

WEBINAR

Introduction to the ECA: Challenges and Opportunities

Tuesday, 17 March 2026

12:30 – 13:30 (CET)

Via Teams

This webinar provides a focused overview of the European Handball Court of Arbitration (ECA), highlighting its role, key features and recent developments. The session will address selected aspects of ECA arbitration, including its fast and cost-effective procedures, the role of the ECA Office as well as the ECA arbitrators, and the evolving legal framework in which the ECA operates.

Particular attention will be given to current challenges and emerging issues in sports arbitration, notably the interaction with national arbitration law and the potential implications of recent jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights (including the *Seraing* and *Semenya* cases). Organised by the ECA Council and the ECA Office, the webinar aims to offer practical insights and points for reflection for ECA arbitrators and handball stakeholders involved in sports dispute resolution.

Programme

- 1. Welcome**
Michael Wiederer, President & CEO of the European Handball Federation
- 2. Introduction and ECA Key Features**
Michele Colucci, President of the Council of the European Handball Court of Arbitration
- 3. The Role of the ECA Office**
Jakob Fenz, ECA Office
- 4. The Impact of the Recent ECJ and ECtHR Case Law on Sports Arbitration**
Stefano Bastianon, Professor of European Union Law at the University of Bergamo
- 5. Arbitration and Public Policy under Austrian Law**
Andreas Joklik, Partner at Joklik Katary Richter Rechtsanwälte
- 6. Questions and Answers**
- 7. Conclusions**

ECA Council: *Michele Colucci, Marta Utor, Matea Horvat.*

ECA Office: *Monika Flixeder, Nico Julian Hofer, Jakob Fenz, Marcell Boros.*