



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
Central State Office  
for Sport



Croatian Presidency of the  
Council of the European Union

Zagreb, 9 April 2020

**Informal videoconference of European Union Sport Ministers on implications of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on the sport sector**

**Tuesday, 21 April, 11.00 – 13.30**

Dear Colleagues,

Following the current situation related to COVID-19 and expressing sympathy with all affected Member States, our first priority is to make sure that the further risk of spreading the virus is minimised and to ensure protection of health and lives of our citizens.

The outbreak of COVID-19 influenced our society in many aspects and different measures in various sectors need to be taken to mitigate the negative consequences. COVID-19 has a huge impact on the sport sector. Growing concerns related to the global spread of the virus have led to official decisions to cancel or postpone sport events all over the world. Apart from the sport events, the COVID-19 pandemic has influenced the sport sector in a much broader sense. Sport activities at local and grassroots level and regular functioning of a number of small clubs and sports organizations is disrupted. Possibilities for athletes' trainings and physical activity of citizens are very limited.

In this respect, Croatian Presidency finds it crucial that the sport ministers exchange information and practices already put in place as well as to discuss possible further measures in order to provide appropriate responses in order to minimize the damage to the sport sector. Our cooperation at the EU level, in terms of sharing experiences, good practices and proposals on how to deal with the increased impact of COVID-19 on the sport sector will contribute to jointly overcome this complex challenge.

Therefore, we would like to invite you to take part in a high-level ministerial videoconference on implications of COVID-19 on the sport sector, which will take place on **Tuesday, 21 April 2020, from 11.00 until 13.30**. In the discussion, ministers will be invited to reflect on the questions in the background paper attached to this letter.

Please note that no interpretation will be provided. Participants might therefore wish to be accompanied by an interpreter. Technical information and instructions on how to join the videoconference will be provided separately, including the contact for confirmation of your participation.

Yours faithfully,

