

LATEST VERSION 25 JULY 2015
SORBONNE-ICSS/COUNCIL OF EUROPE HANDBOOK ON INFORMATION SHARING



HANDBOOK ABOUT INFORMATION SHARING

Project

Pro Sports Integrity – Handbook about exchange of information to combat the manipulation of sports competitions.

Project setting

The Council of Europe has sent an official letter to the President of ICSS, Mr Mohammed Hanzab, and to the chair of the Sorbonne-ICSS Research Program on Ethics and Sports Integrity, Professor Laurent Vidal, to ask for the writing of a handbook on exchange of information to combat sports manipulations (see below).

The Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions was opened for signature by the member states on 18 September 2014. Twenty one states have already signed this new legal instrument and one of them has already ratified it. Its purpose is to prevent, detect and punish the manipulation of sports competitions, as well as to enhance the exchange of information and national and international cooperation between the public authorities concerned, and with sports organisations and sports betting operators. The Convention calls on governments to adopt measures, including legislation, notably in order to:

- Prevent conflicts of interest in sports betting operators and sports organisations;
- Encourage the sports betting regulatory authorities to fight against fraud, if necessary by limiting the supply of sports bets or suspending the taking of bets;
- Fight against illegal sports betting, allowing to close or restrict access to the operators concerned and block financial flows between them and consumers.

Sports organisations and competition organisers are also required to adopt and implement stricter rules to combat corruption, to allow for sanctions and proportionate disciplinary and criminal measures in the event of offences, as well as to promote the implementation of good governance principles. The Convention also provides safeguards for informants and witnesses.

UNESCO, through its Sport and Anti-Doping Programme and in connection with the follow-up to its 5th World Conference of Sport Ministers (MINEPS V), is also involved in the fight against sports manipulations and has made exchange of information a priority in the field of sport. UNESCO officially supports the Council of Europe Handbook on exchange of information.

To achieve the aims of the above Convention, exchange of information is crucial. Today, exchange of data has proved to be one of the most efficient tools to combat match fixing.

But many questions are raised: legal, technical and economic.

Project partners

- Council of Europe, through APES, in relation with its bodies with given expertise, such as GRECO, MONEYVAL, CDPC, T-PD, T-CY and CCPE
- Sorbonne University (Sorbonne-ICSS Research Program on Ethics and Sport Integrity) including its network
- ICSS including its network
- In cooperation with UNESCO

Other Organisations to be consulted

- Public authorities responsible for sport
- Public authorities responsible for law enforcement (*e.g.* UNODC)
- Public/regulatory authorities responsible for betting/gambling related issues
- National platforms addressing the manipulation of sports competitions
- INTERPOL/ EUROPOL
- International Olympic Committee
- International and national Sports Federations (*e.g.* UEFA, FIFA)
- World Lottery Association (WLA)
- European Lotteries (EL)
- European Gaming and Betting Association
- Eurojust
- FATF
- OECD

Priorities

- Reduce corruption in relation to sports betting
- Give sports stakeholders a comprehensive understanding of the matter
- Propose legal and technical solutions to ensure and reinforce exchange of information at national and international levels

Objectives

The handbook specifically intends to:

- Inform public and private stakeholders - including law enforcement and judicial bodies - about exchange of information
- Collect and share good practice on exchange of information

- Map the type of information to be collected
- Map the means to be used to collect information (monitoring systems, *etc.*)
- Map relevant authorities and existing information-sharing mechanisms and practices in the area of the manipulation of sport competitions and relevant related areas in the field of sport integrity, such as the fight against doping
- Support capacity building in designing the best legal and technical tools to (i) ensure exchange of information between sports organisations and sports betting operators; (ii) coordinate/monitor the rules governing sports organisations and sports betting operators in the field of exchanges of information
- Support capacity building in setting up the best legal and technical tools to ensure exchange of information between sports organisations/sports betting operators and public authorities responsible for law enforcement and justice or regulatory authorities responsible for betting/gambling related issues
- Support the capacity building in setting up national platforms for information sharing which shall improve the communication and information flow at national and international levels and address synergies with capacities for other sport integrity related exchange of information, notably with respect to the fight against doping
- Develop principles to coordinate the rules governing sports organisations and sports betting operators in the field of exchange of information
- Develop criteria to assess the continuous and adequate implementation of standards, procedures and rules relevant in the field of exchange of information

Target groups

- Public authorities responsible for sport
- Public authorities responsible for law enforcement
- Public authorities responsible for justice
- Public/regulatory authorities responsible for betting/gambling related issues
- National platforms addressing the manipulation of sports competitions
- Sports organisations
- Betting operators
- International organisations (UNESCO, UNODC, *etc.*)

Activities

- Desk research on legislative instruments and other resources relevant in the field of exchange of information (*e.g.* collection of information, intelligence, monitoring systems, data protection, information sharing, good practices, *etc.*)
- Research on good practices in the area of:
 - type of information to be collected
 - detection methods to be used
 - information sharing (*e.g.* with the sports movement and public authorities and between them)
 - integration of capacities to address different types of threats to sport integrity
 - national platforms
 - betting regulatory authorities
 - betting operators

