

Foreword

Sports bring out the best of us. Honour and fair play are integral to the conduct of sporting events, and to our enjoyment of them.

But the joy that sports bring to billions of fans around the world can so easily be marred by crooked practices such as match-fixing. Corruption and the involvement of transnational organized crime in sport undermine confidence in results and tarnish reputations. Added to this, the huge profits generated by match-fixing can be channelled into other illegal activities.

The best way to tackle these threats is through a multi stakeholder approach. Combined with a focus that increases the capacities of law enforcement agencies and sports organizations, this allows for the considerable expertise of a variety of actors, including international organizations and private sector bodies, to be harnessed.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is committed to widening efforts to promote integrity and good governance in sport.

We have developed this Resource Guide, in partnership with the International Center for Sport Security (ICSS), as a practical resource designed to help officials detect and investigate match-fixing.

It uses as its basis the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which provide the legal framework for law enforcement agencies to combat match-fixing, and serve as universally accepted reference points for sports organizations and other stakeholders to support this fight.

The case studies and practical investigation techniques contained in this Resource Guide offer important and useful support for those looking to enhance their knowledge and investigative skills within this relatively new but increasingly important area.

By demonstrating resolve and ability to tackle this threat, States and sports organizations can protect both integrity in sport and the integrity of sport. I hope this Resource Guide will further advance these efforts.



Yury Fedotov
Executive Director
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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Sport must be protected in order for us to continue to provide this special vehicle for the education of future generations. Sadly, corruption, bribery, cheating, lying and violence are becoming commonplace.

One serious issue sport now faces is match-fixing. This is occurring in order to make criminals richer, often at the expense of vulnerable athletes or match officials.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is one organization that has taken a stand against the threat of match-fixing and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge its admirable work in this area.

By combining our strengths and expertise, the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS) and UNODC are working towards creating a future of sport free from crime.

We are proud to present you with the first realization of our partnership: the UNODC – ICSS Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing.

What this precious resource will do is serve as the mentor, the friend, the helping hand for all those who find themselves confronted by crime in sport. It will assist those who have to show extraordinary levels of courage and bravery to help catch the cheaters.

This resource guide is a gift to sport and hopes to guide international federations and law enforcement and other international organizations to better detect, investigate and prosecute match-fixing.

By carefully explaining investigations into match-fixing from A to Z, we are proud to say that this UNODC-ICSS resource is a vital contribution to a stronger future for integrity in sport.

Through our continuing partnership with UNODC, we are happy to support a truly global fight against match-fixing in sport and see this resource being used across all continents.

This is only the beginning of a journey and we hope you will all join us.



Mohammed Hanzab
President
International Centre for Sport Security