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Annual Report 2019

ENGSO – the European Sports NGO

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Foreword

Stefan Bergh
ENGSO President

Dear friends,

Looking back at 2019, itÕs impressive to see, once again, how much we have done and accomplished. ENGSO had another busy year, and I feel proud about being able to relay to our members this report that boasts a variety of events, projects and other actions.

One of the highlights of the year was no doubt the General Assembly organised on 14Đ16 June in Frankfurt, Germany. With the help of the professional and welcoming attitude of our host, the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB), we had a meeting with important decisions and great dynamics. In conjunction with this event, we also organised the Þnal conference of the ASPIRE project Đ the impressive closure for 2.5 years of hard work from our staff and partners. Personally, it was a great honour to be elected as ENGSO President, and I am thankful for the trust and continued support of the ENGSO family.

The General Assembly 2019 adopted a new strategy for ENGSO, shifting our strategic focus towards the positive social and societal impact of sport. As the leading voice for voluntary-based grassroots sport in Europe, it is our responsibility to enhance the role of sport in promoting stronger communities. Our mission is to represent, develop and advocate for voluntary-based sport in Europe Đ guided by our values: democracy, equality, inclusion, sustainability, integrity and education. The strategy also enabled us to launch a new, more accessible brand name: ENGSO Đ European Sports NGO.

Another memorable ENGSO event in 201 was the European Sport Platform, organised on 4Đ5 October in Rome, Italy. This second edition, organised with the excellent support of the host OPES Italia and our key partner, European Lotteries, presented high-quality speakers and enabled open discussions on three current sports topics Đ volunteering, diversity in governance and mental health. We can say that this concept, initiated by our Honorary President Carlos Cardoso, has now been established as an important annual event.

As already indicated, 2019 also saw the successful Þnalisation of the ASPIRE (Activity, Sport and Play for the Inclusion of Refugees in Europe) project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union and the European Lotteries. This powerful project was able to build a large community of interested parties, centred around the idea of creating inclusive sports clubs that welcome refugees. Building on two key conclusions of the project Ð the importance of coaches and psycho-social support Ð we successfully submitted another Erasmus+ project called SPIRIT (Sport & Psycho-social Initiative for Inclusive Training), that will run in 2020Ð2022.

In 2019, another ENGSO-led Erasmus+ project, CHAMP (Clubs for Health-enhancement, Activation, Modernisation and Participation) saw its Þrst year. CHAMP is a true ßagship programme, with which we are aiming at giving our members, sport clubs and the wider sports movement innovative tools and education for modernisation, in order to increase sports participation in clubs.

We also continued our activities in the EU sports political sphere and strove to shape the European sports policy agenda with the guidance of the ENGSO Policy Programme. ENGSO representatives took part in numerous events and consultations to raise the importance of grassroots sport, advocating for European policy that enables a thriving civil society of sport and the modernisation of the sports movement.

ENGSO has advocated for European policy that enables a thriving civil society of sport and the modernisation of the sports movement.

ENGSO is also the European Sports NGO for youth, as well as equality, diversity and inclusion in sport. This aspect is perhaps best demonstrated in the active work done by our two core committees: ENGSO Youth and ENGSO EWS (Equality Within Sport) Committee. ENGSO Youth continued to bring together active and skilled young people, providing them a platform for action and development. ENGSO EWS celebrates diversity beyond gender equality and advocates for sport where everyone is welcome, regardless of their background. Both committees support the overall ENGSO work in signiÞcant ways, and some of the most appreciated and fruitful occasions are our biannual joint meetings. Also in 2019, the ENGSO Executive Committee and other committee members came together twice to discuss and develop our organisation.

Beyond the work done by our staff and volunteers, I am extremely grateful for the active cooperation and communication with our members in 2019. Your continued and increasing interest in participating in and contributing to different ENGSO activities, including hosting meetings and events, partnering for projects, and participating in committee work, shows that what we are doing has relevance for you.

With these thoughts in mind, I would like to express my most sincere thanks to our members, partners and friends for joining us for this heart-warming journey in 2019 and working together in good spirits to make it successful.

Stefan Bergh
ENGSO President

Organisation

It was a busy year in terms of internal organisation for ENGSO, working actively with our staff, volunteers, members and partners and taking decisions to ensure that ENGSO is functioning efÞciently and in line with the ENGSO Strategy.

As the strategic cycle 2015Ð2019 was drawing towards its end, it was time to look ahead and lay down the strategic objectives for ENGSO for the coming years. The ENGSO Strategy 2020Ð2023 was adopted by the 27th ENGSO Genera Assembly (GA), in Frankfurt in June.

The document was prepared by the ENGSO Executive Committee, in consultation with the ENGSO member organisations, ENGSO Equality Within Sport (EWS) Committee, ENGSO Youth Committee, EU Advisory Committee and staff. The document includes three strategic areas that fulÞl the new vision, mission and values. The societal role of sport has been strengthened throughout the document. The document also introduced a more accessible brand name (ENGSO Ð European Sports NGO) to be used in ENGSOÕs communications.

