



+++++ European networking conference | Bratislava, 26 - 28 April 2013 +++++

Free Kick for Equality! Moving to the next step in combating racism and homophobia together

VENUES:

Exhibition (Friday evening): [Open Society Foundation](#) / Nadácia otvorenej spoločnosti
Baštová 5, Staré Mesto, 811 03 Bratislava --> [directions](#)
Hotel and Conference venue: Austria Trend Hotel, Vysoká 2A, Staré Mesto, 81106 Bratislava --> [directions](#)
Dinner on Saturday: tba

LOCAL CONTACT:

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Drafted CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

*During the whole conference there will be an **open space** to present your initiative or organisation.
If not other mentioned, the events take place in the Austria Trend Hotel*

WELCOME EVENING – Friday, 26 April 2013

16:00 - 18:00 **Registration**

18:30 - 20:00 **Exhibition visit & talk about LGBTI-people in sports in Slovakia | venue: tba**

Joint visit of the exhibition “Against the Rules - Lesbian and Gays in Sports”

19:00 | **Ľubomír Lábaj & Roman Samotný** (LGBT sport club *Lotosové Kvety/ Lotus Flowers*) and **Andrej Kuruc** (*Iniciatíva Inakosť*) will give insights about the situation of LGBTI people in Slovakia and homophobia in sports.

Informal gathering with wine & snacks

20:00 - 21:00 **Dinner at the hotel**

DAY ONE – Saturday, 27 April 2013 | “Status Quo” - Analyses, campaigns and networking

08:00 - 10:00 **Registration**

09:30 - 10:10 **Opening Speeches**

Zuzana Palosova, Deputy Director of Ľudia proti Rasizmu

Armelle Maze, Co-President of European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation

10:10 - 10:30 **Football for Equality - A European Project | Presentation**

Aims, activities and challenges of the EU funded project “Football for Equality - Tackling Racism and Homophobia with a focus on Central and Eastern Europe” (2011-2013)

Presentation: **Nikola Staritz**, FairPlay-VIDC / **Michal Zalesak**, Ľudia proti Rasizmu

10:30 - 10:45 **coffee break**



The action is partly funded by the European Commission (DG Justice) under the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme.



10:45 - 12:15 Panel Discussion: „Cross-sectional approaches to fight discrimination“

A lot has been done in the field of anti-racism and anti-homophobia in European football and sports in general – but how can we tackle different forms of discriminations together? Activists, researchers and representatives of football governing bodies will discuss these questions. Following the panel discussion the floor will be opened for question from the audience.

Chair: Daniela Wurbs, Football Supporters Europe

Panelists:

- **Honey Thaljieh**, former captain of the Palestinian women national team, now working in the Development Division of FIFA, Champion for Peace
- **Suzi Andreis**, activist in several groups of the Polish LGBTQ and feminist movements, currently involved in the female football team 'Chrzęszczyki'
- **Vladimír Sendrei**, Coach & Roma Activist, Futbal nas spaja, Slovakia
- **N.N.**, Representative of Slovak Football Association
- **Claudia Krobitzsch**, FARE network (Football Against Racism in Europe)

12:15 - 12:30 Introduction of Workshops and Facilitators

12:30 - 14:00 lunch break

14:00 - 16:15 Workshops

14:00 - 15:00 Workshop Session I

15:00 - 15:15 coffee break

15:15 - 16:15 Workshop Session II

Three workshops will take place. You have the possibility to visit two of them (please let us know your preferences on the registration form!), in the break between the sessions, the participants change workshop

Workshop 1: Bridging the Gap: Networking among Stakeholders

To address discrimination and exclusion in sport the creation of viable partnerships and networks among a range of stakeholders is a key. These include grass-root activists, minority groups, sport governing bodies, clubs, athletes and policy makers. But in practice this poses a set of challenges: grass-root groups are still faced with ignorance on part of governing bodies and also the joint fight across different grounds of discrimination is a relatively new concept. Furthermore, networking across national borders remains often rhetoric and the divide between “Western” and “Eastern” Europe is still a reality. How can we bridge these gaps, what are the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders?

