

# Conte[s|x]ting Sport

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012 - Split, CROATIA

*a one-day conference exploring themes of inclusion, diversity and sustainability through action and change in sport*



## Conference Programme

09:00 – Registrations

09:30 **Opening Address:**

**Maria Ochoa-Llidó** - Council of Europe

Deputy to the Director of Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination, Head of Social Cohesion and Diversity Department, Directorate General II (Democracy)

**Krešimir Šamija, PhD** - Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports  
Head of Physical Culture, Sport and Recreational Sports Department

**Louise Englefield** (EGLSF) and **Željko Blaće** (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia)  
Conference Organizing Committee

09:45 **Keynote Speakers:**

**Ana Sršen** (P.K. Natator, Zagreb, Croatia)

Former world record holder and competitor at four Paralympic Games

**Ivan Ergić** – professional football player for Juventus (2000-01), FC Basel (2001-09), Bursaspor (2009-11), national team of Serbia (2006 World Championship), contributing writer for newspapers (Politika) and magazines

10:30 **Panel #1:**

### **Sport In Transition**

How does South East Europe, as a region of radical transformation, provide opportunities for change within and through sport?

**moderator:** Saška Benedičić Tomat (ISCA - International Sport and Culture Association, from Ljubljana, Slovenia), **with panelists:** Renato Matić, PhD (Faculty of Kinesiology, University of Split), Alexander Rakowitz (Balkan Alpe Adria Project), Ana Sršen (Zagreb, Croatia) and Ivan Ergić (Belgrade, Serbia)

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10:30 **Morning Sessions:**

Workshop A:

**LGBTQ Young People & Sport**

**moderator:** Lou Englefield (Pride Sports, UK)

**contributors:** Karin Teow (ENGSO Youth),  
Sarah Williams (Rugby Football League, UK) and  
Jayne Caudwell (The Justin Campaign, UK)

Meeting W:

**QueerSport-in-SEE**

Coordination before and after EuroGames 2012, towards 2013

proposed by QueerSport.info, moderated by Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb)

11:50 *Refreshments*

12:00 **Noon Sessions:**

Workshop B:

**Writing on Sport** – Painting the Full Picture in Sport Contexts

**moderator:** Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb), **with contributors:**

Reynald Blion (Media Against Racism in Sport, CoE-EU campaign),  
Vedran Obučina (qSPORT - Zagreb), Foucault Christelle (FSGL, Paris)  
and Jayne Caudwell (The Justin Campaign, UK)

Meeting X:

**Homophobia and Professional Sport**

**moderator:** Greg Czarnecki (KPH, Poland), **with contributors:**

Marko Jurčić (Zagreb Pride), Sanja Juras (Kontra),  
Piara Powar (FARE Network), Chris Vanja (The Justin Campaign, UK)  
and Louise Englefield (Pride Sports, UK)

13:30 *Lunch*

15:00 **Afternoon Sessions:**

Workshop C1: **Organising LGBTQ Sport** – Building a Sustainable Future  
**moderator:** Željko Blaće (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia), **with contributors:** Brian Todd (Gay & Lesbian Rowing Federation), Louise Englefield (Pride Sports, UK), Karmen Ratković (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia), Lou Manders (EGLSF) and Paul Brummitt (Pan Idræt, Denmark)

Workshop C2: **Building Bridges** - Growing Diverse Sports Participation  
**moderator:** Saška Benedičić Tomat (ISCA, Slovenia), **with contributors:** Ewa Markowicz (Chair, Council of Europe – EPAS), Selma Kustura (VIDC, Austria), Dave Merchant (Marlin Swimming Club, UK), Zlatko Nikolić / Matej Vreli (White Angels – fan club of FC Zagreb) and Marko Begović (Montenegro - Directorate for Youth and Sports)

16:20 *Refreshments*

16:30 **Late Afternoon Sessions:**

Workshop D1: **From Personal to Institutional**  
Developing Inclusive Good Practice in Mainstream Sport  
**moderator:** Sarah Williams (Rugby Football League, UK)  
**contributors:** Håvard B. Øvregård (NOC, Norway)

Workshop D2: **Resting On Our Laurels?**  
Future Challenges for LGBTQ Sport  
**moderator:** Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb),  
**contributors:** Dave Merchant (Marlin Swimming Club, UK), Jayne Caudwell (The Justin Campaign, UK), Karmen Ratković (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia), Greg Czarnecki (KPH, Poland) and Klaus Heusslein (I.C.O.N.S., Italy)

