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**REPORT**

**EUROPEAN FOOTBALL**  
**FANS'**  
**CONGRESS**

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**AMSTERDAM**  
**19.-21. July 2013**

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## STEL JE VOOR; VOETBAL ZONDER SUPPORTERS...?!

Imagine Football without Fans...?! Sadly, this is a reality of football in the Netherlands and a big topic at the European Football Fans’ Congress (EFFC) of Football Supporters Europe (FSE) which brought together more than 350 fans and football officials from more than 30 countries in Amsterdam this year.

When the fans amongst the international guests heard the Dutch fan reports about the existing harsh and collective travel restrictions for supporters of all big teams and beyond, many of them asked the Dutch fans, almost in disbelief: “Why are you actually still going to football matches in your country, if you are treated like this?”

Consequently, in view of these realities, the treatment of supporters by clubs and authorities and examples for what fans can do to address issues around security and hospitality were big part of the discussions over the course of the three days of the event. FSE members from different fan groups at Ajax Amsterdam such as South Crew, North Up Alliance and the Ajax Supportersvereniging and the national team fans from the Supportersclub Oranje, together with the FSE Committee, had put together a full programme of social events, discussion and workshops that sought to address a broad range of topics relevant to supporters.

The football governing bodies welcomed this as well and took active part in the debates: UEFA’s General Secretary Gianni Infantino attended the EFFC for the first time and took up the issue right at the opening of the formal part at the Amsterdam ArenA. To the surprise of many fans present probably, he supported the fans’ position and spoke up clearly in favour of the need to facilitate free travel and a positive experience for all match-going supporters and include the viewpoints of supporters and seek proactive consultation with fans at all levels of the game.

Alongside UEFA and Ajax Amsterdam as a club, the Dutch Football Association KNVB also supported the event and in particular a first ever national

debate with fans around safety and security in Dutch football. Together with the supporters, they explored possibilities how the current situation in the country could be changed so that more supporters would be encouraged to attend football matches again.

The results of all of this are summarized in this report now.

Looking back, we think it’s been another successful and productive event and we would like to thank all our members, in particular the Ajax supporters, for their efforts and time put in to make this 6th European Football Fans’ Congress happen, partially under very challenging circumstances!

Other than that, the biggest thanks goes to all participating supporters in Amsterdam who contributed to the discussions and take active part in shaping the future of FSE and fan culture in Europe! Without you, FSE would be nothing!

And this is why it is time that the European Fans’ Congress will be changing again, just more radically than in previous years! Because from this year on, FSE members can transparently apply for hosting the EFFC in their city, in their preferred format, topics and with their favourite venue and side events!

Deadline for applications from FSE members for hosting the EFFC 2014 is 30 November 2013. The final date and venue will be selected by the FSE Committee in a transparent process and announced in January 2014.

Deadline for an application to host the EFFC 2015 will be 30 April 2014 so that we can announce the 2015 venue already at EFFC 2014! Got it?!

So, in any case, next year’s EFFC will be different and a surprise to all of us!

We’re looking forward to that and to you!

# EFFC 2013 - PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, 19 JULY 2013  
DE TOEKOMST Youth Academy

**From 17.00hrs**

- All Colours Are Beautiful! Fun Football
- 1st Fan Researcher Network Meeting
- 2nd European Network Meeting of Fan Lawyers
- Network Meeting of the FSE Fans' Embassy Division

**19.30hrs – 21.00hrs**

**WATCHING FOOTBALL IS NOT A CRIME!  
Talk Night**

Fans, institutions and football representatives talk about the sense and nonsense of sanctions

**21.00hrs – 24.00hrs (?)**

**EFFC 2013 WELCOME PARTY**

Food, Drinks, Fan Films and Music

SATURDAY, 20 JULY 2013  
Amsterdam Arena

**9.00-10.00hrs**

Arrival of participants

**10.00 – 10.30hrs**

Opening - Greeting Messages:  
Bernhard Fransen, Vice-President, KNVB  
Gianni Infantino, General Secretary, UEFA

**10.30 – 12.30hrs**

Workshops – Morning Sessions

**12.30 – 13.30hrs**

Lunch

**13.30 – 15.30hrs**

Workshops – Afternoon Sessions

**15.30 – 16.00hrs**

Coffee Break

**16.00 – 17.00hrs**

Presentation of Workshop Results

**16.00 – 17.30hrs**

“Stel je voor; voetbal zonder supporters...?!” Dutch Panel Discussion

**AFTERWARDS:**  
Amsterdam CITY CENTRE

**20.00hrs - ??**

**THE FLYING DUTCHMEN GRACHTEN PARTY**

Cruising Food, Drinks and Music...and Fans

SUNDAY, 21 JULY  
Amsterdam Arena

**9.30-10.30hrs**

Arrival of participants

**10.30 – approx. 14.30hrs**

Annual General Meeting (AGM) of  
the members of Football Supporters Europe (FSE)

**15.00hrs**

Closing Press Conference

**AFTERWARDS:**  
Hannekes Boom

**19.00hrs - ??**

**EFFC 2013 - THE FINAL DESTINATION**

Farewell party with all volunteers and  
participants of EFFC 2013

# WATCHING FOOTBALL IS NOT A CRIME – The Talk Night on Sanctions *by Kevin Miles*

## “WATCHING FOOTBALL IS NOT A CRIME”

Plenary Discussion Participants:

**Carlos Schneider**, UEFA Disciplinary Services

**Jo Vanhecke**, Chair of the Council of Europe Standing Committee on Spectator Violence (T-RV)

**Christian Visser**, Dutch fan lawyer

**Victoria Dominguez Almela**, member of the Spanish ultra group Brigadas Amarillas at Cadiz CF

**Panos Mastrothimios**, member of the fan group Ierolohites at FC Aris

**Gregor Weinreich**, frequently travelling German supporter and member of Bayern Munich fan group Club Nr 12

**CHAIR: Kevin Miles**, FSE Committee member, Football Supporters Federation, England



The opening plenary event at the Amsterdam Fans' Congress was a panel discussion on the broad subject of sanctions. Held at the Ajax "Toekomst" youth academy, it took the form of a fairly relaxed and informal discussion, loosely based on the format of a television chat show.

The line-up of panellists was carefully selected to guarantee an interesting exchange of views, with participants from both sides of the metaphorical fence well able to challenge each other's arguments. The starting point for the discussion, as outlined by the chair, FSE Committee member Kevin Miles, was that there was general agreement that football, both on and off the pitch, needed rules in order to function. And where there are rules, they need to be enforced, and there needs to be some consequences for those who disobey or break those rules. Where the debate lies is around issues like these: What should those sanctions be? Should they be primarily designed to punish? To deter further rule-breaking? Or maybe education as to why breaking the rules is in nobody's interests would be more appropriate?

And then of course there were topics like collective punishments: are they a necessary evil, or is there a danger that they're actually counter-productive? There was also an insistence that the discussion should not be restricted to issues of fan behaviour, as is often the case, but also address issues such as match-fixing, financial irregularities and the conduct of clubs and players.

All participants injected positive and constructive points into the debate, each bringing their own personal experience and viewpoint to the discussion. Particular appreciation was expressed for the input from UEFA's representative Carlos Schneider, a lawyer in the Disciplinary Department, who ventured bravely into the lion's den and explained some of the procedures and considerations that lie behind the decision-making process. One particularly well-received update from UEFA that Carlos was able to bring to us was the announcement that from now on, all UEFA's disciplinary decisions were going to be made public, including the rationale behind them. This big step in the direction of transparency

was something that FSE had been campaigning for, and was widely welcomed by all present.

All the participants deserve credit for their involvement. As well as the great contributions from the panellists, there were also very pertinent points and questions raised from the floor - not least from fans from Fenerbahce, who were seeking answers about disciplinary measures being taken against their club, including a proposed ban from European competition (although Carlos explained he was unable to give a detailed answer as the case was still subject to legal proceedings).

The feedback from all present afterwards was that it had been a really useful discussion, helping at least to clarify many of the issues, even if there was not quite a consensus reached on all matters. Many agreed that there was more common ground and understanding than they



had previously realised; all agreed that the spirit in which the discussion was carried out, of respect for opponents' views and reasoned debate, reflected very well on FSE and its membership.



## FIRST EUROPEAN FAN RESEARCHER NETWORK MEETING *Chairs: Gerd Dembowski and Jonas Gabler*

**15 fan researchers from different European countries (Austria, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, and Portugal) participated in the first network meeting of fan researchers held on Friday afternoon. The meeting was set up to build up European-wide contacts and intensify international cooperation among interdisciplinary scientists who all do research in football related and especially in fan related issues.**

First of all, it was set up to get to know each other and to exchange contacts. The participants also made clear that they completely comply to the policy and core principles of FSE. During the following discussion the participants debated about realistic and useful means of cooperation.

would be useful to have as a standard a brief abstract in English of every publication, thesis a.s.o.

- 4 The group discussed also future projects like the possibility of doing common funding projects and to establish a scientific advisory board for FSE, maybe even organized in several boards specialized in special research interests.

Clifford Stott, Jorge Silvério, Heidi Thaler, Joachim Lammert, Gerd Dembowski and Jonas Gabler expressed their intention to do the follow-up, and to begin to collect the mentioned information about the participants. This first step should start from the beginning of the month of September.

