

ENGSO EU Seminar
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International Convention on Fight against the Manipulation of Sport Results

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- ***Cheating at gambling and match fixing is the biggest threat facing the future of sport in Europe”***

(Michel Platini 3/2014)

Manipulation of Sport Results

- **Global problem – Global solution**

- ❖ not new but it is an increasing problem for sport globally
- ❖ the growth of internet betting means the size of the industry is much greater
- ❖ different betting formulas and in-play betting have brought serious consequences for sport
- ❖ implications for sport of criminal involvement in sports betting - links between sport and crime are dangerously close.

- **Complex issue – not rocket science**

- ❖ complex global business with millions of dollars bet via a network of operators, often unregulated.

International Convention to Combat the Manipulation of Sports Competitions

EPAS drafting group:

- **51 delegations** (incl. Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand) and EU
- **Institutions and international organisations;**
 - UNODC, Interpol, UNESCO, CDPC, T-PD, T-RV, Moneyval, Greco and CCPE.
- **Consulting sport movement and betting market:**
 - IOC, UEFA, WLA/EL, RGA/EGBA/ESSA

Convention

Article 1 – Purpose and main objectives

1. The purpose of this Convention is to combat manipulation of sport competitions in order to protect the integrity of sport and sports ethics in accordance with the principle of the autonomy of sport.

2. For this purpose, the main objectives of this Convention are:
 - a) to prevent, detect and sanction national or transnational manipulation of national and international sport competitions;
 - b) to promote national and international cooperation against manipulation of sport competitions between the public authorities concerned, as well as with organisations involved in sports and in sports betting.

Convention - Key areas

- **prevention**
 - national cooperation, education, awareness raising
 - measures of sports organisations and competition organisers
- **law enforcement;**
 - criminalizations, sanctions, cooperation
- **international co-operation measures;**
- **exchange of information;**
- **follow-up to the convention.**

Convention - *“Manipulation of sports competitions”*

Article 3 – Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention:

“Manipulation of sports competitions” means an intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of sports competition and to obtain an undue advantage for oneself or for others.

Convention - “*Sports betting*”

Article 3 – Definitions

“*Sports betting*” means any wagering of a stake of monetary value in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future and uncertain occurrence related to a sports competition. In particular:

- a) “*illegal sports betting*” means all sports betting activity whose type or operator is not allowed under the applicable law of the jurisdiction where the consumer is located;

Convention – "Sports organisation"

Article 3; Definitions

- "Sports organisation" means any organisation which governs sport or one particular sport, and which appears on the list adopted by the Convention Follow-up Committee in accordance with Article 31.2, as well as its continental and national affiliated organizations, if necessary.
- "Competitions organiser" means any sports organisation or any other person, irrespective of their legal form, which organises sports competitions.

Convention - Sport organisations

Article 7

Encourage sports organisations and competition organisers to adopt and implement

- rules to combat manipulations
- good governance principles
- appropriate measures relating to effective monitoring, reporting, mechanisms for disclosure, awareness raising, appointment of officials (e.g. referees)

and to apply

- disciplinary sanctions and measures to infringement of their internal rules

and to ensure

- mutual recognition and enforcement of sanctions (by other sport organisations)

Article 8 Measures regarding the financing of sports organisations

- transparency - funding - withholding support

Next steps – fast track

- **COE/Parliamentary Assembly – report**
 - AD/Cult approved the report, 11 April
 - PACE adopts the report, 22 May
- **COE/Committee of Ministers - adoption**
 - GR-C - approval of the convention, 17 June
 - Deputies adopt the convention, 9 July
- **Ministerial Meeting - signatures**
 - Magglingen 18 September

Thank you!