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Answer given by Ms Jourová
on behalf of the European Commission
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The respect of the rights of persons belonging to minorities is one of the founding values of the European Union and is a principle explicitly mentioned in the Treaty on European Union. Moreover, any discrimination on the basis of membership of a national minority is explicitly prohibited under Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

The Commission ensures that fundamental rights and, in particular, the right to non-discrimination, are respected when EU law is implemented.

In accordance with the Treaties, the Commission has limited powers to intervene in matters which concern sport and its governing bodies. The Commission acknowledges the autonomy of sport governing structures as a fundamental principle relating to the organisation of sport. This autonomy entails the right for sport governing bodies to establish their own rules and appropriate sanctions for the non-respect of such rules in full respect of EU law.

Moreover, the Commission does not have a general power to enforce fundamental rights, since according to Article 51(1) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the provisions of the Charter are addressed to the Member States only when they are implementing EU law. It is thus for Member States to ensure the respect of their obligations regarding fundamental rights as resulting from international agreements and from their internal legislation.