Meeting Y: **Writing on Sport**  
**moderator:** Vedran Horvath (Heinrich Boell Stiftung - Croatia)  
**contributors:** Vedran Obučina (qSPORT - Zagreb), Leila Šeper (OneWorldSEE.org - Sarajevo)

17:50 *Refreshments*

18:00 **Keynote Speaker:**

**John Amaechi** – organisational consultant,  
New York Times best-selling author and former NBA basketball player,  
Officer of the British Empire Medal recipient in 2011

18:30 **Panel #2:**

**The Sport Pyramid**

Diversity and Inclusion from Grassroots to Elite, 2012 and Beyond

**moderators:** Louise Englefield (EGLSF) & Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb)  
**with panelists:** Håvard B. Øvregård (Norway), Piara Powar (FARE Network),  
John Amaechi (UK) and Ivan Ergić (Serbia)

19:30 **Closing Remarks :**

**Future Steps**

Ewa Markowicz (Chair, Council of Europe – EPAS)  
Louise Englefield (EGLSF)

20:30 *Reception at Hostel Goli & Bosi (drinks served)*

21:00 *Screening of documentaries of Split PRIDE 2011 and Justin Fashanu*



**Radisson Blu Resort Split** is official Hotel of Conference providing accommodation, assistance during a visit to Split and its SPA services.  
<http://www.radissonblu.com/resort-split/>

**Croatia Airlines**, the national airlines of Republic of Croatia and Star Alliance member, is the Official Carrier and provides discounted prices on their direct flights.  
<http://www.croatiaairlines.com/>

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## WORKSHOP OUTLINES

The workshops are designed to meet the needs of a range of diverse participants, including representatives of:

- Sports Ministries
- Ministries in Charge of Equality
- Governing Bodies of Sport
- LGBT Sports Organisations
- NGOs, Sport Fans and Media

The Workshops and Meetings will take place in 4 time slots, with Keynotes and Panels before and after. Participants are able to choose between complementary workshops for each time slot A, B, C1 and C2, D1 and D2, respectively or attend meetings (W, X, Y and Z). The Workshop topics are the following:

### **WORKSHOP A : LGBTQ Young People & Sport**

***moderator:*** Lou Englefield (*Pride Sports, UK*)

***with contributors:*** Karin Teow (*ENGSO Youth*) and Sarah Williams (*Rugby Football League, UK*)

Young LGBTQ people remain some of the most excluded from sport in Western Europe, where improvements in LGBTQ human rights have not necessarily been matched by changes in heteronormative, and often, sexist sports culture. Meanwhile, the age of 'coming out' in these countries can be as low as fourteen, leaving LGBTQ young people vulnerable to homophobic & transphobic bullying in both school & community sport. Meanwhile, some of the youngest LGBTQ athletes participating in EuroGames and other LGBTQ tournaments are from Central and Eastern Europe. What are the consequences of exclusion for young LGBTQ people? What is its impact on the performance of those who choose to remain in sport? What are the safeguarding issues for young LGBTQ people in sport? How can we use sport as a medium for young people to challenge homophobia and transphobia?

### **WORKSHOP B : Writing on Sport - Painting the Full Picture of Sport Contexts**

***moderator:*** Željko Blaće (*qSPORT - Zagreb*),

***with contributors:*** Reynald Blion (*Media Against Racism in Sport, CoE-EU campaign*),

*Vedran Obučina (qSPORT - Zagreb), Foucault Christelle (FSGL, Paris) and Jayne Caudwell (The Justin Campaign)*

Sport writing in mainstream media has been exclusively dominated by Results and Business and Media reporting there by reducing social, political and cultural aspects of sport to sporadic reflective exceptions. Academic writing on the other hand has not been accessible beyond the niche of expert journals that rarely feed into practice. What are the economic and cultural conditions that limit these two forms of commentary and how can both journalism and academia support access to insightful, engaged and participatory sport writing? Can an exchange be facilitated to stimulate critical and mindful writing on conditions and developments of contemporary sport?

### **WORKSHOP C1 : Organising LGBTQ Sport – Building a Sustainable Future**

**moderator:** Željko Blaće (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia),

**with contributors:** Brian Todd (Gay & Lesbian Rowing Federation), Louise Englefield (Pride Sports, UK), Karmen Ratković (qSPORT – Zagreb, Croatia), Lou Manders (EGLSF) and Paul Brummitt (Pan Idræt, Denmark)

Due to its inherent social and political components, the organisation of LGBTQ sport tends to be a complex task. From networking and outreach to capacity building and sustainability, clubs and individuals need to continuously balance capacities and resources, public and private, local and international involvement. This workshop provides the opportunity for participants to discuss concepts such as pro-active outreach, capacity building and networking, marketing, event management and professionalisation.

