

Brussels, 14 May 2024 (OR. en)

9771/24

SPORT 50 SAN 271 JEUN 105 SOC 349 EDUC 163 SUSTDEV 61 ENV 502 GENDER 97 COH 30

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the European Union Work Plan for Sport (1 July 2024 – 31 December 2027)

Delegations will find attached the resolution, approved by the Council (Education, Youth, Culture and <u>Sport</u>) at its meeting on 13-14 May 2024.

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(1 July 2024 – 31 December 2027)

THE COUNCIL AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL.

- 1. RECALLING Article 6 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), according to which sport is an area where action at European Union (EU) level should support, coordinate and supplement the actions of Member States.
- 2. RECALLING Article 165 (1) TFEU, according to which the Union shall contribute to the promotion of European sporting issues, while taking account of the specific nature of sport, its structures based on voluntary activity and its social and educational function.
- 3. RECALLING Article 165 (2) TFEU, according to which Union action shall be aimed at developing the European dimension in sport, by promoting fairness and openness in sporting competitions and cooperation between bodies responsible for sports, and by protecting the physical and moral integrity of sportsmen and sportswomen, especially the youngest sportsmen and sportswomen.

- 4. RECOGNISING that sport could help to achieve the EU's overall political priorities, and in particular the goals of other policy areas such as education, health, youth, culture, social affairs, inclusion, equality, gender equality, urban and rural development, transport, environment, tourism, employment, innovation, sustainability, digitalisation and the economy; and that those policy areas could support the promotion of sport based on cross-sectoral cooperation.
- 5. UNDERSCORING that, in accordance with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, sport is also an important enabler of sustainable development¹ and can therefore help to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 6. ACKNOWLEDGING the Revised European Sports Charter of the Council of Europe which aims to enable every individual to participate in sport and, in particular, ensures that everyone has the opportunity to take part in sport in a safe, secure and healthy environment².
- 7. RECALLING the resolutions of the Council on the European Union Work Plans for Sport 2011-2014³, 2014-2017⁴, 2017-2020⁵ and 2021-2024⁶.

United Nations, General Assembly, Resolution A/RES/70/1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 37, 25 September 2015.

Revised European Sports Charter Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)5. Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 October 2021 at the 1414th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, Article 1(1)(b).

³ OJ C 162, 1.06.2011, p. 1.

⁴ OJ C 183, 14.06.2014, p. 12.

⁵ OJ C 189, 15.06.2017, p. 5.

OJ C 419, 4.12.2020, p. 1.

- 8. WELCOMING the outcomes of the implementation of the EU Work Plan for Sport 2021-2024, as well as the Commission report on its implementation and relevance.
- 9. NOTING the results of the Special Eurobarometer 525 on 'sport and physical activity'⁷, the recommendations of the High-Level Group on Gender Equality in Sport⁸, the outcomes of the expert groups on green sport and on strengthening the recovery and the crisis resilience of the sports sector during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the ongoing work on the harmonisation of sport statistics and data in the European Union.
- 10. UNDERLINING the global challenges that also impact sport, such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, and geopolitical tensions influencing sports competitions.
- 11. NOTING the legal cases before the European Court of Justice which are increasing the visibility and relevance of the European dimension in sport.
- 12. WELCOMING the introduction of the Key Action 1 under the Erasmus+ sport actions related to the mobility of staff working in sports organisations, primarily in grassroots sports, who are given the opportunity to improve their competences and qualifications and to acquire new skills by spending a period of time abroad.

European Commission, Special Eurobarometer 525, 'Sport and Physical Activity (2022)', 2268/SP525, Full report, September 2022.

European Commission, 'Towards more gender equality in sport, recommendations and action plan from the High-Level Group on Gender Equality in Sport', 2022.

13. ACKNOWLEDGING the need for continuous cooperation with other EU institutions and bodies, the sports movement and other relevant stakeholders, as well as with competent international governmental and non-governmental organisations, such as the Council of Europe (CoE), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

ESTABLISH A EUROPEAN UNION WORK PLAN FOR SPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JULY 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2027

- 14. The EU Work Plan focuses on the following priority areas:
 - Integrity and values in sport.
 - Socio-economic and sustainable dimensions of sport.
 - Participation in sport and health-enhancing physical activity.

