

The background of the slide is the European Union flag, featuring a blue field with twelve golden-yellow five-pointed stars arranged in a circle. The flag is shown with a slight ripple, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

Sport:
**Perspectives
from Europe**

Hannu Takkula

Member of European Parliament

Helsinki, Finland, 9 June 2010



Europa

Treaty of Lisbon

Taking Europe into the 21st century

1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

The definition of 'Sport' is, naturally, very broad [established by the Council of Europe]:

'all forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels.'

Article 165 of the Treaty [on the Functioning of the European Union] calls on the EU to:

...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.*

- "Soft competence": coordinating and supporting action for:
 - ✓ promoting sport;
 - ✓ promoting fairness and openness in sport;
 - ✓ protecting the physical and moral integrity of athletes.
- Budget for sport!
- Gives EU the opportunity to speak with "one voice" in international platforms

The White Paper is the Commission's contribution to the European debate on the importance of sport in our daily lives.

This is the *first time that sport-related issues* have been addressed in such a comprehensive manner at EU level.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
White Paper on Sport



The Commission has launched a broad consultation process at different levels, involving the Member States, the European Parliament, the sport movement and the public at large.

EU Sport and the Future

Focus areas

- **Public health and physical activity**
e.g. Healthy life style; fight against obesity and chonical diseases
- **Fight against doping**
- **Education and Training**
e.g. Dual Career for young high level athletes; harmonisation of diplomas, etc.
- **Volunteering in Sport**
- **Social inclusion in and through sport**
- **Fight against Racism and Violence**
- **Sport in the Union's external relations**
- **Economic Impact**
- **Public support for sport**
- **Free movement and nationality**
- **Player's Agents**
- **Protection of Minors**
- **Corruption, money-laundering & other financial crime**
- **Licensing systems**
- **Structured dialogue**
- **Social Dialogue**

SPORTS

But what can the EU *really* do?



Expectations are extremely high regarding future EU action on sport. The European Commission has warned that it cannot do everything:

“... the tools and funding at our disposal remain very limited... We cannot do everything ... We need to prioritise“

- Jan Truszczyński -

Director-General of the Commission's directorate for education and culture

"It is not just a sports policy, it is a health policy and education policy, an anti-crime policy and an anti-drugs policy..."

- Tony Blair -

[speaking at the Labour Party's annual conference in Brighton (in 2000), when he pledged an extra £750 million of lottery money to upgrade school and community sports facilities.]



What's new

Posted : 25 May 2010

[Commission launches Call for Proposals for 2010 Preparatory Action](#)

On 22 May 2010, a call for proposals to implement the 2010 Preparatory Action in the field of sport (EAC/22/2010) was published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

More



Posted : 12 May 2010

[EU Sport Forum 2010 – Report now available](#)

The second EU Sport Forum since the adoption of the White Paper on Sport took place in Madrid on 19 and 20 April 2010. The Commission's report from the Forum is now available.

More



Posted : 28 April 2010

[Commission launches public consultation on sport](#)

The Commission has launched an online consultation on the EU's strategic choices for the implementation of the new EU competence in the field of sport. The Lisbon Treaty calls on the EU to promote European ...

More



All News

What we do

Sport and...

- Health
- Doping
- Education and training
- Volunteering
- Social inclusion, integration and equal opportunities
- Fight against racism and violence

Sport and...

- Economic data
- Public sector support
- State aid control
- Taxation
- Private funding
- Regional development

Sport and...

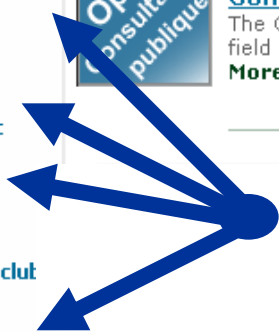
- Free movement of sportspeople
- Transfers
- Sports agents
- Licensing systems for clubs
- Criminality
- Protection of minors
- Supporters

Sport and...

