

The Civil Society and its role into the European Union policies.

The sport organisations framework

Local citizens Panel

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Introduction: framework

1-Business, private sector

(privately owned, profit motivation)



2-Public sector
(owned by the state)

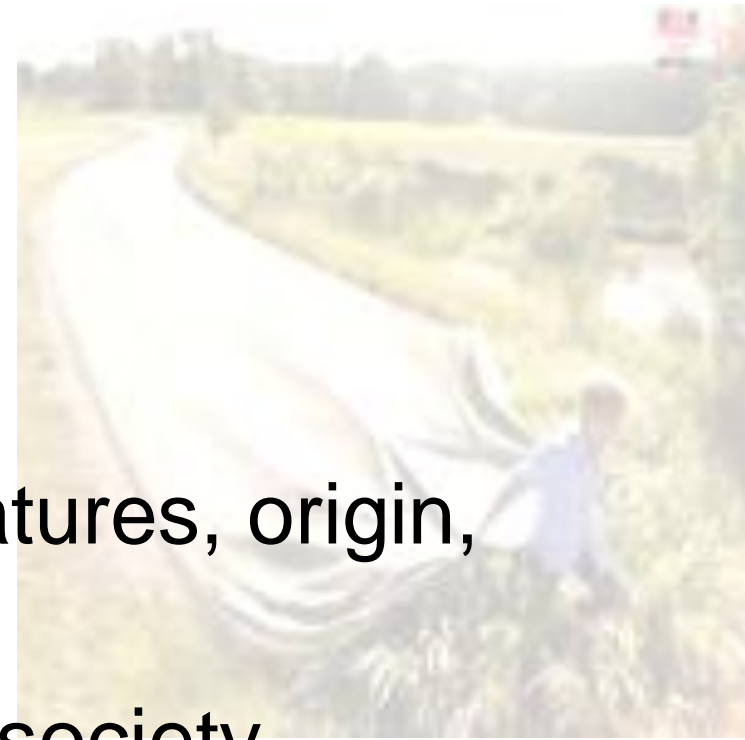
**3rd sector /
civil society /
social economy:**



-community sector
-voluntary sector
-non profit...

summary

- Introduction
- Civil society definition (features, origin, figures)
- European Union and civil society (principles, civil dialogue, consultation...)
- White Paper on Sport
- Opportunities and weaknesses



Definition (1)

There is no commonly accepted or legal definition of the term:
'civil society organisation'

Civil Society is composed of the totality of voluntary civic and social organizations and institutions that form the basis of a functioning society as opposed to the force-backed structures of a state (regardless of that state's political system) and commercial institutions of the market. www.wikipedia.org

Civil Society: Civil society refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes and values. In theory, its institutional forms are distinct from those of the state, family and market, though in practice, the boundaries between state, civil society, family and market are complex and negotiated.

www.traditionalknowledge.info



Definition (2)

Civil Society: The collective action of civic, service and social organizations and citizens working outside the realm of the state to advance their vision of the common good. www.partners.net

Civil society – a society where individuals cooperate with other individuals and with public authority in tackling their individual and social problems. The civil society also ensures representation of those interests groups which cannot represent themselves by using economic and political means of influence. www.mk.gov.lv



Features

- Collective action (uncoerced)
- Voluntary sense
- Shared interest
- Opposed to the political system (state) and commercial institutions
- Cooperation between individuals
- Ensures representation



Why did it appear ?

- Political change of role of the States
Reallocation of responsibilities between state and society (*Guiddens, 1998*)
Non profit and governmental partnership (*Salomon, Anheier, 1998*)
- Significant growth of middle class
- Demographic development (baby boomers). New demand of services
- New structure of the economy: services sector development (post industrial age)
- Make-up of local communities
- Role played by churches (charity) and other faith-based organisations
- Apparition of new forms of work and organisations (mutualism, cooperatives, ...)

Some figures

In 1995... (www.tercersector.net)...

- Third sector represents the 4,6% of world GDP (eight economy in the world)
- working areas: education: 30%, health:20%, social services:18%, recreation and culture: 14%
- revenue: fee and services provided: 49%, public sector: 40%, donations: 11%



European Union and Civil Society: principles

The European Commission and Civil Society

- The Commission wants to consult interested parties on the widest possible basis and to ensure that every interested party, irrespective of size or financial backing, is given the opportunity of being heard.
- It must be clear to the general public what input the interest groups provide and how they seek to participate in EU policy development. In particular, it must be clear whom they represent, what their mission is and how they are funded.
- In March 2007 the Commission adopted a Communication on the Follow-up to the Green Paper 'European Transparency Initiative', to give more transparency to the framework in which lobby groups and civil society organisations operate.



