



CONVENTION ON THE MANIPULATION OF SPORTS COMPETITIONS

”...an intentional arrangement,
act or omission aimed at an
improper alteration
of the result or the course
of a sports competition...

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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CONVENTION ON THE MANIPULATION OF SPORTS COMPETITIONS

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTION?

- The convention aims to facilitate national co-ordination and international co-operation against the threat of the manipulation of sports competitions, whether this is linked to criminal activity or to sports betting, or not.
- To establish a set of standards and measures at international level to be implemented by public authorities, sports organisations and betting operators in order to prevent and combat manipulations of sports competitions.
- To set up an international framework for the monitoring of these measures.

WHAT DOES THE CONVENTION REQUIRE STATES TO DO?

■ This convention is the first legally binding international tool to fight match-fixing for the states that choose to ratify it.

■ Parties are required to:

- ▶ promote preventative measures and co-ordinate the activities of relevant public authorities, sports organisations and betting operators;
- ▶ identify a national platform which will raise alerts and exchange information on irregular and suspicious bets at national and international level;
- ▶ appoint a representative or representatives to the Convention Follow-up Committee, responsible for the monitoring and effective implementation of the convention;
- ▶ ensure that the manipulation of sports competitions, when it involves coercion, corruption or fraud, as defined by domestic law, may be criminally sanctioned and punishable;
- ▶ consider adopting the most suitable means to fight against operators of illegal sports betting.



OPENING FOR SIGNATURE

- ▶ The Parliamentary Assembly gave its opinion on the convention via a report to the Committee of Ministers in spring 2014.
- ▶ The Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group (GR-C) approved the convention on 8 July 2014.
- ▶ The Ministers' Deputies adopted the convention on 9 July 2014.
- ▶ The convention was opened for signature at the 13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport in Magglingen, Switzerland, on 18 September 2014.



WHAT CAN STATES DO?

■ States Parties to the European Cultural Convention and those involved in the negotiations for drafting the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, will be entitled to sign the convention when it is opened for signature.

■ Other states may express interest once the convention is adopted by letter to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe. Following a two-month discrete and informal consultation of member states, the proposal is sent to the Committee of Ministers for invitation to the interested state, which is then allowed to sign the convention.

SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE OF THE CONVENTION

■ Contact: sport@coe.int

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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