



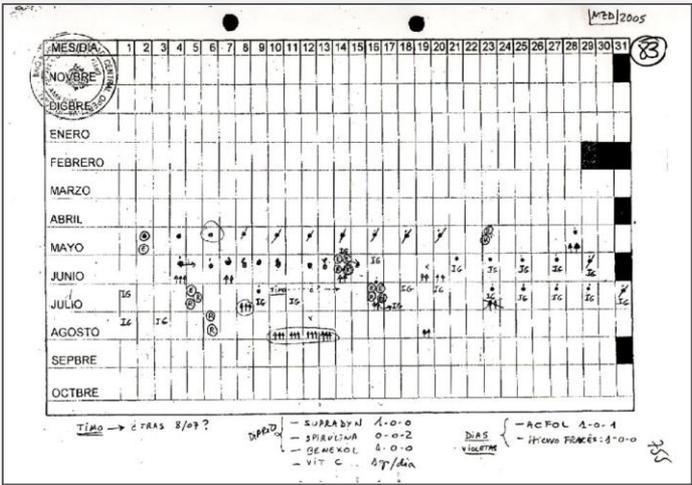
**DOPING MUST BE TACKLED
AT THE SOURCE;
THE REST IS APPEARANCE**



Alessandro Donati
Aarhus, 25 October 2015

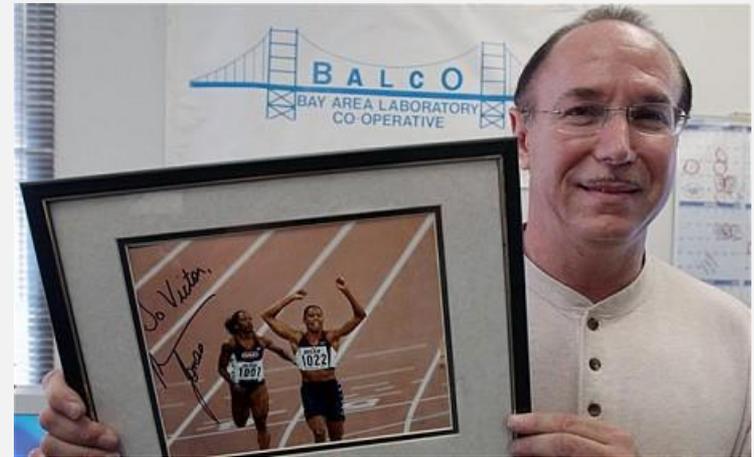
The judicial investigation and judgment of the Court of Ferrara on the activities of doping by Professor Francesco Conconi have highlighted the responsibility of many high-level international athletes: but, above all, the responsibility of CONI, UCI and IOC, real accomplices: Professor Conconi practiced doping with EPO and, at the same time, suggested Verbruggen at the limit of hematocrit in the biological passport or interacted with IOC to cheat the sporting community for seven years on a method, which really did not exist, to detect EPO in urine.





The Operacion Puerto, concerning the activities of doping of the Spanish doctor Eufemiano Fuentes, highlighted the responsibilities of a number of Spanish athletes but also athletes of other countries, including Jan Ulrich and Ivan Basso but remained unexplored covers policies that have allowed Fuentes silent about the responsibilities of the national Sports Federations and big Spanish Clubs...

The BALCO scandal involving many US athletes and athletes from other countries but few experts have worked to rebuild the protections that for many years national Sports Federations have provided to athletes capable of winning Olympic medals.



In 2003, Edwin Moses resigned from the Ethics Commission and thus explained his decision: "I do not believe that the tests to find Epo, Thg and other substances are done in a professional manner. And I speak not only of athletics. Too often I see leaders who prefer to turn head away".



Referring to the recent scandal of the IAAF database full of abnormal blood values, Moses said:

“We would be remiss if we didn’t also take this opportunity to examine on a larger scale the inherent conflict of interest that exists when a sport is tasked with both policing and promoting itself. This is especially true when those actions may in turn damage the image of the sport or a profitable, high profile athlete. We have seen these conflicting interests play out time and time again, all to the detriment of clean athletes. I now urge IAAF President-elect Sebastian Coe to make good on his recent calls for the establishment of an independent anti-doping program in athletics”.

These and many other cases demonstrate that, often, alongside the responsibility of individual athletes or of individual doctors or coaches, there are serious responsibility of Sport Institutions:

national Olympic Committees,
national Sports Federations
and international Sports
Federations.

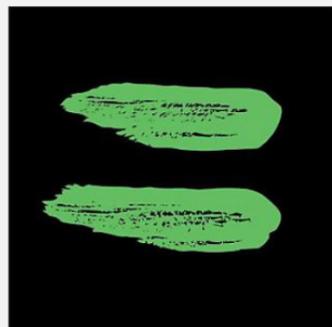
Many seem to forget that the responsibility of the individual is **contingent and limited** in scope to his person or to his entourage, while the responsibilities of the Institutions are the ones that, until now, have ensured **doping penetration, consolidation, camouflage system.**

In summary, the Sport Institutions, sometimes with the complicity of the Government Institutions, have made doping monstrous and now difficult (but not impossible!) to eradicate.