The specific key topics, themes, goals, working formats, possible outcomes, target dates and responsibilities are set out and explained in Annexes I and II to this document.

15. The GUIDING OBJECTIVES of this European Union Work Plan for Sport (hereinafter, the EU Work Plan) are to:

In terms of EU sport policy,

- Strengthen safe sport, integrity and value-based sport in the EU.
- Support a sustainable and evidence-informed sports policy.
- Increase participation in sport and health-enhancing physical activity at all ages and improve accessibility for vulnerable groups, in order to promote an active and environmentally-friendly lifestyle, social cohesion and active citizenship.
- Support voluntary-based grassroots sport in order to increase such participation in sport and health-enhancing physical activity.
- Support, further explore and continue on-going discussions on the key features of a European Sport Model.
- Strengthen and promote good governance in sport.
- Encourage investment in the sports sector, including in sustainable and accessible sports and sports-recreational infrastructures, including with a view to limiting the carbon footprint of the sector.
- Promote, through cross-sectoral cooperation, awareness of sports tourism which can play a key role in the sustainable development of the sector and in building its resilience.

- Support work on innovation and digitalisation in sport as a driver for health,
 performance, economic development and a sustainable sports sector.
- Strengthen the resilience of the sports sector for future challenges and crises, following the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ensure, through cross-sectoral cooperation, the awareness of other EU policy domains
 of the important contribution that sport can make to Europe's social and sustainable
 growth, to European citizens' health, and to achieving the SDGs, while in the meantime
 also considering the impact that other EU policies can have on the sports sector.
- Support and enable, as appropriate, the full implementation of the Erasmus+ programme
 in the field of sport.

In terms of governance and cooperation,

- Strengthen the application and implementation of the EU structured dialogue on sport,
 in line with the 2017 Council resolution and its main structures⁹:
 - a) the EU Sport Forum;
 - b) the EU high-level structured dialogue in the margins of the meeting of the Council of the EU;
 - c) the EU operational-level structured dialogue on sport in the margins of the meeting of the EU Sports Directors or other informal Presidency events.
- Strengthen the international dimension of the EU sport policy, especially through exchanges and collaboration on current sports policy issues and challenges also with governments and stakeholders outside the EU, and through increased cooperation with the Council of Europe.
- Ensure continuity and provide a follow-up to the previous four EU Work Plans for Sport
 and to other sports-related EU documents, such as Council conclusions and resolutions.
- Reinforce the exchange of knowledge and experience between the EU Member States and the Commission.
- 16. This EU Work Plan is a flexible instrument. Subsequent changes or amendments may become necessary to respond in a timely manner to upcoming or unexpected developments and to pressing issues in the field of sport and physical activity, while taking into account the priorities of future presidencies of the Council.

Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on further developing the EU Structured Dialogue on Sport, OJ C 425, 12.12.2017, p. 1.

INVITE THE MEMBER STATES TO

- 17. Engage in the implementation of this EU Work Plan and, where appropriate, contribute with their expertise and experience to the various working formats.
- 18. Take into account the knowledge and outcomes achieved in the implementation of this EU Work Plan when developing sports or other relevant policies at national and sub-national level, while respecting the principle of subsidiarity and the autonomy of sport.
- 19. Inform, and where appropriate, cooperate with the national sports movement and other relevant stakeholders on the progress of the implementation of this EU Work Plan and disseminate the outcomes, in order to ensure the relevance and visibility of the activities.
- 20. Disseminate the relevant aspects of the work of the Council in relation to the sports movement and relevant stakeholders in order to ensure the relevance and visibility of its activities, as well as to improve follow-up on the recommendations or invitations issued by the Council to the sports movement and other stakeholders.

