

## EFPM NEWSLETTER 1 /2017



*The European Fair Play Movement (EFPM) is a European non-governmental organisation, established in 1994 in the FIFA House in Zurich. National Fair Play organisations from 40 European Countries have been a part of the EFPM since 1994. The main goal of the EFPM is to promote Fair Play and tolerance in sports and everyday life at European level. The EFPM seeks to achieve this goal by supporting its members, by helping to promote Fair Play campaigns where sports organisations take the initiative, by co-operating with the authorities to foster Fair Play themes and by facilitating regular contacts between the various European sports organisations.*

*The goal of EFPM Flash News is to keep people informed on EFPM's activities and to establish closer contact not only to all the EFPM members but also to all European governmental and non-governmental sport institutions and organisations aiming to support and to contribute to the promotion of ethics in Sport and encouragement of the Fair Play values and principles in all sporting activities as well as in daily life.*

*All EFPM members, the above mentioned organisations and institutions, and associations with the same principles, are invited to communicate information relating to EFPM's goals (conferences, congresses, special events or initiatives, Fair Play prizes, books, etc....).*

*All the information should be sent to: [katarina.raczova@gmx.net](mailto:katarina.raczova@gmx.net)*

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The Executive Committee of the European Fair Play Movement held its first annual meeting on 13-15 January 2017 in Vienna at the invitation of ASKÖ.



The Executive Committee ("ExCom") raised attention to the evaluation of the 22<sup>nd</sup> EFP Congress with the aim to elevate the level of future events. The ExCom members provided information on their active participation at European events relating to the achievement of the EFPM goals during the last period. In addition, the key topic of the meeting was the next European Fair Play Congress which will be held in Haifa (ISR) from 23 to 27 October 2017. The theme of the congress is „Sport as a Means of

Reconciliation". By presentation of some of the local projects it will be demonstrated how community cohesion can be promoted through sport. 4 sessions with sub-themes will deal with this topic from various perspectives, as will discussion forums on sport being the main instruments of socialization.

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With regard to the organization of the 2018 EFP Congress, Stoke-on-Trent has shown interest.

Stoke-on-Trent is a city and unitary authority area in Staffordshire, England. Trent has become known as "The Five Towns" because of the name given to it by local novelist Arnold Bennett. A city from the United Kingdom, being one of the birthplaces of modern sport, would certainly be a great place to host the EFP Congress, even more so in light of Stoke-on-Trent's official motto: *Vis Unita Fortior*, which can be translated to "United Strength is Stronger".





On 6 February 2017, acting EOC President Janez Kocijancic (SLO) welcomed representatives from EFPM, namely its President Christian Hinterberger and Vice-President Miroslav Cerar. Topics discussed at this highly important meeting were common tasks and opportunities of the two organizations. At the meeting, they agreed to prepare the appropriate protocol on in-depth cooperation, which would be confirmed by their Executive Committee.

During his visit to Slovenia, Christian Hinterberger also visited the Slovenian Olympian Educational Centre and met with the General Secretary of the OCS-ASF. He visited Zreče to see a training session of young athletes from the Slovenian team attending the European Winter Youth Olympics Festival in Erzurum (TUR). Together with Miroslav Cerar, also Ambassador for Sport, Tolerance and Fair Play in the Republic of Slovenia, they presented the importance of respecting values and Fair Play in sport, as well as the operations of the movement on European level. They encouraged young athletes not to forget the importance of Fair Play and to compete to their best abilities.



In 1996, the European Fair Play Movement established the European Fair Play Awards aiming to promote the principles of Fair Play in Europe. In this respect, the EFPM annually invites all its members, European National Olympic Committees, sports organizations and educational institutions to submit their applications to the Fair Play Awards in following the categories:

- The European Fair Play Plaque of Merit and Diploma, under the auspices of the European Olympic Committees;
- The European Fair Play Diploma, under the auspices of the European Olympic Committees;
- The EFPM “Spirit of Fair Play” Award;
- The EFPM “Fair Play Flame” Award (to an athlete, or a team under 18);
- The EFPM “Fair Play Vox” Award, under the auspices of AIPS Europe.

**Candidacies for this year’s Fair Play Awards can be submitted by 30 April 2017 to the address below:**

European Fair Play Movement, Ioannis Psilopoulos, Gen. secretary  
31, Kodringtonos Str. GR – 10343 Athens  
[ioannispsilopoulos@gmail.com](mailto:ioannispsilopoulos@gmail.com)

The Regulations for the Fair Play Awards including the conditions and details can be found on the EFPM website [www.fairplayeur.com](http://www.fairplayeur.com) under the section “Awards”.



Before 2016 came to an end, the 27<sup>th</sup> annual U11 indoor football tournament entitled “Fair Play Cup” took place in Prague (CZE). 8 teams from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Croatia participated at this tournament, which is being organized traditionally under the auspices of the Czech Fair Play Club. Spectators were treated with some thrilling matches, all, however, under the

spirit of Fair Play. As a special particularity of this tournament, the players chose to whom a Fair Play award should be awarded amongst themselves. This year, Slovak team MSK Zilina was chosen, much to the team's delight: „*We are, of course, focusing on the development of the team's members as footballer. However, equally important to us is the development of such footballer as human being*”, coach Patrik Mojžiš said.

