

RHINE-RUHR 2025

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

**FOR RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND
SUSTAINABILITY AT THE RHINE-RUHR 2025
FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES**



FISU
WORLD
UNIVERSITY
GAMES
SUMMER

PREAMBLE

Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU Games gGmbH („organiser“) was founded in 2021 as the Organising Committee for the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games („event“). From 16 to 27 July 2025, around 8,500 student athletes and officials from up to 150 nations will compete in the host cities of Bochum, Duisburg, Essen, Mülheim an der Ruhr, Hagen, and Berlin. The Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World Conference and the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 Festival are also central non-sports programme items of the event. This declaration confirms the responsible organisation of the event. As part of this event, the organiser commits to respecting and protecting human rights. In addition, the organiser recognises the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the principle of strong sustainability and commits to implementing sustainability measures in the course of the event.

1. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

This declaration is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other international and national human rights standards and agreements. The organiser commits respecting human rights in the organisation and delivery of the event in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The aim is to treat all people with respect and to enable participation in the event free from discrimination.

The organiser also commits to implement sustainability measures. The understanding of sustainability is based on the principle of strong sustainability and sustainability measures are orientated towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (SDGs).

Internal participation processes have developed core values that apply, in particular, to cooperation between internal employees and serve as a basis for partnership-based cooperation with the German University Sports Federation (adh), state institutions and other stakeholders:

Appreciation, cohesion, courage, flexibility, and transparency.

2. RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS

Promoting sustainability, diversity and social cohesion is firmly anchored in the event’s mission statement. In addition, the sustainability strategy developed with participation ensures systematic and target-orientated planning and implementation of sustainability measures.

A human rights risk analysis was conducted to identify human rights risks in the organisation and delivery of the event, taking into account in particular the following groups of people: women, children, the LGBTQ+ community, people of colour, religious and cultural minorities, people with disabilities, athletes and officials, visitors, employees, volunteers, and journalists. The risk analysis identified the following **six priorities for the human rights work:**

- **(1) Integrity, legality, safety and security:** A comprehensive security concept, compliance with European data protection standards, and targeted internal training ensure the protection of human dignity and safety in line with relevant human rights of all those involved in the event.
- **(2) Violence, abuse, and discrimination and**
- **(3) equality, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion:** All forms of (online) interpersonal violence and abuse (including physical, psychological, and sexual) and discrimination (such as cultural, racial, ethnic, gender-specific, religious or structural) are opposed. Accessibility measures ensure participation, while a comprehensive awareness concept recognises the special protection needs of children, women, the LGBTQ+ community, people of colour, religious and cultural minorities and people with disabilities and ensures that all forms of discrimination, violence and abuse are actively combated.
- **(4) Working conditions:** Labour standards and the rights to fair wages and safe, inclusive working conditions are strictly adhered to and actively promoted. Clear contractual regulations ensure that fair working conditions are also guaranteed for external service providers and everyone in the supply chain.
- **(5) Freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, and freedom of the press:** The rights to freedom of assembly, freedom of expression and uncensored reporting are respected and actively supported. The official accreditation procedure guarantees access to the event for journalists and further supports the protection of press freedom.
- **(6) Health and Well-being:** Emergency medical supplies and personnel will be provided at all sports venues and event locations. These will be supplemented by awareness-raising measures and programmes to promote health and well-being for all participants.

The organiser commits to an effective implementation of these human rights measures in cooperation with all partners and stakeholders involved, in particular the German University Sports Federation (adh) and state institutions.

3. SUSTAINABILITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HARMONY

A responsible approach to the natural environment and natural resources is an integral part of the event organisation and contributes to the protection of the human rights of future generations. The organiser commits to implement the event in a socially just and environmentally friendly manner. The organiser implements sustainability measures that contribute to the SDGs.

4. ZERO-TOLERANCE TOWARDS DOPING AND MATCH-FIXING

Compliance with the competition rules and fair play are essential elements of sport. The organiser has a zero-tolerance attitude towards breaches of the law and breaches of duty, in particular doping and match-fixing.

5. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Training and awareness-raising measures are carried out for all employees to ensure the effective implementation of human rights and sustainability measures. The results of the human rights risk analysis and the sustainability strategy, including measurable targets and a continuous optimisation process, form the basis for the implementation of this declaration.

6. COMPLAINTS MECHANISM AND REMEDY

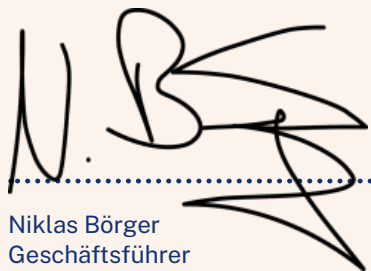
An internal and external reporting system ensures that complaints and violations are dealt with promptly and appropriately and that access to remedy is supported. This complaints management system effectively complements the due diligence process and ensures that the event is both compliant with human rights and implemented sustainably.

7. PARTICIPATION AND CO-OPERATION

The organiser works closely with academics in human rights and sustainability as well as further (local) civil society actors and affected persons in order to ensure continuous monitoring, co-design and a participatory optimisation process with regard to the measures. The organiser attaches particular importance to transparent communication and actively involves relevant interest groups in decision-making processes in order to jointly implement and achieve human rights and sustainability standards, measures and objectives.


8. REPORTING OBLIGATION

The organiser is committed to transparent reporting. A comprehensive information sheet, and pre- and post-Games papers ensure open communication on organisational topics and transparently present measures and successes in the areas of sustainability and human rights.



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If you have any questions or comments about this policy statement or other human rights and sustainability-related topics, please contact us by e-mail:

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