



International Conference
Wednesday 5th – Thursday 6th May 2021

beyond the big five

*The Professionalisation of Football in Europe,
from the 1960s to nowadays.*

HOSTING ORGANISATIONS

- Université de Lausanne, Institut des Sciences du Sport (ISSUL)
- Université de Lausanne, Institut de Hautes Études en Administration Publique (IDHEAP)
- Université Libre de Bruxelles, Centre d'Étude de la Vie Politique (CEVIPOL)

SCIENTIFIC PARTNERS

- Centre International d'Étude du Sport (CIES), Neuchâtel.
- Centre Nantais de Sociologie (CENS), University of Nantes.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER

- Union des Associations Européennes de Football (UEFA) Academy

*This conference also benefits from the support of the **International Relations Office** from the University of Lausanne, from the **Doctoral School of the Institute of Sport Science** and from the **Interdisciplinary Centre for Sports Research**.*

Sponsored by the Swiss National Foundation of Research (SNSF).



GENERAL FRAMEWORK

Football is often presented as a genuine European success. As Brexit and current nationalistic movements in Central Europe challenge the process of Europeanisation, new neo-liberal ideologies have supported a more concentrated panel of football countries able to compete on the international scene. This concentration of money and media coverage around what is called the 'Big Five' (England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain) creates a **variety of challenges** for smaller leagues and countries, (who themselves do not form a homogeneous block) and thus contributes to a **widening gap** between the two worlds.

Two consideration can be made. First, as much of academic enquiry in recent decades has focused on players and their careers, such processes of concentration have tended to be under-represented within research. While the Bosman case rightfully highlighted players as key stakeholders, the growing **commercialisation of football**, new forms of regulation implemented by both states and football institutions, and the rise of political (and even geopolitical) issues since the 1960s, all point towards a need to reconsider how the notions of "**professionalisation**" are defined. Second, the majority of the studies has focus on the Big five. Thus, we still need more research on other European countries (that are the majority of countries members of UEFA!).

Framed during an interdisciplinary project (privileged partnerships) between the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) and the Université de Lausanne (UNIL) examining professionalisation processes in Belgium and Switzerland, two workshops were held in Lausanne (February 2019) and Brussels (September 2019), where it became clear that the Belgian and Swiss examples collected during the project needed to be placed in the wider perspective of similar cases across European countries. It is during these workshops that merged the idea to organise a conference that will help us to

better understand what's happen with the professionalisation of the game since the 1960s "**Beyond the Big five**".

The aim of this interdisciplinary conference is thus to better appreciate and interpret the various forms of football's evolution via the collection of processes that often fall under the term "professionalisation". This term has to be understood as a process and can be briefly defined as the way when footballs 'actors took decision in view to improve globally the management of the game (influenced obviously by the changes that happen with this in the whole society).

Furthermore, it is important to understand that this process involved many individual (agents, club directors-managers, journalists, players, referees, security officers and trainers) and/or collective (particularly associations, clubs, leagues) actors and crossed different scale (local, national and transnational).

Focusing on the countries "Beyond the Big five" offers the opportunity to (re) discuss the **chronology of the establishment of professionalism** in European football and also to illuminate the various way (the countries Beyond the Big five do not constitute a clear homogeneity) exist when we speak about professionalism. This congress will undoubtedly broad our understanding of the whole process of the rise of professionalism in European football from the 1960s onwards.

The Congress will be divided in 3 main panel:

- Panel 1: *women football*
- Panel 2 (A and B): *national & international actors*
- Panel 3 (A and B): *new insights on the "players of the game*

ORGANISATION

Project leaders

Dr. Grégory Quin, Université de Lausanne
 Prof. Jean-Michel De Waele, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Scientific coordination

Dr. Philippe Vonnard, Université de Lausanne
 Prof. Frédéric Louault, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Coordination teams in each university

ULB team : Sébastien Avanzo, Xavier Bernoud, Prof. Valérie Piette, Malory Rennoir.
 UNIL team : Prof. Emmanuel Bayle, Dr. Jérôme Berthoud, Dr. Bertrand Fincoeur, Dr. Lucie Schoch.

Local organisation committee

Prof. Emmanuel Bayle, Dr. Jérôme Berthoud, Sébastien Cala, Dr. Bertrand Fincoeur, Dr. Solène Froidevaux, Dr. Colm Patrick Hickey, Dr. Vincent Gesbert, Prof. Markus Lang, Gil Mayencourt, Zahid Mustafi, Dr. Jérémy Moulard, Dr. Olivier Mutter, Dr. Claire Nicolas, Tommy Quensah, Dr. Grégory Quin, Lara Rech, Dr. Lucie Schoch, Gianluca Sorrentino, Dr. Philippe Vonnard.

