



Recommendation 588 (1970)¹

Development of Sport for All and the creation of co-ordinating structures

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Noting that the transformations of modern society and their corollaries such as industrialisation, automation and urbanisation tend :
 - a. to eliminate the minimum regular physical exercise essential to man's physical equilibrium ;
 - b. to accentuate man's psychological solitude and dependence on his environment ;
2. Considering that, in such a society, sport has to fulfil two vital functions, namely :
 - a. a biological function of preserving and developing the physical capacity of present and future generations ;
 - b. a socio-cultural function of helping man, in the context of permanent education and cultural development, to triumph over certain living and working conditions which threaten his development and balance, by giving him means of satisfying his needs of communication, expression and creativeness ;
3. Believing that these considerations warrant, and indeed demand, immediate and extensive measures designed to place sport as a socio-cultural activity within the reach of an ever-widening range of the population, in accordance with the concept "Sport for All" defined by the Council for Cultural Co-operation ;
4. Considering moreover that by its very nature such action requires at both national and European level a concerted and co-ordinated effort by very diverse institutions : ministerial departments, local authorities, sports organisations, permanent educational bodies, industrial and financial circles, trade unions and other professional organisations etc. ;
5. Observing that both on a European level and in most of the member countries the structures that would make such concerted and co-ordinated effort possible are lacking,
6. Recommends that the Committee of Ministers invite the member governments of the Council of Europe :
 - a. to launch or support, at national level, "Sport for All" campaigns such as already exist in some member countries ;
 - b. to encourage, if they do not already exist, the creation of national coordinating structures for that purpose ;
 - c. to provide the Council of Europe with co-ordinating machinery to promote "Sport for All" on a European scale.

1. Assembly debate on 26 January 1970 (21st Sitting) (see [Doc. 2631](#), report of the Committee on Culture and Education). Text adopted by the Assembly on 26 January 1970 (21st Sitting).

