



1st EOC Executive Committee Meeting

HIGHLIGHTS

Bakuriani (GEO)

The European Olympic Committees (EOC) Executive Committee (ExCom) met in Bakuriani, Georgia on 9 February 2025 ahead of the Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) Bakuriani 2025. The highlights of the ExCom meeting are as follows.

EOC President Spyros Capralos' report

Welcomed the ExCom to the penultimate meeting ahead of EOC elections on 28 February, noting the long distance to travel, and thanked Bakuriani 2025 Organising Committee President Mamuka Khabareli and his team for the warm welcome to Georgia and the great job they have done for Bakuriani 2025.

Paid tribute to former EOC Ex-Officio ExCom member and Polish NOC President Andrzej Kraśnicki following his sad passing in January, noting his huge contribution to the European Games Kraków-Małopolska 2023.

Highlighted the continued importance of the EYOFs, both Winter and Summer, for the development of young athletes as many experience a multi-sport event for the first time, including living in the Athletes' Village alongside peers of other sports from their countries and competitors from other countries.

Thanked the ExCom for their support in ensuring that Belarusian athletes would be allowed to compete at Bakuriani 2025 as Individual Neutral Athletes and highlighted his disappointment that the winter International Federations (IFs) were unable to facilitate this. Noted that conversations with summer IFs ahead of Skopje 2025 were more positive, hoping that young Belarusian athletes could compete.

Noted that the interest from candidates for the 2029 EYOFs shows the strength of the event and is a marker of the work that the EOC and the ExCom have achieved over the past four years.

Pointed out that the 54th EOC General Assembly (GA) in Frankfurt will be busier than usual due to the attendance of six of the seven IOC Presidential candidates, and that the increased interest provides challenges, but also opportunities for the EOC.



EOC Secretary General Raffaele Pagnozzi's report

Highlighted preparations for the 54th EOC GA are going smoothly with excellent collaboration from the German NOC, and that some changes to reporting during the GA have been made due to the busy schedule with the EOC elections.

Emphasised that Bakuriani 2025 is expected to be a big success, and that confirmation of Braşov, Romania and Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy for 2027 along with the interest from candidates for the EYOFs through to 2031 is a strong position to be in.

Mentioned the continued importance of esports and the importance of ensuring that an esports competition takes place alongside the European Games 2027.

Commented that numerous initiatives have been implemented in line with EOC Strategic Agenda 2030 aimed at enhancing organisational efficiency, and promoting sustainability, safeguarding and gender equality.

EOC Treasurer Peter Mennel's Report

Noted the approval of the global EOC 2025 Budget and the financially solid position of the EOC for the year.

Highlighted that the budget for the 2027 European Games is subject to updates due to the negotiations for the Host City Contract (HCC) now being finalised.

EOC CEO Jan Lehmann's report

Istanbul 2027

Noted that on 31 January 2025 the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IMM) agreed with the state government on a joint approach to include the European Games into state legislation, which indicates the high level of support for the project.

Highlighted that the EOC continues to have positive conversations over the sport programme with the IMM and the relevant International and European Federations as it nears being finalised.

Commented that site visits are happening regularly regarding venues and the backing of the government will offer further assistance with any work needed.

The members reviewed and discussed the collaboration with the technology partner. The discussion focused on assessing the delivery of IT services to ensure they are in line with the standards required by the organization for its sporting events.



Meetings with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) regarding proposed changes to the contract for Istanbul 2027, which would be beneficial for the EOC, have been discussed and received positively by the EBU.

Asked and was granted approval for the EOC to adopt a new safeguarding policy surrounding EOC events, including the European Games, EYOF and Games of the Small States of Europe.

EOC EYOF Commission Chair Líney Halldórsdóttir's update on EYOF

Winter EYOF Bakuriani 2025

Commented that under leadership of President Khabareli, Bakuriani 2025 is expected to be an exceptional EYOF due to the excellent standard of the Athletes' Villages, dining facilities and the venues.

Highlighted safeguarding booklet distributed by the Organising Committee to all athletes and officials, and praised their work in this regard.

Summer EYOF Skopje 2025

Said that the organisation of Skopje is progressing nicely but also highlighted the need for the EOC to provide event experts to the Organising Committee to ensure that it is the best possible event for young athletes in July.

Summer EYOF Lignano Sabbiadoro 2027

Are ready to sign the Host City Contract once a few final details are confirmed.

The ExCom also discussed what participation fee the hosts of the 2027 EYOF can charge, deciding to cap it at € 110 per night.

Future candidates

Confirmed that there are candidates for the 2029 and 2031 EYOFs and that there will be presentations at the 54th EOC GA.

EOC Secretary General Raffaele Pagnozzi's report on the 54th EOC General Assembly

Confirmed the candidates for the EOC Ethics Commission, the nomination for the EOC Order of Merit and for the EOC Laurel Award, the voting for the 13th Summer edition of the Piotr Nurowski Prize during the 54th EOC GA in Frankfurt.