INVITE THE PRESIDENCIES OF THE COUNCIL TO

- 21. Take this EU Work Plan into account when developing their programme, enable information exchange on the progress of its implementation within the Working Party on Sport and build upon the outcomes already achieved.
- 22. Consider organising meetings, on the basis of the EU structured dialogue on sport, with relevant representatives of the sports movement and other sports stakeholders. This can be done, for instance, by exchanging information on the implementation of this EU Work Plan, including on the future work of the Council (e.g. possible ways to contribute to upcoming Council documents), discussing current sports policy issues and challenges, as well as by exploring mutual ambitions and providing information on the planned priorities of incoming Council presidencies.
- 23. Use, when appropriate, the outcomes, deliverables and recommendations from this Work Plan's working formats to support their work and to give better visibility to the activities of the Council and the Commission in the field of sport.
- 24. At the end of the term covered by the present resolution, and on the basis of a report to be prepared by the Commission, propose a new EU Work Plan for the next period, if appropriate.

INVITE THE COMMISSION TO

- 25. Engage, together with the Member States, the sports movement and other relevant stakeholders, in implementing this EU Work Plan and support the Member States with its expertise and experience from all relevant policy sectors, ensuring synergies where possible, in accordance with Annexes I and II to this Resolution.
- 26. Develop a new long-term strategic document on the future of EU sport policy, including on promoting the key features of a European Sport Model¹⁰ and on sport mainstreaming into other EU policies, by the end of 2026.
- 27. When appropriate, propose revision of the existing policy documents, such as the 2013 recommendation of the Council on promoting health-enhancing physical activity across sectors (HEPA)¹¹.
- 28. Contribute to evidence-informed policies in the EU and its Member States, in particular through support for the organisation of peer-learning activities, the creation of other tools for exchanging good practices and data between the Member States and relevant stakeholders, and, when appropriate, through studies and surveys.
- 29. Continue, on a regular basis, to inform and consult the Member States, the sports movement and other relevant stakeholders about ongoing and planned initiatives and existing funding opportunities in the area of sport as well as in other EU policy areas relevant to sport.

The key features of a European Sport Model are set out in the Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the key features of a European Sport Model, OJ C 501, 13.12.2021, p. 1.

Council recommendation of 26 November 2013 on promoting health-enhancing physical activity across sectors, OJ C 354, 4.12.2013, p. 1.

- 30. Provide Member States with up-to-date information, when possible, on other EU policies and programmes and their potential impact on the sports sector, as well as with a general overview of the Erasmus+ projects relevant to the key topics of this Work Plan.
- 31. Consult, when appropriate, Member States in advance on the implementation of specific EU Work Plan initiatives, in particular with a view to monitoring the progress of the initiatives.
- 32. Consider joint methods on the basis of which Member States, the European Commission and relevant stakeholders can convene and oversee the implementation of the EU Work Plan, as well as monitor progress and discuss key sports policy issues.
- 33. Promote the mainstreaming of sport and physical activity in other EU policy areas and continue to promote synergies between sport and other EU policies.
- 34. Disseminate the knowledge and the outcomes achieved in the implementation of this EU Work Plan in order to ensure the practical relevance and visibility of the activities.
- 35. Consider providing an online platform to access reports, exchange good practices or relevant documents and further facilitate information-sharing and networking between Member States, including by using existing IT collaborative tools.
- 36. Submit, during the first half of 2027 and on the basis of voluntary contributions from Member States, the sports movement and relevant stakeholders, a report on the implementation and relevance of this EU Work Plan. This report will be the basis for the preparation of a successor EU Work Plan during the second half of 2027.

INVITE THE SPORTS MOVEMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS TO

- 37. Engage with the Member States and the Commission in the implementation of this EU Work Plan and contribute with their expertise and experience to the various working formats.
- 38. Disseminate the outcomes achieved in the implementation of this EU Work Plan and take them into account in their own activities.

Priority area I: Integrity and values in sport

Key topic	Theme	Goal	Working format	(poss.) Output / target	Leader(s)
				date	
Safe environment in sport ¹²	Prevention of harassment, abuse and violence, including sexual violence and any form of discrimination	- Awareness-raising- Exchange of best practices- Knowledge-building	Cooperation with the Council of Europe: EU joint project 'Balance S4 Strengthening the Safety and Service Pillars of the Saint Denis Convention'	2024-2025	Commission, Member States
Fight against hate speech	 Influence of social media and prevention of online verbal abuse Manifestations of verbal and physical violence during sporting events 	- Awareness-raising- Exchange of best practices- Knowledge-building	OMC group	To be decided	Member States, Commission

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Article 165 (2) TFEU: 'Union action shall be aimed at (...) developing the European dimension in sport, (...) by protecting the physical and moral integrity of sportsmen and sportswomen, especially the youngest sportsmen and sportswomen'.

