



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Working conditions and Social Dialogue
Social dialogue

**SECTOR SOCIAL DIALOGUE
COMMITTEE
PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL**

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Working Group

20 June 2023

Chair: Stephanie Leach (UEFA)

1. Welcome to and opening of the WG meeting

The meeting was chaired by UEFA welcoming all participants and explaining the format of the (online) meeting and some good practices on how to take the floor.

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Updates on workplan topics 2023

3.1. Pilot Programmes of Autonomous Agreement (AA)

UEFA reported significant progress on the autonomous agreement with adoption of standard player contract in Romania. The new standard contract was adopted on 27 January and came into force on 15 February. The national dispute resolution system remains to be reviewed

A study visit in CZ resulted in promising agreements most likely leading to another adopted standard contract. All social partners agreed that these results are promising.

Poland and Serbia are expected to achieve progress after summer, following country visits (4-5 July Serbia; early autumn Poland).

Social partners confirmed that the work stream on autonomous agreements has beneficial side effects for reviving social dialogue in some countries.

There is broad agreement to add more countries to the list of the current four pilot countries, possibly Slovakia as next candidate.

Social partners also confirm that implementation of the AA can lead to tangible results, and is the core business of the sector social dialogue.

3.2. Working Group on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Social partners and UEFA agree that this workstream is promising but it needs to be translated into a concrete programme with action points and deliverables.

FIFPRO gave a brief presentation on improving gender representation at FIFPRO.

Agreement was reached that UEFA will take the lead, based on the existing work and adaptations of UEFA Academy.

3.3. Loan Restrictions at Domestic Level

This working group was more briefly discussed.

Due to FIFA's strict interpretation of the application of its loan restriction regulations at domestic level, this workstream will have a limited scope.

The workstream will look at issues as they arise.

4. Update on Representativeness Study

The Commission informed that the draft representativeness study (author: EUROFOUND) is going into the written evaluation phase, following consultations with social partners. Comments on substance of the report are still possible and strongly encouraged, aiming also at the best data coverage possible.

The study is expected to be published by end 2023.

5. AOB

The European Commission informed about the implementation of the Commission's Social Dialogue initiative following its adoption 25 January 2023. The initiative is composed of a Communication and a proposal for a Council Recommendation.

[Strengthening social dialogue \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/en/press-communications/infographic/infographic-strengthening-social-dialogue-2023-01-25-1000x500.pdf)

The next Sector Social Dialogue Committee (Plenary) is confirmed for 13 December 2023