is a Pan-European organisation that due to its high profiled members and representatives succeeds in responding to extensive requirements of EU and Sport in Future in Europe, with projects ENTER!, WILD, social inclusion and integration through sports, and volunteering for the Year of Volunteering 2011, now that the sport will become an integral part of, the Treaty and of interest for all citizens of Europe and the decision-makers.

The most critical moments were just before the beginning of the final day of the Forum, when the most responsible for the organisation of the ENGSO Forum were lost in the fog in front of the Belem Tower. However, the fog had to give in to the wonderful sunshine the next day in the Park of Poets and lovely downtown Lisbon.

Unfortunately, there were those members from other parts of Europe were unable to join us for all they could profit during these different events of the Forum, including the unforgettable GALA and all the wonderful sports people in the amazing Casino of Estoril.

If there was any impression that the ExCom members were under some kind of pressure and a bit concerned, it is definitely due to the fact they were too busy with the Activities Plans, anxious not to miss all that would fit into immeasurable requirements of the ENGSO General Assembly.

Finally, we are sure that the ENGSO Forum Current European Sports Policy and EU:Sport:Future participants caused great problems to the airline companies due to infinitely strange aromas that spread from the range of baccalaos (cod fish), cheeses and all the other goodies carried in the luggage and the participants themselves.

*Predrag Manojlovic  
Secretary General*



# EU:SPORT:FUTURE Declaration calls for a European Year of Sport and Physical Activity in 2014



Some 100 citizens, sport officials, civil servants from national ministries and the EU as well as athletes discussed the results of the EU-wide discussion project on the future of sport in Europe, entitled "EU:SPORT:FUTURE" and organised in Oeiras, Portugal, on 30<sup>th</sup> October, in the framework of the 12<sup>th</sup> ENGSO Forum.

Birgitta Kervinen, ENGSO President, announced at the closing of the conference: "The EU:SPORT:FUTURE declaration, being the result of the active involvement of more than 1000 participants in the online questionnaire, workshops and final conference, has been adopted unanimously by the seven project partners. We now hope that the EU will take these recommendations into consideration when it starts discussing the shaping of the EU sport policy."

When deliberating on the EU:SPORT:FUTURE declaration a French participant stated: "It's high time for the European Union to deal with sport and to have launched this discussion project and reflection on the future of sport in Europe. Let's hope that these discussions on the future of sport in Europe will not stop but continue in this productive way."

The EU:SPORT:FUTURE participants recommend to declare 2014 as the European Year of Sport and Physical Activity who considered the simultaneous start of the European Sport Programme in 2014 – ten years after the European Year of Education through

Sport 2004 – as a particular boost for the promotion of sport and its positive effects on society at EU level. Furthermore, networks and exchange of good practices in various sport fields (volunteering, health, societal role of sport, education and employment) should be supported by the European Union.

The EU:SPORT:FUTURE declaration will be forwarded to the European Parliament, governments of the 27 EU Member States and European and national sport umbrella organisations.

The EU:SPORT:FUTURE project was a discussion project on the future of sport in Europe in view of the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty including the article on sport. The project focused on five topics: health, volunteering, society, employment and education. Citizens developed during the workshops ideas what the EU shall do in these fields, once it has gained the sport competence through the legal recognition of sport in the Lisbon Treaty.

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## First meeting of the Policy Review Working Group

During the ENGSO Forum in Oeiras, Portugal, the new Policy Review Working Group met for the first time. The meeting was intended to outline and define the work ahead. Analysing the current framework of ENGSO's General Statutes and existing Strategic Plan of 2007-2011, new doors for future functions, policy and role, of ENGSO were incentively discussed.

The Working Group was unanimous in emphasising the importance of focus on ENGSO members needs and interests, and how ENGSO can as an umbrella sports body assist them to reach their objectives, domestically and internationally. The diversity of the members was discussed, as the general diversity of European sport challenges. The Working Group has had good cooperation and support by the ENGSO ExCom in it's activities.

The next meeting of the Policy Review Working Group is scheduled to take place in January / February 2010, further processing the input of members' interests at pan-European level, while properly optimising the structural location of ENGSO for being effective as a strong representative for the members.

# SPORT FOR ALL ROUND TABLE MEETING WAS HELD IN THE CONTEXT OF 12TH ENGSO FORUM

Since the new events on the sport political scene of Europe have taken place, among others, the White Paper of Sport, EU Physical Activities Guidelines, ratification of the Lisbon Treaty that finally give space to sport, as well as the possible decision on the sport budget line, many opportunities have opened. The challenges within the Sport for All are indeed great and many topics of joint interest can be proposed within the sport political matters. That is why ENGSO decided to benefit from the opportunity of the 12th Forum in Portugal to reactivate the Sport for All Round Table Meeting. Meeting was held on Thursday 29 October 2009, day before the opening of the ENGSO FORUM in Oeiras.

