



CONCLUSIONS

PACE-UEFA CONFERENCE “PLAY FAIR WITH SPORT” STRASBOURG, 29 SEPTEMBER 2006

A conference took place today at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg which brought together the worlds of sport and politics in Europe.

The main conclusions were as follows:

1. The Council of Europe's proposed Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) is an appropriate mechanism for co-operation between governments and sport throughout Europe.

2. The Independent European Sport Review makes important recommendations for determining the future relationship between sport and politics in the Council of Europe and European Union contexts.

3. Together, these approaches should:
 - a. introduce legal clarity and stability for European sport.
 - b. define the specificity of sport.
 - c. recognise the autonomy of the sports governing bodies.
 - d. preserve the European Sports Model and European values.
 - e. address the numerous problems facing European sport (racism, illegal betting, doping, corruption, agents, match-fixing, governance, and so on).

The bodies represented at the conference included parliamentarians and officials from the Council of Europe, European Union and European countries as well as representatives from sports bodies including FIFA, UEFA, European sports federations, EPFL, FIFPro, individual top clubs and supporter representatives.

The conference expressed the hope that the Council of Europe Ministers of Sport meeting in Moscow in October 2006 and subsequently the EU Sports Ministers, meeting in Brussels in November, would support these conclusions.

A healthy future for sport in Europe can only be achieved by politics and sport working together.