WADA, in what way is addressing the problem? With good will, with the ability and honesty of many of its members but with their **huge limits of competence and authority.**

It is proof that the World Anti-Doping Code, by listing the types of responsibilities for doping: merely indicates individuals: athletes (especially), and other surrounding **figures but expects nothing and nothing can about the possible responsibility of entire Institutions!**

The creation of WADA and its attempt to give life in the different countries to the national anti-doping agencies has collided heavily with this reality.

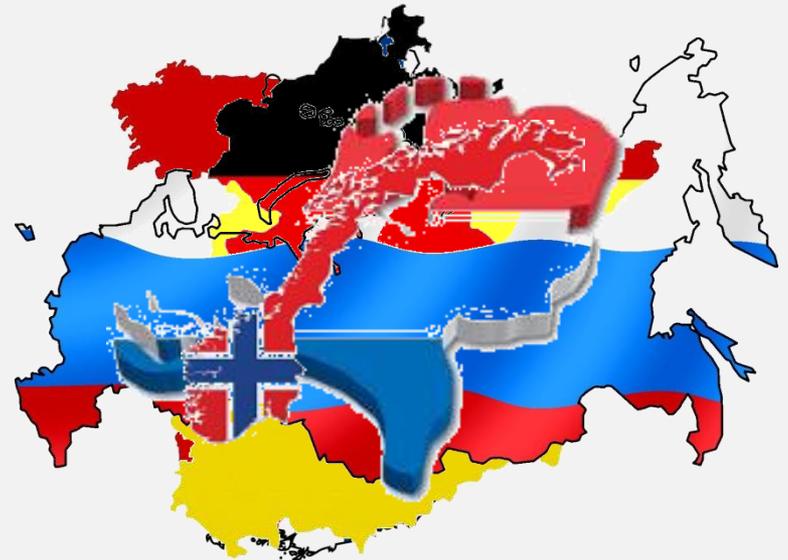


**WORLD
ANTI-DOPING
AGENCY**



In some countries, they have been set up national anti-doping agencies directly dependent on the national sports institutions and therefore deprived of autonomy and impartiality;

In other countries, they have been (slyly) created, with the full agreement of national governments, agencies autonomous only in appearance .





WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE

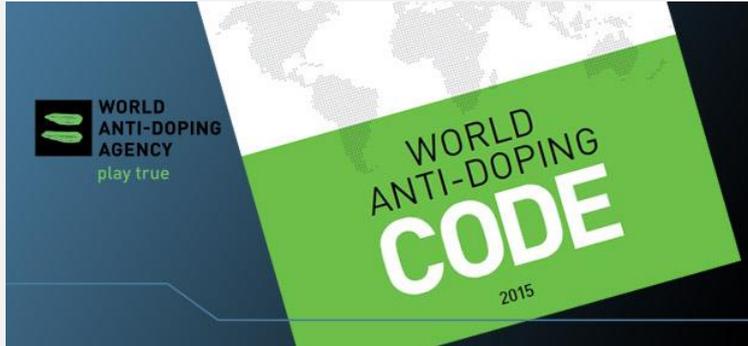
2015



WADA has worked hard in the development of the World Anti-Doping Code, trying to create a unification of procedures:

all activities formally correct but which are then compromised in substance, from the ambiguous nature of the national anti-doping agencies and, above all, by the International Federations who defend their autonomy (meaning: its political and commercial interests).

Briefly, the stagnation of the situation is demonstrated by the fact that the World Anti-Doping Code provides carefully the various responsibility of individuals (athletes and less doctors, coaches or other figures) but makes no provision regarding the macro responsibility of Sport Institutions: National Olympic Committees, National Sports Federations and International Sports Federations.



ARTICLE 12 SANCTIONS AGAINST SPORTING BODIES

It's limited to indicating that:

Nothing in the *Code* precludes any *Signatory* or government accepting the *Code* from enforcing its own rules for the purpose of imposing sanctions on another sporting body over which the *Signatory* or a member of the *Signatory* or government has authority.

It's therefore clear that WADA has no power over the responsibilities of the National Sports Institutions.

... and to sanction the responsibilities of the International Federations we must resort to the United Nations ...?!

WADA still has a good reputation thanks to the considerable initial work done by Dick Pound and David Howman to provide it with officials and experts capable and independent but that initial capital is destined to be lost in the perpetually losing battle with the autonomy of the International Federations and with the ambiguous position of many national Anti-doping Agencies.

A good step forward would result from promulgation in the main countries of criminal anti-doping laws : thanks to the development of the investigations the magistrates and the police would become powerful allies of WADA.