



The European integration and sport

Anna-Katriina Salmikangas, Dr.

Programme director

Department of Sport Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

European Integration & Sport and the EU

➤ European Integration

1957 The Treaties of Rome

The European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community

➤ Sport and the EU

1974 Walrave and Koch case.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities in Luxembourg rules out discrimination on the basis of nationality; the Court of Justice is ready to deal with sport matters if they represent professional sports. For the first time, the Court recognises that it may deal with sport-related matters, provided that they fall within the scope of article 2 of the Treaty

European Integration & Sport and the EU

- **1991** Maastricht Treaty: establishment of the European Union (EU), in addition to the EC. Economic and Monetary Union, Common Foreign and Security Policy, policies in the field of Justice and Home Affairs
- 1995** European Council settles on "euro" as name for the single currency
- **1991** The Commission organises the first European Sport Forum with sport stakeholders in Brussels
- **1995** The European Court of Justice rules in the Bosman case concerning free movement for professional sportspeople; the transfer system in European professional cross-border football is redefined and the rights of football players as workers are strengthened

European Integration & Sport and the EU

- **1997** Amsterdam Treaty
- **2000** Nice Treaty
- **1997** Amsterdam Declaration, annexed to the Treaty but without binding legal value: the EU recognises the non-economic aspects of sport
- **1997** The Commission sets up a Sport Unit
- **2000** Nice Declaration, annexed to the Presidency Conclusions and without binding legal value: the EU will check that its policies and decisions are sport-friendly

European Integration & Sport and the EU

- **2004** A European Convention presents a draft Constitutional Treaty which is later rejected in referenda in France and the Netherlands
- **2004** [European Year of Education through Sport \(EYES 2004\)](#). Around 200 projects are co-financed by the Commission, accompanied by a communication campaign
- **2004** Specific provisions on sport are included in the draft Treaty
- **2006** The European Court of Justice rules in the Meca-Medina case: EU competition rules must be applied with due regard to the specificity of sport; proportionality test; the assessment whether a sporting rule is compatible with EU law can only be made on a case-by-case basis; the notion of "purely sporting rules" is irrelevant for the question of the applicability of EU competition rules to the sports sector

European Integration & Sport and the EU

- **2007** Signature of the Treaty of Lisbon (subject to ratification by all Member States)
- **2007** [White Paper on Sport](#) adopted by the Commission. For the first time, the Commission provides a comprehensive vision for sport in a high-profile policy document
- **2007** Specific provisions on sport are included in the draft Treaty, creating a soft, complementary EU competence for sport and paving the way towards an EU sport programme

European Integration & Sport and the EU

- **2008** Declaration of the European Council on Sport: the EU reiterates the specific characteristics of sport, welcomes the structured dialogue with the sport movement at EU level and calls for its reinforcement, in particular on the question of combined sports training and education of young people
- Budget

