

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2023

ε.π.αθ.α.  
NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR SPORT INTEGRITY



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry of Education,  
Religious Affairs and Sports  
General Secretariat of Sports

NTA  
NATIONAL TRANSPARENCY AUTHORITY

ΕΠΕΑΕΚ  
HELLENIC  
GAMING  
COMMISSION  
INDEPENDENT  
AUTHORITY

  
SPORTS  
PROSECUTOR





## ALTERNATE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

### *Combating sports manipulation is our policy priority*

The work of EPATHLA is now a good international practice recognised by many countries, having already demonstrated great activity regarding ways of combating manipulated sports competitions - a scourge of modern times. The Ministry of Sports supported the development of the Platform as soon as the Macolin Convention was ratified and, currently, three years after its activation, we can be proud that we have established an optimally operating structure, at a national and international level.

We are proceeding with substantial reform initiatives across the spectrum of sport, a key pillar of which being the promotion and dissemination of the sport values we inherited from our ancestors. Combating sports manipulation is our policy priority. With innovative actions, such as the pre-game alert, the e-learning tool and the whistleblowing platform for anonymous reports of manipulation incidents, we seek to help clear the sports movement of situations that compromise its credibility.

Allying with the very people of sports, EPATHLA will pursue its fight with increasing vigour. We are here to succeed, through concerted actions, in offering fans a sport based on pure values, which will impart and disseminate timeless messages of "Fair Play".

Manipulation of sports competitions is a global threat that the sports movement cannot tackle alone. Synergies are needed and, I believe that, all stakeholders, including prosecuting authorities, sports and government bodies, have now understood it and are working systematically to eliminate the phenomenon.



**Giannis Vrotsis**

**Alternate Minister of Education,  
Religious Affairs and Sports**

# SECRETARY GENERAL OF SPORTS CHAIRMAN OF EPATHLA



*We build on solid foundations at  
a national and international level*

2023 was a year rich in actions related to the fight against manipulation of sports competitions, both nationally and internationally. During the year, over 100 reports of manipulation incidents were evaluated, more than 40 evaluation reports were drafted and 8 were further investigated with the assistance of EPATHLA experts.

The e-learning tool was put into operation, the pre-game alert mechanism was activated for the first time and EPATHLA signed Memoranda of Understanding with prominent bodies, such as the Anti-Money Laundering Authority.

At international level, 2023 was a milestone for EPATHLA as it successfully co-organized the Sports Integrity Week along with the Council of Europe, INTERPOL, the International Olympic Committee and UEFA/HFF in Athens in November. The event was hosted by the Hellenic Olympic Committee and attracted broad participation from all sports organisations.

Major issues linked to sports manipulation, such as illegal betting, responsible betting and money laundering, remain high on our country's sports agenda and are also a priority of the Follow Up Committee of the Council of Europe's Macolin Convention, which I have the honour to chair following the renewal of my mandate for the next two years.

At the heart of EPATHLA's successful work lies the good chemistry, hearty relations and excellent cooperation that has been fostered by all the participating bodies since the establishment of the body. For this reason, I would like to warmly thank the Hellenic National Transparency Authority, the Hellenic Gaming Commission, the Hellenic Police, the Sports Prosecutor, the members of the working groups, as well as the staff of the General Secretariat of Sports and the associates of my office for their valuable contribution to the work of EPATHLA and, of course, the Minister for his trust.

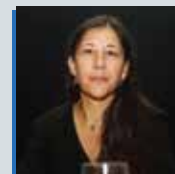
**George Mavrotas**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'George Mavrotas', written over a horizontal line.

**Secretary General of Sport  
Chairman, EPATHLA**

**Sophie Kwasny**  
Head of Sport Division, Council of Europe

Joint action by all stakeholders to promote sports integrity and fight against sports manipulation is a primary objective of the Council of Europe. It must be made clear that it is essential for us all to move forward together, because without this joint action we cannot tackle this growing phenomenon. We need people on our side who will continue to trust sports and we must show the way.

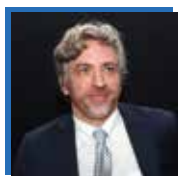


**Nicolas Sayde**  
Secretary of the Macolin Convention, Council of Europe

It is crucial to build trust in our relationship with the sport community in order to deal with the manipulation of sports competitions together.

**Dieter Braekeveld**  
Sports Integrity Training Officer, Interpol

International police collaboration through INTERPOL is essential to stop criminals who try to profit from sports.



**Corentin Segalen**  
Chair of the Network of National Platforms

The Network of National Platforms, in which EPATHLA participates, is ready to help ensure the integrity of the European Football Championship as well as the Olympic and Paralympic Games to be held in 2024.

**Evangelos Alexandrakis**  
Senior Manager in the Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, IOC

Robust regulation and legislation in place combined with regular awareness-raising activities and cooperation and coordination of all relevant actors (sport, law enforcement, state authorities) at a national and international level are of the utmost importance for the sustainable prevention of the phenomenon.



**Angelo Rigopoulos**  
Managing Director of Integrity and Regulatory, UEFA

UEFA plays a leading role in combating manipulation in football, which is also expressed through match-fixing. It is clear however that the European Federation cannot do this alone. We all work together towards the same goal, to combat match manipulation. The only way ahead is cooperation since we share common goals.

# EPATHLA Board of Directors

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GET SOCIAL. PLAYSMAR FOR SPORT. INTERACT.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry of Education,  
Religious Affairs and Sports  
General Secretariat of Sports

**George Mavrotas**  
Secretary General of Sport



NATIONAL TRANSPARENCY AUTHORITY

**Alexandra Rogkakou**  
Alternate Governor, Hellenic National  
Transparency Authority



**Dimitris Ntzanatos**  
President  
Hellenic Gaming Commission



**Vasilios Papakostas**  
Head of the Cyber Crime Unit,  
Hellenic Police



SPORTS  
PROSECUTOR

**Konstantinos Spyropoulos**  
Public Prosecutor at the First Instance  
Court of Athens, Sports Prosecutor

## ALTERNATE MEMBERS

### **Melina Giannakopoulou**

Head of Department of Legislative Initiative and Parliamentary Control,  
General Secretariat for Sport.