### FUTURE COOPERATION

- 1 The group quickly agreed that the first step should be to set up a weblist/forum in order to simplify the intensification and the establishment of contacts between researchers all over Europe – this should also permit the affiliation of interested researchers who couldn't come to the first network meeting in Amsterdam.
- 2 The proposition supported by the group was also to establish a website part within the FSE-internet presence including a list of the affiliated researchers (with at least name, discipline, function and probably research interests and in the future maybe even a list of publications – for the moment it should be sufficient to put links on the website that bring visitors to the personal homepages of the researchers). The list could be sorted by countries and be extended step by step, possibly creating even an online archive on publications.
- 3 To contribute to this, the group appealed to everyone to collect online publications and thesis of students, e.g. Considering that a lot of research work in several European countries is only published in the respective languages, it

## NETWORK MEETING OF THE FANS' EMBASSY DIVISION *Chair: Thomas Gassler*

**The annual meeting of the Fans' Embassy Division took place in the youth academy of Ajax Amsterdam on Friday afternoon. The FE Core Group as well as representatives of many FE teams from all over Europe participated at this meeting. A major point for discussion was the restructuring of the Core Group combined with appointing a new divisional director who should also represent the Fans' Embassy Division within the FSE Committee. Apart from that, a Football Fans' Guide app for smartphones was introduced, the teams spoke about their experiences on test FEs in 2013 and updates on the organisational process for the EURO 2016 and 2020 in terms of Fans' Embassies were given.**

### NEW DIRECTOR OF THE FANS' EMBASSY DIVISION: THOMAS GASSLER

After the resignation of Michael Gabriel as Director of the FE Division at last year's congress in Istanbul, Paul 'Corky' Corkrey took over the position on an interim basis. With the consent of the Fans Embassy network members, the Core Group appointed Thomas Gassler as new director of the division. Corky thanked the participants for their engagement and passed his responsibilities on to Tommy who is well known due to his involvement with FSE as project coordinator for the activities around EURO 2012.

### PAST AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Some participants presented their activities at Test Fan Embassies while the Italian FE team mentioned its particular engagement on Fans' Embassies at club level in Italy. Lobbying meetings with club representatives from Serie A and B, as well as Italian police and FA have been undertaken. They are about to promote their work via different channels on the internet and look forward for their first Fan Embassy during an Europa or Champions League match.

The concept of the Football Fans' Guide was introduced to the participants. It will be a smartphone app that shall enable fans who travel to stadiums across their country or elsewhere in Europe to have all useful information relevant for football supporters with them through their mobile phone also offline, to save roaming costs, e.g. when travelling abroad. The info is provided by football fans for football fans from within the FSE membership and beyond and will be collected in the coming months. The Football Fans' Guide App will be available for Android and IOS and will be released in autumn 2013. It will be available for free download via the official app stores with regular updates and via the FSE Website.

With regard to the upcoming EURO 2016 in France one of the main challenges for the future is to form a French FE team which works on a constantly high as well as responsible level and gets support from the French institutions. Luckily, Hervé Mougín who is the chairman of the French national team supporters club "Irrésistibles" was in Amsterdam and mentioned a possible collaboration between his fan club, the French FA and FSE in order to develop a concept for a joint programme on a Fans' Embassy programme for EURO 2016 and present this to UEFA. More details on the procedure will be discussed at a separate meeting with the divisional core group.

The next meeting of the FSE Fans' Embassy Core Group should take place in October 2013.

# THE FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' VOICE IS IMPORTANT

*In view of an interest shown by many participants, we're hereby documenting the speech of UEFA General Secretary Gianni Infantino at our official opening of the formal programme parts of the EFFC 2013 on Saturday, 20 July 2013.*

*His speech was subsequently published as an editorial in the official UEFA magazine "UEFA Direct" in August 2013:*



The European Football Fans' Congress of Football Supporters Europe, which took place in Amsterdam in mid-July, provides a crucial platform for UEFA to address and interact with the lifeblood of our sport.

As we enter a new season, it remains crystal clear that, for football, supporters provide that lifeblood and make our sport the most popular sport in the world. This is important to recognise – and equally important is to ensure that their voice is heard, and that their message is understood to help shape football's future.

Players, coaches and even owners are now changing with increasing frequency, but supporters continue to remain loyal to the colours they proudly wear. This is the reason our sport exists, and this is the reason why UEFA is proud to have established a dialogue with supporter representatives that allows UEFA to share with them our thoughts and proposals, but it also allows UEFA the opportunity to validate ideas, to answer complaints and to evaluate suggestions.



As gamekeepers, we are aware of the issues. Safety and security remains top of our agenda. We firmly believe we can ensure safety without stigmatising innocent fans through heavy-handed policing or travel restrictions that infringe on the freedom of fans and fail to see fans as people in their own right. We remain committed to creating a safe, secure and welcoming environment for fans by putting in place the rules, our safety instructions, which raise standards across the continent.

Equally, for ticket pricing, UEFA shares fans' concerns that increased prices in the current economic climate are making attending matches unaffordable for many, particularly families. We are striving to find the right balance between providing a legitimate return for the clubs and a fair and affordable price to supporters.



This has resulted in the introduction of a new and more affordable category of ticket for the UEFA Champions League final - a category that amounts to over 20% of the tickets available for the match.

It is true that supporters have always been part and parcel of professional football. Their loyalty to their clubs lies at the core of their personal identity, it is a lifelong commitment. At a time when the global crisis and a lack of financial discipline are threatening the very survival of many football clubs, supporter involvement offers a credible, sustainable alternative to the current model of club ownership and governance.

Financial fair play and club licensing also resonate with supporters, who want to ensure their clubs are sustained for the generations to come. This has been a cornerstone in UEFA's approach for the future of European club football, and supporters are actively playing their part in it. But our partnership should not rest there. At the XXXVII Ordinary UEFA Congress in May, European football – UEFA and its member associations – underlined its commitment to combating racism by adopting an eleven-point resolution. The resolution is clear. UEFA

will match its intentions by taking action through our new disciplinary regulations which go further than ever before in terms of sanctioning those who are found guilty of racist behaviour. Fans, too, have their role to play in all of this and we count on you to actively support this resolution. Let's put a stop to racism. Now.



**Gianni Infantino**  
UEFA General Secretary

## THEME 1: Football Fans, the Special Species – when football supporters become a play ball for safety and security measures

**SPEAKERS:** *Dr. Clifford Stott* (Author, Researcher on Crowd Psychology)  
*Jo Vanhecke* (Council of Europe – Standing Committee on Spectator Violence)  
*Kenny Scott* (Stadium and Security Consultant, UEFA)  
*Rasmus Trenskow* (Danske Fodbold Fanklubber, Denmark)  
*Ronald Pieloor* (Ajax Member Association, Board Member, Netherlands)  
*Sandra Schwedler* (ProFans, Germany)

**CHAIR:** *Heidi Thaler* (Fan Researcher, Austria)

In many countries, football fans are confronted with a big range of repressive measures and special laws. At this year's congress, we discussed this topic more thoroughly in two areas. In the morning session, we dealt with the pros and cons of travel arrangements and restrictions. In the afternoon session, we focused on body searches. There again, we had the opportunity to exchange knowledge and talk about problems related to entry procedures.

### TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

In the morning session we started with "Bubble Matches" and travel restrictions in general. Clifford Stott gave a short introduction on the topic. We learned that Bubble Matches are part of a much wider package of security measures. What we understand when talking about Bubble Matches is, that fans need to get on a specific train/bus to get a ticket for the away game. The journey is escorted by police and people are searched when entering the train/bus. Originally, these Bubbles are only imposed in the highest risk scenarios and spread from the UK (Cardiff) over Europe. Experience all over Europe shows that by now these Bubbles are not limited to the highest risk games anymore, but are used as a proper measure in the whole safety and security discussion.

We discussed various points of Bubbles and broadened the topic into the general framework of security concepts. One major question was whether such Bubbles and security concepts are proportionate and whether they go along with the Convention

of Human Rights. In the context of football games, we often have the situation that legislation and regulations are ignored or violated (for example freedom of movement) and no one seems to care. In other words, football fans have no lobby to stand up for their rights. In this context we covered several points of Human Rights like the freedom of assembly and association (You have the right to take part in peaceful meetings and to set up or join associations), the Freedom of movement (If you are lawfully within a country you have the right to go where you want and to live where you want) or the right to liberty and security (If you are arrested you have the right to know why. If you are arrested you have the right to stand trial soon or to be released until the trial takes place).

Furthermore, we heard experiences from fans who suffered from Bubbles or other restrictions and asked ourselves the question to where such measures lead to. Is it the aim, to have a complete ban of away fans in the end? This would harm the atmosphere which in the end can lead to football becoming less attractive which means less money will be invested which would also be a damage from a commercial perspective.

We agreed that measures need to be proportionate compared to the existing risks. A study from British Home office shows that in 2010/2011 only 0,01 % of the people visiting football games were arrested – and from that number only a small part was due to violence. Along with this, a majority of fans is punished for the wrongdoing of a few. Furthermore, there has to be a clear idea why these restrictions are taken. The

argument that "it is easier for the police like that" is not a valid reason. Dialogue is important to prevent misunderstandings and tensions, that can lead to violence. Missing dialogue and unspecific safety and security measures make it nearly impossible to work on self regulation of football fans (Note: self regulation is not self-policing, football fans are not doing police work).

During the discussion, it emerged that the ways to change address of these measures and topics are related to political lobbying in different ways. This means that football fans will have to get more involved in political lobbying in the future. Football fans need a lobby and this might be something that FSE might be able to take up even more in the future.

### BODY SEARCHES

In the afternoon session, we discussed body searches and entrance situations. After another short introduction into the topic we talked about the fact, that the stadium is private property. Therefore, we are confronted with some difficult questions like: why should the police be in a stadium when there is no apparent danger? Can the searching staff do whatever they like, because it's private property? We reasoned that the stadium is private property, but is used in a public way and, therefore, legal regulations have still impact on the whole setting.