Anti-Doping ¹³	Ensuring coordination	- Preparation of the position	Council (supported as	(poss.) EU	Presidencies,
	and information-sharing,	of the EU and its Member	necessary by experts) and	coordination and	Commission
	in particular in the	States for the Ad Hoc	САНАМА	position	
	context of WADA and	European Committee for			
	CAHAMA meetings	the World Anti-Doping			
		Agency (CAHAMA) and			
		World Anti-Doping			
		Agency (WADA) meetings			
		in accordance with the			
		resolution of the			
		Representatives of the			
		Governments of the			
		Member States, meeting			
		within the Council,			
		reviewing the			
		representation of the EU			
		Member States in the			
		Foundation Board of			
		WADA and the			

Article 165 (2) TFEU: 'Union action shall be aimed at (...) developing the European dimension in sport, by promoting fairness and openness in sporting competitions (...)'.

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coordination of Member			
States' positions prior to			
WADA meetings (or any			
subsequent document			
relating thereto). In			
formulating a position,			
seek synergies with the			
Council of Europe so as to			
avoid duplication of work			
or the creation of parallel			
structures ¹⁴ .			
- Reviewing the application	Council	Second half of 2025	DK Presidency
of the 2023 resolution and			
considering whether any			
adjustments are needed.			

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Resolution of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, reviewing the representation of the EU Member States in the Foundation Board of WADA and the coordination of Member States' positions prior to WADA meetings, OJ C 185, 26.5.2023, p. 29.

Sport and	- A new approach to the	- Exchange of best practices	(Poss.) Council conclusions	First half of 2025	PL Presidency
education	role of sport in the	- Exchange of opinions	and policy debate in the		
	education system		Council		
	- Sport as a framework	- Awareness-raising	Group of interested Member	2025	FR
	for personal, social and	- Exchange of best practices	States (peer-learning		
	learning skills and	- Knowledge-building	activity) on innovative ways		
	promoting tolerance,		to promote sport and		
	solidarity, and		physical activity at school		
	inclusiveness as well as				
	other sporting values				
	and EU values15				
	- Competences and		Group of interested Member	2025-2027 (to be	EE
	qualifications in sport:		states (peer-learning	confirmed)	
	athletes and staff,		activity) on the development		
	particularly coaches		of coaching qualifications		

Article 165 (1) TFEU: 'The Union shall contribute to the promotion of European sporting issues, while taking account (...) its social and educational function.'

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			and education and		
			multidimensional		
			impact on society		
	- Athlete's dual careers	- Awareness-raising	Study	2024-2027	Commission
	(access to education	- Exchange of best practices	Group of interested Member	2026	BE
	and jobs, combination		states (peer-learning		
	with sporting career)		activity)		
Gender equality	- Increasing female	- Follow-up to the study of	Cooperation with the	2023-2025	Commission
	participation,	the report from the EC	Enlarged Partial Agreement		
	especially among	'Towards more gender	on Sport (EPAS) of		
	coaches and in	equality in sport' and the	Council of Europe: EU joint		
	leadership positions in	recommendations and	project 'All In Plus'		
	sports organisations	action plan from the High-			
	and sports clubs	Level Group on Gender			
	- Equal conditions	Equality in Sport ¹⁶			
	(including payment)	- Follow-up to the			
	for female and male	conclusions of the Council			
	athletes, coaches,	and of the Representatives			

European Commission, 'Towards more gender equality in sport – recommendations and action plan from the High Level Group on Gender Equality in Sport', Publications Office of the European Union, 2022.