The GA also saw elections for the ENGSO Executive Committee Ð including the positions of the President and Treasurer. Nominated by the Swedish Sports Confederation, Stefan Bergh was elected as President, leaving his previous position as Secretary General open. The GA decided to appoint Policy Director Kaisa Larjomaa as acting Secretary General until the election of a new one.

The GA elected all four candidates as Executive Committee members: Zoltan Bone (Hungarian Competitive Sport Federation), Filipa Godinho (Portuguese Sports Confederation), Sara Massini (CONI/OPES Italia) and Anna-Maria Wiesner (Austrian Sports Organization). Michael Leyendecker (German Olympic Sports Confederation) was elected as Treasurer.

The other Executive Committee members are Vice-President Agne Vanagiene (Lithuanian Union of Sports Federations), Ilva Bierde (Latvian Sports Federations Council) and Lotte Buchert (National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark) in the newly formed Committee, whose mandates go on for another two years.

At the GA, we bid farewell and said thank you to the outgoing Executive Committee members and ofÞcials; President Carlos Cardoso, Treasurer Karin Mattsson Weijber and members Natasa Jankovic and Stavri Bello. To thank Carlos Cardoso for his outstanding work and long-time commitment for ENGSO, the GA decided to nominate him as ENGSO Honorary President.

The ENGSO Youth Assembly, organised in conjunction with the ENGSO GA, elected a new ENGSO Youth Committee for a two-year term.

The ENGSO GA also welcomed a new associated member organisation to the ENGSO family, the European Association for Sport Management (EASM).

Over 2019, the ENGSO Executive Committee convened for seven meetings: 25 January in London, 5-6 April in Rome (joint meeting with ENGSO Youth and EWS Committees), 14 May as a conference call, 15 June in Frankfurt (constitutive meeting), 23-24 August in Boson, 5-6 October in Rome (joint meeting), and 25 November as a conference call.

During these meetings, the Executive Committee observed and took decisions on the overall ENGSO activities and Þnances, and discussed e.g. the ENGSO Strategy, the ENGSO Action Plan 2020Đ 2021 and our annual events Đ the European Sport Platform and the ENGSO GA. Other important Executive Committee decisions included new Þnancial guidelines, a report on developing ENGSO Þnances, a new membership application process and criteria for adopting new members, and the appointment of a new EU Advisory Committee for the term 2019Đ2021.

During the autumn, the Standing Orders of ENGSO Youth, EWS and the EU Advisory Committee were revised. The Executive Committee members also divided tasks amongst themselves, according to policy areas where each person has expertise.

The ENGSO Secretariat continued to support our staff working with ongoing projects Đ led by ENGSO or others. In the spring, we submitted another application for an Erasmus+ Sport collaborative partnership with some highly competent partners. Later in the year we received the great news that our application got accepted, and therefore, SPIRIT (Sport & Psycho-social Initiative for Inclusive Training) will be implemented in 2020Đ 2022. A recruitment process to employ a Project Manager was organised at the end of the year.

To support the ENGSO lobbying activities and help in setting strategic objectives and actions, we sent out a survey to our member organisations in the spring. The results were presented at the GA, and amended throughout the year as late entries came in. We received 31 responses, 28 from members and 3 from associated members all over Europe. The respondents represent at least 453 000 sports clubs in Europe, engaging at least 70.9 million people as members and at least 16.5 million volunteers. 14 members engage youth in different ways, mostly through a Youth Committee or a Youth Representative in the Executive Committee. Two thirds of the respondents said that their organisation has a policy or an action plan on equality. The responses on policy topics also help ENGSO in deÞning their policy priorities.

Composition of the Executive Committee:

Stefan Bergh
President
Swedish Sports Confederation

Agne Vanagiene
Vice-President
Lithuanian Union of Sports Federations

Kaisa Larjomaa
Secretary General
interim

Michael Leyendecker
Treasurer
German Olympic Sports Confederation

Zoltan Bone
Member
Hungarian Competitive Sport Federation

Lotte Buchert
Member, National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark

Ilva Biedre
Member
Latvian Sports Federations Council

Filipa Godinho
Member
Portuguese Sports Confederation

Sara Massini
Member
OPES / National Olympic Committee of Italy

Anna-Maria Wiesner
Member
Sport Austria

Outgoing Executive Committee members:
(until the GA in June 2019)

¦SPresident Carlos Cardoso
¦STreasurer Karin Mattsson Weijber
¦SMember Natasa Jankovic
¦SMember Stavri Bello

Ugne Chmeliauskaite
Youth Committee Chair
ex ofÞcio

Staff

All of the ENGSO activities are implemented with the help of the ENGSO professional staff, providing support in the smooth running of the organisation. They are responsible for executing and supporting e.g. the organisation of events and meetings, the implementation of projects, communication and advocacy, in line with the decisions taken by the ENGSO GA and the Executive Committee. The staff also provides support to our members with their inquiries.