Facilitators:

Nikola Staritz, FairPlay-VIDC (Austria)

Enikő Várhelyi, Organisation for Fresh Ideas and EuroGames organiser (Hungary)



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Workshop 2: Sport and Inclusion: Underrepresentation of marginalised groups & minorities

The under-representation of migrants and other marginalised groups from positions of authority is an open secret in European sports. The lack of advancement of ethnic minorities in non-playing positions remains an issue to be tackled. Lesbian, gay and transgender athletes and players are still not seen as an integral and equal part of many mainstream sports. What can sport bodies do to introduce an inclusive culture which actively includes and involves marginalised groups in sport and through sport? What needs to be done on part of the discriminated groups?

Facilitators:

Des Tomlinson, Football Association of Ireland (Republic of Ireland)

Maurizio Pratesi, Football Association of Finland (Finland)

Tracy Litterick, Football Unites Racism Divides (UK)

Workshop 3: Campaigning and Educational Work against Discrimination

Prejudice and stereotypes are often deep-rooted and underpinned by long-standing ideologies. To impose sanctions and penalties as the only response will not solve the problem. To tackle discrimination effectively perceptions, values and attitudes have to be altered. But which kind of educational work and campaigning is most effective? What constitutes good practice in football and other sports? Which types of interventions have worked and why?

Facilitators:

Sergej Danilov, Institut pre medzikulturny dialog – IPMD (Slovakia)

Francesca D’Ercole, Unione Italiana Sport per Tutti (Italy)

Megan Worthington-Davies, Football vs. Homophobia and Justin Campaign (UK)

- 16:15 - 16:30 **coffee break**
- 16:30 - 17:30 **Presentation and Discussion of the Workshops**
- 20:00 **Dinner in the City Center** | venue: tba

DAY TWO – Sunday, 28 April 2013 | “Moving Forward” – New ideas and future activities

09:30-10:00 Opening Words

Alias Lembakoali, FARE ambassador and former player *Inter Bratislava* and *Central African Republic*

10:00 - 11:30 Panel: „Moving to the next step in combating racism & homophobia in sport”

After a European wide essay competition, four authors are chosen to present their thoughts and analyses how to move forward in the fight against discrimination in sports across Europe. So we proudly present four new contributions to the debate. For an input and to critically comment the presentations, an expert is invited: former German professional footballer **Marcus Urban**, who came out after he ended his career and processed his experiences in the book “*Versteckspieler – Story of the Gay Footballer Marcus Urban*”.



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Chair:

Milan Hosta, Spolint (Slovenia)

Commentator and Responder:

Marcus Urban, former German professional football player, coach and diversity trainer

Panelists:

- **Elizaveta Zhuk** (Russia): *Racism in Russian Football: the policy of combat or the policy of denial?* Antidiscrimination Laws and the situation in Russia before Worldcup 2018
- **Stefan Heissenberger** (Austria): *Raw Fairplay*. Football, masculinities and dimensions of Homophobia and examples how to overcome.
- **Mariann Bardocz-Bencsik** (Hungary): *Honey makes the difference*. A role model for multiple minorities. Multiple discriminations and sport as a tool of Inclusion.
- **Henri Erti** (Croatia, Estonia): *Remove and Reform: Racism in Europe*. Critical analyse of current punishment-strategies

11:30 - 11:45 **coffee break**

11:45 - 13:00 **Action Plan, Outcomes and Future Perspectives |Presentation & Discussion**

During the conference an Action Plan will be developed and jointly presented and discussed at the end of the conference. There will be an open space for ideas for further cooperation and networking, planned tasks, upcoming projects and activities to get involved.

Chair: **Manuela Engleitner / Martin Kainz**, FairPlay-VIDC

13:00- 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 **End of Conference, Departure**

General INFORMATION:

ORGANISERS: L'Udia Proti Rasizmu (Slovakia) and FairPlay – VIDC (Austria) in cooperation with the Football for Equality-Partners

LANGUAGE: English and Slovak

REGISTRATION:

The conference is free to attend, but as places are limited, registration is required. Please note, that as formal registration is over, free places can't be guaranteed and costs for accommodation, dinner and travel have to be covered by the participants! If you want to visit the conference spontaneously, please contact: [zalesak.michal\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:zalesak.michal[at]gmail.com)

www.footballforequality.org

www.facebook.com/footballforequality



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