We then discussed the most important points of the entrance situation in different working groups. We had the idea of coming up with a catalogue of important points. We voted for this strategy because fans are not at all against body search in general, but it has to be done in a respectful way. So, we collected the following points to come up with some kind of code of conduct, or guideline that should be followed and discussed amongst FSE, the CoE Standing Committee and UEFA:

- Female fans are searched by female searchers if they wish so
- Ideally a standardized and profound training for searchers becomes part of the licensing requirements for clubs

- Staff from the home club might ideally be used for the searching on away games (guest sector) as well. They know the fans and can be used as link to the local security team (good experience exists)

- The searching staff need to be identifiable and can be reported if they act inappropriate

- There should exist some common standards on a national level on how to do the searching (ideally also on an European level)

- Football fans should be treated as guests

- SLOs need to make sure that there is communication on what was ok and not ok during the entrance situation

- There should be some kind of monitoring on different entrance situations – here we might be able to work together with the project "rate your club"

- There needs to be an adequate number of entrances and stewards doing the search

- There needs to be proper randomized search (in terms of time and feasibility)

As a workshop outcome we decided to write a kind of code of conduct which FSE can spread and discuss in different groups resp. with different partners. Even UEFA gave the signal that they might agree on these general points and advise to implement them (all depending on how the code of conduct looks like in the end). Furthermore, we discussed the possibility of working together with the project "rate your club" and as another idea to implement a campaign all over Europe on one weekend on entrance situations.

**Linda Hadorn,**  
*FSE Committee member, FaCH, Switzerland*

## THEME 2: Fans against poor modern football. The struggles for clubs and fans in small leagues/Fans and their FAs – why dialogue is good for the game

### SPEAKERS (MORNING SESSION):

**Aleksandar Mishevski** (Ultras FC Pelister, Macedonia)  
**Mike Swysen** (Supportersfederation Profclubs, Belgium)  
**Dmytro Sholomko** (Fan of FC Obolon Kyiv, Ukraine)

### SPEAKERS (AFTERNOON SESSION):

**Michael Boyd** (Head of Community Relations, The Irish Football Association, Northern Ireland)  
**Erik Reynaerts** (Ombudsman of the supporters at the Belgian FA, Belgium)  
**Lena Gustafson Wiberg** (Svenska Fotbollssupporterunionen, SLO at Djurgårdens IF Fotboll, Sweden)

**CHAIRS:** **Arne Christian Eggen** (Kjernen, independent Rosenborg supporters) morning session  
**Martin Endemann** (Football Supporters Europe) afternoon session

The workshop dated back to an initiative by FSE-members Ultras Bitola of FK Pelister/Macedonia who quite rightly pointed out that discussions during the past congresses focused on fans of the “big” leagues though many fans from smaller countries and leagues faced a lot of problems due to the difficult situation for their clubs.

In the first part of the workshop fans from three smaller leagues gave an overview of the respective situation for clubs and fans in their countries. Mike Swysen from the Supportersfederation Profclubs (SfP) presented the Belgian situation. Only a few teams are financially healthy, many of the smaller clubs always have to sell their best players so the gap between the few big teams and the smaller one becomes bigger every year. Additionally, many clubs (at the moment 8 out of 16 in the top league) are owned by just one person or organisation, that makes it hard for fans ownership and democratic structures. A complicated play-off system has been introduced a couple of years ago to which led to a decreased stadium support over the last years. Additional problems are the bad conditions of many of the old areas. Similar issues were reported by Dmytro Sholomko football fan of a smaller club, FC Obolon from Kiev. He gave an alarming overview

on the situation of Ukrainian football where two clubs, Schaktar Donetsk and Dynamo Kiev, dominate the league and 12 professional clubs were put into administration in the last four years, with several being defunct by now. Most of the clubs in the Ukraine are run by oligarchs without any connection to the fan scene or the community. Dmytro criticised the FA for not seeming to care for club football, apart from the big teams. Aleksandar Mishevski added a few other problems for small clubs and leagues from the Macedonian perspective, most notably the terrible conditions of most of the grounds in the national league, as well as match-fixing scandals which never seem to be properly prosecuted.

Also the discussion with the about 40 workshop participants showed that though the problems slightly differ, many issues are shared ones. A stadium visit has become unattractive to many people, low attendances are almost a natural consequence and make the financial situations for the clubs even worse. Many fans start following the teams in the big football countries on TV or stop following games altogether: Big leagues are getting bigger, small leagues are getting worse, players are being exploited, fans are ripped off, kick-off times moved to ridiculous times etc.

A good chance to fight these problems would be a better dialogue with the national FAs. So the second part of the workshop focused on examples (also from smaller leagues) how an improved dialogue between fans (organisations) and the FAs can change the situations in the long term. Michael Boyd from the Northern Irish FA explained how the FA started in the past years a big program to liaise with the fans on national and club level. Through the “Football for all” project they managed to get closer ties especially between the national team supporters and the FA, which led (among other things) to an improved atmosphere at the national team games. Through Young Fans Forums, Fan Seminars and National Round Table meetings the FA reaches out directly to fans at club level as well.

Lena Gustafson Wiberg from the Svenska Fotbollssupporterunionen who also works as an SLO at Djurgårdens IF Fotboll shared best practice examples of dialogues between fans and their national associations. The most notably achievement was the preservation of a 50 plus 1 rule in Sweden, which came only into place through the hard lobbying work of the supporters. Not least the willingness of the FA to pick up suggestions by fans has led to a rather high number of spectators at club games compared to Sweden’s UEFA and FIFA ranking. Finally, also Erik Reynaerts who is an Ombudsman of the supporters at the Belgian FA told the audience about their successes in the last years. The dialogue started when fans were able to help the FA during the cup final 2009 and to attract more fans to the national games through the newly funded national team organisation “1895”. It was pointed out that there often is a win-win situation as soon as a dialogue is being put into place. But some participants warned that “hot topics” might endanger a dialogue which is what recently happened in Germany and Norway when the two parties couldn’t agree on the issue of pyrotechnics.

## CONCLUSIONS:

It’s difficult to give a clear strategy from a fans’ perspective on these problems, but some general remarks can be made as a result from the workshop:

- Clubs should liaise more with their fans and make fan ownership easier. Fans are the ones who care most about their clubs and often have a great expertise, also how to develop new ranges of income possibilities.
- In many cases clubs ruined themselves by completely relying on one investor and reaching for European fame. Sometimes it’s better to build from scratch, focus on the club’s own strengths (grassroots) and support from the local community and stay a stable small club with a clear vision of its ambitions.
- Existing rules on especially financial fair play and licensing are not properly observed and cases of mismanagement or even match fixing do not always lead to reactions by the FAs or UEFA. All footballing bodies are being asked to better prosecute cases like this in the future.
- In many countries there is no functioning dialogue between FAs and fans/fan organisations. The reasons are often the same: The FA doesn’t have a reason to get into dialogue and fan groups are too weak to be taken seriously. So it’s even more essential for a network as FSE to mediate between them and put pressure (maybe through UEFA) on the institutions to enter into a dialogue and to seriously implement SLOs. A criticism shared by many fans in the workshop was that the (great) SLO project has not been taken serious by some clubs. FAs and UEFA should make sure progress in this project is monitored.
- Also FSE should take more time in the future to care about the problems which small leagues face. The new “country of the year” strategy which was agreed on through the membership might be good starting point for that.

**Martin Endemann,**  
FSE Committee member, BAFF, Germany

## THEME 3: Supporter Ownership in Action – Our Game, Our Rules

**SPEAKER:** *Alan Lewis (Swans Trust, Wales)*

**CHAIR:** *Ben Shave (Supporters Direct Europe)*

Twelve years ago, Swansea City FC were bottom of the professional pyramid in England, and on the verge of going out of existence. Now the Welsh club are established in the Premier League, have earned a reputation for playing the game the right way – and are part owned by their supporters. The session on supporter ownership in action told the remarkable story of how the Swans Trust kept their club alive, and why supporters have been central to so many clubs being saved in England in recent years.

The workshop did also look at the growing number of groups across Europe who are working to ensure their clubs are restored to or remain in the hands of those who care about them the most – supporters. Whether through motions at AGMs, national fan campaigns coordinated by umbrella organisations, or action from individual groups, everyone involved in this session is working towards achieving greater levels of supporter influence at their clubs ... for the good of us all. The countries represented among the participants were: Belgium, Denmark, England, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Wales.

### PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS

After Ben Shave briefly introduced the format of the session, Alan Lewis stepped up to tell the story of the Swans Trust, from an initial open meeting in 2001 to the present day, where the Trust holds a 20% stake in their club and also has a representative on the board of directors. As well as informing the delegates about the public campaign the Trust spearheaded to preserve the club, Alan also emphasised the importance of having a vision, and the right people to push things forward in private.



This last point opened out a wider discussion about the barriers to supporter ownership and involvement in clubs, particularly in the English context where supporters are rarely if ever included in the discussion until the crisis arrives. Alan acknowledged the “perfect storm” that helped the Swans Trust get to where they are today, but also stressed there are many groups doing great work “on the outside” as well. Ben pointed out that one of SD Europe’s main aims across the continent is to encourage better regulation of the game, which ensures that supporters are placed at its heart. We’re getting there!

The workshop then watched “The Real Oviedo Story”, which documents how a grassroots Twitter campaign ended up raising two million Euros, taking one of Spain’s most historic clubs from the brink, to having over 20,000 new shareholders from 86 different countries. As well as demonstrating the power of collective supporter action and the uniting principles we all share as active fans, the film also looks into the future for Real Oviedo – with those involved in the campaign intent on formalising the supporter influence in the club’s statutes.

The film served as a neat launchpad for Ben to introduce SD Europe’s work, and particularly the “Improving Football Governance through Supporter Involvement and Community Ownership” project, which took place from March 2012 – June 2013. The project involved nine partners from eight different European countries, and was based around a series of national workshops for supporters to come together and discuss the issues affecting their everyday activities (as well as their plans for the future); and also the production of eight handbooks. These were written in the native language of the partners, and will be a key resource for democratic supporters’ groups and supporter owned clubs in the future.