### **Ioannis Foustanakis**

Head of Strategic Planning and Behavioural Analysis, Hellenic National  
Transparency Authority

### **Maria Dimopoulou**

Head of Security and Administrative Sanctions, Hellenic Gaming Commis-  
sion

### **Nikolaos Margaritis**

Deputy Prosecutor at the First Instance Court of Athens, Deputy Sport  
Prosecutor

### **Dimitrios Tsertsidis**

Police Captain, Financial Police Division, Department of Economic  
Protection.

### **Ioannis Iakovidis**

Police Captain, Financial Police Division, Department of Economic  
Protection.

The annual review event of EPATHLA was held at the premises of the Hellenic Olympic Committee on December 1, 2023, with the participation of representatives of the Council of Europe, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), UEFA, INTERPOL, the Hellenic Football Federation (HFF) and the Hellenic Olympic Committee (HOC).

The event was joined by the Alternate Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Giannis Vroutsis, the Minister of Justice, Giorgos Floridis, the President of the HOC and the European Olympic Committees and member of the IOC, Spyros Kapralos, the President of the International Olympic Academy, Isidoros Kouvelos and representatives of Betting Companies, Sports Federations, Athletes' and Coaches' Associations and Unions.





The Secretary General of Sport and President of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, gave an account of the National Platform's activities in 2023, elaborating on the synergies that were established and the international presence of EPATHLA, and also pointed out the need to strengthen national and international cooperation in order to effectively address the issues of manipulation in sport. The education and awareness-raising of the sport community on issues of manipulation is a primary objective of EPATHLA and having the people of sports as allies, the National Platform will pursue its work more empowered.

The Sports Prosecutor of Athens, Konstantinos Spyropoulos, pointed out the significant role of EPATHLA in the efforts made to detect manipulated matches, while expressing the belief that a halt will be put to the continued involvement with sports of people who had been prosecuted in the past.

The role of EPATHLA as a hub for information, collection and sharing with the competent authorities, in serious investigation cases, was praised by the Financial Police Director, Dimitris Loukopoulos, in his speech.



Matters pertaining to the international current trends in the field of tackling sport manipulation were discussed by Nicolas Sayde, Secretary of the Macolin Convention of the Council of Europe, Corentin Segalen, President of the Network of National Platforms, Dieter Braekeveld, Sports Integrity Training Officer of Interpol, Evangelos Alexandrakis, NOCs Contact Manager in IOC's Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, Stephanie Eichenberger, Anti-Match-Fixing Expert at UEFA and Gilles Maillet, President of the United Lotteries for Integrity in Sports (ULIS).

There were presentations and reports, stemming from the experience of the bodies in the development of networks of law enforcement and prosecuting authorities at European and global level. Moreover, information was shared regarding the sports most preferred by organized crime for match manipulation purposes, as well as the profile of athletes, coaches and referees who are approached. As noted by the representatives of international authorities, the manipulation of sports competitions is a global threat that requires synergies and cooperation between the sports community and stakeholders.



## ANNUAL REVIEW EVENT



Giannis Foustanakis, Head of the Strategic Planning Directorate of the National Transparency Authority, Maria Dimopoulou, Head of Security and Administrative Sanctions of the Hellenic Gaming Commission, member of the Network of National Platforms (GoC), and Vasilis Papakostas, Director of the Cybercrime Division of the Hellenic Police, also spoke about the contribution of the EPATHLA's stakeholders. The coordinators Vasilis Keramaris and Athanasios Strigas elaborated on the work of the Report Evaluation Group and the Education and Awareness Group of EPATHLA, respectively.

The representatives of the Athletes' Associations, Yannis Bracho; (PSAPP), Andreas Glyniadakis (PSAK), Yannis Achilleopoulos (PASAP), Grigoris Kapetanakis (SEAY) and Haris Mallios (PSAH), shared the experience they have gained from their cooperation with EPATHLA so far, as well as the activities they have developed in the field of prevention.



Fotini Karamanaki, the HOC's liaison with the IOC, spoke about the role of the Hellenic Olympic Committee in combating manipulation of sport competitions. Integrity Officers Dimitris Davakis (HFF), Vasilis Dakouris (HBF), Nikos Sofianos (HVF), and Kostas Stamatiadis (HHF) talked about their duties and responsibilities in dealing with incidents of manipulation in sports.



Fighting manipulation of sports competitions and defending sport integrity in sport were the topics of the Sport Integrity Week, which took place in Athens from November 27 to December 1, 2023.

The Sport Integrity Week was co-organized, for the first time, by the Council of Europe (CoE), the International Olympic Committee (IOC), INTERPOL, UEFA, the National Platform for Sports Integrity (EPATHLA) and the Hellenic Football Federation (HFF) and was hosted by the Hellenic Olympic Committee (HOC).

Delegates from all national and international organisations with which EPATHLA cooperates (CoE, UEFA, INTERPOL, IOC, HOC, HFF, Hellenic Police) elaborated on their respective roles in tackling manipulation of sports competitions and exchanged views and best practices, in the presence of representatives of team sport federations, members of the HOC plenary session, EPATHLA, Professional and Athlete Associations.

During the Sport Integrity Week, IOC and Interpol experts held regional workshops, which were attended by sport manipulation specialists from the eight countries (Georgia, Cyprus, Israel, Malta, Azerbaijan, Romania, Turkey and Greece) that participated in the Integrity Week sessions, while UEFA and the Hellenic Football Federation conducted similar workshops for football representatives.

The 7th meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Council of Europe's Macolin Convention was also held during the Sport Integrity Week and was chaired by George Mavrotas, Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA.

The event was addressed by the Alternate Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Giannis Vroutsis, the Minister of Citizen Protection, Giannis Economou as well as the Presidents of the HOC and the HFF, Spyros Kapralos and Panagiotis Baltakos, respectively. Both the political and sports leaderships highlighted the magnitude of the sports manipulation problem, pointing out the need to broaden cooperation among partners and join forces, at national and international levels, in order to preserve integrity and tackle the phenomena of corruption in sport.





Manipulation of sports competitions, as a phenomenon of corruption, knows no borders, nor is it specific to certain sports events. Incidents of manipulation are on the rise internationally and states are required to address this phenomenon in a concerted manner, shoring up the institutional and legal framework and developing further mechanisms and tools to defend integrity in sport.

The collaboration among the Hellenic National Transparency Authority, the Hellenic Gaming Commission, the Hellenic Police, the Ministry of Sports and the Public Prosecutor's Office within EPATHLA has set an example of good practice for the creation of similar platforms in other European countries and it is widely accepted that EPATHLA can contribute experience, knowledge and know-how for the fight against manipulation of sport competitions globally.