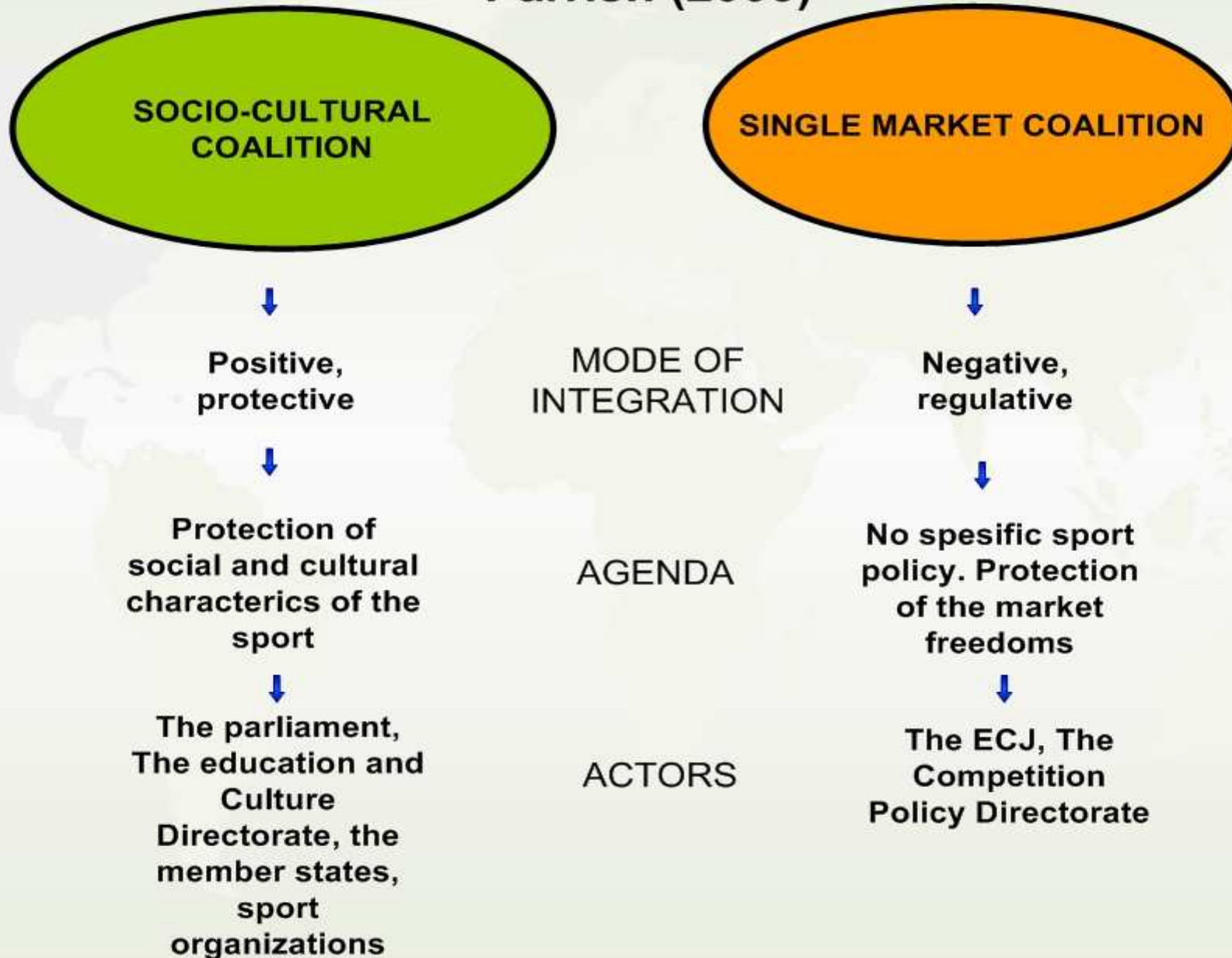
Role of Sport in EU

- A form of “economic activity”
- The freedom of movement for workers
- Sport - a suitable means of communicating the common and integrative aspect of the European Community
- Organization
 - Committee for Culture, Youth, Education and Media
 - The Sports Unit of the European Commission
 - European Sports Forum
 - EOC EU office Website: www.euoffice.eurolympic.org
- Legal base for sport in the European treaties.
- The social role of sport within the Community (special characteristics of amateur sport)
- European Sports Model
- Sport in Article of the Constitution

Role of Sport in EU

- Education through Sport
- Social function of sport
- Volunteering in sport
- Fight against doping
- Marketing
- EU White paper on sports
- Gambling activities and sport betting
- Public health and food safety
- Funding (European Regional Development Fund)

The coalitions of the EU's sport policy by Richard Parrish (2003)



Sources about the EU, Sport and Law

- **Parrish, R. 2003. Sports law and policy in the European Union. Manchester: Manchester University Press.**
- **Parrish, R. & Miettinen, S. 2008. The sporting exception in European Union law. Hague : T.M.C Asser Press.**