



**Recommendation 2120 (2018)<sup>1</sup>**

Provisional version

## Working towards a framework for modern sports governance

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly, referring to its [Resolution 2199 \(2018\)](#) on working towards a framework for modern sports governance, stresses the need to set up a global framework for good governance in sport that would respect the principles of democracy, transparency, accountability and integrity and uphold the sports ethics values of fair-play, respect for human rights and human dignity, solidarity, diversity and rejection of any form of discrimination.
2. The Assembly welcomes the final resolutions of the 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Budapest, 28-30 November 2016), notably the recommendations made in the Resolution “Towards better governance in sport through enhanced co-operation between governmental bodies and stakeholders in sport”, and the action already taken thereupon.
3. In this context, the Assembly commends the work which is already carried out by the Council of Europe’s Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS); in particular, it welcomes the elaboration of a new Committee of Ministers’ recommendation to member States on the promotion of good governance in sport, the collection and publication of good practices in sports governance and the creation of a database on alleged cases of corruption. It calls on the Committee of Ministers to urge all member States to join EPAS.
4. It further commends the role of the Council of Europe, notably through the active involvement of EPAS in setting up the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) and in assuming leadership of its Task Force on compliance with good governance principles in the context of sport.
5. In light of the above, the Assembly calls on the Committee of Ministers:
  - 5.1. as regards improving the legislative framework, to:
    - 5.1.1. take into consideration the Assembly’s recommendations as outlined in paragraph 17 of [Resolution 2199 \(2018\)](#) in the preparation of the Committee of Ministers’ recommendation to member States on the promotion of good governance in sport, and in particular, urge all member States not to tolerate any impunity and to take measures to be able to prosecute and sanction corrupt behaviour in the context of sport;
    - 5.1.2. as a further step, consider elaborating a Council of Europe convention on good governance in sport in order to complement the Organisation’s existing conventional basis relating to sports ethics and the fight against corruption and fraud, and enable efficient monitoring of compliance with the convention;
  - 5.2. as regards the harmonisation of standards of sports governance, to take the lead within IPACS in:
    - 5.2.1. promoting the elaboration of common good governance standards, taking into account the comparative study of 15 major codes and standards on good governance in sport presented in the Appendix to this resolution;

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1. *Assembly debate* on 24 January 2018 (5th Sitting) (see [Doc. 14464](#) and [addendum](#), report of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, rapporteur: Mr Mogens Jensen). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 24 January 2018 (5th Sitting).



- 5.2.2. setting up a multi-stakeholder round table within the Task Force on Good Governance in Sport, including but not limited to the 15 international and national bodies responsible for the codes and standards mentioned in the above-mentioned study, with a view to launching discussions on elaborating an certification standards of the International Standardization Organisation (ISO) on governance of sports organisations;
- 5.3. as regards compliance with standards, to:
  - 5.3.1. introduce monitoring of the recommendation to member States on the promotion of good governance in sport, including systematic review system of the national policies of good governance in sport and their implementation, and produce a dashboard of the available monitoring results with a view to their critical analysis;
  - 5.3.2. support, at international level, the setting up of a professional and independent ethics rating system of sports organisations;
- 5.4. as regards knowledge-sharing and participation in multi-stakeholder platforms, ask EPAS to:
  - 5.4.1. continue collecting information on best practices and to create online resources that are regularly updated, thereby allowing the Council of Europe to assume the role of an international clearing house on this matter;
  - 5.4.2. conduct trend analyses, based on the collection of alleged cases of corruption in sport, on information collected by the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and on the monitoring dashboard, and submit them to it, together with proposals, once a year;
  - 5.4.3. participate actively in the work of all relevant multi-stakeholder platforms on sports governance and integrity.