Greece is at the forefront of international developments in the combat against corruption in sport, with high representation in relevant European bodies, such as the Follow-Up Committee of the Council of Europe's Macolin Convention chaired by the President of EPATHLA and Secretary General of Sport, George Mavrotas, the Network of National Platforms (Group of Copenhagen) in which Maria Dimopoulou, EPATHLA's Member, participates as a representative, and the Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS), in which our country is represented by Konstantinos Spyropoulos, Prosecutor at the Athens Court of First Instance/ Sport Prosecutor and member of EPATHLA.

The joint initiative of the international organisations to hold the Sport Integrity Week in Athens was praised by the President of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, as sport manipulation may only be tackled through international and cross-sectoral cooperation and joined forces, towards networking and the exchange of best practices.



The role of UEFA and its network in dealing with football match manipulation was analysed in his presentation by Angelo Rigopoulos, Managing Director of Integrity and Regulatory, while on the part of the Hellenic Football Federation, Dimitris Davakis, Integrity Officer, explained the vital role of the Federations' Integrity Officers in dealing with incidents of match manipulation.

The views of INTERPOL were presented by the Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Assistant Director, Nicolas Court, while Hellenic Police's Director of the Cybercrime Division and member of EPATHLA, Vassilios Papakostas talked about the role of the national police authorities.

The role of the Olympic movement and the National Olympic Committees was discussed by Evangelos Alexandrakis of the IOC's Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions and Fotini Karamanlaki, HOC's liaison with the IOC on issues of manipulation of competitions.

The National Platform for Sports Integrity (EPATHLA) in collaboration with the coordinator of IntegriSport 3.0 (CSCF Foundation for Sports Integrity), organized a two-day Awareness Raising Practical Session (ARPS) on sports manipulation at the Ministry of Sports on October 5-6, 2023. The event was joined by the core members of EPATHLA (General Secretariat of Sports, National Transparency Authority, Sports Prosecutor, Hellenic Police, Hellenic Gaming Commission), representatives of law enforcement authorities, Sport Federations and unions as well as betting companies and members of Athlete Associations.

International experts (CSCF, Interpol, FIFPRO, ULIS, etc.) participated in this event, which mainly aimed to provide theoretical and practical support to law enforcement and judicial authorities as well as other stakeholders in the fight against the manipulation of sports competitions. The European program IntegriSport 3.0 is co-funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Sport funding scheme and the partner countries are Greece, Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Spain and Romania. The two-day awareness-raising event in Greece was the first among those to be held in the six partner countries.

In his speech, the Alternate Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Giannis Vroutsis, stressed that the National Platform for Sports Integrity, officially established by law in November 2020 following the ratification of the Macolin Convention, is a key pillar of the upgraded sports portfolio. He specifically pointed out: "With innovative actions, such as the pre-game alert, the e-learning tool and the whistleblowing platform for anonymous reports, we seek to help clear the sports movement of situations that compromise its credibility".

The Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas talked about the Greek and international context in dealing with the manipulation of sports competitions and pointed out that the sports movement alone cannot tackle this global threat, which is often backed by organised crime. For this reason, synergies with law enforcement and other governmental authorities as well as with the betting ecosystem are necessary, which was the key topic of the awareness-raising workshop.

The Alternate Governor of NTA, Alexandra Rogkakou, noted that the Awareness-Raising Event organized by EPATHLA in the framework of the IntegriSport 3.0 project in cooperation with CSCF, coordinator of the European project, is a first-class opportunity to establish partnerships, exchange views, good practices and strengthen investigation skills in effectively tackling, or even eliminating, sport manipulation.





Charalambos Vourliotis, Chairman of the Independent Anti-Money Laundering Authority, referred to the Authority's cooperation with EPATHLA, underlining that its establishment and operation has given new perspectives in combating the phenomena of sport manipulation, an area that also falls within the Authority's remit.

He stressed that this two-day conference in the context of IntegriSport 3.0, aspires to contribute to maximizing the effectiveness of investigation and prosecution of crimes related to the manipulation of sport competitions.

The captain of the 2004 championship football team and MEP, Thodoris Zagorakis, also sent his own message, pointing out that "in this match, we are all teammates" and that match manipulation tarnishes the very essence of sports.

Representatives of the HGC, as well as betting associations and companies, referred to issues of cooperation with the control and prosecution authorities, to tackle illegal betting.

The representatives of the Athlete Associations drew attention to the dangers of manipulation for the protagonists of sport and how they can be part of the solution.

The role of Sports Federations in Greece in the face of manipulation and their cooperation with other parties involved was analysed by representatives of the HOC and federations coordinated by the EPATHLA officer, Vassilis Keramaris.



The 10th annual meeting of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Marija Pejcinovic Buric, with the Chairs of the Follow-Up Committees of the Council of Europe's Conventions, in preparation for the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe, held on 17 January 2023 in Strasbourg, was attended by the President of EPATHLA and Chairman of the Follow-Up Committee of the Macolin Convention, George Mavrotas. The Chairman of the National Platform visited Strasbourg on June 8 and 9, 2023, for the 17th Session of the Committee of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) which focused on integrity in sports. At the meeting, the proposal was put forward to launch the debate on a new international convention by the Council of Europe on "Promoting Respect inside Sport" and George Mavrotas presented the actions that have been deployed, the partnerships and the forthcoming ratification of the Macolin Convention by key countries, such as France.

EPATHLA also participated online at the 65th plenary session of MONEYVAL (24-26 May 2023), the Anti-Money Laundering Committee of the Council of Europe, which was also held in Strasbourg. The discussion focused on the synergies that stakeholders need to develop to address the link between manipulation of sports competitions and illegal betting and money laundering. Special emphasis was placed on Article 16 on Money Laundering and Article 24 of the Macolin Convention, which provides for international and cross-sectoral cooperation.



The Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, participated in the EU Sport Forum held on 2 and 3 May 2023 in Stockholm. The Forum focused on topical issues in the sport sector, with a particular focus on integrity, good governance and gender equality.

Paquerette Girard-Zappelli, IOC's Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer, and Vincent Ven, Head of Anti Match Fixing at UEFA, specifically referred to the issue of tackling the manipulation of sports competitions, arguing how important it is to promote the ratification of the Council of Europe's Macolin Convention so that there is a common "tool" with a wide scope.