Some of the project’s key outcomes were also discussed, including: the establishment of a national network for democratic supporters’ groups in Italy (Supporters in Campo), the agreement to launch a similar network in Ireland (The Heart of the Game), and the involvement of project partners Svenska Fotbollssupporterunionen in the campaign that culminated with the preservation of member ownership of Swedish sports clubs.

Having given the delegates a flavour of how the supporter ownership movement is evolving across Europe, Ben and Alan opened up the floor for a general discussion about the best way forward, and some of the challenges that need to be overcome. One of the key themes to emerge was the importance of learning



from instances where supporters have struggled to cope with the transition from a campaigning group to a governing group. Strong governance, a clear vision and support from people with similar experiences were identified as ways of ‘building capacity’.

The consensus was that supporter ownership and involvement in clubs are essential, and that it needs to be encouraged, both by supporters but also by those in charge of the game. Good practice needs to be shared, and fans need to act collectively on the national and European levels to promote the benefits of being at the heart of what goes on at your club.

**Ben Shave,**  
*Supporters Direct Europe, England*



## THEME 4: EURO 2020 for Europe – An Event for Fans?

### SPEAKERS (MORNING SESSION):

**Patrick Gasser** (UEFA)

**Theo Pouw** (Oranjes Supporters' Club)

**Jens Andersen** (Fan Embassy Denmark)

**CHAIR: Paul Corkrey** (Welsh Fan Embassy)

### SPEAKERS (AFTERNOON SESSION):

**Liam Murray** (You Boys in Green)

**Theo Pouw** (Oranjes Supporters' Club)

**Lara Pellegrini** (Fan Embassy Italy)

The session was chaired by Paul Corkrey, the Welsh Fan Embassy coordinator and FSE Fans Embassy Core Group member. He highlighted the work already done by FSE with UEFA to date. Two meetings had taken place between FSE and the UEFA and another was planned this year. The topics discussed with UEFA included among others:

- The inability of a majority of fans to travel everywhere and follow their team due to the challenging geographical circumstances. FSE proposed to UEFA a "EURO for Europe Fan-Pass" for all fans who got tickets for two or more matches. Benefits for the fans in possession of this free pass shall be general pre-emption rights for tickets and discounts on flights to venues, amongst others
- The difficulties of border restrictions – they should be lifted or made a lot easier for fans, especially from countries that use visas
- Ticket issues including the allocation and pricing
- The challenges involved with the provision of Fan Embassy services; they would be particularly needed during this tournament due to the travelling and number of countries hosting games but also be very challenging to organise

Patrick Gasser put the tournament into perspective from the point of view of the UEFA and explained that they wanted to celebrate the 60th anniversary of UEFA with something special, a tournament where the final matches can be seen in many different countries. It was to be a grand, but one-off event for all of Europe to celebrate football and an

opportunity for the smaller nations, who do not have a multiple of stadia, to host a final in their country. He went on to say that UEFA had listened to fans' views already and implemented some of those ideas into the bid process and that they understood the problems that fans were concerned about. He also said that more meetings will take place with FSE and consultation is always useful from the supporters.

Next to speak was Theo Pouw, who co-founded the Oranjes Supporters' Club and also had experience of Fan Embassies with Dutch fans. He gave an entertaining presentation about Dutch fans and how they like to organise themselves at major tournament finals. This has always worked well in the past but there were concerns raised over how it might work in a multi country tournament during 2020, should the Netherlands qualify. Finally our Danish colleague Jens Andersen was concentrating on the smaller nations and their difficulties. Smaller teams rarely qualify and when they do it is usually late in the qualifying process so then it's harder to prepare in advance and cope with distances between games and the problems to get accommodation and flights.

The floor was then left open for questions; naturally they were mostly directed towards Patrick Gasser from UEFA. Visas were a worry brought up by our Russian and Ukrainian members, distances between venues throughout the tournament was also raised. The use of fan embassies and the need for proper communication during the event was discussed as well as possible lack of accommodation and cheap flights due to not being able to book in advance.

In conclusion, it was agreed that members go back and explain the rationale behind this decision to hold the tournament in many countries but also to try to come up with ideas that would help the tournament to succeed from a fans point of view. We should ensure that this topic is freshened up and updated at every fan congress up until the 2020 tournament and in between, representatives of the FSE will continue to meet with high ranking UEFA officials.

The FSE Fans' Embassy Division welcomes all feedback, input and proposals from European football supporters on this issue and ensures that proposals made will be discussed and if agreed by the majority of network members, we'll take them forward in these meetings with UEFA.

## NATIONAL TEAM FANS

The purpose of the afternoon session was to bring together various national team supporters with the aim to exchange experience and address various issues they are facing in their countries and during international tournaments. This workshop also aimed at raising the discussion on how to intensify our cooperation for international matches and tournaments to enhance the spirit of the game and make it even more pleasant and fan-friendly.

Theo Pouw suggested an effectively working model of running national supporters' organization that involves tickets distribution management, informational support for supporters, do's and don'ts, etc.. It was concluded that it is crucial to keep good relationships with FA but at the same time have enough independence. Supporters as experts should organize activities for other supporters as they know the peculiarities of fan culture in their country and internationally.

Then, Liam Murray from You Boys in Green shared with us how his organization became the number one voice for Irish supporters. Their main activities are production of fanzines, organisation of fan embassy services during home and away matches, as well as running various fan initiatives. Finally, Lara Pellegrini gave an overview of the work in Fan Embassy Italy, providing us with

the understanding on how to develop and promote Fan Embassy services in own countries.

The discussion focused on working out the concrete suggestions on how we all together can intensify our cooperation. The following proposals/recommendations were gathered:

- Maintain networking and cooperation on a regular basis, extending the social network of national team supporters through social media, FSE resources etc.
- Develop a common space for idea exchange on a regular basis (blog/FSE forum)
- Promote and develop Fans' Embassy concept in other countries as the same time bringing national supporters together through Fans' Embassy work
- Create special seminars, workshops for national supporters within FSE congress or other related events
- Assist newly established Fan Embassy teams in the countries through trainings by Fans' Embassy experts from already experienced countries
- Assist national team supporters in their collaboration with their FA
- Help and advice national team supporters in their initiatives 'by supporters, for supporters'
- Promote through FSE an open dialogue between various national supporters groups, while socialising them within FSE core principles;

As a result, the workshop revealed quite many active national supporters willing to collaborate. The session definitely showed that national team supporters could not be seen as face painted clowns but more as action-oriented passionate and seriously devoted fans of their national teams.

**Paul Corkrey,**  
FSE Fans' Embassies Core Group, FSF Cymru, Wales

## THEME 5: FAN CAMPAIGNER NETWORKING MEETINGS

### Kick-off of the FSE Anti-Discrimination Division

**SPEAKERS:** **Goran Grosman** (FSE Committee, Bijeli Andeli, Croatia)  
**Piara Powar** (Executive Director of the FARE network)

**CHAIR:** **Michal Riečanský** (FSE Committee, Tribuny Su Nasy, Slovakia)

In his presentation Piara Powar focused on a guide which FARE has been working on that will be released in the next few weeks. The guide is about self regulation amongst supporters and based on different best-practice examples. Eight stories from different contexts, e.g. German Fan projects, Football v Homophobia in England, show how they have tackled discrimination and developed self-regulation initiatives. The brochure aims to draw up settings of how fans can get involved, education is a key element.

Piara Powar further spoke about the FARE action weeks which take place every year in October in around 40 to 45 countries with a message against discrimination. This year's focus is on numerous small projects, actions that have been popular over the last few years include community cohesion activities, different communities coming together and engaging through football, also flash mobs.

Next, Goran Grosman presented the new FSE Anti-Discrimination Division (ADD). Its aims can be described as:

- To raise awareness in local communities and fan scenes about discrimination. A lot of young kids who are starting to go to football matches don't know what discrimination is. We must educate people in a bottom-up way.
- Campaign on a national and international level, organize lobbying events in order to raise awareness about problems and issues or to put pressure on football authorities
- Raise awareness for fascist symbols, e.g. Celtic cross which even some groups with an anti-racist mindset have been seen to use on their materials sometimes
- Monitor and identify discriminatory incidents in football, on the pitch, in the stands, in the structures

- Promote visible banners, signs etc. at the stadium showing people what kind of fans we are
- One of the most important thing is that we need to build a solidarity network

The ADD structure was presented as well as information on the steps taken so far and the steps planned for the near future.

Those include:

- Survey: What kind of discrimination fans see most in their countries. What are we facing?
- Collect experiences and best practices of our member in a field of fighting discrimination
- Regular meetings of core group
- Project application to foster cross-border exchange and networking amongst supporters
- Common activities at next FARE Action Weeks
- Anti-discrimination edition of FSE's "Revieve the Roar!"

The workshop saw participants from different countries (Croatia, England, Slovakia, Germany, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland ...), in the end we all agreed that the best way of changing things is for people with different experiences to meet and exchange views and opinions and then continue their work in side of their group, community, club etc. It is also helpful to share "bad practice" examples because it is important to learn from mistakes. That the ADD is needed became obvious when people started asking open questions about problems they are facing in their groups and on their stadiums. There was a clear interest to join the ADD, a lot of contacts gathered to continue the work and discussions.

**Goran Grosman,**  
FSE Committee, Bijeli Andeli, Croatia

## THEME 5: FAN CAMPAIGNER NETWORKING MEETINGS

### Twenty's plenty. Fair Ticket pricing

**CHAIRS:** **Marc Quambusch** and **Tobias Westerfellhaus** ("Kein Zwanni – Fußball muss bezahlbar sein, Germany)

We talked in a small group about the ticketing problems in Belgium, Austria and Germany. From the perspective of the workshop facilitators, we have talked much about "Kein Zwanni" and our experiences during the campaign. We encouraged other fans to stand up in their country and put an end to the pricing spiral. But to be honest, we have been a little bit disappointed, that the groups who are working on ticket prices in the UK didn't join us in the workshop.