Our staff members in 2019

Kaisa Larjomaa
Policy Director
(appointed as Secretary General since June 2019)

Marie Denitton
OfÞce Director

Ilva Biedre
Assistant OfÞce Director
(appointed as Committee Member since June 2019)

Mariann Bardocz-Bencsik
Communications Expert and PR Liaison

Filip Filipic
Technical Support
(appointed as ENGSO Youth Vice-Chair since June 2019)

Lovisa Broms

CHAMP Project Manager

Polona Fonda

CHAMP Communication OfÞcer

Niki Koutrou

PlayGreen Project Coordinator

Dirk Falken

PlayGreen Project Assistant

Orsolya Tolnay

ASPIRE Project Manager

(until June 2019)

Niels de Fraguier

ASPIRE Project Assistant

(until June 2019)

Sallie Barker

ASPIRE Special Advisor

(until June 2019);

PlayÕIn Together Project Coordinator;

ALL IN: Towards Gender Balance in Sport Project Coordinator (until October 2019)

Katarzyna Harasim

ASPIRE Communication Intern

(until June 2019)

ENGSO Youth

The highlights of 2019 were the elections and the foundation of the new, 2019-2021 Committee

During the Þrst half of 2019, the previous (2017-2019) Committee held two meetings; one in Edinburgh in February and one in Rome in April. The ENGSO Youth Assembly was held in Frankfurt in June, and it included elections and the formation of the new Committee.

But before the Assembly and the elections in June, the Committee members were busy giving youth a real say in sport!

As a partner we joined a new Erasmus+ project, SWinG (Support Women in achieving their Goals), which, through mentorships, facilitates and supports aspiring women sport leaders in achieving a change-making position in sport governing bodies. We have also kicked off our own Erasmus+ funded project, SK4YS (Skills for You(th) through Sport) that tackles the lack of awareness and recognition of soft/transversal skills developed through sport practice.

The kick-off meeting was held in February, in Budapest. The good vibes continued in February; the COMEin (Creating Opportunity for sport Members at grassroots level to Enable Inclusion) project had its Þrst training course, hosted by Sparc Sport in the United Kingdom. Last but not least, EYVOL (Empowering Youth Volunteers through Sport) was also launched in February in Athens.

In the spring, our involvement in projects continued. A youth exchange and refugee inclusion through sport workshop was held in Sweden in the framework of the RISE (Refugee Integration through Sport in Europe) project.

During the Þrst half of the year, our Committee and staff members actively participated in global sport events and youth forums, representing youth sport and advocating for engagement of young people in decision-making processes. Our Committee member, Filipa Godinho represented us at the Winter Universiade in Krasnoyarsk; our Vice-Chair, Nevena Vukasinovic and our Projects and Policy Manager Bence Garamvolgyi attended UNESCOÕs Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport meeting

in Geneva, while our Committee member, Gerda Katschinka joined the conference on sexual violence against women and children, organised by the Council of Europe (CoE).

Still in the Þrst half of 2019, we tackled global issues by publishing two position papers; one on Sport and Active Citizenship of Youth, inspired by the European Parliamentary Elections 2019, and one entitled ÒYouth Sport for Climate ActionÓ.

From 14-16 June, we held the ENGSO Youth Assembly and the elections for the new Committee. Ugne Chmeliauskaite (Lithuania), Chair; Filip Filipic (Serbia), Vice-Chair; Lovisa Broms (Sweden), Marianna Cardoso (Portugal), Iva Gilbo (Croatia), Kirsten Hasenpusch (Germany), Erika Juhasz (Hungary), Titouan Martin Barre (France) and Ivana Pranjic (Austria) ofÞcially became the members of the 2019-2021 ENGSO Youth Committee. Meet the team below or here.

Ugne Chmeliauskaite
Chair
Lithuanian Union of Sports Federations

Filip Filipic
Vice-Chair
Olympic Committee of Serbia

Lovisa Broms
Member
Swedish Sports Confederation

Kirsten Hasenpusch
Treasurer / Member
German Sports Youth

Marianna Cardoso
Member
Portuguese Sports Confederation

Iva Glibo
Member
Olympic Committee of Croatia

Erika Juhasz
Member
Hungarian Competitive Sport Federation

Titouan Martin Barre
Member
French Olympic Committee

Ivana Pranjic
Member
Sport Austria

Before the formation of the new team of ENGSO Youth Young Delegates, we awarded Marisa Schlenker as our best 2017-2019 youth volunteer.

We held a handover meeting in Vilnius in July, which served as a transition from the 2017-2019 to the 2019-2021 Committee, which was followed by the selection of 25 young sports leaders who are now the new, 2019-2021 ENGSO Youth Young Delegates. Meet the young sports leaders here.