Representatives of major European and International Sport for All Organisations and the Enlarged Partial Agreement of Sport representative were invited to the meeting. Following Associations attended: Confédération Sportive Internationale du Travail (CSIT), European Federation for Company Sports, European Sport for All Network (ESFAN), European Women and Sport (EWS), European Union Sport for All, INATEL, International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), The Association for International Sport for All (TAFISA) and European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation (ENGSO) as a host.

Objective of the meeting was safeguarding the position of Sport for All organisations and their activities and constructive cooperation through discussions, joint projects and programmes. In the presentation of their organisations, the Sport for All representatives provided information on their numerous activities in the field of Sport for All reflecting their different areas of focus but



having the same aim. They referred to effective projects that do need more attention of European Policy makers.

In the three Working Groups were discussed lobbying for Sport for All organizations, concrete projects, and were given the task to find common targets, observe the issues of joint interest, create concrete proposals of actions, support Sport for All organisations, To strengthen and further improve and promote the role of Sport for All Organisations throughout Europe, in spite of certain differences in outlooks on discussed topics, as well as interests of the participants regarding the joint actions which do have one and single aim, the following decisions were made:

- All parties agree to transform the discussion and papers into action and go step forward with concrete activities and projects with responsibility to the stakeholders on one hand and to EU and EPAS as leading European Policy makers on the other;
- An interim (6-month) assessment report with results and the progress reported to all stakeholders should be drafted;
- Possibility for circulation and making use of available information and communication of all stakeholders is to be provided;
- Round Table Meeting are to continue, the next being during the 13th ENGSO Forum, October 2010, in Croatia. Participants agreed to have the Round Table meeting earlier (on circulation basis) in case proposals for other venues during other Sport for All Organisations events are received;
- Ad-hoc meeting shall be organized in accordance with the need to establish joint platform whenever such need should occur.

*S.Misic, J.Bohac, H.Pekkola*



## ENGSO CALENDER

### ENGSO ExComs

- 79th ENGSO Executive Committee meeting – Berlin 29-30 January 2010
- 80th ENGSO Executive Committee meeting – Sarajevo (tbc.) 19-21, 2010
- 81st ENGSO Executive Committee meeting – Belgrade, April, 2010
- 82nd ENGSO Executive Committee meeting – Belgrade, May 13, 2010

### ENGSO General Assembly

- 18th ENGSO General Assembly – Belgrade, 14-16 May 2010

### ENGSO Youth

- ENGSO Youth Committee meeting - Berlin, 12-13 December 2009
- ENGSO Youth Committee meeting - Vienna, 26-28 February 2010
- ENGSO Youth study session in coop. with Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 19–25 April 2010
- ENGSO Youth Assembly/Youth Forum, Belgrade, 14-16 May 2010

### ENGSO Forum

- 13th ENGSO FORUM – Croatia, October 2010

### Other meetings

- EU Sport Directors Meeting - Barcelona, 25-26 February, 2010
- 2nd EU Sport Forum – Madrid, 19-20 April 2010

## WILD wins EU backing



ENGSO's WILD programme has been named as one of 18 successful projects which will receive European funding in 2010-11 under the preparatory actions in the field of sport. The project aims to increase representation by women in leadership positions in sport and build the competence and confidence of women in decision-making positions. The project will see potential leaders across the project partners upskilled and also provide an electronic platform and information library for future projects. The project partners come from the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Sweden and the UK. More information on the successful projects can be found at the Commission's website: [http://ec.europa.eu/sport/preparatory\\_actions/doc866\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/sport/preparatory_actions/doc866_en.htm).

*James MacDougall*

CCPR

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**ENGSO.eu**

European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation



## ENGSOEDU Network is ready to launch

Among the discussions at the last ENGSO Forum, recently held in Portugal, the importance of education and sport was confirmed, especially dual careers and educational programmes for volunteers in sport, as well as many other issues such as legislative regulation, the sport qualification framework, sharing best practice, etc.

After several years of preparation, finally we are ready to run the first ENGSO Network – ENGSOEDU Network with the following main aims in the first phase; to strength the internal cooperation between ENGSO experts in order to develop knowledge and exchange good practice concerning education and sport and actual educational programme as well as to consider the problems relating to the education of young sportsmen and sportswomen involved in competitive sports.

At this moment Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Netherlands, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and ENGSO Youth as well as its 18 experts in education and sport have confirmed their involvement in the Network.

ENGSOEDU shares knowledge and information among the experts via following tools; web based internal discussion Forum, workshops promoting the educational value of sport and showcasing examples of good practice (ENGSO Forum), voluntary actions on national level and dissemination about the Network activities on national and ENGSO website.

Following several months, the experts will be registered to the Network and we are going to endeavour to start with regular communication with the aim to define the working programme for 2010 till 2011.

Thank you very much to all ENGSO members who are supporting the first ENGSO Network!

*Romana Caput-Jogunica*

*ExCom member*

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