We talked about the background of "Kein Zwanni". The initiative was started 2009 in Dortmund, when fans of Borussia didn't want to accept a massive increase of the ticket prices for the derby in Schalke. Later many other fan scenes joined us and now "Kein Zwanni" is a nation-wide network. We organised several boycotts and have gained a huge media coverage. We have already achieved some goals: amongst others, the clubs in Wolfsburg and Hamburg have agreed to make the same prices for all away fans. Borussia Dortmund have dropped the ticket

surcharge for top matches for away supporters. We also talked about the goals we have in the future and the fact that our struggle will never end. There will always be some clubs who want to make quick money.

Unfortunately, there was not really a lively discussion with an exchange of experiences since the few participants present were much rather asking for more information and advice. Only a fan from Austria reported on the launch of a similar campaign. Two Belgian fans told us more about the ticket system in Belgium (access with eye scan, etc.). Due to the small number of participants no concrete action could be determined. We will meet with the coordinator of the FSE to set further dates to talk about ticketing problems in other countries (Belgium/UK). To note it once again: For us it is a must to connect on an international level.

### BENEFITS FOR ALL

We want to fight for a permanent sound pricing structure in football. We want a price level which can reflect the role of football for the whole of society and enables fans from all social levels and of every age to go and watch a match inside a football stadium. We call on other fans across Europe to join us in this.

We can only change things if we work together. And in the end, everyone will benefit from a sensible ticket pricing in the leagues: European football, the affiliated clubs and, of course, the fans!

**Tobias Westerfellhaus & Marc Quambusch,**  
Kein Zwanni, Germany

## THEME 6: International SLO Meeting

**SPEAKERS:** *Stuart Dykes* (Supporters Direct Europe)  
*Arne Christian Eggen* (Supporter Liaison Officer at Rosenborg BK)  
*Henk Voors* (Supporter Liaison Officer at Ajax Amsterdam)

**CHAIR:** *Michal Riečanský* (FSE Committee/Tribúny sú naše!)

This workshop not only brought together Supporter Liaison Officers (SLOs) from various European clubs and countries but also focused on the accomplishments and challenges of the SLO project in Europe.

The session was opened by Stuart Dykes of Supporters Direct Europe, who presented a short video covering "a day in the life of an SLO". The clip followed the SLO of Borussia Mönchengladbach in Germany, Thomas "Tower" Weinmann, and demonstrated the tasks and responsibilities of an SLO in a practical and clear way. A presentation followed the video and focused on an update of the implementation of the SLO project as per Article 35 of UEFA's Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations, which came into effect at the start of the 2012/2013 season. At this point it can be said that most national FAs have implemented the SLO requirement in their domestic licensing regulations for at least the top division, and sometimes as far down as tier four. So far 13 national SLO meetings or workshops with a UEFA/Supporters Direct presence have been held around Europe.

### SLO EXAMPLES FROM EUROPE

The case of Sweden was highlighted as a particularly successful one, as the SLO has been implemented with success and with support on all levels – the clubs, the FA and even private sponsorship has been achieved in some cases. Stuart also highlighted the UEFA SLO Handbook, which has been successfully translated into several European languages and serves as a basis on a national level. The presentation closed with a further outlook of the plans of Supporters Direct Europe – to create a European SLO network. Stuart concluded by saying the SLO project was a good example of



fans and governing bodies working together to improve the matchday experience for all concerned.

Arne Christian Eggen, the SLO of Rosenborg BK, was the second speaker and presented his experiences from his club and from Norway in general. The Norwegian case contrasts with the success in Sweden as presented in the previous presentation. For example at the start of the previous season (February 2012), most clubs had simply appointed existing employees rather than someone from the fan base. Arne Christian is one of the few fans to be appointed. Along with other SLOs in Norway he has struggled to reach an understanding with his club. Yet progress has still been made in the 2013 season, with more Norwegian clubs appointing "real" SLOs rather than existing club employees. Despite the difficulties concerning the situation in Norway, Arne Christian remains dedicated and is looking forward towards the future challenges.

The third presentation came from the "home" SLO, Henk Voors of Ajax. His presentation focused on the European experience of SLOs. The presentation

covered a SLO's work before, during and after a European club match. The tasks start with an initial contact between the SLOs followed by a site visit to the city and stadium of the home club several days in advance. This allows the SLOs to familiarise themselves with the place the fans are headed and gather important information for the fans, such as how to get to the stadium, where they can go before the game, safety and security rules etc. This information is conveyed to the fans directly. After the match is over the follow-up begins, primarily collecting information and experiences from fans and officials in order to make further work more effective. Henk shared his successful experiences from European matches, such as securing fair and reasonable ticket prices from clubs and working with "problematic" supporters, who are the biggest focus of his efforts. His presentation stressed the need for deeper contacts between SLOs, a topic which was taken up in the subsequent discussion.

The discussion of the session evolved around an exchange of experience from other countries, for example an overview of the Portuguese situation was presented. The main focus was on the next steps and here the participants agreed that extending the cooperation between SLOs in Europe was required,



especially in the case of European competitions. One of the main proposals from the participants was for meetings of SLOs of clubs playing in the European competitions to be mandatory, either as a part of the existing UEFA security conference prior to each annual group stage or at a separate site meeting. Such a development would help to forge links between SLOs prior to matches and promote an exchange of basic information about the match venue, safety regulations etc., which would be of major help in their work.

*Stuart Dykes,*  
*Supporters Direct Europe, England*

# THE 5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FSE – SUMMARY

**On Sunday, 90 properly accepted members attended the 5th Annual General Meeting of FSE. Of those, 52 were individual members, 21 locally active members and 17 nationally active members. The AGM was chaired by committee member Kevin Miles.**

## REPORT ON FSE ACTIVITIES DURING THE SEASON 2012/2013

Committee members Riccardo Bertolin and Martin Endemann along with FSE coordinator Daniela Wurbs presented the members with a comprehensive report on the network actions and initiatives during the previous season.

Again FSE has had a busy year that has seen lots of activities, among others a marked engagement in EU-sponsored projects on fan work and anti-discrimination: The Football for Equality II project (June 2011 to June 2013) was aimed at tackling homophobia and racism in football, especially in Central and Eastern Europe. FSE activities during the last season included among others the support of FARE Action Week 2012 activities and participation at the final project conference in Bratislava in April 2013. Furthermore, FSE was a partner in the pro supporters project (March 2012 to June 2013) network which promoted self-regulation and empowerment of football fans. FSE lead the production and development of a European Handbook on Supporters Charters in consultation with its members and football bodies, and the organisation of five events all over Europe aiming at fostering self-regulation amongst football fans.

The role of FSE as expert and consultant on a fans' perspective on the major issues of today's football has grown steadily over the years. In the past season there have been institutionalized dialogues and/or cooperation with, among others, the EU, the Council of Europe, the UEFA and the ECA, the European Club Association.

Also, as in recent years, committee members and coordinator have been present at a broad range of meetings, workshops and conferences in Europe as well as at visits with fan groups in various countries. Support of the membership in this way is to be further reinforced in the coming year.

As a means to a broader financial support of members' activities FSE has developed a concept for a Fans' Actions Fund which will be launched in Spring/Summer 2014: The income generated by the FSE online shop will go into the support of member activities in accordance with the core principles of FSE.



As to the general development of the FSE membership it is important to note that 2012 was the first year with the new obligation of members to annually confirm their membership dates which had been decided at the AGM 2012. Furthermore, German tax regulations made it necessary to change Article 2 of the statutes and ask FSE members to agree with the amendment. To simplify this bureaucratic process no new members have been accepted between July 2012 and July 2013 while all existing members were asked to update their dates and agree with the changes. As of now, the amendment to Article 2 of the statutes has been officially accepted in writing by the entire membership of FSE and shall be registered with the authorities.



For the future a further diversification of financial sources is one of the aims. Besides, the newly established Anti-Discrimination Division which had a kick-off meeting at the congress was presented at the AGM. Further meetings and activities are planned for the coming year.

The FSE members acknowledged both the reports on the activities and the financial report presented. The FSE Committee was unanimously discharged by the membership. There were no further questions and no resolutions submitted by members to be discussed so the AGM continued with the presentation of an initiative agreed on by the "old" committee. Part of the future plans for FSE is the new "Country of the year" strategy which was presented to the membership by Daniela Wurbs. To secure a more focused approach to the support of members each year one country, besides the country of the FSE congress, will be nominated by draw for more intense activities taking place besides the "normal" membership support. Since the congress country/city for 2014 has not yet been determined this first draw of the "Country of the year" was a double one. The results of the draw were the Ukraine and the Netherlands, who will receive more intense attention by FSE activities in the coming season.

The AGM continued with the election of the committee for the coming season. Members elected to the new FSE Committee are:

**Kevin Miles**  
*Football Supporters Federation, England*

**Martin Endemann**  
*BAFF, Germany*

**Riccardo Bertolin**  
*MYRoma, Italy*

**Linda Hadorn**  
*Fanarbeit Schweiz, Switzerland*

**Michal Riečanský**  
*Tribuna Su Nasy, Slovakia*

**Victoria Dominguez Almela**  
*individual member, Spain*

**Tine Hundahl Jensen**  
*Danske Fodbold Fanklubber, Danmark*

**Medhi Tazraret**  
*individual member, Fans' Embassy France, France*

Together with FSE Coordinator **Daniela Wurbs**, **Thomas Gassler** (Director FSE Fans' Embassies Division) and **Goran Grosman** (Director FSE Anti-Discrimination Division) they will be responsible for the development and the activities of the FSE network during the coming season. Kevin Miles as chair of the AGM thanked the participants of the AGM, the "old" committee and the FSE coordination office for all the work done during the last year and all candidates for their willingness to stand for election.