SOME WORDS ABOUT THE EVENT

The speakers should prepare short presentations (10-12 minutes) and have to send a text (+/- 10'000 signs) summarising the key points, the main question, and elements about methodology and sources) by Friday April the 16th 2021.

After the presentation, a brief comment (10 minutes) will be realised by the chairman/ women, followed by a discussion between all the participants.

We hope that this procedure will help us to establish interesting discussion and debates on the ongoing works and allow the emergence of new ideas and research projects. We ask the participants to read carefully the texts presented in their panel.

All keynotes, presentations and comments will be made in English.

During the conference itself and during the months that will lead us to the beginning of May the organisers will be available per mail for any question, demand or problem:

Quin Grégory ***gregory.quin@unil.ch***

Vonnard Philippe ***philippe.vonnard@unil.ch***

SPEAKERS

Panel speakers (by alphabetic order)

Name	Position	University
Torbjörn Anderson	Associate Professor	Malmö University
Emmanuel Bayle	Professor	University of Lausanne
Mauricio Borrero	Associate Professor	St. John's University (NY, USA)
Christian Brandt	PhD student	University of Bayreuth
Jean Brehon	Senior Lecturer	University of Liévin
Pavel Brunssen	PhD student	University of Michigan (USA)
Malcolm Campbell-Verduyn	Assistant Professor	University of Groningen
Kateryna Chernii	PhD student	Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam
Birnir Egilsson	Associate Professor	Molde University College
Esra Erturan-Ogut	Associate Professor	American University of the Middle East Kuwait
Kyle Ferguson	Reader	Ulster University
Bertrand Fincoeur	Senior Lecturer	University of Lausanne
Hallgeir Gammelsaeter	Professor	Molde University College
Sean Hamil	Lecturer	Birkbeck College University of London
John Harris	Professor	Glasgow Caledonian University
Marius Herskedal Kjell	Associate Professor	Molde University College
Daghan Irak	Lecturer	University of Huddersfield
Oumaya Hidri Neys	Professor	University of Liévin
Hugo Juskowiak	Senior lecturer	University of Liévin
Cristian Jura	Professor	Christian University, Bucharest
David Kilpatrick	Professor	Mercy College (USA)
Radoslaw Kossakowski	Associate Professor	University of Gdansk
Lukas Linsi	Assistant Professor	University of Groningen
John McManus	Lecturer	British Institute at Ankara
Massimiliano Maidano	PhD student	City University of London
Zahid Mustafi	PhD Student	University of Lausanne
Przemysław Nosal	Assistant Professor	Adam Mickiewicz University
Dagmar Pavlu	Associate Professor	Charles University, Prague
Lara Rech	PhD student	University of Lausanne
Kristoff Reichel	Senior lecturer	University of Bayreuth
Michael Renz	Lecturer	University of Bayreuth
Giambattista Rossi	Lecturer	Birkbeck University of London
Lucie Schoch	Senior lecturer	University of Lausanne
Gianluca Sorrentino	PhD student	University of Lausanne
Daniel Svensson	Associate senior lecturer	University of Malmö
Robert Svensson	Lecturer	Orebro University
Ileana Gabriela Szasz	PhD student	NSPAS, Bucharest
Mihaly Szerovay	Professor	University of Jyväskylä
Michael Terrien	Lecturer	University of Lille
Maurizio Valenti	Lecturer	Manchester Metropolitan University
John Vincent	Professor	University of Alabama
Serhat Yilmaz	Lecturer	Loughborough University
Marek Waic	Professor	Charles University, Prague
Wojciech Woźniak	Assistant Professor	University of Łódź

Keynotes speakers (by alphabetic order)

Name	Position	University
Alexander Brand	Professor	Rhine-Waal University
Paul Dietschy	Professor	University of Franche-Comté
Brenda Elsey	Associate professor	Hofstra University (NY, USA)
Jürgen Mittag	Professor	German Sport University, Cologne
Arne Niemann	Professor	Universität Mainz
Nicolas Scelles	Senior Lecturer	Manchester Metropolitan University

Chairs (by alphabetic order)

