

TIMELINE

Examples of governance reforms

2005

April

The Council of Europe issues the first recommendations on good governance in sport, emphasising democratic structures, ethics, accountability, and transparency.



2011

October

Delegates at Play the Game 2011 issue 'Cologne Consensus' calling on the IOC to organise a global conference and create a code for good governance in sport.

2012

January

Experts from across Europe embark on Action for Good Governance in International Sports Organisations (AGGIS).



2015

November

Arnout Geeraert (then KU Leuven) presents the first independent Sports Governance Observer survey at Play the Game 2015.

2016

October

In response to the Russian-international doping scandal, WADA launches an Intelligence & Investigations service with a mandate for independent operations.



2017

March

The Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) presents its first survey on the governance of 28 sports based on assisted self-evaluation.

2018

November

Researchers and sports leaders from ten countries launch the National Sports Governance Observer tool.



2018

November

In 2018 and 2019, a revised version of the international Sports Governance Observer tool updates the benchmarking of 11 Olympic federations.

2019

October

The International Biathlon Union (IBU) establishes the Biathlon Integrity Unit with operational independence in investigating and prosecuting violations of its Integrity Code.



2025

January

China opens its first national sports arbitration centre, taking a key step to strengthen the legal framework for resolving sports disputes and protecting athletes' rights.