# THE FSE COMMITTEE FOR SEASON 2013/2014

The following self-portrayals were compiled by the FSE Committee members themselves

## THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE FSE COMMITTEE:



**Tine Hundahl Jensen** (Denmark), age 35, is a newly elected member to the FSE Committee. Tine got involved with the fan group The Crazy Reds (supporting Vejle Boldklub in Denmark) in 1997, and was their spokesperson and chairwoman

for many years. Tine has since worked to strengthen the cooperation between fans and was one of the co-founders of the national umbrella organisation of Danish Football Fanclubs (Danske Fodbold Fanklubber) in 2003, with a focus on safety issues, good hosting and securing a strong voice for fans in Danish football. She is responsible for organising choreos at national team matches, and is involved in the Danish Fans' Embassy team. Since her local club has been changing logo and name a few times due to the usual mismanagement, and seems to be stuck in a lower division, she has also become a keen fan of the local American football team, Triangle Razorbacks, because the atmosphere there sometimes feels to her more genuine, like what it used to be in professional football before it became so complicated and bureaucratic.



**Kevin Miles** (England), 53, is the Director of International Affairs for the **Football Supporters Federation FSF** (England and Wales). He has organised the Fans' Embassy for supporters of the England national team since

World Cup in France, 1998. A fan of Newcastle United and England for over 40 years, Kevin has wide experience as a football supporter home and away, domestically and abroad, of two teams who both enjoy a large and passionate following year after year, without having seen either of them win a trophy.



**Medhi Tazaret** (France), aged 32, is from Marseille/France. He has been living in Vienna/Austria for 7 years now. As one can imagine, he is still a fan of Olympique Marseille and has been a member of a local fans group there for more than 15 years now. He has a lot of experience as fan worker due to his experience as active football fan and his work. He has organised the **Fans' Embassy of the French national team** since World Cup 2006 in Germany and also active in the framework of different projects with the FARE network (Football Against Racism in Europe).



**Martin Endemann** (Germany), has been a spokesperson for **BAFF (Alliance of Active Football Fans)** for more than 10 years. BAFF is one of Germany's three main national fans' organisations and he was also member

of the FARE core group for a couple of years. He is in his third year as a committee member and his main interests within FSE are the fight against racism and to help supporters gaining more influence within their clubs. Martin supports Tennis Borussia Berlin (long story), a club which dropped with the help of mismanagement and dubious sponsors within 10 years from the 2nd to the 6th league but he also still has a place in his heart for his hometown team Karlsruher SC.



**Riccardo Bertolin** (Italy), 40, is one of the founding members of **MyROMA** (the first supporters trust in the Italian Serie A) and responsible for international relations there. He is a passionate fan of AS ROMA and has always supported the concept of positive values that fan culture can bring into the stadium and into the community. His topics in football are club ownership and good governance. He has a daughter of 5 and a son of 3, he likes doing sport, watching good movies, reading, and has a great passion for the aeronautical world, where he is employed as an air traffic controller.



**Michael Riečanský** (Slovakia), 25, is one of the founders of The Stands Are Ours!, a fan initiative started by a group of Slovak anti-racist fans, where he is responsible for campaigns and events and their magazine. His team is a local amateur club – SKP Dubravka, stuck way low in the 4th division in football in Slovakia, so definitely no European matches for him this year...or anytime soon.



**Victoria Dominguez** (Spain), 24, is an active member of the anti-racist fans group called Brigadas Amarillas, where she is responsible for the general organization of the group, manages events and international campaigns and makes their official fanzine. Her team, Cádiz C.F., is a humble and small club that plays in

the Second Division "B", so far her dream is to see it up next year and it might come back to the First División in the future... His main interest within FSE is to fight for the fans' rights and especially against the injustices that are taking place in many stadiums.



**Linda Hadorn** (Switzerland), is in her second year being a member of the FSE Committee. She works for the national umbrella association 'Fanarbeit Schweiz' since 2007. There, she is responsible for the international work, administration and she supports several projects. She is keen to strengthen the discussion on terraces and fan culture being some kind of subculture and she is ready to head for interesting discussions about whatever topic beyond that. Of course, Linda is a football fan, too, and supports the best second place team ever in Switzerland.

## THE APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE FSE COMMITTEE

### FSE COORDINATION



**Daniela Wurbs** (Germany), 33, got involved in professional football supporters work at national level in Germany more or less by accident at some stage and has ended up continuing the work afterwards at local level in the field of fans' project work. Her main areas of responsibility were anti-racist campaigning, European fan networking programmes, lobbying and the management of various projects and integrative community football initiatives. Finally, and again it was rather a coincidence, she was offered to take the coordinating role for building what has now become FSE in 2007. When she's not travelling across the continent, she supports the German side FC St Pauli and is active as board member of the fans' department of her club. Although her club has never done so, Daniela is still confident that FC St Pauli will shortly somehow qualify for the European club competition. Alternatively though, winning the national championship for once would be equally nice, but only as long as the club wouldn't sell its soul for it.

### DIRECTOR ON-TOPIC DIVISION: FANS' EMBASSIES



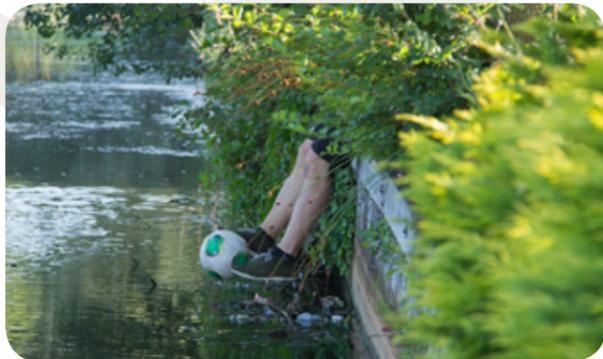
**Thomas Gassler**, 38 years, started a promising career as footballer and played first for his village and then began to play for FC Wacker Innsbruck in Austria at the age of 10. He fell in love with Wacker Innsbruck back then, and ever since, he has lived for the club. He was one of the founding members of the local Ultra fan group „Verrückte Köpfe“ and even vice-president of the club, he worked in the club management, and was an active member of the Faninitiative Innsbruck for several years. For a fan activist of his kind, it was just a matter of time before he got active internationally as well. After his job application with FSE was successful, he moved to Hamburg in 2010 and worked there as the FSE Fans' Embassy coordinator for Euro 2012 for 2.5 years. Then home was calling again and today, he is the head of pro supporters – Fan Work Coordination Austria and continues to organise fans' embassy services for Austrian fans, amongst others, and lives in Vienna with just one dream left: to become president of FC Wacker Innsbruck one day!!

### DIRECTOR ON-TOPIC DIVISION: ANTI-DISCRIMINATION



**Goran Grosman** (Croatia), is in his second year in the FSE Committee and has just started to initiate first actions in the newly established Anti-Discrimination Division of FSE. He is a member of Alerta Zagreb, the supporters group White Angels and he's involved in some initiatives for mapping far right extremism and anti-discrimination topics in Croatia and the region. His main interests in FSE are to fight against fascism, racism and any other type of discrimination and to bring football back to people and people back to football. He supports FC Zagreb, a club that is in ruins because of a catastrophic club management and leadership. Goran loves to spend Friday evenings by "giving his voice" for the club.

# THE EFFC 2013 PHOTO ALBUM



For more pictures and impressions, visit the **Picture Gallery on the FSE Website!**  
Get there via scanning this code with your mobile phone:



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON FSE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS EUROPE

### 1. MEMBERSHIP

#### WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER?

Every individual supporter (natural and legal person, 14 years of age), formally and informally organised football fans groups, as well as local and national fan-related initiatives and organisations who are active in Europe can become a member of the FSE network. Europe is defined as the territory covered by UEFA member associations. Membership with FSE for under 18 year olds is subject to consent of the parents/legal guardians.

#### HOW CAN YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF FSE?

Simply fill out the membership form online from the website [www.fanseurope.org](http://www.fanseurope.org). Alternatively, download the pdf-file from there, fill it in and send it to the postal address: Football Supporters Europe eV, Coordinating Office, P.O. Box 306218, 20328 Hamburg.

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS / RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER?

As an FSE member, you have the right to participate (e.g. vote) in the AGM and in the online membership section with our own forum and social network for FSE members only where you can exchange and experience with fans from all across Europe. Furthermore, you can actively decide on the direction of FSE and you can also stand for elections if you are 18 years of age. You can participate in events organised by FSE and make free use of its services, unless stated otherwise. As for obligations, you have to confirm your membership details once a year, either via email or via post. For the duties of the AGM see 2.

#### WHEN DOES THE MEMBERSHIP START?

The membership starts after the confirmation by the FSE Coordination. Membership can end at any time for the end of the financial year with the submission of a written request to the FSE

Coordination or when you don't confirm your membership details by the end of the financial year.

#### DOES IT COST ANYTHING TO BECOME A MEMBER?

There is no obligation to pay a membership fee for FSE at the moment, but voluntary contributions are very welcome as it supports our financial independence.

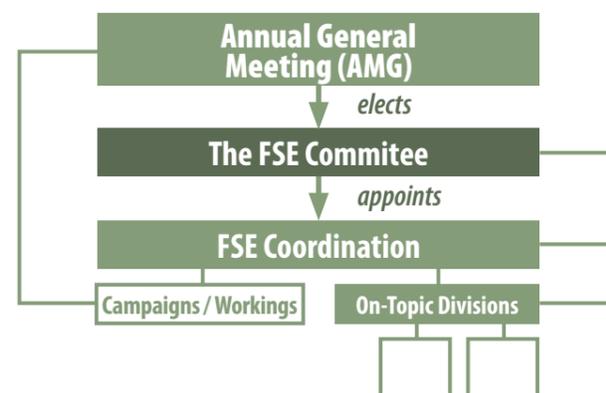
#### ANY OTHER CONDITIONS?

