

Call for Abstracts

International Congress 2026 of the European Fair Play Movement (EFPM)

“Sport, the Spirit of Humanity: Protecting the Sport Person”

SKEMA Business School, Paris, December 4, 2026

The Organizing Committee SKEMA Business School – European Fair Play Movement (EFPM) and the Scientific Committee of EFPM invite academics, researchers, and PhD candidates from all disciplines to submit abstracts for the **International Congress “Sport, the Spirit of Humanity – Protecting the Sport Person”**, to be held in **Paris on December 4, 2026**, in the premises of SKEMA Business School.

Theme and Rationale

Sport embodies some of humanity’s most cherished values: respect, dignity, solidarity, courage, and the pursuit of excellence. Yet today - amid rapid societal change, technological acceleration, geopolitical tensions, and shifting ethical landscapes - the **sport person** (athlete, coach, official, volunteer, or any individual engaged in sport) faces unprecedented challenges.

This congress seeks to explore how sport can remain a deeply humanistic endeavor, and how individuals within sport can be protected, empowered, and supported in a complex global environment. We welcome contributions that interrogate the tensions between performance and well-being, fairness and innovation, commercialization and ethics, as well as inclusion and integrity.

Topics of Interest

We invite submissions from disciplines including (but not limited to) : sport science, sport management, sociology, law, ethics, philosophy, psychology, medicine, education, political science, economics, history, and technology studies.

Proposed topics may include:

- **Human dignity and rights in sport**
- **Integrity, safeguarding, and athlete protection frameworks**
- **Athlete well-being, health, and mental-health support systems**
- **Youth sport and protection of minors**
- **Ethics of performance, technology, and data in sport**
- **Gender equality, equity, and inclusiveness**
- **Sport governance and athlete voice**
- **Globalisation, geopolitics, and the sport person**
- **Sport for peace, development, and social cohesion**
- **Education, dual careers, and lifelong learning in sport**
- **Artificial intelligence, innovation, and human identity in sport**
- **Cultural perspectives on humanism in sport**

Interdisciplinary approaches, case studies, comparative analyses, conceptual papers, and early-stage doctoral research are all welcome.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

- **Length:** 300–350 words
- **Language:** English
- **Format:** Title, Authors, Affiliation(s), Keywords (3–5), Introduction, Aim, Methods, Results, and Conclusion, References (references are out of the 300-350 words, max 3 references: author, year, name of journal or publication)
- **Abstract Template:** the use of the attached template is compulsory to submit your abstract.
- **Submission link:** *Abstracts should be submitted to Prof. Dr. Thierry Zintz :*
Thierry.zintz@uclouvain.be
- **Deadline:** 30 June 2026 with approval by 15 September 2026
- **Notification of acceptance:** 15 September 2026
- **Presentation formats:** oral presentations

Publication Opportunities

Selected papers will be invited for inclusion in an edited volume (details forthcoming), published by SKEMA - PUBLIKA.

Who Should Submit?

The congress welcomes:

- University academics and researchers,
- PhD and doctoral candidates,
- EFPM Members,
- Practitioners and professionals engaged in sport governance, athlete support, coaching, ethics, or health,
- Interdisciplinary scholars interested in sport as a humanistic and societal endeavor.

Venue

The event will take place in **Paris**, a global centre for sport, culture, and research, offering an inspiring environment just two years after the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

SKEMA Business School – Campus Grand Paris

5 Quai Marcel Dassault – CS 90067, 92156 CEDEX Suresnes - France

<https://www.skema.edu/en/campus/paris>

Financial participation conditions for selected abstracts

- There is no inscription fee for selected presenters.
- One presenter will be invited for each selected abstract. She/he will benefit for free of two hotel nights (night 3 to 4 December and night 4 to 5 December) and of two evening dinners (evening of 3 and evening of 4 December).
- Travel costs of presenters are not supported by the organizers of the congress.

Contact

For questions or further information, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Thierry ZINTZ

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