Jérôme Berthoud	Project manager	University of Lausanne
Jean-Michel De Waele	Professor	Université Libre de Bruxelles
Sylvain Dufraisse	Senior lecturer	University of Nantes
Bertrand Fincoeur	Senior lecturer	University of Lausanne
Solène Froidevaux	Project assistant	University of Lausanne
Colm Hickey	Project manager	University of Lausanne
Frédéric Louault	Assistant Professor	Université Libre de Bruxelles
Kevin Tallec Marston	Research Fellow & Lecturer	De Montfort University -Leicester / CIES-Neuchâtel
Jérémy Moulard	Lecturer	University of Lausanne
Claire Nicolas	SNSF Researcher fellow	King's College London
Dino Numerato	Associate Professor	Charles University Prague
Grégory Quin	Senior lecturer	University of Lausanne
Lucie Schoch	Senior lecturer	University of Lausanne
Philippe Vonnard	SNSF Senior researcher	University of Lausanne

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021

- 13:00 – 13:15 **OPENING OF THE CONGRESS AND OFFICIAL WELCOME WORDS FROM THE AUTHORITY**
- Vice-Rector (Research) – University of Lausanne
 - Vice-Dean (Research) – Faculté des Sciences Sociales et Politiques
 - Director – Institut des Sciences du Sport
- 13:15 – 13:30 **INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESS**
Grégory Quin, Jean-Michel De Waele
- 13:30 – 14:30 **KEYNOTE 1: “LABORS OF LOVE: PROFESSIONALISATION OF FÚTBOL IN SOUTH AMERICA?”**
Speaker: Brenda Elsey
Chair: Lucie Schoch
- 14:30 – 17:30 **PANEL 1: “WOMEN FOOTBALL AND ITS PROFESSIONALISATION”**
Chair: Claire Nicolas, Solène Froidevaux
- 14:30 – 15:15 **Papers session I**
- Striving for participation professionalisation. Challenges and experiences of women football players in the Romanian championship
Ileana Gabriela Szasz
- Professionalized organisation as the key to minor league rise? An empirical analysis of European first tier women’s football leagues
Kristoff Reichel, Christian Brandt, Michael Renz
- Scottish newspaper narratives on a journey of hope: the professionalisation of women’s football
John Harris, John Vincent
- 15:15 – 15:25 **Short break**
- 15:25 – 16:10 **Papers session II**
- A league of their own: sportification and professionalisation in Swedish women’s football since the 1960s
Daniel Svensson
- Gender equality in the governance of Swiss football: obstacles and contemporary challenges
Lara Rech, Lucie Schoch, Bertrand Fincoeur
- Women coaches of men’s professional football in Europe: the exception that proves the rule?
Jean Brehon, Oumaya Hidri Neys, Hugo Juskowiak

WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021

16:10 – 16:30

Break

16:30 – 17:30

Comments by the chair followed by a general discussion

17:30 – 17:45

BREAK

17:45 - 19:45

ROUNDTABLE

The professionalisation of women football. In collaboration with the UEFA Academy
Chair: Jérôme Berthoud, Solène Froidevaux, Colm Patrick Hickey

Opening

Nils Soguel, Dean of IDHEAP

Thomas Junod, Head of UEFA Academy

Roundtable with participants of the UEFA Certificate in Football Management (CFM):

Katrien Jans, Royal Belgian Football Association Women's Football Manager

Nina Travkina, Latvian Football Federation Head of Football and Women's

Football Development

Gail Redmond, Irish Football Association Women's Development Manager

Anna Tadevosyan, Football Federation of Armenia President of the Women's Football and Futsal Committee,

Solène Froidevaux, University of Lausanne, IDHEAP Expert in Sport and Gender Studies

Alyssa Lagonia, UEFA Women's Football Assistant

THURSDAY 6TH MAY 2021

- 08.30-09.30. **KEYNOTE 2: "PIPE DREAM OR CLOSED SHOP? EXPERIENCING THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FROM THE SIDE LINES"**
Speaker: Alexander Brand, Arne Niemann
Chair: Jürgen Mittag
- 9.30-12.30. **PANEL 2A: "THE ORGANISATION OF PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL AND ITS KEY ACTORS: THE NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS"**
Chair: Jérôme Berthoud, Grégory Quin
- 9.30-10.15. **Papers session I**
- The paradox of Swedish club football
Torbjörn Anderson
- Professionalisation spiralling down to the football grassroots
Hallgeir Gammelsaeter, Birnir Egilsson, Marius Herskedal Kjell
- From the Yugoslav wars to the Premijer Liga: organising professional football in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Massimiliano Maidano
- 10.15-10.25. **Short break**
- 10.25-11.10. **Papers session II**
- The professionalisation of Finnish and Hungarian top-level football players since the 1980s
Mihaly Szerovay
- Local potential and strategic models in a small market: the case of the Super League
Zahid Mustafi, Emmanuel Bayle
- League design and attractiveness of professional sport leagues: a comparative study of four European football leagues
Michael Terrien
- 11.10-11.30. **Break**
- 11.30-12.30. **Comments by the chair followed by a general discussion**