The annual meeting of the Council of Europe's Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS) was held in Paris on 18 and 19 September 2023, with the aim of strengthening international cooperation through know-how and information exchanges among sport judges and prosecutors from European countries, in order to tackle manipulation of sports competitions and defend sport integrity.

Greece was represented by the Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas and the Prosecutor at the First Instance Court of Athens, Sport Prosecutor and core member of the National Platform, Konstantinos Spyropoulos.



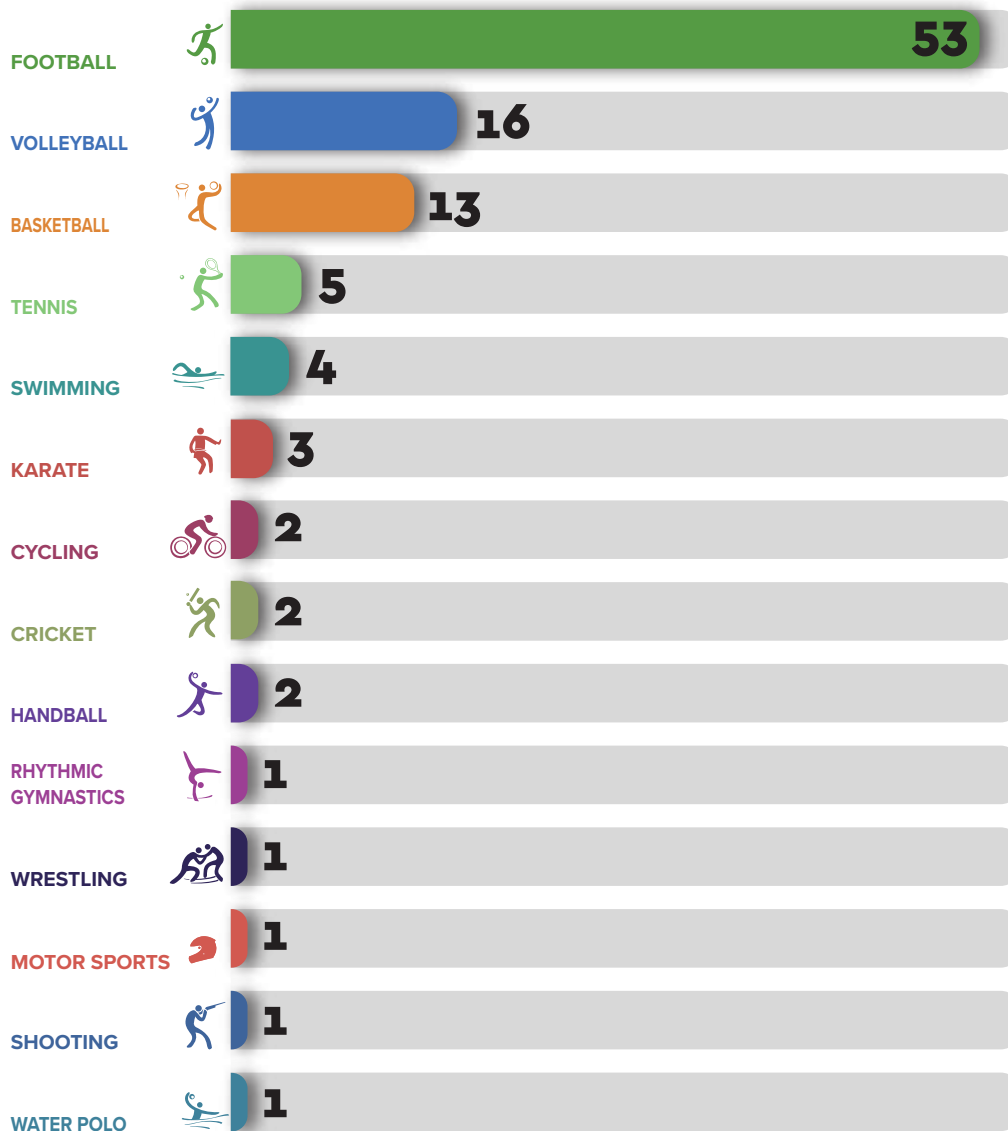
# INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

George Mavrotas, in his capacity as Chairman of the Follow-Up Committee of the Macolin Convention, attended a two-day conference on illegal betting held by the Council of Europe, the Network of National Platforms (Group of Copenhagen) and the Marocaine des Jeux et des Sports in Rabat, Morocco, on 8 and 9 November 2023. The conference was attended by representatives from INTERPOL, the International Olympic Committee, experts from the Council of Europe, the French Gaming Regulatory Authority, the World Lottery Association (WLA) and the Asian Horse Racing Federation (ARF) as well as the United Nations Office on Crime (UNODC). Maria Dimopoulou, Head of Security and Administrative Sanctions of the Hellenic Gaming Commission and member of EPATHLA, was elected to the 7-member Executive Committee of the Network of National Platforms.