**YES! By becoming a member of FSE you officially declare that you recognise the statutes of the network and support its principles:**

- do not tolerate discrimination of any individuals on any groups including the following : ethnic origin, ability, religion, gender, sexual orientation and age
- reject violence, both verbal and physical
- stand up for the empowerment of grassroots football supporters
- promote a positive football supporters' culture, including values such as fair play and good governance

### 2. STRUCTURE OF FSE: WHO IS WHO + WHO DOES WHAT?

FSE has been incorporated into a members association according to German law. Member associations are owned by their members and democratically structured.



### THE STRUCTURE OF FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS EUROPE (OVERVIEW) AGM (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)

The AGM is the highest body, the 'Parliament', of the FSE. The AGM is held once a year and it is here that all FSE members decide about the aims, objectives and future actions of the FSE, approve changes to its statutes and elect the members of the FSE Committee for the following year.

#### Duties:

- Examination and approval of reports submitted by the FSE Committee and FSE Coordination
- Ratification of the actions of the managing boards
- Election of members of the FSE Committee (simple majority)
- Decisions on resolutions submitted
- Decisions on all proposed changes to the statutes

### EGMS (EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETINGS) / GENERAL MEETINGS

Emergency AGMs can be called either by the FSE Committee or the FSE Coordination, or by at least ¼ of the total number of votes of the FSE members.

### FSE COMMITTEE

The FSE Committee is the management board of the organisation, consisting of the FSE Coordination, the directors of the on-topic divisions and the elected members.



### STRUCTURE

Two thirds of the total positions of the FSE Committee + one third of the total number of permanent seats within the FSE Committee at the time of elections have to be reserved for members democratically elected by the AGM. Members are elected with a simple majority for one year. To avoid overrepresentation of one particular country within the Committee, there can't be more than one third of the elected committee members representing the same country.

#### Examples:

2 On-topic Divisions = 2 seats  
 FSE Coordination = 1 seat  
 + 1/3 of permanent seats = 1 seat  
**Elected members = 8 seats**  
*(max two from one country)*

3 On-topic Divisions = 3 seats  
 FSE Coordination = 1 seat  
 + 1/3 of permanent seats = 1 seat  
**Elected members = 10 seats**  
*(max three from one country)*

#### Duties:

- Overall running of FSE together with FSE Coordination
- Development of annual budget plan
- Implementing decisions made at the AGM
- Directing the FSE Coordination
- Appointing and dismissing the chief executive/FSE Coordinator
- Appointing and dismissing On-topic divisions
- Preparation of the annual financial statement and report on activities for the AGM

## FSE COORDINATION

The FSE Coordination is the executive body of the FSE handling the day-to-day business of the organisation including all legal transactions. The FSE Coordination is appointed by and has to report to the FSE Committee and works closely with the On-topic divisions.

## ON-TOPIC DIVISIONS

Fan culture is diverse. Hence, organisations or networks providing particular services relevant for football fans (e.g. fans' embassies services, disabled fans' rights, etc) can develop their work under the umbrella of FSE as "on-topic divisions". On-topic divisions would cover for example campaigning and lobbying, consultancy services and/or networking, etc and are ideally financially independent from the core funds of the network. The FSE Committee approves the creation or dissolution of an FSE on-topic division with a two-thirds majority. Currently there are two on-topic divisions: FSE Fans' Embassies & FSE Disabled Fans' Rights.

## HOW IS FSE FINANCED?

FSE secured core funding with UEFA until after the Congress and hopes to secure follow-up funding from UEFA, which will enable us to plan for the next two seasons. It's been clearly acknowledged by both sides though, that any funding from UEFA can only happen under the condition that FSE can remain independent with its activities. On top of that, we will also look for other sources in the near future to reduce the reliability one source of funding and to retain/further strengthen our independence.

## 3. VOTING AND ELECTION PROCEDURES

### HOW CAN I VOTE?

You have to be registered and admitted as a member of the FSE. Also, the weight your vote depend on your status: are you an individual member, do you represent a local fan group or initiative, or a national fan organisation?

### Individual members

Your vote is restricted to one vote. You vote with a white voting card, which you will also use for the election.

### Locally active groups / organisations

Formally or informally organised groups or initiatives active on local level should be represented by an appointed delegate for FSE at the AGM. The group's vote is restricted to three votes. Local groups vote with a yellow voting card, which they will also use for the election.

### Fans groups /fans' organisations active at national/pan-European level

Formally and informally organised groups and initiatives active on national / pan-European level should be represented by an appointed delegate for FSE at the AGM. The group's vote is restricted to ten votes. National groups vote with a red voting card, which they will also use for the election.

**NOTE:** appointed delegates can represent a maximum of one locally active member and one nationally/transnationally active member at the AGM of FSE.

### STANDING FOR ELECTION – HOW DO I DO IT?

You have to be 18 years of age and register and be admitted as a member first before you register as a candidate. You can register as a candidate via email at [info@fanseurope.org](mailto:info@fanseurope.org) or directly at the European Football Fans' Congress (please check our website for further information).

## FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS EUROPE (FSE) STATUTES

*\*English Translation\**

### Preamble

The work of FSE is based upon the understanding that the success of football as a global spectator sport rests on the participation and contribution of its supporters, and that it is crucial that these supporters have a collective voice and influence within the game.

Football is considered part of culture, and often in particular of youth culture. The changing nature of modern football, including its continuing commercialisation, has given rise to some tension between supporters on the one hand, and clubs and football authorities on the other. Some communities and social groups feel increasing alienation and exclusion from football, and there remain significant problems with racism and violence.

Conversely, where there is a decent level of self-organisation among football fans, and where there are opportunities for supporters to take part as equal partners in genuine dialogue; where supporters' concerns and interests are taken seriously; and where supporters are involved in decision-making processes – then there can be a perceptible improvement in atmosphere, an increase in community involvement, and a reduction in anti-social behaviour.

The activities of FSE are therefore based upon the following principles:

- An opposition to all forms of discrimination of any individuals on any grounds including: origin, ability, religion and belief, gender, sexual orientation and age
- The rejection of violence, both verbal and physical

- The empowerment of grass roots football fans
- Fostering a positive fan and football culture including values such as fair play and good governance

The success of football crosses national boundaries, as indeed do its problems. The existence of an European organisation of football supporters, enabling transnational exchanges of experience, networking and democratic representation, will have a real impact in addressing the social problems affecting the game, and in promoting positive values of sport and social inclusion.

**With this in mind, FSE adopts the following statutes:**

### § 1 Name, Place of Residence, Financial Year

1. The member association will be named „Football Supporters Europe e.V.“, with the abbreviation “FSE”
2. Its place of residence is Hamburg and it is registered under the number VR 20279 with the official register of member associations
3. The financial year is the calendar year.

### § 2 Tax Shelter

1. Football Supporters Europe pursues only and directly non-profit-making and beneficant purposes according to the section „Tax Shelter Purposes“ of the (German) Tax Code. The purpose of the member association is to foster international goodwill and understanding, tolerance, equal opportunities of women and men, crime prevention and democratic principles. The member association is acting selflessly; it doesn't pursue profitable interests in the first place.

2. Funds of the member association must be used for purposes related to its statutes only. Members of the member association in their role as members should not be granted benefits out of the funds of the member association. They are not entitled to benefits out of the funds of the member association when they quit. Nobody must benefit from expenditures, which aren't related to the purposes of the member association, or disproportionately high salaries.

### § 3 Aims and Responsibilities of the member association

#### The purpose of the statutes is accomplished by

1. Fostering democratic principles and international understanding by organising an independent, representative network for football fans in Europe, organised according to democratic principles, which provides both a platform for an exchange about their culture, in particular in the field of sport and the representation and determination of interests, based on the core principles of FSE, especially in dialogue with institutions that deal with football fans at European level. (for instance, by organising meetings of the network members, where different (fan) cultural customs and initiatives are presented; by informing and campaigning on (fan)cultural customs and interests in different countries; by organising mediation and info events between representatives of football authorities and network members from different countries)
2. Encouraging responsible self-organisation at the grass roots, especially amongst younger football fans, as part of overall democratic education and conveying of core values such as international goodwill, anti-discrimination and the rejection of violence.
3. The organisation of international workshops, presentations, seminars and networking events for football fans and institutional representatives in football on a regular bases, dealing with issues such as the organisation of sport as well as the presentation of and the exchange on (fan) culture, customs and

successful initiatives in the field of sport/football in different countries across Europe (for instance, on issues of the organizational structure of football clubs and associations, fans' groups or ownership structures in clubs in different countries)

4. Providing preventive information and support services for football supporters at international matches, especially so-called "fans' embassy services" as recognized method in the field of prevention of violent and discriminatory spectator behaviour.
5. Supporting and giving advice to fans' groups, fans' organisations and fan-related initiatives especially in Europe and provide assistance with the establishment of projects, such as intercultural exchange programmes to exchange culture and customs, in particular between (young) football fans in different countries, e.g. with fans' projects and integrative community football projects.
6. Public relations and campaigning by using football as a platform to convey values such as democracy, opposition to all forms of discrimination (e.g. exclusion, racism, anti-semitism, sexism, homophobia etc), fair play and gender equality.
7. The provision of publications and newsletters on activities of the member association and activities and campaigns of football fans in other countries
8. The provision of a data base on legal aspects, guidelines, regulations and core articles on fan-related issues and the organisation of sport (e.g. on issues of the organizational structure of clubs and associations, ownership structures in clubs and cultural forms of expression of (fans')groups in different countries)

The member association can employ full-time or part-time employees for the implementation of its tasks

### § 4 Membership

1. Every natural and legal person as well as informally organised groups with a named delegate for FSE

can become members of the member association, given that they are predominantly active in the fans' sector in Europe and actively supporting the overall objectives of the member association, consenting to the core principles of the member association and actively support these values. Europe is defined as the sum of all national football associations that are members of the European football association UEFA. Countries are defined as all nations where there is a national football association.

