



INTERPOL

# INTEGRITY IN SPORT

## Bi-weekly Bulletin

26 June 2018 - 9 July 2018



Photos International Olympic Committee

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Armenia

#### **Shirak SC's sporting manager charged with bribery in match-fixing scandal**

YEREVAN, JUNE 27, ARMENPRESS. Amid an ongoing investigation into football match fixing, the investigative committee has charged Ararat Harutyunyan, the sporting director of Gyumri's Shirak, with bribery.

Harutyunyan, a retired footballer, is accused in bribing defender Edward Kpodo of Yerevan's Banants earlier in May to deliver a poor performance and fix the match in favor of Shirak.

The sporting manager and the footballer met in Harutyunyan's car, where the defender accepted 1000 dollars as a prepayment. Harutyunyan told the footballer that he would give another 4000 dollars after the match, according to the investigative committee.

Kpodo himself used to play for Harutyunyan's club.

The footballer took the bribe, but immediately went to notify his club's executives. Kpodo said he took the money because Shirak owed him money in unpaid bonuses. He even showed phone messages proving his claim.

Harutyunyan has been charged as the investigation continues.

*Source: 27 June 2018, Armenpress*

*Football*

<https://armenpress.am/eng/news/939114.html>

### Italy

#### **Parma striker Emanuele Calaio accused of match-fixing by messaging opposition**

Parma striker Emanuele Calaio has been charged with match-fixing as the club won promotion to Serie A last season.

The 36-year-old is alleged to have sent messages to Spezia players Filippo De Col and Claudio Terzi before their match on 18 May, which Parma won 2-0 to secure promotion from Serie B.

Calaio is accused of attempting to influence the game by "eliciting a reduced effort" from De Col and Terzi.

The case has been passed by the Italian FA to the Federal National Court.

Calaio sent the messages to De Col, who he previously played with at Spezia, via messaging service WhatsApp, the Italian Football Federation said in a statement.

Parma, who has previously denied the claims, have also been referred to the court due to their "liability" for the player.

It is understood that Parma will argue that the messages from Calaio were meant to be a joke.

"We can't really believe how the message's text and content can set off such a serious situation," Parma said. "Parma Calcio 1913 asks the truth to be established as quickly as possible, out of respect for the club and its supporters."

Parma were relegated to Serie D after being declared bankrupt in 2015, but will return to Italy's top flight after three back-to-back promotions.

*Source: 6 July 2018, BBC Sport*

*Football*

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/44738976>

## Slovakia

### Police Arrest 20 Referees and Football Club Officials over Match Fixing

Banska Bystrica, July 8 (TASR) – The police on Sunday announced that they detained 20 people in a raid related to sports corruption in Banska Bystrica on Saturday, while charges were eventually pressed against 21 people.

A total of 70 officers from the elite National Crime Agency (NAKA) and students of a secondary police school in Pezinok (Bratislava region) on Saturday stormed a building in Banska Bystrica that was hosting a seminar for football referees.

“They came to pick up 13 main referees, assistant referees and match delegates. They also arrested seven football club officials,” reported the police on a social network.

The operation, carried out in cooperation with the Slovak Football Association (SFZ), concerned match fixing in competitions falling under the remit of the regional Central Slovak Football Association.

“The main referees, assistant referees and match delegates were allegedly promised by officials of the football clubs in face-to-face meetings – and later actually received – bribes of €200-1,000 to secure wins for designed teams,” reported the police.

If convicted, the referees and match delegates may spend up to ten years in prison, while the football club officials face up to five-year sentences.

*Source: 8 July 2018, News Now*

*Football*

<http://newsnow.tasr.sk/sport/police-arrest-20-referees-and-football-club-officials-over-match-fixing/>

## Spain

### Extremadura allege match-fixing bribes

Extremadura have claimed they were offered €300k by promotion playoff opponents Cartagena in order to throw the match.

The club, who are based in the region carrying the same name, ended their 16-year hiatus from Spain’s top two tiers last weekend thanks to a 1-0 playoff victory.

El Mundo report they have received access to the reports, which are now in the hands of the police force and an investigation is now ongoing.

Extremadura Coach Juan Sabas has claimed he was offered the vast sum of money by Cartagena, to tell his players to allow their opponents to win while several other players have reported similar.

Sabas said he was approached while shopping and he phoned the club’s president immediately, who later passed the details onto the Spanish FA who then contacted local authorities.

INTEGRITY IN SPORT

Earlier this month, Almeria captain Jorge Morcillo was arrested following match-fixing allegations.