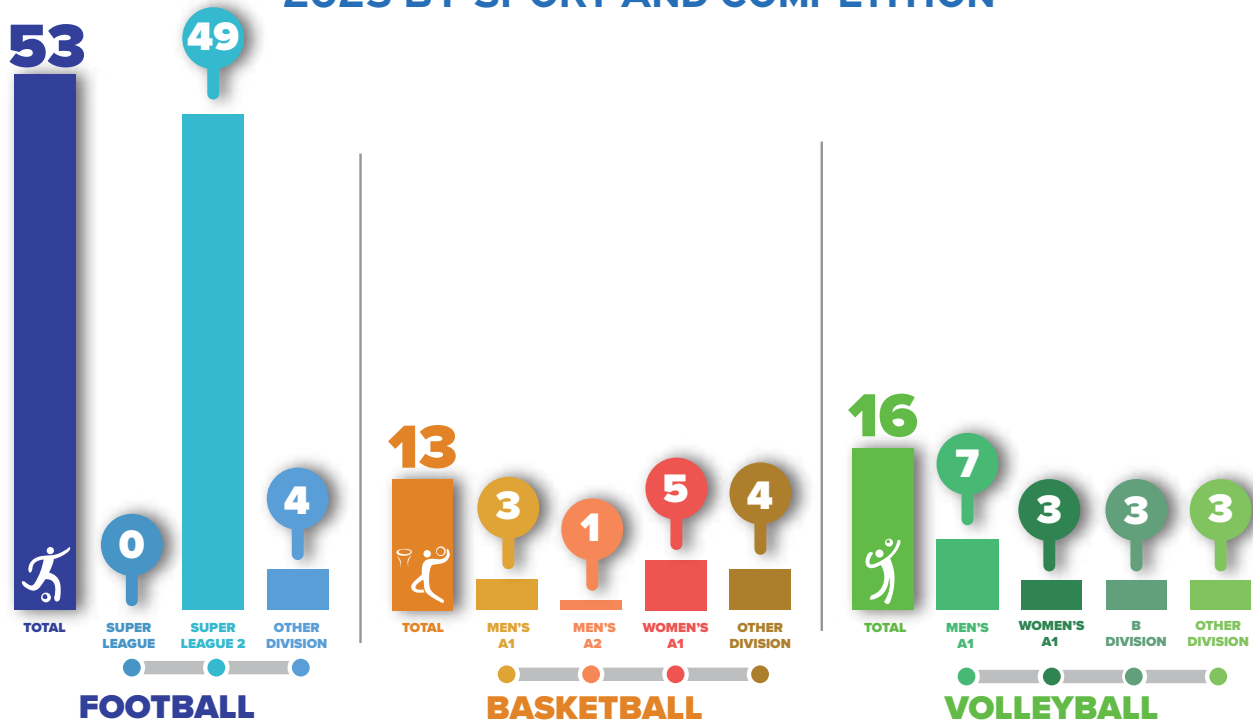


The annual meeting of the European MotivAction project partners took place on December 12 and 13, 2023 in Warsaw, with the participation of the National Platform for Sports Integrity, which was represented by the Coordinator of the Education and Awareness Group, Athanasios Strigkas, and its member, Vassilis Minoudis. This program aims to improve the quality and effectiveness of whistleblowing policy and reporting channels for tackling manipulation of sports competitions. The main goal is to understand the existing framework at national level and to consult with stakeholders on the promotion and management of whistleblowing. At the same time, the national platforms involved in the project are working to prepare their country's law enforcement agencies to take action against criminal networks.

## REPORTS BY SPORT

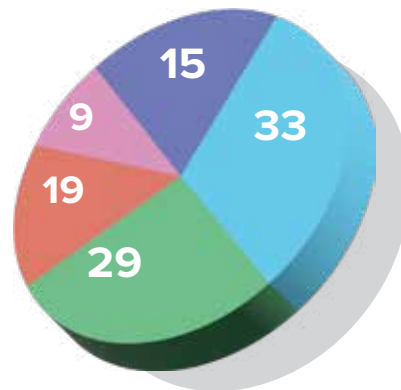


2023 BY SPORT AND COMPETITION



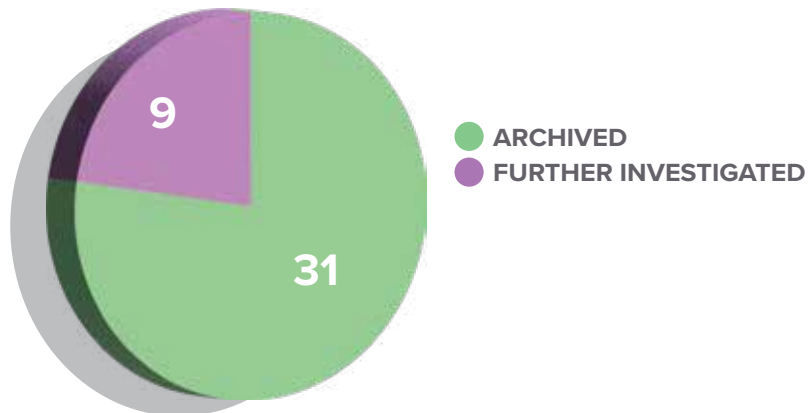
In the year 2023, the EPATHLA's Reports Evaluation Group reviewed 105 reports of potential match manipulation involving betting or not. Half of them related to football and a third came from Sportradar. It is noteworthy that the three most popular sports (football, basketball, volleyball) account for 80% of the total reports regarding 14 sports. The evaluation process for each report handled by the teams of the Report Evaluation Group can last from one to four weeks.