THURSDAY 6TH MAY 2021

- 9.30-12.30. **PANEL 3A: "NEW INSIGHTS ON THE "PLAYERS OF THE GAME": PLAYING, TRAINING PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL..."**
Chair: Sylvain Dufraisse, Jean-Michel De Waele
- 9.30-10.15. **Papers session I**
- From tracksuit to trench coat. The changing position of the Swedish men's elite football coach between the 1960 and the 2010s
Robert Svensson
- Professionalisation under the Soviet rule. Valery Lobanovsky – 'Gorbachev of Soviet football'
Kateryna Chernii
- Yabancı: the role of foreign players and managers in the professionalisation of Turkish football
John McManus
- 10.15-10.25. **Short break**
- 10.25-11.10. **Papers session II**
- The "Golden" team at the 1962 World Cup and state professionalism in Czechoslovakia
Dagmar Pavlu, Marek Waic
- From money in plastic bags to Euro 2012 and beyond – the paths of modernisation of Polish football.
Radosław Kossakowski, Przemysław Nosal, Wojciech Woźniak
- Football league mergers as panacea? Fan preferences on supranational league projects
Michael Renz, Christian Brandt, Kristoff Reichel
- 11.10-11.30. **Break**
- 11.30-12.30. **Comments by the chair followed by a general discussion**

THURSDAY 6TH MAY 2021

- 13.30-14.30. **KEYNOTE 3: "INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS, NATIONAL INEQUALITIES AND LOCAL DEMANDS: INSIGHTS FROM NON-BIG FIVE EUROPEAN MEN'S FOOTBALL FIRST TIERS, 2006-18"**
Speaker: Nicolas Scelles
Chair: Jérémy Moulard
- 14.30-17.15. **PANEL 2B: "THE ORGANISATION OF PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL AND ITS KEY ACTORS: TRANSNATIONAL ASPECTS"**
Chair: Frédéric Louault, Philippe Vonnard
- 14.30-15.15. **Papers session I**
- From deregulation to re-regulation: theoretical analysis of the evolution of FIFA's regulatory frameworks for agents in football
Giambattista Rossi, Serhat Yilmaz
- The debate around the structure of UEFA club competitions for the 2024-2027 cycle
Sean Hamil
- Linfield's European dream: professionalising the Irish premiership
David Kilpatrick, Kyle Ferguson
- 15.15-15.25. **Short break**
- 15.25-16.00. **Papers session II**
- Yashin, Puskas and Sekularac: three paths to football professionalism in communist Europe, 1960s-1980s
Mauricio Borrero
- The Swiss football 'National League' in between europeanisation and professionalisation in the 1990s
Gianluca Sorrentino
- 16.00-16.15. **Break**
- 16.15-17.15. **Comments by the chair followed by a general discussion**

THURSDAY 6TH MAY 2021

- 14.30-17.15. **PANEL 3B: “NEW INSIGHTS ON THE “PLAYERS OF THE GAME : WATCHING IT FROM THE STANDS”**
Chair: Bertrand Fincoeur, Dino Numerato
- 14.30-15.15. **Papers session I**
- Football’s “securitised commodification” in a global context: cases of England and Turkey
Daghan Irak, Esra Erturan-Ogut
- The evolution of the 12th player in football – 1960-2020
Cristian Jura
- Gazing into the crypto ball: why are football clubs adopting cryptocurrencies?
Malcolm Campbell-Verduyn, Lukas Linsi
- 15.15-15.25. **Short break**
- 15.25-16.00. **Papers session II**
- Ultras: the fans’ response to the professionalisation of football in Germany
Pavel Brunssen
- Is it Big Five or Big Four in women’s football? Analysis of attendance data in the UEFA Women’s Champions League
Maurizio Valenti
- 16.00-16.15. **Break**
- 16.15-17.15. **Comments by the chair followed by a general discussion**
- 17.15-17.30. **BREAK**
- 17.30-18.30. **GENERAL SYNTHESIS**
Chair: Kevin Tallec Marston
- Synthesis by Paul Dietschy, Jürgen Mittag
- 18.30. **CONCLUSION**
Jean-Michel De Waele & Grégory Quin

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