*Source: 27 June 2018, Football Espana*

*Football*

<https://www.football-espana.net/72335/extremadura-allege-match-fixing-bribes>

## Spain

### Major Spanish operation against a prolific organised crime group in Europe

The gang carried out a huge number of illegal activities, such as drug trafficking, illicit tobacco smuggling, home burglaries, unlawful possession of firearms, vehicle theft and sports corruption.

On 26 and 27 June 2018 the Spanish National Police and the Mossos d'Esquadra, supported by Europol, INTERPOL and the Georgian Police, carried out one of the biggest Spanish operations against a prolific organised group in Europe. The operation has seen the arrest of 129 individuals, including leaders, and 74 houses searches were executed in several Spanish cities. EUR 100 000 in cash was seized, alongside firearms, bulletproof vests and a significant amount of illicit tobacco.

Investigations, which began in 2016, led the authorities to establish the complexity of this criminal group, considered one of the biggest in Europe. They found the different rings of the network were led by a 'thief in law', high-level professional criminals from the former Soviet Union who enjoy elite positions within the organised crime environment by coordinating organised crime groups and making decisions in the criminal underworld. They are, in turn, responsible for all of the members of the group and manage all their activity and profits gained from illegal activities. The organised crime group was helped by other international crime rings from Belgium, France, Italy, Lithuania and the United States, which were compensated with proceeds made from money laundering.

**Sports corruption:** A large number of the arrestees had close contact with many tennis, beach volleyball, basketball, and ice hockey players. Approximately 20 players were bribed to arrange the outcome of matches. Later, they bet on that result to obtain gains illegally.

**Illicit tobacco smuggling:** Criminals established an international network of smuggled tobacco produced in Ukraine and Poland and transported by lorries to France, Italy and Spain.

**Illicit vehicle trafficking:** They manipulated the odometer and documents of luxury vehicles which were bought in Belgium and Germany to be sold in Spain.

**Home burglaries:** Some of the groups were dedicated to home burglaries in Alicante and Valencia, where the network had a clandestine house where pieces of stolen jewellery and gold and silver ingots were manufactured.

Four Europol experts from different units supporting on-the-spot

Europol has supported this investigation since the beginning by providing analytical support from two different projects: Sports Corruption and Eastern European Organised Crime and by organising several operational meetings over recent months. On the action day, four Europol experts from the Serious and Organised Crime Department and from the Operational Centre were deployed to Alicante, Valencia and Madrid, equipped with two mobile offices and a Universal Forensic Extraction Device (UFED). Information gathered during the operation will be analysed and exchanged in real time and immediately cross-matched against Europol's databases.

Source: 6 July 2018, Europol

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/major-spanish-operation-against-prolific-organised-crime-group-in-europe>

## Ukraine

### Police conducting raids to investigate football match fixing in 11 regions

Ukraine's National Police are conducting a number of raids as part of an investigation into football match fixing.

"On June 26, searches are underway in 11 regions involving match organizers, former and current players and football functionaries," the National Police's economic crime department told the Kyiv-based Interfax-Ukraine news agency on June 26.

As reported, May 22, 2018, Ukraine's Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said that the Ukrainian police officers had completed a special operation to end the activities of five organized criminal groups that organized an extensive system of "contractual" [fixed] matches in football. Some 35 of the 52 professional football clubs in Ukraine were involved. Police determined that at least 50 matches involving professional clubs were 'fixed.'

"Suspects were served suspicion notices of committing a criminal offense under Part 4 of Article 368-3 (bribery of a person providing public services) and Part 1 of Article 369-3 (illegal influence over the result of sports competition) of Ukraine's Criminal Code," Avakov said.

At the same time, Deputy National Police Chief Ihor Kuprants said then that no one had been detained as of May 22 due to the "category of articles and sanctions."

Source: Interfax-Ukraine, 26 June 2018, Kyiv Post

Football

<https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/police-conducting-raids-to-investigate-football-match-fixing-in-11-regions.html>

## SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

### Egypt

#### **Egyptian tennis player Karim Hossam banned for life and fined for match-fixing offences**

Karim Hossam, the 24-year old Egyptian tennis player, has been banned for life and fined \$15,000 after being convicted of multiple match-fixing offences.

The player was found guilty of 16 corruption charges under Section D of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program. These included match-fixing, facilitating betting, providing inside information and failing to report corrupt approaches to the Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU).

The case was based on a TIU investigation and adjudicated by independent Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer (AHO) Jane Mulcahy QC.

