



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 31 October 2013**

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**SPORT 92**

**NOTE**

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from: General Secretariat of the Council  
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

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Subject: Good governance in sport  
- *Policy debate*  
(Public debate pursuant to Article 8(2) CRP [proposed by the Presidency])

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Following consultation of the Working Party on Sport, the Presidency has drawn up the attached discussion paper as the basis for the policy debate on the above subject at the EYCS Council meeting on 25-26 November 2013.

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# **Good governance in sport**

## **Presidency discussion paper**

Good Governance in sport has become an increasingly important issue for the sports movement and public authorities, both at national and international level, and is crucial for the further development of the sport sector. At the European level governance is defined as the framework and culture within which a sports body sets policy, delivers its strategic objectives, engages with stakeholders, monitors performance, evaluates and manages risk and reports to its constituents on its activities and progress including the delivery of effective, sustainable and proportionate sports policy and regulation. As was clear from the policy debate held at the meeting of the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council on 29 November 2011, good governance is considered by many as a precondition for the autonomy and self-regulation of sport organizations.

The European Union Work Plan for Sport for 2011-2014 identifies integrity of sport, in particular the promotion of Good Governance, as a priority theme for European Union level cooperation in sport, and establishes an expert group to deal with the subject. The work of this group has led to the preparation of a set of Good Governance principles which can be found in document 14183/13. These principles were discussed with the sports movement in the context of the EU Sport Forum in Vilnius, Lithuania on 30 September and 1 October 2013.

Given the importance of the matter, the Presidency has decided to allow European Union Sports Ministers to give their views on good governance in sport in the light of the work of the expert group, in the context of a policy debate at the EYCS Council on 26 November 2013.

**During the debate Ministers will be invited to respond to the following questions:**

- **Are Member States content with the speed of progress within the sport movement in improving governance and implementing Good Governance principles?**
  - **What can governments do in this respect?**
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