From 5-6 October, we joined the second European Sport Platform where we had an active role; our Committee member, Ivana Pranjic presented the importance of voluntarism. We also used the opportunity to hold another Committee meeting to discuss the current and future development of the organisation.

The highlight of the Young Delegates programme was the Young Delegates meeting, held in Budapest, on 22-26 November. The event was supported by CoE through the European Youth Foundation. The most important outcomes of the meeting can be found in the ÒSport for Active Citizenship ToolkitÓ, a manual on how we can use sport to encourage active participation of youth in the society. To relive the meeting through the video recap and to listen to the experiences of the participants; visit the ENGSO Youth video library.

Towards the end of the year, we published a new toolkit - developed through the COMEin project - and a new position paper, ÒSafeguarding Children and Youth in SportÓ. Our new Committee members and staff attended several events; including the New Leaders Forum, the Conference on International Sports Volunteerism, the Peace and Sport Forum, and joined several project meetings as well.

We closed 2019 with a ÒWinter HolidayÓ committee meeting in Ljubljana, where we evaluated the Þrst quarter of the 2019-21 mandate and discussed the agenda for the upcoming, very exciting, year.

ENGSO Youth has also had dedicated staff members, who have supported the Committee in activities necessary for the implementation of their initiatives.

The list of staff members in 2019 can be found here:

Dora Farago

Operations Manager

Polona Fonda

Communication OfÞcer

Bence Garamvolgyi

Policy and Projects Manager

Nenad Borkovic

Project and Partnership Manager

(until February 2019)

Danijela Svircic

Youth OfÞcer

(until September 2019)

Mark Bekiet

Project Coordinator (intern)

(November-December 2019)

Young Delegates

For the mandate of 2019-2021, the ENGSO Youth Committee has decided to have 25 Young Delegates with the aim of increasing their involvement in the organisationÕs work.

To Þnd out more about the Young Delegates Initiative, as well as to stay up-to-date with the latest ENGSO Youth developments, please visit the ENGSO Youth website or scan the QR code below: youth-sport.net

EWS Committee

Equality Within Sport Committee (EWS)

The ENGSO Equality Within Sport Committee (EWS) operates at a strategic level, advising the ENGSO Executive Committee on equality matters to ensure a coordinated and smooth working procedure in the equality area. EWSÕ mission is to activate and inspire European sports organisations to succeed in reaching equality. EWS aims to be the leading voice for equality within sports in Europe. By reaching equality we can use the full potential in sport.

Equality means to us that sport is a human right that belongs to everyone regardless of gender, religion, sexual orientation, physical ability, ethnic group, race, age or economic status.
We want to celebrate diversity. We advocate that everyone can practise sport safely and freely. We promote equal opportunities in all levels and sectors of sport. We believe that sport wins with equality.

The goals of EWS are to activate and inspire European sports organisations to act on equality; to encourage ENGSO member organisations to have a policy and an action plan on equality (based on the ÒBrighton plus Helsinki 2014 DeclarationÓ) and to be the leading voice for equality within sports in Europe.

EWS undertakes the following activities in order to reach their goals: it serves as a ÒhubÓ of expertise and knowledge on equality; it does advocacy work (discuss and lobby sport political issues related to equality); it educates and raises awareness on equality and it strengthens the cooperation with ENGSO member organisations and other sports bodies in topics related to equality.

EWS is present on various communication channels, including the ENGSO website and newsletter and EWS own Facebook group Ð ÒENGSO EWS (Equality Within Sports)Ó. Moreover, EWS developed its own hashtags, namely #EngsoEWS and #Equality for more targeted communication on social media.

EWS was mentioned in the following articles on the ENGSO website in 2019:

¦SÒTime to make the invisible visibleÓ (22 February)

¦SÒReaching equality is a team effortÓ (12 March)

¦SÒIWG Women & Sport Global Executive met in LondonÓ (11 June)

¦SÒWomen in motorsports are breaking stereotypesÓ (22 August)

EWSÕ presence in the International Working Group on Women and Sport (IWG)

IWG is theworldÕs largest networkdedicated to ÒEmpowering women and girls Ð Advancing SportÒ. Established in 1994, the IWG developed and remains the guardian of the Brighton plus Helsinki 2014 Declaration, which now has 550+ signatories. The Chair of the EWS represents the European voice at the IWG.

EWS Committee 2018-2020

ÒWe want to celebrate diversity. We want to advocate that everyone can practise sport safely and freely. We want to promote equal opportunities in all levels and sectors of sport. We believe that sport wins with EqualityÓ.