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	officials, staff, etc.	of the Governments of the			
	- Increasing the media	Member States meeting			
	coverage of women's	within the Council on			
	sports competitions,	women and equality in the			
	fight against	field of sport (2023) ¹⁷			
	stereotypes etc.				
Traditional	Traditional sports	- Exchange of best practices	Council conclusions	Second half of 2026	IE Presidency
Sports	highlight sport's role as	- Knowledge-building			
	part of Europe's culture,	- Awareness-raising (e.g.,			
	history and traditions, as	highlighting European			
	well as supporting	sports on the UNESCO list			
	social cohesion,	of Intangible Cultural			
	integration,	Heritage)			
	volunteering, and active				
	citizenship				

¹⁷ Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on women and equality in the field of sport, OJ C, C/2023/1362, 1.12.2023.

European Sport	Openness of	- Knowledge-building	Study on the future	2024-2027	Commission,
Model	competitions, sporting	- Follow-up to the resolution	developments, threats and		Member States
	merit, integrity,	of the Council and of the	opportunities impacting the		
	solidarity and values	Representatives of the	European Sport Model		
	in sport	Governments of the			
		Member States meeting			
		within the Council on the			
		key features of a European			
		Sport Model (2021) ¹⁸			
		Follow-up to the study on			
		the European Sport Model			
		$(2022)^{19}$			
Athletes' rights	Athletes' rights and	- Awareness-raising	OMC group	to be decided	Member States,
	working conditions, in	- Knowledge-building			Commission
	particular those related	- Analysis of the factual and			
	to participation in	legal situation			

¹⁸

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Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on the key features of a European Sport Model, OJ C 501, 13.12.2021, p. 1.

European Commission, Sennett, J., Le Gall, A., Kelly, G. et al., 'Study on the European Sport Model – A report to the European Commission', Publications Office of the European Union, 2022.

	sporting events (for	- Follow-up to the			
	instance marketing	Commission's study (to be			
	rights, freedom of	published in the first			
	expression, legal	semester of 2024)			
	protection, non-				
	discrimination)				
Good	Identifying governance-	- Exchange of best practices			
governance	related obstacles to	- Knowledge-building			
development	tackle within sport				
and promotion					
within sport					
Fight against the	- Council of Europe	- Examine ways to break the	Council and cooperation	Second half of 2025	DK
manipulation of	Convention on the	deadlock with regard to the	with the Council of Europe		Presidency,
sports	Manipulation of	Convention with a view to			Commission
competitions	Sports Competitions	enabling the EU and all its			
	('Macolin	Member States to complete			
	Convention')	their respective ratification			
		processes and accede to the			
		Convention			

- Strengthening the	- Exchange of best practices	DG meeting	Second half of 2025	DK Presidency
cooperation between	- Knowledge-building			
member states in the				
fight against				
manipulation of sports				
competitions				

Priority area II: Socio-economic and sustainable dimensions of sport

Key topic	Theme	Goal	Working format	(poss.) Output / target	Leader(s)
				date	
Innovation and	- Sports innovation in	- Exchange of best practices	Group of interested	To be decided	EE
digitalisation	every dimension and at	- Knowledge-building	Member States (peer-		
	all levels of the sports	- Awareness-raising	learning activity) on		
	sector (including local	- Follow-up to the	digitalisation in		
	sports clubs)	conclusions of the Council	evidence-based sport		
		and of the Representatives	policy making		
		of the Governments of the			
		Member States meeting			

	- Development of eSports	within the Council on Sport	(Poss.) Group of	To be decided	Member states,
		Innovation (2021) ²⁰	interested Member		Commission
			States and/or		
			community of practice		
			under SHARE 2.0		
Sustainable sport	- Education for sustainable	- Exchange of best practices	Group of interested	To be decided	BG
	sport	- Knowledge-building	Member States (peer-		
	- Environmentally-friendly	- Awareness-raising	learning activity)		
	sport practice, facilities	- Follow-up to the			
	and events	conclusions of the Council			
	- Evolution of sport and its	and the Representatives of			
	practice in the light of	the Governments of the			
	climate change	Member States on 'Sport			
		and physical activity, a			
		promising lever to			
		transform behaviour for			
		sustainable development'			
		$(2022)^{21}$			

²⁰ Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on Sport

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Innovation, OJ C 212, 4.6.2021, p. 2.
Conclusions of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on 'Sport and physical activity, a promising lever 21 to transform behaviour for sustainable development', OJ C 170, 25.4.2022, p. 1.