The breaches of the sport's anti-corruption code were committed at ITF Futures tournaments over a five-year period between 2013 and 2017.

Mr Hossam has been subject to a provisional suspension imposed by AHO Mulcahy in June 2017, which has subsequently prevented him playing in or attending any authorised tennis events.

The lifetime ban applies with immediate effect and means the player is not allowed to compete in, or attend, any sanctioned events organised or recognised by the governing bodies of the sport.

Mr Hossam is ranked 1136 in singles, with a career high of 337 achieved in September 2013.

The Tennis Integrity Unit is an initiative of the Grand Slam Board, the International Tennis Federation, the ATP and the WTA, who are jointly committed to a zero tolerance approach to corruption in tennis.

*Source: 3 July 2018, Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU)*

*Tennis*

<http://www.tennisintegrityunit.com/media-releases/egyptian-tennis-player-karim-hossam-banned-life-and-fined-match-fixing-offences>



## Singapore

### Former player in match-fixing scandal gets to keep citizenship

Former S-League player Gaye Alassane, who was part of a global match-fixing syndicate, will not be deprived of his Singapore citizenship after all, as he is assessed to be unlikely to re-offend. The Mali-born naturalised citizen was served with a Notice of Proposed Deprivation of Citizenship in December last year.

The 43-year-old then referred his case to a citizenship committee, which recommended to Home Affairs Minister K. Shanmugam that he exercise his discretion and allow Mr Alassane to keep his citizenship on compassionate grounds. Giving due consideration to the committee's recommendation, the minister has since decided to give Mr Alassane another chance and "not deprive him of his citizenship for now", the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said yesterday.

This decision is subject to his conduct and behavior, and if he is found taking part in "any act that is against the public good" again, the minister will not hesitate to recommence proceedings to remove his citizenship, the ministry added.

Mr Alassane, who spent one season with football club Gombak United, was detained without trial in 2013 under the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act for about two years. He was subsequently released and placed under police supervision.

Married to a Singaporean, he became a citizen in 2003 through the Family Ties Scheme. At the time his citizenship was approved, there was no information to suggest that he was involved in any criminal activity, said MHA.

But later on, he "became an active and trusted member of an international match-fixing syndicate which was created in and took root in Singapore", MHA said. "He and his syndicate members used Singapore as a hub to conduct major global match-fixing activities," it added.

This involved travelling to different countries to fix football matches through the corruption of officials and players. He also drew foreign nationals in Singapore into the syndicate's match-fixing activities, said MHA.

Mr Alassane helped to move bribe monies into the country, and remitted or personally couriered such bribes out of Singapore as well.

"His serious criminal conduct not only undermined the integrity of Singapore's financial system, but also law and order," said MHA. "Witnesses were afraid of testifying against the individual and his syndicate members in open court for fear of reprisal."

Given the extent of his involvement, the minister considered depriving him of citizenship, and he was served a deprivation notice.

Mr Alassane referred his case to a Citizenship Committee of Inquiry. According to the Constitution, this three-member committee must be chaired by a "person qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court".

The minister has to consider the committee's report, although he is not bound by the committee's recommendation.

After conducting an inquiry and hearing representations, the committee agreed there were sufficient grounds to deprive Mr Alassane of citizenship, but recommended allowing him to retain his citizenship on compassionate grounds.

The committee noted that he did not have any adverse record during detention or police supervision, and has not returned to crime since. He also appears close to his children and performs voluntary community service at a mosque, it added.

Attempts by The Straits Times to contact Mr Alassane for comment yesterday were unsuccessful.

Singapore Management University law professor Eugene Tan noted that depriving someone of citizenship is an extreme measure the law provides for, but is also one that is used as a last resort.

He said the decision not to deprive him of citizenship "gives confidence to the process and demonstrates that even though someone may have committed serious criminal offences, the system is also willing to recognise it if people are keen and determined to break away from their past".

He added that to assure Singaporeans of the due process behind such an application, more light could be shed on the committee and its work.

Source: 28 June 2018, The Straits Times  
Football

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/former-player-in-match-fixing-scandal-gets-to-keep-citizenship>

## Zimbabwe

### ICC suspends Zimbabwe Cricket director for denying to hand over his phone

He deleted information on his phone before handing it over to the officials.