BY SOURCE



- SPORTRADAR
- EPATHLA REPORTING PLATFORM
- ULIS
- RED BUTTON
- OTHER SOURCE

## COMPLETED FINDINGS 40



## FURTHER INVESTIGATED (9)

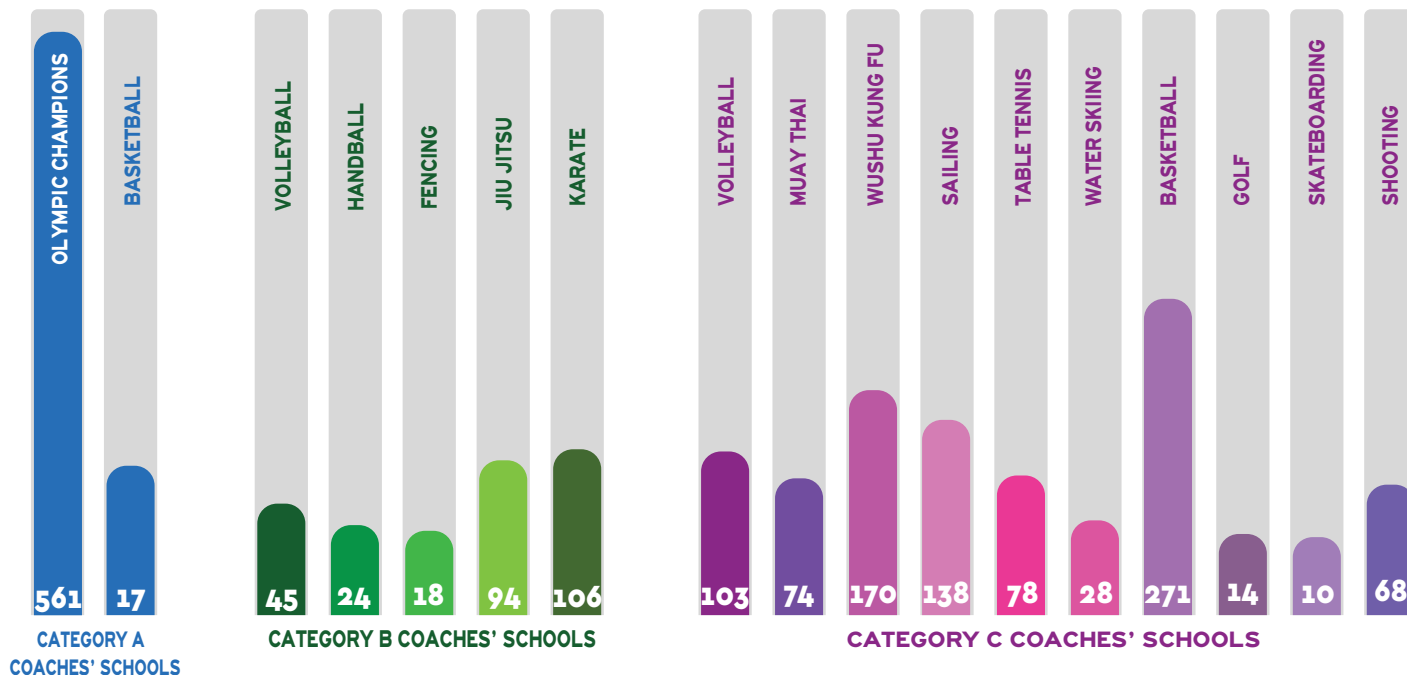


Reports of potential manipulation of sports competitions are evaluated based on specific, calibrated criteria, using data and information from various sources. The main evaluation criteria are the reliability of the source, the documentation, the audiovisual material, the risk of the event, the history and, finally, the analysis of betting data and their divergence from the division averages. Those reports assessed as high or immediate priority (sufficient or compelling evidence of manipulation) were forwarded to the competent authorities for further investigation. The chart shows that of the 40 findings, 9 were forwarded for further investigation, of which 8 concerned football and one basketball. Given that a finding may pertain to a case linked to more than one report, it is reasonable to differentiate between the number of findings (40) and the number of reports (105). The experts of the Report Evaluation Group are able to review cases that have been archived, due to incomplete documentation, should new evidence emerge.





During the year 2023, members of EPATHLA's Education and Awareness Group held 5-hour workshops in 17 Schools of Coaches of the General Secretariat of Sport – in all three coach divisions – in the context of the “Sports Integrity” topic. The workshops included the introduction of the e-learning tool of EPATHLA.



CATEGORY A COACHES' SCHOOLS

CATEGORY B COACHES' SCHOOLS

CATEGORY C COACHES' SCHOOLS

Προστατεύω τον εαυτό μου και το άθλημά μου:  
Γνωρίζω τους κανόνες

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Γνωρίζω τους κανόνες

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## e - LEARNING PLATFORM

## TOTAL USERS

610

## COACHES

238

## ATHLETES

253

## SPORTS OFFICIALS

46

## FANS

37

## JUDGES / REFEREES

29

## OTHER

7



The e-learning tool of EPATHLA was activated in 2023. A new digital tool, hosted on the website of the National Platform ([www.epathla.gov.gr](http://www.epathla.gov.gr)), was made available to all sports stakeholders in Greece with a view to strengthening efforts against the manipulation of sports competitions.

The content of the application was edited by the Education and Awareness Group of EPATHLA with the aim to create a comprehensive offline educational platform that will provide useful material regarding sport manipulation, targeted mostly to athletes over 15 years old, as well as coaches, referees and sports agents. After accessing and registering on the educational platform, the user watches the presentation and relevant videos, answers automated questions and, finally, receives a certificate of attendance.

This internationally pioneering e-learning tool was added to the arsenal of EPATHLA in the key areas of prevention, information and awareness-raising.

The e-learning tool had been used by a total of six hundred and ten users, who received certificates of attendance, by the end of 2023.

## TRAINING ACTIVITIES

ASPROPYRGOS



13 May

On 13 May 2023, the Education and Awareness Group of the National Platform for Sports Integrity attended another information event, in Aspropyrgos, at the opening of the 3on3 streetball tournaments organized every year with remarkable success by the Panhellenic Association of Professional Basketball Players, a valuable partner of EPATHLA in the fight against manipulation in sports.

The Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, the Coordinator of the Education and Awareness Group, Athanasios Strigkas, and its members, Fotini Karamanlaki and Kostas Alexandridis, represented the National Platform at the two-day 3on3 matches in Nikaia as part of the series of tournaments organized by PSAKK.

NIKAIA



29 May

SKIATHOS



6 June

EPATHLA at the side of PSAKK and the young athletes in Skiathos, at the 3on3 Streetball organised by the Association with great success on this island of the Sporades complex.

EPATHLA was also present in Chania, last stop of the 3on3 tournaments organised by PSAKK.

CHANIA



10 July

## TRAINING ACTIVITIES

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NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR SPORT INTEGRITY

EPATHLA participated in the 41st Referee Training Seminar organized by the Basketball Referee Federation of Greece (ODKE). The President of the National Platform, George Mavrotas, informed the Greek referees about the operating framework of the National Platform, as well as its responsibilities and actions.

17 September



Basketball  
Referee  
Federation



SUPER CUP

29/30 September

EPATHLA also attended ESAKE's SUPER CUP 2023 in Rhodes, represented by the members of the Education and Awareness Group, Athanasios Strigkas, Dimitra Bebeli and Kostas Alexandridis, highlighting the key role of information in raising awareness about the manipulation of sports competitions through its activities.

During the technical training held at the premises of the Hellenic Sailing Federation (HSF), EPATHLA was represented by Fotini Karamanlaki, member of the Education and Awareness Group, who introduced the structure, responsibilities and scope of the National Platform, as well as the "tools" available in the fight against manipulation of sports competitions.

30 September



HSF

HBF FIBA



2/3 November

At the 2nd meeting of FIBA's Integrity Officers, organized by FIBA in cooperation with the Hellenic Basketball Federation in Athens, Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, presented the international and national framework in the fight against match manipulation.

In 2023, the National Platform for Sports Integrity signed six (6) Memoranda of Understanding aimed at furthering the cooperation with authorities, sports organisations, associations of athletes, coaches and journalists, against the manipulation of sports competition. A key element of these partnerships is the encouragement of all those involved in sports to report manipulation-related incidents to EPATHLA which takes actions to counter them.