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The 10<sup>th</sup> annual award ceremony of the EOC Olympic Laurels took place in Minsk on the occasion of the 45<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. This year, six sports leaders were honoured, who had greatly contributed to the promotion of Olympic values and ideals within their NOC and in Europe. The following personalities were awarded:

- Mr. Constantinos Michaelides (CYP), President of the Cyprus Olympic Committee;
  - Mr. Kakhi Kakhiashvili (GEO), President of the Georgian Weightlifting Federation;
  - Mr. Nicola Pietrangeli (ITA), tennis player;
  - Mr. Zdenko Križ (SVK), President of the Slovak Table Tennis Association;
  - Ms. Svitlana Saidova (UKR), Ukrainian synchronized swimming coach;
- and last but not least a member of the fair play family:
- Mr. Arvydas Juozaitis (LIT), long-standing President of the Fair Play Committee, former Vice President of the National Olympic Committee of Lithuania and former swimmer (bronze medalist at the Montreal Olympic Games in 1976). He has dedicated a great part of his life to promoting and developing the Olympic Movement in Lithuania. He is also a philosopher, writer and lecturer.

The entire EFPM family congratulates the awarded personalities and thanks them for having dedicated their lives to the values of Olympism and Fair Play.

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The Iranian Fair Play Organization “Fatian Fair Play” was joined on 15 December 2016 at its 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference, organized under the leadership of Dr. Roohollah Mohammadi Mirzaei and under the motto “*New Findings of Science in Sports*”, by Shahid Rajaei, professor at the University of Tehran. During the conference, more than 400 publications in the fields of physiology, sports management, sports biomechanics, motor behavior were presented in the presence of approx. 700 students and faculties from 60 universities of Iran.

At the opening ceremony, participants of the conference witnessed an inspirational keynote speech on Fair Play and ethics in sport and were treated with an equally impressive closing ceremony, in the course of which the Code of Ethics of the Fatian Fair Play organization was presented, containing the following rules:

1. Honesty and truth are fundamental priorities for members of the Fatian Fair Play organization.
  2. Members are committed to generosity and chivalry being obeyed on and off the sports fields.
  3. All people are to be respected, irrespective of race, religion, nationality and language.
  4. Decisions by referees during the tournaments are to be respected, as are all rules and regulations.
  5. Efforts to fight doping are to be undertaken, in particular the founding of a culture and support of scientific programs rejecting the use of doping.
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The Slovak Olympic Committee Foundation organized a pre-Christmas come together of various generations on 12 December 2016. In the course of this event in the spirit of Fair Play, sporting personalities older than 50 years of age were presented with vouchers for spending some time at the spa-hotel in Dudince, while 5 young athletes from the project “Show Yourself” (*Ukáž sa!*) received donations amounting to EUR 1,000 to further support their development. In addition, the book “*Fair Play*

*in Practice*”, created by former Olympic fencer Katarina Raczova in cooperation with the Slovak Olympic Committee was officially unveiled. The book is particularly aimed at teachers and coaches of young athletes. In his speech accompanying the presentation of this book, presenter Lubomir Soucek drew attention to the fact that already 30 years ago he was board member of the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee together with Katarina Raczova, who after her highly successful professional career as fencer became the “*good soul*” of the Fair Play movement in Slovakia.

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Messages of love, understanding, cooperation, spiritual; power and Fair Play reigned over the 2017 EFPM VOX Awards that took place on 11 February 11 2017 in the beautiful city of Ioannina in northern Greece. This year’s favorite was Michalis Mertzianidis, a teacher of Physical Education in the 10<sup>th</sup> Elementary School of Ioannina. He was the inventor of the RUN & OUT Game that started to be a simple school game but with the most significant contribution of the pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> Elementary School of Ioannina turned to be a most promising and beloved sport in the schools in Greece and beyond.

The EFPM VOX Award was given to Michalis Mertzianidis following the proposal of AIPS Europe and took place in an emotional ceremony in Ioannina, in the presence of the authorities of the Ioannina Prefecture, the Ioannina branch of the Ministry of Education and more than 200 pupils of the 10<sup>th</sup> Elementary School of Ioannina and their parents. Michalis Mertzianidis was received with an unbelievable show of affection from his pupils and their parents that touched deeply all the participants of the event. The Award was handed over by the EFPM General Secretary Ioannis Psilopoulos and the AIPS Europe President Yannis Daras.

The EFPM General Secretary, Ioannis Psilopoulos presented the profile of EFPM and the values of Fair Play and concluded his address by saying that EFPM dedicates its Awards to people that have organized and presented activities that aim to ensure a better physical and emotional health for the children and the youth. This is the key factor for developing a better world. Michalis Mertzianidis and his pupils showed the way of respect, mutual understanding, joy of participation and fair play not only in the sports field, but mainly in everyday life.

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***Enjoy your read & feel free to provide us with information on your organisation, activities, & events.***

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