The International Cricket Council's (ICC) Anti-Corruption and Security Unit is currently probing Zimbabwe Cricket for any corrupt activities. The officials are being investigated and a top-ranked official in Zimbabwe Cricket refused to give the investigators his cellphone on being asked for it. Once he got to know that the ACU wants to access his phone, he deleted information on it and then handed it over. However, the ICC has provisionally suspended for the breach of the Anti-Corruption Code.

Enock Ikope who held the position as director of ZC has admitted to the breach but in his defence stated that he acted in a way to protect his privacy as the phone contained his "personal, private" information. Ikope is the second victim in ZC as the ICC had previously banned Rajan Nayer who was involved in the match-fixing approach made at Zimbabwe Test captain Graeme Cremer last year.

Rajan acted as a link between the match-fixers and the cricketer. He was the one who proposed to Cremer an offer where he had to act as determined in the match against Windies. He was assured a payment of \$30,000. However, the skipper didn't just turn it down but also reported it to the ACU.

Source: 27 June 2018, *CricTracker*

*Cricket*

<https://www.crictracker.com/icc-suspends-zimbabwe-cricket-director-denying-hand-phone/>

## LEGISLATION

### India

#### LCI: Clarification on "Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting Including Cricket in India" Report 276

The Law Commission of India submitted its 276th Report on "Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting Including in Cricket in India" to the Central Government on 5 July 2018. Subsequent to this, the Commission has come across various news items misinterpreting the Report given by the Commission. The Commission regrets to inform that the cognizance of the press note released by it in this regard was not taken into consideration by the media before publishing the news item. A copy of the press note is enclosed.

The Commission hereby clarifies that vide para 9.7 of the Report on page 115, it has been strongly and categorically recommended that legalizing betting and gambling in India in the present scenario is not desirable, and that a complete ban on unlawful betting and gambling must be ensured. Again, vide para 9.8, it has been recommended that effective regulation remains the only viable option to control gambling, if it is not possible to enforce a complete ban in order to prevent unlawful activities and the Commission has recommended a number of guidelines and safeguards, in the event Parliament or the State Legislatures decide to regulate these activities.

Source: 6 July 2018, *Law Commission of India (LCI)*

<http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/reports/press-note-6.7.18.pdf>

## Italy

### Italy approves blanket ban on gambling ads

Serie A condemns move that could cause loss of €700m to Italian soccer.

Italy's council of ministers has approved a blanket ban on gambling advertising in the country from 1st January, 2019.

Some last-minute changes were made to the 'Dignity Decree', allowing advertisers with existing agreements that stretch beyond New Year's Day next year to be granted a concession to fulfil their contracts, and excluding the state-run national lottery or its products.

The ban will apply to all gambling-related products and services across all media platforms – including television, websites and radio – and sports clubs will also be prohibited from carrying sponsors from the industry.

Heavy fines are being introduced for non-compliance, at a minimum of €50,000, with the fines being donated to the fund against pathological gambling.

The ban was authored on 2nd July by Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio, the leader of the anti-establishment Five-Star Movement (M5S) which became the largest party in Italy's coalition government earlier this year. The party has swept to power from obscurity less than a decade ago on the back of a string of radical reform proposals.

The deputy prime minister has previously said that he will lobby for the introduction of broader gambling advertising restrictions across the European Union.

The new decree has been met with dismay by trade associations representing the different parts of the gambling industry, including soccer teams.

Italian club soccer's top flight, Serie A expressed "extreme worry" on Tuesday with regard to the new ban. The league said in a statement that the new rules would create disparity with other European countries and would bring 'competitive disadvantages to Italian [soccer] clubs, diverting abroad advertising budgets aimed [Italian] teams'.

More than half of the clubs in Serie A have sponsorship deals in place with firms from the sector. The league estimated that the ban would represent a loss of some €700 million to the state coffers.

In a recent open letter to Di Maio, Italian-licensed gambling operator LeoVegas warned that the ad ban won't achieve a significant reduction in problem gambling activity, as it will lead to a surge in advertising by gambling operators not holding Italian licenses. It encouraged the coalition to "revise" its proposal to address the issue of problem gambling "without populist slogans and action."

Source: Elena Holmes, 4 July 2018, SportsPro

<http://www.sportspromedia.com/news/italy-approves-blanket-ban-on-gambling-ads>

## BETTING

### Slovakia

#### Authorities raid 100 facilities in Slovakia's biggest illegal gambling bust

Tax officers swooped down on a hundred gambling facilities across Slovakia, sealing and confiscating machines during the two-day illegal gambling bust.

The raids, which were carried out on June 28 and 29, were the biggest action since the new gambling law took effect earlier this year, according to The Slovak Spectator.