European Union and Civil Society: Civil Dialogue

“Is the ongoing and structured conversation that policy-makers maintain with the organisations of civil society”

Advisory bodies in the EU:

- European Economic and Social Committee
- Committee of the regions



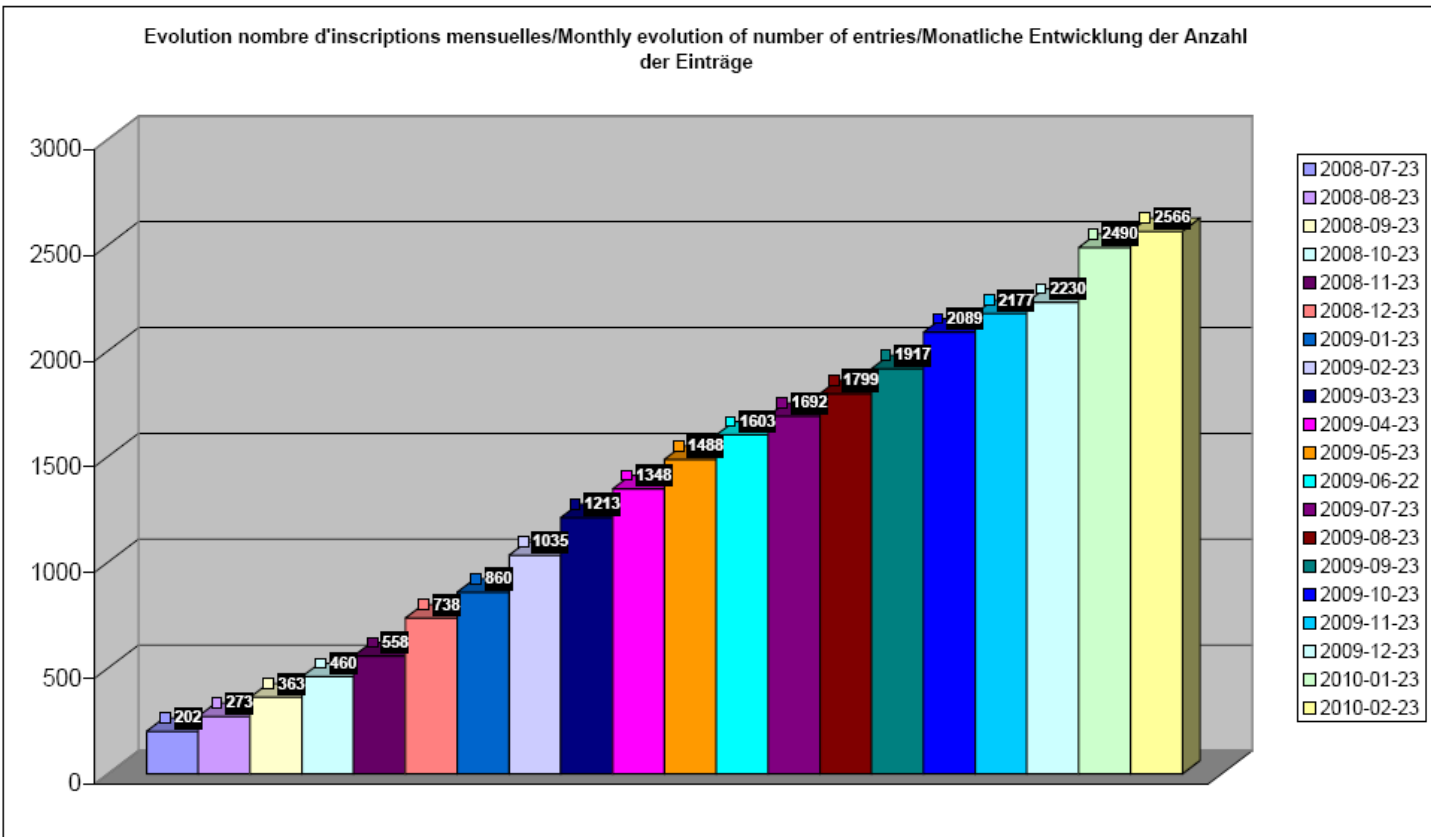
European Union and Civil Society: Consultation objectives

- To ensure that interested parties are heard properly in the policy-making process.
- The Commission applies the principle of openness. Everybody must be able to provide the Commission with input.
- In order to improve transparency in its relations with interest representatives, the Commission set up in Spring 2008 a voluntary register for interest representatives.



Evolution du nombre d'inscriptions
Evolution of number of entries
Entwicklung der Anzahl der Einträge

	Nombre d'inscrits Number of records Anzahl der Eingetragenen
2008-06-23	0
2008-07-23	202
2008-08-23	273
2008-09-23	363
2008-10-23	460
2008-11-23	558
2008-12-23	738
2009-01-23	860
2009-02-23	1035
2009-03-23	1213
2009-04-23	1348
2009-05-23	1488
2009-06-22	1603
2009-07-23	1692
2009-08-23	1799
2009-09-23	1917
2009-10-23	2089
2009-11-23	2177
2009-12-23	2230
2010-01-23	2490
2010-02-23	2566



On 5/3/10, there were 2700 interest representatives in the register.



European Union and Civil Society: Consultation process

- Interested parties are consulted through different tools, such as Green and White Papers, communications, consultation documents, advisory committees, expert groups and ad-hoc consultations. Consultation via the Internet is common practice. Often, consultation is a combination of different tools and takes place in several phases during the preparation of the proposal.



