
PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 1 October 2015

European Volleyball Confederation (CEV) becomes partner of EOC EU Office

The European Volleyball Confederation (CEV) today became a partner of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) EU Office in Brussels. This strategic decision demonstrates the CEV's strong desire to contribute actively to the European Union's sport policy. The partnership was announced by **EOC President Patrick Hickey** and **CEV President André Meyer**.

President Hickey welcomed the new partner enthusiastically: *"I am absolutely delighted to have the CEV on board as a partner of the EOC EU Office. Volleyball is one of the most popular team sports worldwide and our relationship with President Meyer and his team is excellent. We really appreciated the outstanding quality of the volleyball competition at the first European Games in Baku and we are looking forward to working closely with the CEV in the future".*

President Meyer: *"I am pleased with our extensive cooperation with the EOC and would like to recall that we enthusiastically supported the establishment of the European Games whose inaugural edition was celebrated last June in Baku where Volleyball and Beach Volleyball contributed to two of the major highlights on the programme. We have also been joining our forces for a number of years already in the delivery of the bi-annual European Youth Olympic Festival, which has provided a perfect stage where our Volleyball stars in the making continue with their development and are laying the cornerstone of their future careers in the sport. The partnership with the EOC EU Office in Brussels represents the next step in our joint efforts to advocate the leading role that sport can play in growing tomorrow's citizens and in disseminating positive values such as team work, fair play, mutual respect and true friendship across Europe's youth."*



Some facts and figures:

CEV is responsible for governing 55 National Federations throughout Europe and is officially recognised by the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB). The European Volleyball Confederation was officially established on 9 September 1973 in The Hague and Giancarlo Giannozzi (Italy) was elected its first President. André Meyer of Luxembourg took office in 2001. Meyer is currently serving a third term having been re-elected first in 2005 and then again at the 2011 CEV General Assembly in Vienna. The CEV is headquartered in Luxembourg.

The **EOC EU Office** - the House of European Sport - is the representation of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) to the European institutions. It furthermore represents the interests of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other major sports organisations at national, European and international level such as European Athletics (EAA), the European Swimming Federation (LEN), Rugby Europe, the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), and the European Handball Federation (EHF).