Authorities reportedly confiscated five so-called quiz machines and sealed 75 other gambling units during the simultaneous raids, then conducted a test run on the machines to determine whether they were used for gambling. Tax officers also seized the 2017 and 2018 accounting books of four companies believed to be operating the quiz machines for gambling.

udovít Makó, chief of the Financial Administration's criminal department, was quoted by the news outlet saying, "In some facilities the gambling machine was turned off during the investigation, while in the others there were missing internet connections and power supplies."

There are at least 800 quiz machines across Slovakia, which are mostly registered in the Bratislava, Trnava and Žilina regions. Most of these machines reportedly have servers located outside the country.

The raid stemmed from a tip given to the Financial Administration that several quiz machines—which require players to answer simple questions—are being used as a form of gambling by multiple operators. Players under 18 years old were able to access these quiz machines, according to Makó.

The quiz machines and sealed gambling units were brought to the Technical Testing Institute for examination. If authorities proved that the quiz machines were used for gambling, the Financial Administration said they would slap quiz machine operators and facility owners with hefty fines.

Taxmen are also scrutinizing the operators' financial documents to determine whether they had been paying the right taxes.

Records from Slovakia's Association of Entertainment and Gambling showed a significant increase in the number of fines collected from erring gambling operators last year compared to 2016. The Slovak government reportedly issued a total of 210 fines worth €378,660 (\$441,606) in 2017 compared with just 47 fines in 2016.

Source: Leonard Postrado, 3 July 2018, CalvinAyre

<https://calvinayre.com/2018/07/03/business/authorities-raid-100-facilities-slovakias-biggest-illegal-gambling-bust/>



## GOOD PRACTICES

### ICC

#### ICC Comes Up With New App to Fight Corruption in Cricket

World body for cricket International Cricket Council (ICC) has come up with an integrity application to fight against corruption in cricket. Interestingly, the application will be available to players, officials, and the support staff. Moreover, the app will be available at different levels of the game and across all formats. Thus, it will help the Board in reducing corruption in the game.

The app will provide a platform to the players – to report any charges of corruption for which they were approached by the bookies. Meanwhile, we have seen that match-fixing allegations are becoming frequent in the game. Therefore, it is a good step taken by the Dubai-based ICC.

In fact, players and officials were introduced to the app at the Under-19 World Cup which was held in New Zealand earlier this year. Furthermore, Indian U-19 coach Rahul Dravid had encouraged everyone to use the app.

"It's fantastic to see that the ICC has come up with an Integrity App," Dravid said. "It's got a lot of information on anti-doping and anti-corruption. You can make a report about anything that you notice that is untoward. I think it's terrific to have easy access to this information on your fingertips. I would encourage all players, and those involved in cricket, to download the app, to use it and to read up on all the information. It's something that will keep the game clean, fair and something that we are all proud of," Dravid said in ICC's release.

It is good to note that the governing body has taken its step in the right direction. Consequently, with the game always in the danger of match-fixing, it makes all the sense to provide a good platform for the players.

Source: 29 June 2018, Cricket Addictor

<https://cricketaddictor.com/cricket/icc-comes-up-with-new-app-to-fight-corruption-in-cricket/>

## International Olympic Committee (IOC)

### IOC and international partners assess progress in tackling corruption in sport

The International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS) – a multi-stakeholder platform composed of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other international sports organisations, governments and inter-governmental organisations such as the OECD, the Council of Europe and UNODC – met in Lausanne on 29 June 2018 to evaluate their recent efforts in addressing pressing issues in sport.

The IPACS Working Group agreed in December 2017 to establish the following three new taskforces:

- Task Force 1: reducing the risk of corruption in procurement relating to sporting events and infrastructure;
- Task Force 2: ensuring integrity in the selection of major sporting events, with an initial focus on managing conflicts of interests; and
- Task Force 3: optimising the processes of compliance with good governance principles to mitigate the risk of corruption.

Addressing the meeting participants, IOC President Thomas Bach said: “Sport, like all other areas of society, cannot be immune from corruption. Our challenge is to act quickly and effectively when it occurs. This is crucial to protecting our integrity and therefore our credibility. The huge value of IPACS is that it brings together key partners from international sport, government and inter-governmental organisations. They can work together in an effective and pragmatic way that avoids creating unnecessary bureaucracy.”

During last week’s meeting, each taskforce presented a progress report to the IPACS Working Group on the efforts undertaken in their respective areas over the past six months.