Niina Toroi
Chair
Finnish Olympic Committee

Ioanna Karyofylli
Member
Hellenic Paralympic Committee

David Hofstetter
Member
European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation

Rachel May
Member
ENGSO Youth

Anabela Sousa Vaz dos Reis
Member
Portuguese Sports Confederation

Representatives of EWS took part in the following events over the year:

On 18 February, EWS Chair Niina Toroi took part in the brieÞng presentation to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in Geneva, Switzerland.

On 5Ð6 April, EWS held an internal meeting and took part in a joint meeting with the ENGSO Executive Committee and ENGSO Youth Committee in Rome, Italy.

On 7Ð9 June, EWS Chair Niina Toroi took part in the International Working Group on Women and Sport (IWG) Global Executive meeting in London, United Kingdom.

On 14Ð16 June, EWS representatives took part in the ENGSO General Assembly and also held their internal meeting in Frankfurt, Germany.

On 17 August, EWS Chair Niina Toroi was a panellist at the Women in Motorsports Conference in Lahti, Finland.

On 4Ð5 October, EWS Chair Niina Toroi attended the second European Sport Platform in Rome, Italy.
She spoke at the session related to equality.

On 12 December, EWS Chair Niina Toroi took part in the online meeting of IWG.

Niina Toroi (left) and other panellists of the Women in Motorsports Conference

EU Advisory Committee

EU Advisory Committee

The EU Advisory Committee (EU AC) operates at a strategic level, advising the ENGSO Executive Committee (ExCom) o EU matters to ensure a coordinated approach to our lobbying activities and smooth working procedures. The purpose is to utilise the EU policy expertise of the EU AC members and facilitate the involvement of ENGSO members. The daily work is led by the ENGSO Policy Director, and the EU AC works to advise and complement ENGSOÕs political activity.

The objectives of the Committee include acting as a consultative body for the ENGSO ExCom and the Policy Director, contributing to draft papers and proposals, and representing ENGSO at meetings and consultations upon request of the ENGSO ExCom. The EU AC develops an action plan that contributes to the ENGSO Action Plan.

During the year, the ENGSO ExCom decided to revise the Standing Orders (previously: Terms of Reference) of the EU AC, along with the other ENGSO committeesÕ guiding documents. The aim was to update the documents so that they are in line with the new ENGSO Strategy.

The EU Advisory Committee held their Þrst meeting of 2019 in conjunction with the ENGSO ExCom meeting on 25 January, hosted by the Sports and Recreation Alliance in London. The Committee discussed the contents of its next action plan, as well as the future composition of the group and possible questions for the ENGSO member survey. The EU AC members took part in a joint discussion with the ENGSO ExCom regarding the future ENGSO Strategy and policy priorities.

The EU AC held their second meeting Ð Þrst in their new composition Ð on 3 October in Rome, in conjunction with the second European Sport Platform. The Committee discussed its next draft action plan, proposing further improvements and prioritising the different items. Advocating on the future EU Work Plan for Sport and the positioning of ENGSO in the EU sports policy sphere with regards to the new EU decision-makers were proposed as the key priorities. The Committee discussed and proposed small changes to the Standing Orders under revision.

The draft action plan was further developed during the online meeting on 16 December, reformulating the policy priorities of ENGSO for the coming two years. The Committee discussed the Þrst draft of the ENGSO Position Paper on the Future EU Work Plan for Sport.

The EU Advisory Committee for the mandate 2019Ð2021 was appointed by the ExCom in its meeting on 19 May 2019.

The two outgoing members that served until June 2019 were Leigh Thompson (co-chair, Sports and Recreation Alliance) and Dominic Kuhn (member, German Olympic Sports Confederation). Until June 2019, Mikkel Larsen also served as co-chair of the Committee.

The composition of the EU Advisory Committee is as follows:

Kaisa Larjomaa
Chair
ENGSO

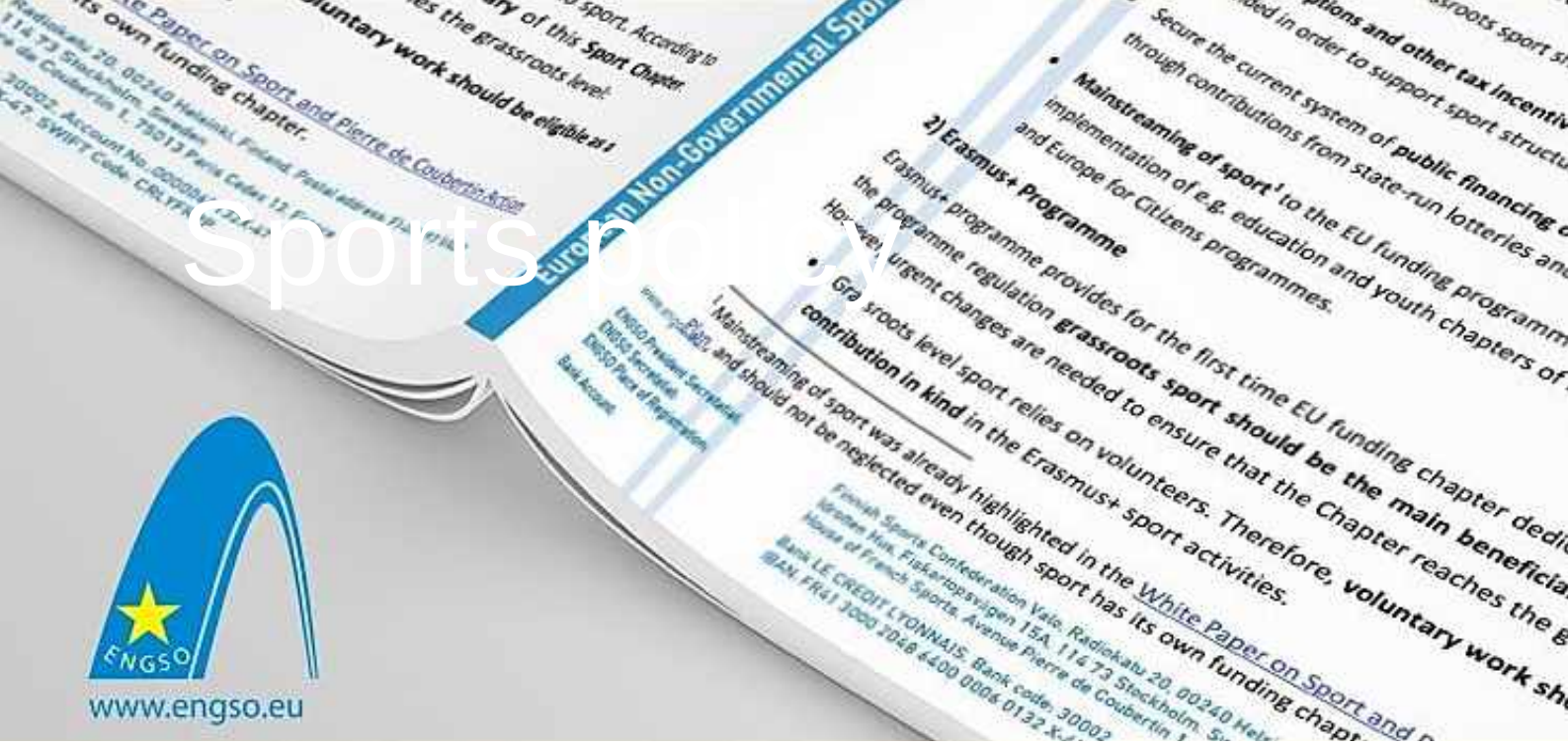
Petra Gantnerova
Member
Confederation of Slovak Sport Associations

Bence Garamvolgyi
Member
Hungarian Competitive Sport Federation

Mikkel Larsen
Member
National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark

Ilmari Nalbantoglu
Member
Finnish Olympic Committee

Julie Ravlo
Member
Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports



Sports policy

ENGSO advocates for European policy that enables a thriving civil society of sport and the modernisation of the sports movement by shaping the European sports policy agenda with the guidance of the ENGSO Policy Programme, by further strengthening our relevance as a trustworthy advocate up to the highest political level, and by developing an understanding of the contribution that sport makes to individuals, communities and society.

In the ENGSO Policy Programme, our positions are deÞned with regards to EUÕ competence in the Þeld of sport and the role of organised sport; the societal role of sport, including health-enhancing physical activity, social inclusion, equality and diversity, youth development and involvement, and education, training, employment and volunteering; and the organisation and Þnancing of sport, including sustainable funding for sport, safeguarding the European sport model, and good governance in sport.

2019 was an intense year of changes in the EU sports political sphere.

The European elections in May 2019 brought in a new composition of the European Parliament and the European Commission (EC).

Throughout the year in different occasions, ENGSO supported the efforts of the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and the European Commission to increase the funding for Erasmus in the EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2021Ð2027 and promoted the ENGSO positions on the future Erasmus Programme and its implementation. We also supported the advocacy work of the European Olympic CommitteesÕ (EOC) E OfÞce for mainstreaming sport in the different EU funding programmes post-2020, including the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund, including its health strand.

Alongside the EOC EU OfÞce, ENGSO w advocating for forming a new sports intergroup, which did not come to pass despite the efforts. ENGSO and ENGSO Youth promoted the continued inclusion of ÒsportÓ in the title of the European Commissioner responsible for sport, but sport was dropped out.

Throughout the year, we maintained a regular cooperation and communication between ENGSO and the Sport Unit of the European Commission, key MEPs and their cabinets, as well as the Romanian and Finnish EU Presidencies. Aside from holding informal meetings to promote ENGSO positions, ENGSO representative took part in numerous events as participants, experts or speakers to promote our positions, and we invited representatives of the EC and EU member statesÕ governments to speak at ENGSO events.