		- Follow-up to Sport's			
		contribution to the			
		European Green Deal – a			
		sport sector playbook			
		(2023) 22			
Sustainable sport	Sustainable and accessible	- Exchange of best practices	Community of practice	2024-2027	Member
facilities and spatial	planning, construction and	- Knowledge-building	under SHARE 2.0		States,
planning	maintenance	- Awareness-raising			Commission
		- Follow-up to the			
		Conclusions of the Council			
		and the Representatives of			
		the Governments of the			
		Member States meeting			
		within the Council on			
		sustainable and accessible			
		sports infrastructure			
		$(2022)^{23}$			

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European Commission, 'Sport's contribution to the European Green Deal – a sport sector playbook', Publications Office of the European Union, Full report, September 2023.

²³ Council conclusions on sustainable and accessible sports infrastructure, OJ C 494, 28.12.2022, p. 1.

Sports tourism	Sports tourism as a driver	- Exchange of best practices	Group of interested	2026	AT
	for sustainable	- Knowledge-building	Member States (peer-		
	development	- Awareness-raising	learning activity)		
			(Poss.) Council	First half of 2026	CY Presidency
			conclusions and/or		
			conference and/or a		
			discussion during the		
			DG meeting		
Major sporting	Future of Europe as a host	Exchange of best practices	Council conclusions on	Second half of 2024	HU Presidency
events	of major sporting events,		the legacy of major		
	sustainable planning and		sporting events		
	realisation and legacy of				
	major sporting events for		DG meeting	July 2024	HU Presidency
	cities and regions				
			High-level conference	September 2024	HU Presidency
			Group of interested	2027	FR
			Member States (if		
I			awarded to France:		

			from Albertville 1992 to the French Alps 2030 Winter Olympics, illustration of a sustainable legacy of a		
			major sporting event)		
Policymaking and	- Contribution of sport to	- Analysis of the situation	Group of interested	Second half 2025	HR
investments in sport	regional development	- Exchange of best practices	Member States (peer-		
	- Possibilities for the use of	- Knowledge-building	learning activity on		
	EU funding programmes		'encouragement of		
	- Social return of		sports through the tax		
	investment in sport		system')		
	(SROI)				
	- Evidence-informed policies	 Exchange of best practices on sport satellite accounts based on the Commission Report²⁴ 	National reports on a fully voluntary basis	2024-2027	Member States

European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, 'Study on the economic impact of sport through sport satellite accounts', Publications Office, 2018; the upcoming European Commission study to harmonise existing methodologies and definitions on sports statistics thereby also paving the way towards a possible future European Sport Satellite Account, expected to be published in 2025.

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	Sports research and	- Exchange of best practices	Conference or seminar	First half of 2025	PL Presidency
	statistics	- Knowledge-building			
Strengthening the	- Resilience of grassroots	- Analysis of the situation	Study	2024-2027	Commission
resilience of the	sport: financial and	- Exchange of best practices			
sports sector	environmental	- Strategy development			
	sustainability, enhancing				
	volunteering, risk				
	management.				
	- Role of public authorities				
	- Funding opportunities				
	(SHARE 2.0)				

Priority area III: Participation in sport and health-enhancing physical activity

Key topic	Theme	Goal	Working format	(poss.) Output / target	Leader(s)
				date	
Creation of	- Contemporary	- Exchange of best practices	Debate during the DG	First half of 2025	PL Presidency
adequate	challenges and threats	- Knowledge-building	meeting		
opportunities for	that account for the	- Follow-up to the conclusions of the			

sport and physical	decline in the level of	Council and the Representatives of			
activity for all	fitness of children and	the Governments of the Member			
generations	young people	States meeting within the Council			
		'on lifelong physical activity'			
		$(2021)^{25}$			
	- Development of sport		Group of interested	2025	BE
	at work		Member States (peer-		
	at Work		learning activity)		
	- Active ageing		(Poss.) Council	First half of 2026	CY Presidency
	Tienve ageing		conclusions and/ or		
			debate during the DG		
			meeting and/or Council		
			debate		
Promoting	- Lifelong physical	- Awareness-raising	(Poss.) Debate during	July 2024	HU Presidency
physical activity	activity	- Knowledge-building	the DG meeting		
	- Cross-sectoral	- Exchange of best practices			
	cooperation with		(Poss.) Revision of the	To be decided	Commission,
	relevant institutions		recommendation of the		Presidencies,
	(for example with		Council on promoting		HEPA Focal

