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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding between Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Serbia to host either the Euro 2028 championship or the 2030 World Cup
- Information from the Bulgarian, Greek and Romanian delegations

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Bulgarian, Greek and Romanian delegations on the above subject, which has been placed under 'Any other business' on the agenda for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 22 and 23 May 2019.

Information note from the Bulgarian, Greek and Romanian delegations concerning the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Serbia to host either the Euro 2028 championship or the 2030 World Cup

The hosting of major sporting events is an important priority on the Sport policy agenda of the EU and its Member States. The topic was discussed by the EU Ministers responsible for Sport at the EYCS Council meeting in November 2018. Major sporting events can contribute to the objectives of growth, employment, conflict prevention, tourism promotion, domestic and foreign investments and increased competitiveness.

Europe has a long and successful tradition in hosting major sporting events. Shared hosting, in particular, can be an effective manner to promote cooperation between EU Member States, but also third states and other relevant organisations and stakeholders, while ensuring a high level of efficiency.

In this context, we would like to inform the delegations that on 13 April 2019, the Ministers responsible for Sport and representatives of the Football Federations of Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Serbia held a working meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece. Minister of Youth and Sports of Bulgaria, Krasen Krlev, Deputy Minister of Culture and Sports of Greece, George Vasiliadis, Minister of Youth and Sports of Serbia, Vanja Udovicic and the Minister of Youth and Sports of Romania, Constantin-Bogdan Matei, signed, on behalf of their respective governments a Memorandum of Understanding to prepare a bid to jointly host either the Euro 2028 championship or the 2030 World Cup. At the meeting, a joint organising committee was formally established and each of the four countries made specific proposals regarding the cities and stadiums that could be included in the application, which constitutes a concrete step in the ongoing coordination.