The Independent Anti-Money Laundering Authority, the National Olympic Academy, the International Olympic Academy, the Hellenic Paralympic Committee, the Panhellenic Federation of Sports Coaches and the Panhellenic Sports Press Association are important allies of EPATHLA in the joint effort to tackle manipulation of sports competitions, which is corroborated by the signing of relevant memoranda of understanding.

## Independent Anti-Money Laundering Authority

In February 2023, the Chairman of EPATHLA and Secretary General of Sport, George Mavrotas, and the Chairman of the Anti-Money Laundering Authority, Deputy Prosecutor of the Supreme Court, Charalambos Vourliotis, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two bodies with the aim of exchanging information and data, carrying out joint educational activities and cooperating in the preparation of reports on the interconnection between match manipulation and money laundering.

The launch of cooperation between the two bodies significantly bolsters the arsenal against match-fixing and money laundering, two issues that are intricately linked as shown by international experience and acknowledged by the Macolin Convention itself.



## National Olympic Academy (NOA)

The National Platform for Sports Integrity (EPATHLA) and the National Olympic Academy (NOA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2023. By signing it, the President of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, and the President of NOA, George Alikakos, strengthened the cooperation between the two bodies with a view to disseminating value-based sport to young generations and, especially, younger people, who are the target group of NOA.

The deployment of joint actions for the education and awareness-raising of children on the Olympic Ideals and "Fair Play" principles will contribute to the fight against the phenomenon of manipulation of sports competitions. Education and awareness-raising are the cornerstone of EPATHLA's activities in this direction.



## International Olympic Academy (IOA)

A Memorandum of Understanding between the National Platform for Sports Integrity and the International Olympic Academy was signed in April 2023 by the Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, and the President of IOA, Isidoros Kouvelos. The aim is to strengthen the sport integrity by developing joint actions to educate and raise the awareness of young people about the values of Olympism and, primarily, sport integrity.



## Hellenic Paralympic Committee (HPC)

The Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas, and the President of HPC, Giorgos Kapellakis signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Platform for Sports Integrity and the Hellenic Paralympic Committee in April 2023 to counter the manipulation of sports competitions.

Collaboration with the Paralympic movement is self-evident for EPATHLA as match manipulation issues are not just about betting, but anything that unfairly alters the outcome of a sports match. The growing activity of people with disabilities in sports makes it necessary to cooperate with HPC, in the area of reporting and, primarily, for the education and awareness of all members of the Paralympic movement in our country.



## Panhellenic Federation of Sports Coaches (POPA)

A Memorandum of Understanding between the National Platform for Sports Integrity and the Panhellenic Federation of Sports Coaches to counter the manipulation of sports competitions was signed on 11 May 2023 by the Secretary General of Sport and Chairman of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas and the President of POPA, Thanasis Villiotis. Coaches can play a key role in guiding their athletes and teaching them the values of sport. Their role is crucial in the fight against the manipulation of sports competitions, both in terms of prevention and education, as well as in dealing with such phenomena.

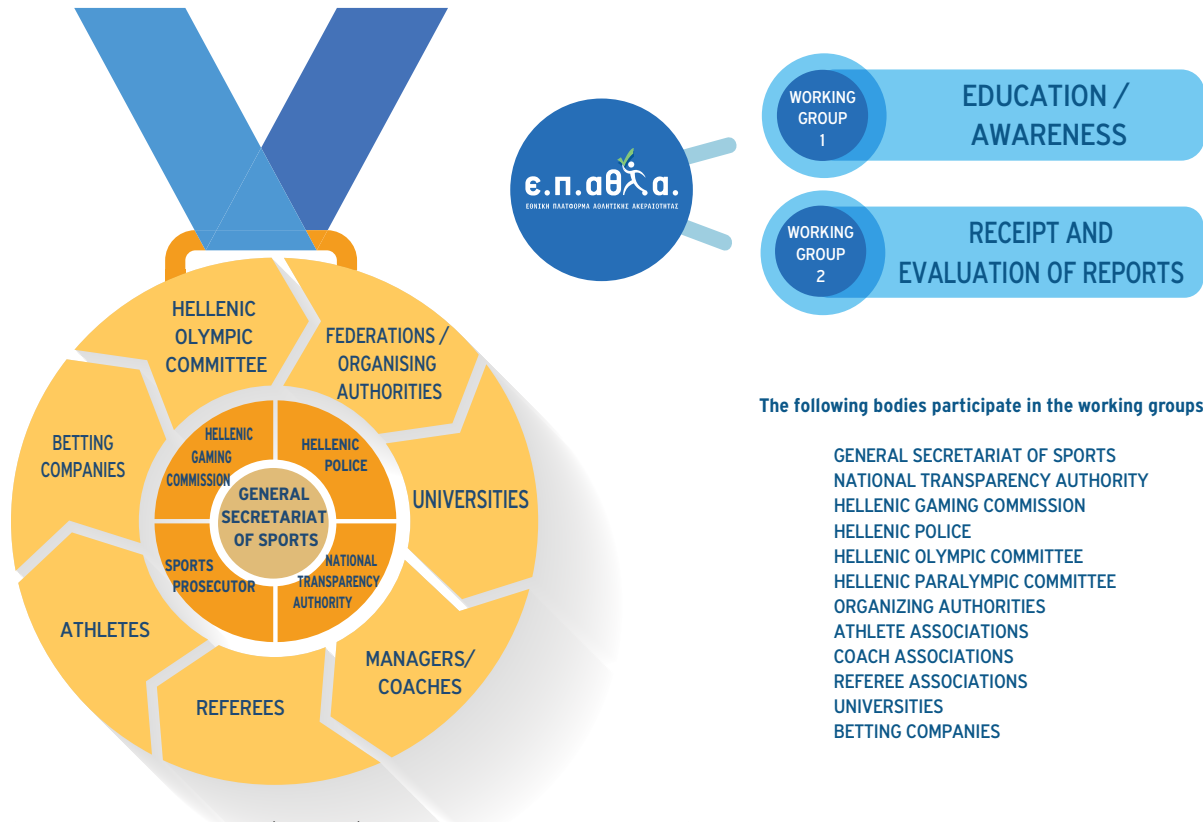
## Panhellenic Sports Press Association (PSAT)

A Memorandum of Understanding between the National Platform for Sports Integrity and the Panhellenic Sports Press Association on the fight against the manipulation of sports competitions was signed on 24 May 2023 by the Secretary General of Sport and President of EPATHLA, George Mavrotas and the President of PSAT, Giannis Theodorakopoulos.

