

Global Sports & Human Rights Research Network (GSHRRN): Meeting Summary (3 Apr 2024, online)

On 3 April 2024 (1600 - 1700 CET), an online meeting on the Global Sports & Human Rights Research Network (GSHRRN/ Network) occurred. It was attended by 33 people. We at the Centre for Sport & Human Rights (CSHR) provided updates on the progress we have made with setting up the GSHRRN since the first in-person meeting which took place on 4 December 2023 in Geneva. Network members also provided some updates on their current and upcoming projects.

To recapture earlier discussions, the GSHRRN is a global interdisciplinary network with CSHR steering the activities of the Network and the [Asser Institute](#) performing a coordinating function as the secretariat of GSHRRN.

We have captured the meeting minutes and reflections below with more details to follow in due course.

Meeting minutes and Reflections

1. Progress since December 2023

- We at CSHR have continued outreach and added new members to the Network
- The first **GSHRRN Conference** will take place on 23 October 2024 at the Asser Institute in The Hague alongside the annual ISLJ Conference. The conference will be connected to an Erasmus+ project multiplier event, and therefore also the theme is decided already: *athletes rights*, which should be broad enough to make it interesting for all of us. We are currently developing the concept and CfP and will share it soon.
- We have reached an in-principle agreement with Routledge to commence a **book series on Sports and Human Rights** with CSHR serving as an institutional series editor. [The Routledge Handbook of Mega-Sporting Events and Human Rights](#) which was published in October 2023 will serve as the first book of the series. The books can be monographs (research books or edited collections) [70-90k words usually]; Short form (Routledge Focus series) [25-30k words]; Handbooks [200k+ words] or textbooks, practitioner/ professional texts, etc. If you have a book proposal in mind please share it with us. Please also find attached the proposal guidelines from Routledge.
- **GSHRRN Working Groups**: several people in the Network work on similar themes, such as e-sports, children's rights in sports, or MSEs. We would be



happy to facilitate self-managed working groups on topics of your choice. The group will be free to do what they want. We could help increase visibility and opportunities for collaboration through our conference, other meetings, and also through information about the group on the website.

2. GSHRRN Website

- Jonny Randall, Centre's Communications Manager presented a draft version of the GSHRRN Website - a dedicated area for the Network on the Centre's Website which will provide a space for members to get to know about each other through a list and an interactive map.
- The website will also provide all other relevant information about the Network including the online library, our educational programmes, the Network Conference, Working Groups, collaboration opportunities, etc.
- Ariel suggested that it would be useful to have a place to have non-public communications with the Network members, a library of syllabus and course materials and multilingual content.

3. CSHR Project updates

We presented three current projects where an opportunity might exist for the Network members to engage or collaborate with us.

- Alison Biscoe, our Head of Programme Development and Partnerships spoke about the **Broadcasters Project**. This proposed project will be a collective effort between sports broadcasters, CSHR, and the TV Industry Human Rights Forum to develop a set of common approaches that can be used to navigate frequent, yet challenging, themes and issues that many sports broadcasters face in their work, exploring both the operational and editorial angles. Research will be needed to support the development of a methodology to form the common approaches, as well as to provide a baseline on how the selected themes are currently being managed across the industry. We will get in touch soon with more information.
- Marie Porchet, our Engagement and Partnership Coordinator spoke about the collaborative [Innovation Booster on Sport, Human Rights and Leadership Project](#). The project seems to create a digital toolkit aimed at providing step-by-step guidance for actors in the sports ecosystem to adequately engage and conduct meaningful consultation with potentially affected stakeholders, both in the context of day-to-day sports and Mega-Sporting Events. We are mapping benchmarks, toolkits, and good practices of organisations conducting meaningful consultation with affected groups, across all sectors and industries. We will set up a review panel to provide feedback and oversee the results of this mapping exercise. Should you be interested in being part of the review panel, contact marie.porchet@sporthumanrights.org.
- Lucy Amis, our Senior Advisor, and Shubham spoke about the **Human Rights Glossary Project**. The Project seeks to co-create guidance on terminology and its usage across sports and human rights to encourage ecosystem-wide



communication that is responsible, inclusive, respectful, and ethical. We will be putting out the draft guidance in the coming weeks and will be grateful for your feedback and input.

- Daniela spoke about the [3rd edition of the Sports and Human Rights Training Programme](#), being organized jointly by CSHR and Asser Institute from 22-29 May 2024. This year it will be an online course to enable greater participation from across the globe. Read reflections from the 2nd edition of the course [here](#). Scholarship applications for candidates from underrepresented backgrounds are currently open. Please share in your networks and register for the course if it interests you.

4. Member updates

- [Peter Donnelly](#) updated us about events and projects that he is organising about the 35th anniversary of the Child Rights Convention. Please reach out to him if interested.
- Antoine Duval mentioned a special issue ([The FIFA World Cup 2022 and the struggle for human rights in Qatar](#)) that was recently published in the German Law Journal. Please read and reflect if that is of interest. Antoine has provided a summary of the issue on a [Twitter/X thread](#) and the GLJ editors have provided a [blog summary](#).
- [Kevin Carpenter](#) invited Network members to reach out to him if anyone is interested in working on match officials/referees and/or on safeguarding. He is working on a project about safeguarding in Table Tennis.
- Maximilian Seltmann invited everyone to a SOPROS Conference ([Athletes' Social Protection: Current Solutions and Future Needs](#)) on 8 April 2024 at the German Sport University Cologne.

As the next steps, we will continue to work on setting up and expanding the Network. We will hopefully have our website going online very soon and we will update you on the Conference and other projects. In the meantime, if there are any queries or suggestions, please reach out to us at [Daniela Heerd](#) or [Shubham Jain](#)

