

INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR SPORTS INTEGRITY

9 NOVEMBER 2021

CONCLUSIONS

The fourth edition of the International Forum for Sports Integrity (IFSI) enabled representatives of governments, intergovernmental organisations, international and national sports organisations, betting entities and experts to exchange on the best ways to collaborate in order to strengthen sport's credibility and integrity.

This virtual Forum allowed for a broad exchange of views from the various stakeholders' perspectives. All the participants indicated their support for reinforcing cooperation and coordination with the aim of protecting clean athletes, clean sport and clean competitions.

The IOC President observed that the Olympic Movement's credibility, one of the key pillars of Olympic Agenda 2020, remains at the heart of the Olympic strategy: this is reflected in the new Olympic Agenda 2020+5, which calls explicitly for the strengthening of safe sport and the protection of clean athletes and of the Olympic Movement, through good governance. This illustrates the IOC's full commitment. In addition, the IOC President called upon more governments to join the International Partnership Against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) and to harmonise their legislation on criminal consequences regarding the manipulation of competitions and corruption in sport, and to take action accordingly.

The high-level representatives of the intergovernmental organisations, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Council of Europe (CoE), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and INTERPOL recognised the commitment demonstrated by the sports organisations in the fight against corruption in sport and the manipulation of competitions. They highlighted the need for more cooperation between the national public authorities and the entities of the sports movement, and pledged to facilitate such cooperation.

The participants welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed earlier today between UNODC and the IOC as a strong message of the shared determination to fight corruption and crime in sport. This MoU confirms the continuation of the ongoing joint actions to fight corruption in sport and highlights the new complex area of focus on preventing youth crime, violence and drug use through sport.

In 2016, the United Kingdom paved the way for the creation of IPACS as the most efficient and pragmatic means of tackling corruption in sport. During this Forum, the United Kingdom's Minister from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport confirmed the relevance of this initiative and governmental commitment to support IPACS.



With regard to the fight against corruption in sport

All the participants acknowledged the importance and effectiveness of coordinated and collaborative answers to fight against corruption in sport.

The participants welcomed the endorsement by the most recent G20 Leaders' Summit of the High-Level Principles on Tackling Corruption in Sport. The Olympic Movement, under the leadership of the IOC, is in this context ready to strengthen its cooperation with the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group.

In this framework, the participants recognised the development of IPACS since its creation, in particular with the active involvement of all the Olympic Movement stakeholders under the leadership of the IOC, namely the International Sports Federations (IFs), a great number of non-Olympic IFs and National Olympic Committees (NOCs), as well as a growing number of governments (over 40 as of today) willing to tackle the issue of corruption in sport.

As a result of the collaboration between the IPACS partners, various practical tools and guidelines have been developed, the objective being to strengthen the area of good governance in sport and to disseminate criminal law standards. All these tools, already available to the partners to support their actions, have been presented, and the sports organisations as well as governments have been encouraged to use them (www.ipacs.sport).

The participants encouraged more governments to join the IPACS initiative. To facilitate this, the support of the intergovernmental organisations, such as UNODC, OECD, CoE and INTERPOL, is appreciated.

The Forum stressed that good governance is the major factor for mitigating corruption risks in sports organisations, and emphasised the necessity of cooperation with a view to exchanging information on corruption cases. Governments, and in particular their law enforcement and criminal justice authorities, are encouraged to join and support IPACS to achieve better coordination of their efforts together with sport to tackle corruption issues.

With regard to the prevention of the manipulation of competitions

The participants acknowledged the achievements made through the Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions (OM Unit PMC) and the "3-Pillar Strategy". This strategy covers the fields of legislation/regulations, awareness raising/capacity building and intelligence/investigation.

The amendments to the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions were fully supported by the IFSI. These include in particular safe reporting mechanisms, stronger awareness-raising programmes and compliance processes. It was noted that this Code is entirely in line with the CoE Convention on the Manipulation of Competitions and the compliance with this Code by the various Olympic Movement stakeholders was emphasised.



The participants welcomed the latest initiative of the OM Unit PMC to develop the IFs' and NOCs' network of Single Points of Contact (SPOCs), in order to strengthen and disseminate expertise within sports organisations.

They also valued the efforts made by the IFs and NOCs to support the awareness-raising programme through the "Believe in Sport Campaign" and the "Ambassadors Programme". These efforts were specifically highlighted in relation to the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022.

The IOC's Integrity Betting Intelligence System (IBIS) demonstrated the relevance of exchanging information related to suspicious sports betting activities. Recognising the importance of sharing account-based information, the stakeholders underlined the need for a joint effort towards sustainable solutions.

The creation of national cooperation frameworks was also recognised as a good practice to allow the exchange of information and intelligence between the national stakeholders. The participation of NOCs within such frameworks was greatly supported. The operational efficiency of IBIS as a link between these national frameworks and the international sports organisations and betting operators around the world was noted.

Finally, governments were encouraged to develop harmonised criminal legislation, including clearly defined criminal offences, in particular with the support of the newly published UNODC-IOC Guide.

Overall, the participants called upon both the national authorities and sports organisations to continue their joint efforts towards identifying good practices to prevent corruption in sport and the manipulation of competitions.

The participants were encouraged to refer to the various tools and documents brought together for this Forum ([IOC-IFSI virtual platform](#)).

Lausanne, 9 November 2021