

our game

for human rights

Permanent Representation
of Austria to the
European Union



Wednesday 31 May 2023, 18:00-19:30

Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
Avenue de Cortenbergh 30, 1040 Brussels

Public Panel Discussion

Human Rights and International Sporting Events – Possible Ways Forward?

18:00 Welcome

Nikolaus Marschik, Permanent Representative
of Austria to the EU

18:05 Keynote addresses

Christina Kokkinakis, Deputy Managing
Director and Director for Values and
Multilateral relations, EEAS

Georg Häusler, Director for Culture, Creativity
and Sport, European Commission (DG EAC)

18:15 Panel discussion

Sylvia Schenk, Member IOC Advisory Committee
on Human Rights, Human Rights volunteer at
FIFA World Cup 2024 in Qatar, former Olympic
athlete

Martin Kainz, Consultant on Human Rights,
Prevention of Violent Extremism and Sport,
former coordinator Austrian Working Group
Sport and Human Rights

Mary Harvey, CEO, Center for Sport and
Human Rights (CSHR) (tbc)

Moderator: **Kurt Wachter**, fairplay initiative/VIDC

19:00 Open floor

followed by a reception

Background

Mega-sporting events have recently been the subject of more and more public criticism, too often in the context of human rights violations, such as the FIFA World Cup in Qatar end of last year. However, sport and international sporting events have a great potential to respect and promote human rights especially when the actors who bear responsibility set an example. In order to support sport stakeholders in organizing their sporting events in the spirit of human rights, the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKOS) has published the handbook "International Sporting Events and Human Rights – A Handbook for Implementation in Austria".

Agenda

At the public panel discussion event sport, public and civil society stakeholders as well as representatives of EU member states are invited to exchange views on the promotion of human rights in the context of major sporting events in their countries, to identify best practices, and plan next steps together. The goal is to stimulate transfer of expertise as well as targeted and joint further action

The event is organized by the fairplay initiative at VIDC as part of the **Our Game for Human Rights** project (www.ourgame.at) in collaboration with the **Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU**, with the support of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and BMKOS.

Please register via email at:

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