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²⁵ Council conclusions on lifelong physical activity, OJ C 501I, 13.12.2021, p. 1.

	schools)	health-enhancing		Points
	- Role of the media and	physical activity across		Network
	social media	sectors (HEPA)		
	- Enhancing	$(2013)^{26}$		
	volunteering			
Mental health and	Promotion of the	OMC group	To be decided	Member
well-being in sport	benefits of sport for			States,
	mental health and well-			Commission
	being and prevention for			
	athletes	(Poss.) Debate during	First half of 2026	CY Presidency
		the DG meeting and/or		
		conference and/or		
		Council debate		

²⁶

Council recommendation of 26 November 2013 on promoting health-enhancing physical activity across sectors, OJ C 354, 4.12.2013, p. 1.

Principles related to the working formats and reporting

- 1. The EU Work Plan for Sport will be implemented in particular through OMC groups, groups of interested Member States (or peer-learning activities), cluster meetings, Council conclusions, conferences and studies.
- 2. The participation of Member States in the implementation of the EU Work Plan and its working formats is voluntary.
- 3. The open method of coordination (OMC) groups will provide a framework for cooperation, exchange and sharing of good practices among Member States on common key topics, expressed under the three priority areas of this EU Work Plan and the corresponding key topics listed in Annex I²⁷, and allows for the development of non-binding recommendations.

With regard to the working method,

- the mandate will be finalised in the Working Party on Sport on the basis of a draft mandate proposed by the Commission;
- each OMC group will be responsible for appointing a chair or co-chairs at its first meeting among its members;
- the mandate can propose that third parties, including third countries²⁸, representatives of civil society and the sports movement, be invited to an OMC group as members or as observers;
- depending on the topic, the OMC group might be encouraged to form smaller focus
 groups and use participatory methods, where appropriate;

Preliminary key topics identified include 'fight against hate speech', 'athletes' rights and promotion of good governance in sport' and 'mental health and well-being in sport'.

For the purposes of this Work Plan, 'third countries' are those referred to in the provisions of articles 19 and 20 of the Erasmus+ Programme (Regulation (EU) 2021/817 – OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 1).

- the Commission will provide expertise and logistical support for the work of each OMC group;
- non-binding recommendations put forward by an OMC group will be discussed by the Working Party on Sport and, when relevant, by other relevant preparatory bodies and, as appropriate, presented to the Council.
- 4. Groups of interested Member States (ministries, governmental authorities or other public bodies) will be organised by one or several Member States, *inter alia*, in order to exchange information on specific topics. Participation in groups of interested Member States is open to all Member States. Member States are also free to form groups of interested Member States on topics that are not listed in Annex I.
- 5. Groups of interested Member States may, if they deem it necessary, define their own working procedures and structures, in the light of their specific needs and outcomes. The Commission shall be associated with the work of these groups and, if the budgetary conditions are met, the Commission may provide financial support for the work of the groups of interested Member States (as a peer learning activity, in the context of the applicable Erasmus+ Annual Work Programme).
- 6. Cluster meetings are organised by the Commission on a specific theme to present the work and results of relevant projects funded through the Erasmus+ Sport Actions or other EU funding programmes.
- 7. Meetings of OMC groups, groups of interested Member States, conferences and cluster meetings may also take place in virtual form where appropriate.

- 8. The Commission will report to the Council on the progress of work in the OMC groups and on conferences, cluster meetings and studies, and will present the respective outputs. The Council Presidencies will do the same with regard to the events they organise. Groups of interested Member States may nominate representatives to do likewise.
- 9. The agendas, outcomes and reports of all groups will be available to all Member States, irrespective of their degree of participation in a given area. The outputs of the groups will be published and disseminated at EU and national level through the appropriate channels.