Having reviewed previous major sporting events requiring the construction or significant redevelopment of existing infrastructure, Task Force 1 noted that the implementing agencies were mostly institutionalised public bodies usually using an open tender as the preferred procurement procedure. Overall, transparency throughout the development cycle diminished, with the number and nature of amendments in each individual infrastructure/procurement project remaining largely unknown. The Task Force also identified a general lack of specific corruption and fraud risk management strategies. The analysis will lay the foundations for developing concrete tools and guidance for sports organisations (such as Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committees), public authorities and other bodies involved in staging major sports events, in order to mitigate risks of fraud and corruption throughout the procurement cycle.

Task Force 2 identified a number of key elements which may cause a potential, perceived or actual conflicts of interests in the selection of major sports events. These elements include stakeholder representation, loyalty issues, networks of influence, and competing economical, financial and institutional interests. As a next step, the group will identify best practices to address and manage different types of conflicts of interests linked to the awarding of major sporting events.

Task Force 3 is in the process of developing good governance indicators on the three specific areas of term limits, financial transparency and management of conflicts of interests. The aim is to provide a common benchmark recognised by both public authorities and sports organisations which can be used when adopting charters or evaluation tools on good governance. This Task Force is building on work already performed by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

Interest in the Partnership has grown significantly since its formation, and its aims and programme of work have been discussed at numerous international events, including the 14th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Sport; the recent conference on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption organised in the context of resolution 7/8 on corruption in sport, adopted last November by the Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption; and the G20 governments.

Attending the meeting, Ronan O’Laoire, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer at UNODC, said: “The resolution on corruption in sport, which was recently adopted by over 180 Governments, sets out the different areas and actions needed to address this significant problem. By bringing together international experts and mobilising support and resources, the value of IPACS as a multi-stakeholder initiative is that it can significantly help governments and sports organisations to implement this important resolution and maximise the impact of joint efforts that tackle corruption in sport.”

The IPACS Working Group meeting was also attended by Nicola Bonucci, Director and Accession Coordinator of the OECD Directorate for Legal Affairs, who said: “IPACS is the only multistakeholder partnership of its kind committed specifically to fighting corruption in sport. By working together, this still-new Partnership has the potential to effect real change in ensuring integrity in sport.”

IPACS core group member Hitesh Patel, Head of International Sport, Major Sports Events and Sports Integrity at the UK Government’s Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, said: “IPACS has grown organically since the London Anti-Corruption Summit and last year’s IFSI Forum. The Working Group very much welcomed the IOC President joining us to reiterate

the sports movement's commitment to tackling corruption in sport, which governments have also committed to through this partnership. Both the Working Group and the Task Forces are working hard to produce practical outputs which we will make widely accessible as they are delivered."

The progress on the work being carried out by the IPACS will be showcased during the Olympism in Action Forum, which will take place on 5 and 6 October 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The next IPACS Working Group meeting is scheduled for December 2018 in London, where the first concrete results of the Task Forces' work should be discussed.

Click here for the list of participants at the IPACS Working Group meeting in Lausanne on 29 June 2018.

Source: 3 July 2018, International Olympic Committee (IOC)

<https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-and-international-partners-assess-progress-in-tackling-corruption-in-sport>

## Malta

### Sports Integrity Unit to form part of the bill on sports corruption

A body corporate known as the Sports Integrity Unit is now included in the bill to provide for the prevention of corruption in sport.

This was agreed by both the government and opposition representatives at a committee meeting to discuss the bill.

Amongst its numerous functions, the unit shall collect and analyse information about suspected cases of manipulation of sports events. It will also act as an information hub and to coordinate the fight against sports corruption.

It will also be the primary point of contact for the police and sports organisations as well as provide assistance to the police in criminal cases.

The bill also includes harsher penalties for those engaging in sports corruption including a prison term of up to three years and a fine of up to €30,000. Any person who has knowledge of sports corruption has a duty to report it and will be liable to an offence if he fails to do so.

People close to the sport including athletes, employees of SportMalta and club officials caught of manipulation of a sporting event, apart from other aggravating circumstances, are liable to even more stringent penalties, facing imprisonment of up to five years.

Furthermore, anyone found guilty of such an offence cannot receive a suspended sentence and will not be allowed to participate or attend any sporting event for ten years.

Source: Rebekah Cilia, 2 July 2018, Independent

<http://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2018-07-02/local-news/Sports-Integrity-Unit-to-form-part-of-the-bill-on-sports-corruption-6736192829>

