



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

UEFA Football Law Programme

WE CARE ABOUT FOOTBALL

In this complex, fast-changing and uncertain world, it is essential that the UEFA member associations and other football stakeholders are aware of the legal stakes involved in the modern game and are fully equipped to handle them appropriately. Given the inherent complexity of legal matters and the constant developments in this field, it is also crucial to foster cooperation between all parties to better address upcoming challenges.

The UEFA Football Law Programme sets out to enable more members of the football family to acquire new skills specific to sports law – and, even more specifically, football law – equipping them to take on new challenges in this rapidly developing domain.

By integrating football law into our large portfolio of educational initiatives, we hope to foster an ever more professional approach to the different legal issues surrounding football in Europe.

Gianni Infantino
UEFA General Secretary

Structure

The UEFA Football Law Programme (FLP) comprises four week-long sessions which address key issues and topical aspects of football law. The programme has been developed and is run by UEFA, in close collaboration with internationally renowned academic experts and practitioners.

The UEFA FLP runs over a period of 12 months. Successful participants will receive a Certificate of Advanced Study in football law (CAS, worth 10 ECTS credits) from Kadir Has University (Istanbul, Turkey) in cooperation with the University of Padova (Italy), Rey Juan Carlos University (Madrid, Spain) and UEFA.

Session 1: Introduction to football law
Kadir Has University
(Istanbul, Turkey)
26–30 October 2015

Session 2: FIFA transfer regulations
University of Padova
(Italy)
18–22 January 2016

Session 3: Other football rules and regulations
Rey Juan Carlos University
(Madrid, Spain)
18–22 April 2016

Session 4: CAS system and procedures
UEFA
(Nyon, Switzerland)
12–15 September 2016

Programme overview



Session 1: Introduction to football law

Place: Istanbul, Turkey
Dates: 26–30 October 2015
Academic partner: Kadir Has University

Kadir Has University Sports Studies Research Centre aims to provide the highest standards of education on sports law, management and media area and to make research on the intersection of sports and social sciences.

Topics

- UEFA and FIFA structures: rules and regulations
- Football stakeholders: ECA, FIFPro and EPFL
- Football law and state law: sources and relationship
- Introduction to Swiss law
- EU law and sport
- ECJ jurisprudence in sport: influence on football
- The Council of Europe and sport



Speakers (among others)

- Kepa Larumbe, Legal Director, Royal Spanish Football Federation
- Jacques Bondallaz, Head of Sports Legal Services, UEFA
- Levent Biçakci, Member of the UEFA Appeals Body
- Juan de Dios Crespo Pérez, Sports Lawyer
- Jacopo Tognon, CAS Arbitrator



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Session 2: FIFA transfer regulations

Place: Padova, Italy
Dates: 18–22 January 2016
Academic partner: University of Padova

The University of Padova is one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious seats of learning. It was founded in 1222 as a school of law and was one of the most prominent universities in early modern Europe.

Topics

- FIFA transfer regulations: history and overview
- Players' status and player registration
- Contractual stability
- Federative rights and third-party influence
- International transfers of minors
- Training compensation and solidarity mechanisms
- International v national regulations



Speakers (among others)

- Omar Ongaro, Head of Player's Status, FIFA
- Michael Gerlinger, Legal Director, FC Bayer Munich
- Javier Ferrero, Sports Lawyer
- Lucas Ferrer, Sports Lawyer
- Alasdair Bell, Legal Director/General Counsel, UEFA
- Fabio Iudica, CAS Arbitrator

A word from the programme directors

"Given the complexity of the legal topics in football, it is important that all members of the football family cooperate and understand their respective positions to improve the current situation. What you will mostly gain from the UEFA FLP is this stakeholder knowledge, as well as the tools and ideas you need to improve cooperation. By welcoming participants from diverse backgrounds and different organisations, this programme will be key in fostering such collaboration in your daily work."