- Competition law
- Media
- Internal Market
- External relations
- Environment

Who we are

- Our Commissioner
- The sport unit and its



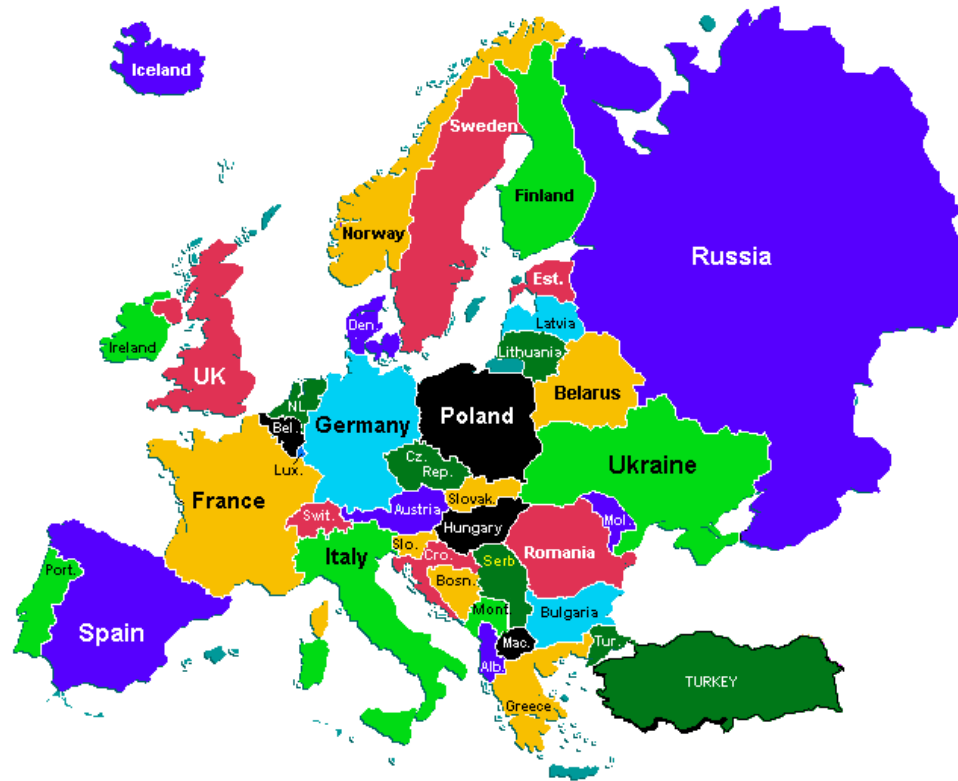
Sport and...

[the possibilities are infinite]

MEP Hannu Takkula

SPORT & EU

Perhaps the
biggest
challenge lies
in our diversity



- What type of sport is “preferred” varies enormously...
- What sport is shown on TV varies...
- How sport is funded [publicly and privately] varies...
- How sport is taught in schools varies...

SPORT & EU

What should one do?

As you point out in your own documents [A2B Workshop Report] the EU can help by:

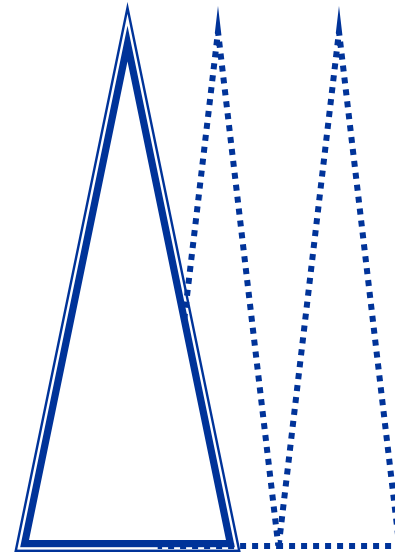
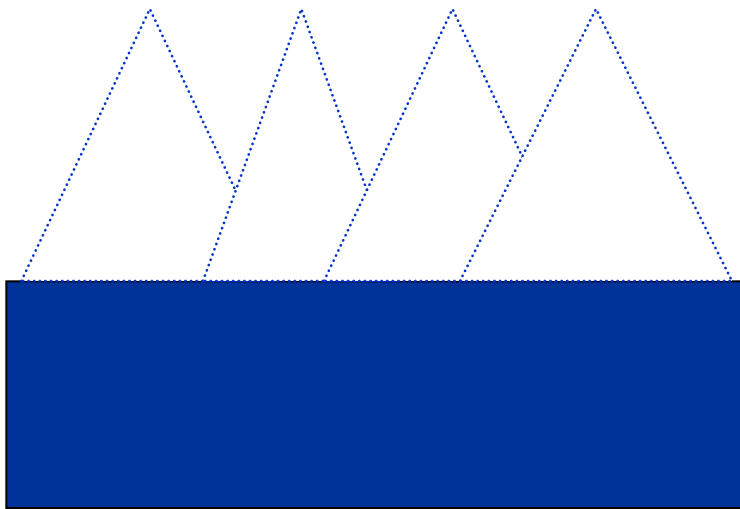
- improving legal frameworks, developing standards and quality control mechanisms [etc.]
- but perhaps the greatest potential lies in EU's effort to support the formation of networks in order to *share knowledge and exchange best practices...*

“Grassroots” sports activities are in a very important role!

We must not only aim to share Best Practice, but Create new Best Practice!

Some final thoughts on learning - I

- Should education be **broad-based** *or* **very specialised**?
- **Where should “Dual Career” training focus?**



Some final thoughts on learning - II

1960's



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

- *Culture*
- *Learning*
- *Personal growth*
- *Humanistic ideals*
- *"Human being"*
- *Life situation*

2000



- Competitiveness
- Training
- Employability
- Economic rationale
- "Active citizenship"
- Labour market



Thank You!

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