### **WORKSHOP C2 : Building Bridges - Growing Diverse Sport Participation**

**moderator:** Saška Benedičić Tomat (ISCA, Slovenia),

**with contributors:** Ewa Markowicz (Chair, Council of Europe – EPAS), Selma Kustura (VIDC, Austria), Dave Merchant (Marlin Swimming Club, UK), Zlatko Nikolić / Matej Vreli (White Angels – fan club of FC Zagreb) and Marko Begović (Montenegro - Directorate for Youth and Sports)

Contemporary sport is gradually becoming more inclusive through the efforts of those who have been previously marginalised. Although success has by no means been universal, women for example, who represent 51% of the population, are still less present, visible and established in sport than their male counterparts and the same can be said of those from minority ethnic backgrounds and disabled people. When does the absence of diversity in sport become evident? Can understanding of the cultural, social, and economic context provide a basis for better understanding? What is the business case for diversity and inclusion in sport? How do we truly engage communities when representation at governance level is at best nominal? How do excluded groups work together? Is it possible to form a united sport movement across all groups? What role do public authorities have in ensuring the broadest diversity possible in sport? How can this be achieved?

### **WORKSHOP D1 : From Personal to Institutional – Developing Inclusive Good Practice in Mainstream Sport**

**moderator:** Sarah Williams (RFL), **with contributor:** Håvard B. Øvregård (Norway)

LGBTQ inclusion from grassroots to elite sport requires a strategic approach across all areas - youth & community engagement, player & performance development, regulation, spectators & fans, PR & communication. This workshop will draw on two examples of good institutional practice from the Rugby Football League (RFL) in the UK and the Norwegian Olympic Committee. It will also enable participants to discuss key issues for integrating inclusive practice into their own areas of work, methods for climate change within institutions and strategies for consulting those groups deemed 'hard to reach'.

### **WORKSHOP D2 : Resting on Our Laurels? – Future Challenges for LGBTQ Sport**

**moderator:** Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb),

**contributors:** Dave Merchant (Marlin Swimming Club, UK), Jayne Caudwell (The Justin Campaign, UK), Karmen Ratković (qSPORT – Zagreb), Greg Czarnecki (KPH, Poland) and Klaus Heusslein (I.C.O.N.S., Italy)

The current LGBTQ sports movement can be seen as a triumph of self-organisation in the face of exclusion. For more than 30 years, gay men (predominantly) in Western European cities have created their own means of sports engagement and competition, whilst they have remained excluded from the mainstream. However, are these opportunities sufficient? Are they still relevant in 2012? Do they reach out to young LGBTQs and do they embrace all sections of the LGBTQ community - women, transgenderd people, and disabled LGBTQ people? How can this 'sport community' meet the needs of those living in countries where LGBTIQ human rights do not

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exist? How can LGBTQ sport re-establish itself as a vital and energetic movement that instigates progressive change in the community and society at large? Can LGBTQ sport projects support other movements, struggles and causes in an innovative way?

## **MEETING SESSIONS**

In parallel to the conference and next days (parallel to EGLSF AGA), there is an opportunity to have information exchange, coordination and working meetings in one of the side room for focused groups, targeting specific area of work and with more concrete objectives.

Some of the topics are suggested, but offer of taking the opportunity remains open. Please contact organizers of conference and AGA for available time slots and spaces.

### **#W : QueerSport-in-SEE**

coordination before EuroGames 2011, towards EuroGames 2012

- proposed by QueerSport.info, moderated by Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb)

### **#X : Homophobia and Professional Sport (Friday 12:00)**

- proposed by QueerSport.info, moderated by Greg Czarnecki (KPH, Poland)

### **#Y : Writing on Sport (Friday 16:30)**

- proposed by QueerSport.info, moderated by Vedran Horvat (HBS - Croatia)

### **#Z : A+A+A meet (Saturday XX:XX)**

networking Artistic, Academic and Activist work with LGBTQ sport communities

- proposed by QueerSport.info, moderated by Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb) and Chris Vanja (TheJustinCampaign, UK)

## **IMPRESSUM**

Organizing committee:

Louise Englefield (EGLSF), Sonia Parayre (CoE/EPAS) & Željko Blaće (qSPORT - Zagreb)

Consultation:

Vedran Horvat (HBS Croatia) & Karmen Ratković (qSPORT - Zagreb)

Support:

Tonči Kranjčević Batalić & Tomislav Jerić (Queer Sport Split),

Blanka Zec & Dejan Škaljac (qSPORT - Zagreb)

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