2. The acceptance as a member is dependent on the submission of an application (also possible via e-mail or online) with the representation of the FSE-Committee according to the statutes, which is the FSE Coordination.
3. The membership terminates with the death of the member, the lapse of their legal personality, their voluntary resignation, with the expulsion from the member association as well as with the dissolution of FSE.
4. The voluntary resignation of a member can be carried out by this member at any time without notice for the end of the financial year by submitting a written statement to the FSE Committee respectively the FSE Coordination.
5. A member can be expelled or prevented from joining the organisation by a decision of the FSE Committee or the FSE Coordination, if they act counter to the objectives and core principles of the member association, or if they don't fulfill their obligations towards the member association. The member can launch an appeal against this decision with the ordinary AGM. The AGM makes the final decision. The member in question must be invited to this assembly and should be heard. The principle of a two-thirds majority of the members present applies in these cases.

### § 5 Rights and Obligations of members

1. Football Supporters Europe e.V. can collect membership fees. The sort and amount of the

membership fees have to be determined and adopted by the AGM in form of membership fee regulations, following a respective proposal of the FSE-Committee.

2. Members have the right to participate in the assemblies and events of the club as well as to make free use of the services (e.g. consultancy, information) and publications provided, unless stated otherwise.
3. Members are obligated to
  - a. act according to the core principles of FSE, support them and encourage other members to do the same.
  - b. fulfill and support the objectives and tasks of the member association
  - c. Confirm to FSE their membership contact details as stored in the FSE membership database (in writing and via email) at least once a year and at the latest upon receipt of the third request so to do, this to be done no later than by the end of the respective financial year.
  - d. to pay membership fees when due and where required and fulfill their obligations as decided.

### § 6 Entities of the member association

The entities of the member association are:

1. The Annual General Meeting (AGM)
2. FSE-Committee
3. FSE -Coordination / Geschäftsleitung
4. On-topic divisions

### § 7 Annual General Meeting

1. The ordinary AGM must be held at least once a year and must be convened by the FSE - Committee respectively the FSE Coordination.
2. The FSE-Committee and the FSE-Coordination must present an annual report and a financial report at the AGM. After that, the AGM decides about discharging the FSE-Committee.

3. AGMs have to be convened in writing by the FSE-Committee or the FSE-Coordination at least eight weeks before the assembly.
4. Extraordinary AGMs must be convened in writing by the FSE-Committee or the FSE-Coordination, if required in the interest of the member association or demanded by at least ¼ of the total number of votes of all members.
5. After the end of the term of office of the FSE-Committee, the new FSE-Committee is to be elected by the AGM.
6. The AGM is the highest entity of the member association and entitled to give directives to the FSE-Committee.

## § 8 Voting System

1. All properly admitted members present who have reached the age of 14 years, have the right to vote at the AGM. The weight of each vote depends primarily on the geographic sphere of activities of the respective members.
  - a. With natural persons, the vote is restricted to one vote per member
  - b. Legal entities, informally organized fans' groups and fan-related organisations and initiatives which are primarily active at local level, should be represented by an appointed delegate in the AGM, or a substitute, if the delegate appointed is prevented for any reason. The vote for delegates of locally active members is restricted to three votes per member at the AGM.
  - c. Legal entities, informally organized fans' federations and fan-related organisations and initiatives which are primarily active at national/cross-European level, should be represented by an appointed delegate in the AGM, or a substitute if the delegate appointed is prevented for any reason. The vote for delegates of members active at national/cross-European level is restricted to 10 votes per member at the AGM.

The FSE-Coordination determines the final classification of each member by taking the statements made in the membership application form into account.

2. Delegates of local, national/cross-European members, or their substitutes, can represent at maximum one national/cross-European and one locally active member each as delegates with voting rights at the AGM of FSE.

## § 9 FSE-Committee

1. The FSE-Committee consists of
  - a number of members elected by the AGM. The number of elected members is determined according to the conditions stated in §9 paragraph 2.
  - the FSE-Coordination/executive board
  - the directors of each on-topic division
2. The FSE-Coordination and the directors of each on-topic division are represented within the FSE-Committee, each with one permanent seat per entity. The final size of the FSE-Committee should always provide at least a two-thirds majority of elected representatives. The number of FSE-Committee members to be elected by the AGM is determined by the number of permanent seats at the time of elections whereby the percentage of 1/3 needs to be added to this number.
3. The number of elected members from one country in the FSE-Committee is restricted to the maximum number equaling one third of the total number of elected representatives within the FSE-Committee
4. The posts within the FSE-Coordination and the directing posts in the on-topic divisions can be exercised in form of a full-time employment.
5. The elected members of the FSE-Committee are elected by the AGM with a simple majority for a period of one year. They remain in office until a new FSE-Committee is elected.

6. The re-election of representatives is possible.

7. Every member of the FSE-Committee must be a member of the member association that has reached the age of 18 years or an appointed representative according to the statutes and §30 BGB (=German Civil Law Code).

8. The FSE-Committee respectively the representatives appointed according to the statutes have the following responsibilities above all:
  - a. development of an annual budget plan, a potential action plan as well as an annual report and a financial report
  - b. Convocation of the AGM
  - c. Preparing and implementing the AGM decisions.
  - d. In between the AGMs, the FSE-Committee respectively the representatives appointed according to the statutes have to take up the interests of the member association and make decisions that can't be postponed until the AGM.

9. Each member of the FSE-Committee has one vote. Unless stated otherwise in the statutes, decisions of the FSE-Committee are made with a simple majority of the eligible votes counted. With decisions concerning on-topic divisions or the executive board (FSE-Coordination), the respective representatives according to the statutes are not entitled to vote regarding issues of
  - the dismissal of the respective person
  - the dissolution of their on-topic division
  - the existence, nature or dimensions of their full-time employment

## § 10 FSE-Coordination/ Geschäftsleitung

1. The FSE-Committee appoints and has the right to dismiss a chief executive/Geschäftsleitung, resident at the FSE-Coordination Office as legal representative according to the statutes and §30 BGB (German Civil Law Code)
2. In case of doubt, the actual authority of the FSE-Coordination/chief executive according to §30

BGB (German Civil Law Code) concerns all legal transactions, which are involved in the sphere of duties allocated to the executive board by the FSE-Committee.

3. The FSE-Coordination is represented with a permanent seat within the FSE-Committee
4. The FSE-Committee as a superordinated entity is entitled to giving directives to the FSE-Coordination and to control its work on a regular basis.
5. On a regular basis, but at least once every three months, the FSE-Coordination must inform the FSE-Committee of the current situation of the member association.

## § 11 On-topic Divisions

1. An on-topic division serves the more efficient organisation and further development of specific areas in the framework of the objectives and responsibilities of FSE, which require a certain level of expertise.
2. The establishment or dissolution of a on-topic division depends on a two-thirds majority decision of the FSE-Committee.
3. The structure of a on-topic division can adopt various forms of possible shapes. Internally, it can be structured both membership-based and like a loose network or with a committee structure or like a consultancy service.
4. Every on-topic division appoints a director/coordinator who represents the division within the FSE-Committee with a permanent seat. The directors/coordinators of the divisions are to be considered legal representatives of the FSE-Committee according to the statutes. In case of doubt, their actual authority involves all legal transactions occurring in the ordinary course of business of their respective division.
5. The annual and financial reports for the budget of each on-topic division have to be submitted with the

FSE-Committee at the end of each financial year and as interim report in good time before the AGM, to allow them to be included in the overall reports.

6. The FSE-Committee is entitled to giving directives to the on-topic divisions.

## § 12 Recording of Decisions

All decisions made in meetings of the FSE-Committee or at the AGM must be put down in writing and be signed by the individually appointed recorder.

## § 13 Change of Statutes and Liquidation

1. The AGM decides about all questions regarding the statutes. Changes of statutes require a two-thirds majority decision of all members present.
2. Suggestions for amendments to the statutes must be sent in writing to the FSE Coordination at least 30 days prior to the AGM. Suggestions for amendments to the statutes need to be published seven days prior to the AGM.
3. The liquidation of the member association can only be decided at a special AGM convened for this purpose at least one month in advance, with a two-thirds majority of all members present.
4. In case of a liquidation or the closing of the member association or in case of a lapse of the tax shelter, all assets have to be transferred to a public body or another tax-privileged body for the purpose of fostering international understanding and sport.
5. Choosing the public body or another tax-privileged body in case of a liquidation or the closing of the member association or in case of a lapse of the tax shelter according to the conditions outlined in §14 section 4, resides with the FSE Committee with a two-thirds majority decision of all members of the Committee at the time of the liquidation or the closing of the member association or in case of a lapse of the tax shelter.

## § 14 Commencement of the statutes and preliminary regulations

1. These statutes will come into effect on the day of their registration with the official register for member associations.
2. The entities of the member association can make decisions based upon the statutes already before the registration which will come into effect with the registration.
3. The entities and representatives in charge at the time when these statutes were decided, continue their work until the AGM elects other legal successors.

THE FSE MEMBERS AND A NUMBER OF FELLOW FANS FROM THE NETHERLANDS WHO ARE OUR LOCAL HOSTS THIS YEAR IN AMSTERDAM WERE:



The FSE Members from the Ajax Supportersvereniging took the initiative to take the congress to Amsterdam. So, if you want to praise anyone for the great time you will have had, then address them in the first place! If you want to complain, the FSE Office is there for you. ;-)

**Apart from that, we would like to thank the following bodies who provided support to the event, helped to make it happen whilst recognizing its independence:**





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# FANSE