On 4 September 2019, together with the Finnish Olympic Committee and the EOC EU OfÞce, we organised a meeting for the newly elected Finnish MEPs and their cabinets, the Finnish minister responsible for sport, Hanna Kosonen, and representatives of the Finnish Ministry for Education and Culture, to discuss current EU sports political issues.

ENGSO played an active role in two EC Expert Groups Ð one on integrity and another one on HR and skills development in sport Ð taking part in altogether Þve meetings in 2019. ENGSO promoted its positions and strongly contributed to the creation of Guidelines regarding the minimum requirements in skills and competences for coaches throughout the year in meetings as well as written consultations.

Outside of the European Union institutions, ENGSO took an active role in several meetings of the Council of Europe, its Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), and the EPAS Consultative Committee, to promote the ENGSO positions and the interest of the organised sports movement. Carlos Cardoso served as a member of the Bureau of the EPAS Consultative Committee.

Aside from the actions described above, most ENGSO activities contributed to our policy work, including our projects and events.

ENGSO Publications

ENGSO develops and defends common positions on grassroots sports issues, makes the results of its projects available for free of charge, and publishes quarterly newsletter to share knowledge and experience.

To see all our publications, please visit our website or scan the qr code below: engso.eu/publications

ENGSO events

© VIVIAN GAST - DOSB

We organised two major events in 2019; our General Assembly in June in Frankfurt and the second European Sport Platform in October in Rome.

#ENGSOGA2019

We held our 27th General Assembly (GA) in Frankfurt from 14 to 16 June. The event was organised in conjunction with the ASPIRE Final Conference and the ENGSO Youth Assembly, and it was hosted by our member, the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB).

The GA commenced with a prestigious welcome reception by the City of Frankfurt and DOSB, which included a warm welcome speech by the City Councillor Claus Mobius, followed by dinner.

The event resumed on 15 June with welcome addresses from ENGSO President Carlos Cardoso, ENGSO Executive Committee (ExCom) member Lotte Buchert, German Sport Youth Chairman and their representative in the DOSB Executive Committee Jan Holze, and ENGSO Secretary General Stefan Bergh.

Later in the morning, Yves Le Lostecque, the Head of Sport Unit at the European Commission held a highly interesting EU seminar, focusing on the most recent developments in EU policy in sport. He was followed by Stanislas Frossard, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport of the Council of Europe, who gave a brief overview of their activities, stressing that their main goal is to make sport more ethical, more inclusive and safer.

The last activity of the morning was a workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations facilitated by Niels de Fraguier, Bence Garamvolgyi and Nevena Vukasinovic from ENGSO Youth. The #Sport4All17 workshop is a unique initiative of ENGSO Youth through which participants got an insight on how sport can act as a tool to reach these goals.

In the afternoon, the participants split into two groups, as the ENGSO and the ENGSO Youth Assembly took place. At th ENGSO GA, Carlos Cardoso greeted the representatives of our member and partner organisations. Later on, the representatives of key stakeholders Ð TAFISA, the European University Sports

Association (EUSA), the International School Sport Federation (ISF), and the European Lotteries Ð gave short addresses.

The addresses were followed by the presentation of ENGSOÕs activities in 2018, including the Annual Report, the TreasurerÕs Report and the AuditorsÕ Report. After adopting the ENGSO Strategy 2020Ð2023, it was time to learn about a new member candidate.

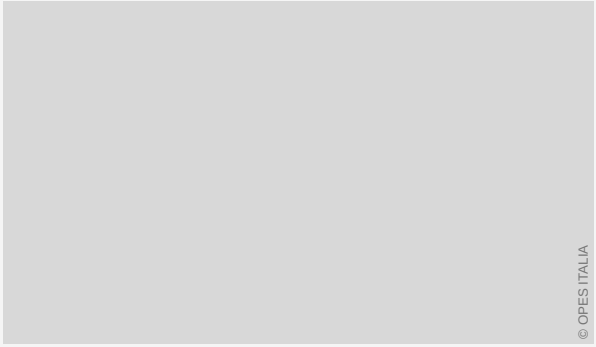
The European Association for Sport Management (EASM) applied to be an associated member of ENGSO, and their Board member, Karin Book presented their mission and activities. After the introductory presentation, the GA unanimously accepted the application.

Later on, it was time to vote on a new ENGSO ExCom. After a brief round of convincing presentations, the GA decided to elect all four candidates as ExCom members: Zoltan Bone, Filipa Godinho, Sara Massini and Anna-Maria Wiesner. Michael Leyendecker was elected as our Treasurer, while Stefan Bergh was elected as ENGSO President. Policy Director Kaisa Larjomaa was appointed as acting Secretary General until the election of a new one. The other ExCom members are Agne Vanagiene (Vice-President), Ilva Bierde and Lotte Buchert, whose mandates go on for another two years.