The role of the sports press is crucial in tackling the manipulation of sports competitions through proper information and awareness-raising.

EPATHLA and PSAT join forces to deal with the threat of sports manipulation, since the Association, according to its statutes, supports all efforts directed to authentic and healthy sport.





The following bodies participate in the working groups:

- GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF SPORTS
- NATIONAL TRANSPARENCY AUTHORITY
- HELLENIC GAMING COMMISSION
- HELLENIC POLICE
- HELLENIC OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
- HELLENIC PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE
- ORGANIZING AUTHORITIES
- ATHLETE ASSOCIATIONS
- COACH ASSOCIATIONS
- REFEREE ASSOCIATIONS
- UNIVERSITIES
- BETTING COMPANIES

The National Platform for Sports Integrity (EPATHLA) derives from Article 13 of the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Maglingen/ Macolin Convention) and is the main tool for the implementation of the Convention. Its purposes are the national coordination of the competent bodies and international cooperation.

EPATHLA is a collective body, within the General Secretariat for Sport, with the following members: The Secretary General of Sport, the Governor of the Hellenic National Transparency Authority, the President of the Hellenic Gaming Commission, the Sports Prosecutor of Public Prosecutor’s Office in Athens and a representative of the Hellenic Police.

EPATHLA establishes working groups to assist it in its work. Each of these working groups may be joined by bodies other than those belonging to the core of EPATHLA (inner circle), i.e. the Hellenic Olympic Committee, associations of athletes, managers/coaches and referees, Organizing Authorities, Universities, Betting Companies etc. (outer circle). EPATHLA signs Memoranda of Understanding with the above bodies.

## Reports Evaluation Group of EPATHLA



**Vasileios Keramaris**, Legal advisor to the Secretary General of Sport, Coordinator.

**Christos Pertsoulakis**, Specialized Analyst - Expert.

**Limperis Reggas**, Scientific Associate of the Secretary General of Sport.

**Vasiliki Tsimpidi**, Police Captain, Information Management and Strategy Department Officer, Financial Police Division, Hellenic Police.

**Evangelos Mitrousis**, Police Major, Head of Spotters, Sports policing unit in Attica, Attica Security Directory, Hellenic Police.

**Antonios Alexiou**, Head of Information Technology Directorate, Hellenic Gaming Commission.

**Arsinoi Kappa**, Head of the Analysis, Data Extraction and Business Intelligence Department, Technological Infrastructure Directorate, Hellenic Gaming Commission.

**Eleni Bampleki**, Inspector - Auditor, Hellenic National Transparency Authority.

**Anna Depasta**, Inspector - Auditor, Hellenic National Transparency Authority.

**Aikaterini Tsiakla**, Employee of the General Secretariat of Sport, Office Executive of EPATHLA.

## Education and Awareness Group of EPATHLA



**Athanasios Strigkas**, Professor of the University of Peloponnese, Coordinator.

**Emmanouil Kolymbadis**, Secretary General of the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

**Fotini Karamanlaki**, Head of the Ethics, Integrity and Compliance Commission, Hellenic Olympic Committee.

**Panagiotis Giannakis**, President of the Greek Basketball Coaches Association.

**Andreas Glyniadakis**, President of the Panhellenic Association of Professional Basketball Players.

**Konstantinos Alexandridis**, Secretary General of the Panhellenic Association of Professional Basketball Players.

**Georgios Bantis**, President of the Panhellenic Association of Professional Football Players.

**Ioannis Bracho**, Director General of the Panhellenic Association of Professional Football Players.

**Vasileios Minoudis**, Former international volleyball player, Officer of the Hellenic Coast Guard.

**Agathi Kasoumi**, Shooting OLYMPIAN (OLY), Associate of the Secretary General of Sport.

**Dimitrios Konstantinidis**, Communication Officer of EPATHLA.

**Georgia Zarkinou**, Head of Communication and Awareness-Raising Campaigns Department, Directorate General for Awareness-Raising and Actions with Society, Hellenic National Transparency Authority.

**Argyrios Tsomokos**, Head of the Corruption Risk Management Department, Corruption Risk Assessment and Sectoral Anti-Corruption Strategies Directorate, Hellenic National Transparency Authority.

**Apostolos Mais**, Police Captain, Financial Police Division.

**Nikolaos Zalatariov**, Police Captain, Financial Police Division.

**Dimitra Bempeli**, Employee of the General Secretariat of Sport, Office Executive of EPATHLA.

# COOPERATING BODIES



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry of Education,  
Religious Affairs and Sports  
General Secretariat of Sports



# 2024



## Planning prevention, education and awareness-raising actions

After three years of coming into being, EPATHLA is planning numerous prevention, education and awareness-raising actions to combat the manipulation of sports competitions for the current year, as well.

As early as the start of the year, EPATHLA is expected to strengthen the existing report evaluation system for manipulation incidents through further synergies, reinforcing cooperation with Greek and international bodies, as well as with expert analytics companies. At the same time, it plans to put the Pre-Game Alert system into productive operation and to expand its collaboration with betting providers with a view to exchanging data and information.

In the context of enhancing efficiency in the analysis of reports of manipulation incidents, EPATHLA plans to enhance its resources with specialized staff and new technological equipment, in order to improve the quality of its work and the information provided to law enforcement and prosecuting authorities.

With regard to the education and awareness-raising of the sports community on issues of manipulation, EPATHLA plans to work with the sports federations and other bodies in order to implement a variety of information activities focusing particularly on raising the awareness of young people on sports integrity issues.

In the international environment, 2024 marks 10 years since the signing of the Council of Europe's Macolin Convention, which will be celebrated with major anniversary events, in which we will participate, as well as substantial actions, such as the ACT program and the activation of the Network of Magistrates/Prosecutors Responsible for Sports (MARS).

The European programs in which EPATHLA participates as a partner continue with abundant training activities and exchange of best practices, while members of our body represent our country, in all the competent instruments of the Council of Europe. Placing emphasis on the essence rather than communication, EPATHLA tackles manipulation of sports competitions taking concerted and steady steps and is an international best practice in terms of its constitution, operation and action.

[www.epathla.gov.gr](http://www.epathla.gov.gr)



**We join forces,  
we protect sport**

 National Platform for Sport Integrity

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