Michele Bernasconi, CAS Arbitrator
Emilio Garcia, Head of Disciplinary and Integrity, UEFA

Session 3: Other football rules and regulations

Place: Madrid, Spain
Dates: 18–22 April 2016
Academic partner: Rey Juan Carlos University

Rey Juan Carlos University is a renowned Spanish public research university. Created in 1996, it offers high-quality education and academic excellence.

Topics

- Disciplinary procedures in football (FIFA and UEFA models)
- UEFA's financial fair play system
- The fight against doping: the role of WADA
- FIFA and confederations' anti-doping rules and procedures
- Match-fixing: rules and regulations
- FIFA intermediaries
- TV and IP rights
- Event and sponsorship contracts



Speakers (among others)

- Marc Cavaliero, Head of Disciplinary and Governance, FIFA
- Emilio Garcia, Head of Disciplinary and Integrity, UEFA
- Ulrich Haas, CAS Arbitrator
- Simon Drake, Chief Counsel Business Affairs, UEFA



Session 4: CAS system and procedures

Place: UEFA HQ, Nyon, Switzerland
Dates: 12–15 September 2016

UEFA is the governing body of European football. It is an association of associations, a representative democracy, and the umbrella organisation for 54 national football associations across Europe.

Topics

- The role and functions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)
- The ordinary procedure
- The appeal procedure
- Landmark cases in football (CAS) competence (financial fair play, contractual stability, training compensation, solidarity mechanisms, doping, disciplinary, match-fixing and transfers of minors)



Speakers (among others)

- William Sternheimer, Head of Arbitration, CAS
- Massimo Coccia, CAS Arbitrator
- Efraim Barak, CAS Arbitrator and General Counsel, Israel Football Association
- Michele Bernasconi, CAS Arbitrator
- Jorge Ibarrola, Sports Lawyer

A word from a national association

"As director of a legal department in a national association, I have come to realise how important it is to have a clear and robust understanding of legal issues. However, more importantly, I have experienced the need to position the department and to understand the environment our legal experts are interacting with on a daily basis. This programme fully addresses this key challenge in our field."

Sarah O'Shea, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Legal Director, Football Association of Ireland

Key information



Target group and eligibility criteria

The UEFA FLP is specially designed for legal specialists who want to get up to speed on the most recent developments in football law and broaden their understanding of the issues involved. To encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions, the UEFA FLP is open to a wide range of participants with different backgrounds and from different organisations. A total of 20 participants will be selected per edition of the UEFA FLP.

Applicants must either:

- Work in the legal department of a UEFA member association; or
- Hold a legal position in a football club, players' union or league; or
- Work in law firm that deals with football cases.



Timeline

- 30 June 2015: deadline for applications. Applicants must submit application form, CV and letter of recommendation from employer.
- July 2015: information are sent to the successful applicants.
- 26 October 2015: session 1 kicks off at Kadir Has University, Istanbul.



Course fee

The UEFA course costs €5,000 per participant (to cover course materials, as well as lunches and coffee breaks during each session). Please note that this fee does not include travel and accommodation costs.

Assessment

There will be three forms of assessment:

- Class attendance and participation
- Practical case studies
- Oral exam

Contact details

Any questions related to the UEFA FLP can be addressed to:

Jean-Baptiste Alliot
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Route de Genève 46, CH-1260
Nyon, Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0) 22 707 2669
Email: universities@uefa.ch

Testimonials

"The legal field is constantly evolving and is, as such, a permanent challenge. The UEFA FLP is an excellent way to gain a greater understanding of the legal environment, in terms of both evolutions and specificities. I am convinced this programme will help you to better address the challenges your organisations, in particular the national associations, face today and in the future."

Alasdair Bell, General Counsel and Legal Affairs Director, UEFA

"The UEFA FLP is a world-class programme in football law. The themes covered by the programme are broad and presented by a mix of academics and practitioners all of whom are high-profile experts in their fields. This programme is a unique opportunity to learn from the best and to give more weight to the armoury with which you tackle future challenges."

José Juan Pintó, CAS Arbitrator