After the elections, the outgoing ExCom members and ofÞcials Ð President Carlos Cardoso, Treasurer Karin Mattsson Weijber and members Natasa Jankovic and Stavri Bello were commended on the invaluable work they have done for ENGSO, and Carlos Cardoso was unanimously elected as Honorary President.

#ESP2019

On 4 and 5 October, we organised the second European Sport Platform (ESP) in Rome, in partnership with the European Lotteries and hosted by OPES Italia. During the two days, various sessions were held to give the opportunity to participants to learn and share their experience on the event topics; volunteering, diversity in sports governance and mental health in sports. The event gathered over sixty people whose active participation made the event a highly interactive one.



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The Þrst topic, volunteering, is central in the sports movement. How can we measure the economic value of volunteering? Adrian Feller, Senior Event Workforce Manager at the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) explained how the invisible value of volunteers has an effect on the economic and social impact of football. Claus Farnberger, Civil Service and Sport from the Federal Ministry of Austria also commented on this economic dimension of sport, and highlighted the lack of data about the economic value of volunteering.

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ENGSO Youth and the New Leaders Programme were presented as best practices, coupled with the inspiring personal stories and words by Michael Leyendecker, Chair of the German Gymnastic Youth Federation and ENGSO Executive Committee member, Ivana Pranjic, ENGSO Youth Committee member and New Leaders Programme participant and Birgitta Kervinen, Honorary President of ENGSO. Niki Koutrou, our staff member and project coordinator for the PlayGreen project, gave a workshop on how sport clubs can attract, train and retain volunteers. The participants suggested good practices such as creating awards for them and stressed on the importance to create a bond before, during and after the event.

Diversity in governance was the second topic of the ESP Đ and a major topic for sports organisations in general. Niina Toroi, Chair of the ENGSO Equality Withir Sport (EWS) Committee, presented the work of the Committee and shed light on some Þgures regarding gender balance in the governance and leadership of organised sports. She insisted: Òby reaching equality, we can use the full potential of sportsÓ.

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Tiina Kivisaari, Director of the Sport Division of the Finnish Ministry of Education and Sport, shared her own personal and professional experience as a leader. She underlined the relation between volunteering and the lack of women in the boards of sports organisations. Many women wonÕt engag themselves because of the time they neec to give to their work, their families and their home and thatÕs why it is difÞcult to have them on the boards afterwards. Finally, good practices from Erasmus+ funded European projects such as SCORI and Play to Train were presented, both focusing on getting more women into coaching.

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The day concluded with an info and networking session on Erasmus+, with a presentation by Yves Le Lostecque, Head of Sport Unit of the European Commission, and facilitated by ENGSO ExCom member Sara Massini.

The third theme of the ESP and the Þnal session of the event was about the relationship between sport and mental health. While the positive impact of physical activity for mental health is widely recognised, scientists hold a careful, yet optimistic view that exercising in an organised sport setting has a positive role in the matter. According to Richard Bailey, Senior Researcher at the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), despite evidence supporting the use of sports and physical activity to prevent and treat mental disorders, it is very important to use them properly. He concluded that it is important to stop talking about more sport and physical activity but better sport and better physical activity.

The Communication Partner of the event was Sport and Citizenship, and this report is based on the feature written by their Communication OfÞcer, Noemie Gingue.

Communication

ENGSO strives to contribute to the understanding of sportÕs role in the lives of individuals, communities and society. One way of developing this understanding is through communication, therefore it is an integral part of ENGSOÕs work. In 201 ENGSO delivered its communication work with the support of its Communication Expert and Website Administrator & Digital Designer, supervised by the Policy Director.

Throughout the year, ENGSO maintained its strong online communication on the following platforms: its website, engso.eu, its social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) and its own Newsletter.

Over the year, ENGSO has been publishing its news on its website on a regular basis, wrapping them up every three months in its quarterly newsletter. In total, 83 articles were published on engso.eu in 2019, covering news from the European sport policy sphere, ENGSO, ENGSO Youth, our members and partners.

Apart from the above-mentioned four regular newsletters, ENGSO sent out two special newsletters as well.

ENGSO made some changes to the structure of its newsletter to better serve the needs of its readers. The reception of these changes was overwhelmingly positive and the increase of newsletter subscribers shows this. At the end of 2018, ENGSO had 343 subscribers, and this number went up to 395 by the end of 2019. This 15.16% growth is a good achievement, taking into account the generally decreasing interest in newsletters.
In 2019, ENGSO was active on social media in two ways: by promoting its own activities and by joining the online conversation on topics of its interest. Therefore, ENGSO engaged in conversations on social media using the #EUsport #BeActive, #BeInclusive, #youthsport and #genderequality hashtags, among others.

Over the year, ENGSO posted 237 times on Facebook. By the end of 2019, ENGSO had 1989 followers, that is a 25.17% increase compared to the same time in 2018 (1589).