- Develop methodological and practical tools for relevant public authorities, sports organisations, betting operators to implement the standards, procedures and rules in the field of exchange of information
- Organise trans-regional, regional and national round tables to provide information and know-how on standards, procedures and rules in the field of exchange of information
- Organise formal hearings and interviews
- Develop pragmatic indicators to check the continuous and adequate implementation of standards, procedures and rules relevant in the field of exchange of information
- Set up a list of recommendations on what should be the information to be collected, the means to be used, the relevant authorities and existing information-sharing mechanisms and practices (law enforcement, justice, criminal and disciplinary procedures, *etc.*), the monitoring mechanisms to check the continuous and adequate implementation of standards, procedures and rules

Outcomes

- Increased awareness of public and private stakeholders in the field of exchange of information
- Capacities and know-how of public and private stakeholders to manage stakes related to the field of exchange of information
- Capacities and know-how of public and private stakeholders to set up national platforms and relevant regulatory authorities responsible for exchange of information

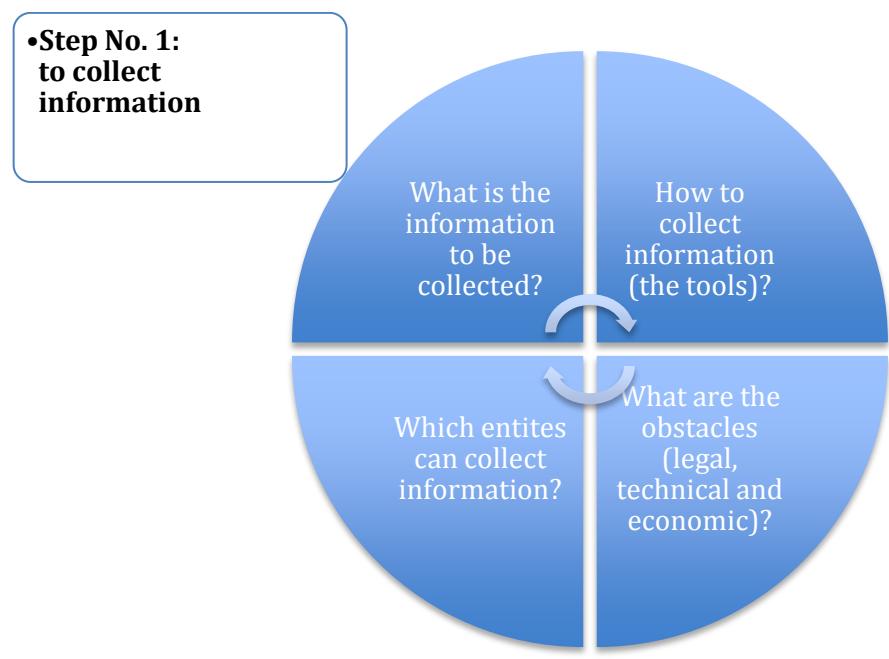
Expected results

Deliverables in the handbook:

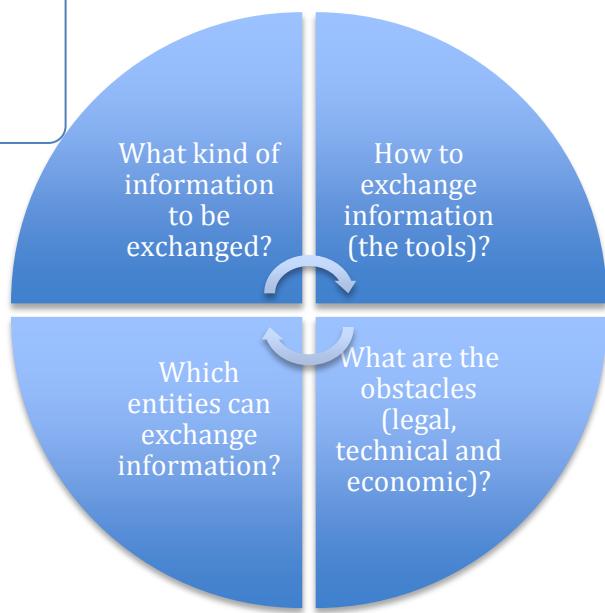
- Bibliography of legislative instruments, official documents (declarations, recommendations) and other relevant sources about exchange of information
- Overview and analysis of technical instruments to exchange information (e.g. IBIS, Interpol, letters rogatory etc.)
- Overview and analysis of technical and legal obstacles to overcome, in order to ensure and reinforce exchange of information
- Booklets/catalogue of good practices on:
 - national platforms
 - data collection
 - data detection methods
 - information sharing
- Methodological and practical tools for public authorities, sports organisations and betting operators to implement relevant standards, procedures and rules in the field of exchange of information
- Set of indicators/questionnaire to assess the continuous and adequate implementation of relevant standards, procedures and rules in the field of exchange of information
- A list of recommendations on what should be the information to be collected, the means to be used, the relevant authorities and existing information-sharing mechanisms and practices (law enforcement, justice, criminal and disciplinary procedures, *etc.*), the monitoring mechanisms to check the continuous and adequate implementation of standards, procedures and rules
- A list of recommendations for criteria and functions to be fulfilled or partners to be involved in the national platforms

Timeframe

- July 2015, kick off meeting to coordinate activity
- August 2015/November 2015: first draft and trans-national, regional and national seminars
- December 2015- February 2016: second and final draft
- March 2016: printing process
- April 2016: Report released and press conference
- Maximum project duration: 8 months



**•Step No. 2:
to exchange
information**



**•Step No. 3:
to use
information**

