SPORT, YOUTH & HUMAN RIGHTS
CONFERENCE
Event Guide

#BEACTIVE
European Week of Sport

Brussels
8 September 2015
Dear Friends,

We are delighted to welcome you to Brussels for the ICSS International Conference on Sport, Youth and Human Rights. It is symbolic and fitting that today’s Conference is taking place during the EU Week of Sport, an important initiative by the European Commission, which, first and foremost, is a celebration of Sport as a passion, a source of enjoyment enriching lives with the power to unite people from across the globe.

On behalf of the ICSS and ICSS EUROPE, we would like to congratulate and thank the European Commission and the European Union and all sport stakeholders that have joined for this landmark initiative and hope that it will become a yearly celebration leading to enhanced international cooperation and leadership in our joint efforts to safeguard sport.

The ICSS is committed to safeguarding young people in their pursuit of sport in leisure and as a pathway to a professional career. Through its Save the Dream programme, the ICSS empowers youth on the values that sport can teach including, leadership, team work, fair play, honesty and integrity.

Alongside our ongoing work with key institutions in this area, today is an important stepping-stone in placing the issue of youth protection in sport at the top of the agenda and in the minds of influential stakeholders and policy-makers.

We must not lose sight of the fact that the outcomes from today must translate into concrete actions that enhance universal best practices and ultimately benefit and protect children playing sport around the world. The ICSS and ICSS EUROPE is proud to be working alongside key governments, international charities, leading academic institutions and immigration authorities towards a common goal of making sure that sport is practiced in a safe and secure environment. We wish you a productive and engaging conference and look forward to working and engaging with you now and in the future.

Mohammed Hanzab  
PRESIDENT ICSS

Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros  
CEO, ICSS EUROPE and LATIN AMERICA
INTRODUCTION

For some children sport is for fun. For others, sport is a passion that can lead to a professional career. Whether at grassroots, amateur or professional level, sport is a powerful tool for young people. Sport can contribute to achieving a number of goals, including promoting health and well-being, physical activity, education, youth empowerment, gender equality, social cohesion, cultural integration and community development.

All children have the fundamental right to participate, enjoy and develop through sport in a safe and inclusive environment. However, a number of challenges continue to undermine the sound development and indispensable protection of children and young people on their pathway to elite sport.

To deal with these challenges and implement the highest universal standards in terms of youth development and protection, there is a need for a holistic, multi-sector, global approach involving relevant national and international institutions and key stakeholders.

For these reasons the ICSS and ICSS EUROPE has decided to prioritise youth development and child protection and host today’s discussion during the EU Week of Sport. We cannot celebrate sport without reminding people about the need to protect it.

Through the unique lenses of a selective number of sports leaders, senior representatives from international authorities and governments, as well as sports bodies, children’s charities and key stakeholders, the Conference will offer a privileged opportunity to discuss several fundamental questions and meet the mounting challenges facing youth development and child protection across a series of high profile panels.

In order to uphold the integrity of sport, ensure youth athletes are protected and face the challenges and threats that undermine the ethical nature and future of sport, strong political will is required alongside intense collaborative efforts among stakeholders and at local, national, regional, and international levels. This Conference, the presence of ICSS and ICSS EUROPE in Brussels and our support to the European Commission’s initiative during the EU Week of Sport is testimony to the ICSS’s commitment to this area.
Some of the most pressing issues that will be addressed today include:

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION IN AND THROUGH SPORT**

Using Sport as a powerful tool for education, inclusion, equality, fairness and human self-realisation to advance peace, development and respect for one another has been used throughout the world. However, Sport is also a competition and its growing economic impact in European and global societies has brought several new challenges, in particular concerning the safeguard of the true values of sport.

This panel session will share the experiences of international policy-makers and provide examples of good practices from sports organisations in a debate that starts with the consensus that the sound development and protection of young athletes is placed at the top of the political agenda.

**PREVENTION AND FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING OF MINORS IN SPORT**

While much media coverage rightly celebrates how sport can positively change the lives of children and young people, behind the scenes there is an underworld that exploits the goodness of sport for criminal commercial enterprise.