From the social dialogue to the White Paper on Sport (7/2007)

- introduction
- societal role of sport
- economic dimension of sport
- the organisation of sport
- follow up
- conclusion



From the social dialogue to the White Paper on Sport (7/2007)

- “Sport is a growing **social and economic phenomenon** which makes an important contribution to the European Union's strategic objectives of solidarity and prosperity”
- "The European institutions have recognised the specificity of the role sport plays in European society, based on volunteer-driven structures, in terms of health, education, social integration, and culture”



Societal role of sport

- Enhancing public health through physical activity
- Joining forces in the fight against doping
- Enhancing the role of sport in education and training
- Promoting volunteering and active citizenship through sport
- Using the potential of sport for social inclusion integration and equal opportunities
- Strengthening the prevention of and fight against racism and violence
- Sharing our values with other parts of the world
- Supporting sustainable development



The economic dimension of sport

- Sport is a dynamic and fast-growing sector with an underestimated macro-economic impact, and can contribute to the Lisbon objectives of growth and job creation. It can serve as a tool for local and regional development, urban regeneration or rural development. Sport has synergies with tourism and can stimulate the upgrading of infrastructure and the emergence of new partnerships for financing sport and leisure facilities.
- A study presented during the Austrian Presidency in 2006 suggested that sport in a broader sense generated value-added of 407 billion euros in 2004, accounting for 3.7% of EU GDP, and employment for 15 million people or 5.4% of the labour force. This contribution of sport should be made more visible and promoted in EU policies
- Sports financing (fess, gambling, merchandising, rights...

EUROPEAN COMMISSION





The organisation of sport

- Specificity of sport
- Free movement
- Transfers
- Players agents
- Protection of minors
- Corruption, money laundering and other forms of financial crime
- Licensing systems for clubs
- Media

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
WHITE PAPER ON SPORT



Follow-up

- Structured dialogue
- Cooperation with member States
- Social dialogue



CONCLUSION:

“Pierre de Coubertin” Action Plan

53 actions

Treaty of Lisbon



Article 165 (Official Journal of the European Union 9.5.2008)

- “Individual members will be encouraged to implement evidences-based policies in order to improve their provision of sporting facilities and opportunities.”
- “The EU is actively aiming to promote sport and Physical Activity at the policy level... also to enhance the role that sport can play in boosting social cohesion and for its educational value.”



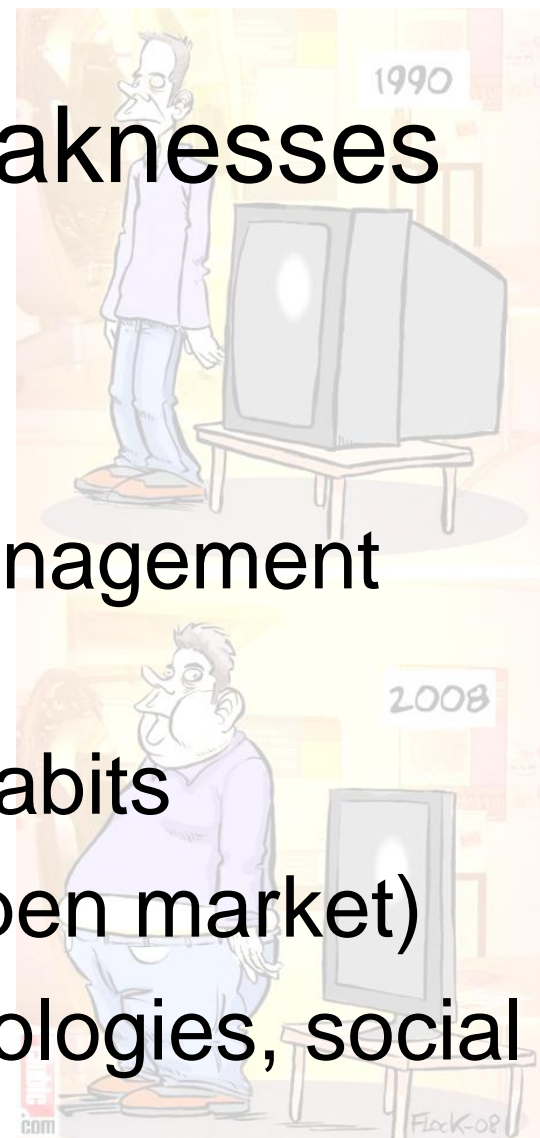
Special Eurobarometer (oct'09)

- Commissioned by EC's Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC)
- 26,788 European citizens were interviewed
- Emphasis in the context in which people exercise
- Some answers:
 - 40% citizens play sport one per week
 - 67% do spontaneous activity (no clubs, no centres structure)
 - 61% do exercise for improve their health



Civil society in sport: weaknesses

- Financing (self financing)
- Decision making process
- Innovation: activities and management model
- Social changes: sedentary habits
- Apparition of competitors (open market)
- Communication skills (technologies, social net...)



Civil society in sport: opportunities

- EU Legal framework (Lisbon Treaty, White Paper on sport, ...)
- Social chances and new demand of services: demographic, cultural...
- Development of the social demand
- Potential alliances and partnership (public and private sector)

...each wall has a way to be climbed

Thank you for your attention

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