The human trafficking of minors and young people through sport has become more prevalent in recent years as the promise of lucrative playing contracts in European professional football leagues grows, although football is not the only sport affected. What are the main threats, how should sport address this problem and what are the best ways to enhance international cooperation, are just some of the questions this panel will address.

**THE SOCIAL VALUE OF SPORT**

Sport and sport competitions are a core element of human interaction and social activity. In addition to direct economic issues, the social and human values translated beyond sport by sport are widely recognised and supported by governments and international institutions. Notwithstanding the fast growing pace of the economic dimension of sport, as a leisure activity, Sport is not only regarded as the manifestation of fair play, achievement and human endeavour, but when structured and managed effectively, it acts as a catalyst to achieve broader social and economic benefits in the development of cities, regions and nations.
LISBON SUMMIT

The Inter-Regional Sports Policy Summit 2015 was an invitation-only gathering involving high-level decision-makers from major linguistic blocks, government ministers and leading international institutions. It was the first of its kind to blend sports public policy and inter-regional cooperation in order to develop solutions to issues including sporting and financial integrity and good governance, the impact of sport on socio-economic development, and youth development and child protection.

Those present included representatives from the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organisation of Ibero-American States (OEI), the Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking States and the Arab League, along with several high-ranking government officials and senior representatives from UNESCO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Council of Europe and the European Commission, FIFA TMS, UEFA and the Commonwealth Games Federation.

As a result of the 2015 Summit, four multi-sector task forces were established for each of the policy areas, one of which being Sport & Youth Policy, Chaired by Angela Melo, Director of Ethics, Youth and Sport, UNESCO.

SAVE THE DREAM

Save the Dream has been conceived by the ICSS to promote and protect the core values of sport for young people at a global level.

Since its launch in 2012, Save the Dream has gained overwhelming endorsements and support for its cause, building a strong coalition comprising sport persons, elite athletes, international bodies, sport and civil society organisations and many other entities who share the vision that, together, we can protect the purity of sport, build better societies and educate our youth thanks to the values of sport.

To this end, Save the Dream works to develop new ways to communicate with global societies and new ways to engage and empower youth and inspire societies towards a sport free from corruption, violence, discrimination and any other misconduct.

We need to take action, without further delay, to put in place all the necessary mechanisms to protect children from any misconduct or abuse occurring in the realm of sport. We need to develop mechanisms to prevent this: the only form of justice in this regard is to prevent these crimes from occurring.

Mohammed Hanzab
ICSS PRESIDENT
# BEACTIVE

## Event Agenda

### Timing and Agenda

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### Speakers

- Mohammed Hanzab, President, ICSS
- António Silva Mendes, Director of Sport and Youth of the European Commission
- Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros, CEO, ICSS EUROPE & LATIN AMERICA
- Ângela Melo, Director of Ethics, Youth and Sport, UNESCO
- Pedro Velázquez, Director Social Innovation, Save the Dream
- William Gaillard, Senior Advisor to the UEFA President
- João Paulo Almeida, Director General, Portuguese Olympic Committee
- Paulo Speller - Secretary General, Organisation of Ibero-American States
- Carlos Móia, CEO, Benfica Foundation
- Michael Trinker, Deputy Executive Secretary, EPAS - Council of Europe
- Yury Boychenko, Chief of Anti-Discrimination Section of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Fernanda Marques, Minister of Sport and Youth of Cape Verde
- Jean – Claude Mbwoumin, President, Foot-Solidaire
- Joaquim Evangelista, President, Portuguese Football Players’ Union
- Pascal Reyntjens, Chief of Mission, International Organisation for Migration (IOM) – Belgium & Luxembourg
- Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros, CEO, ICSS EUROPE & LATIN AMERICA
- Christian Karembeu, football legend, UEFA Global Ambassador
- Mohammed Hanzab, President, ICSS

**2015 European Union’s Week of Sport (EWoS)**

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