**Input on the SR's report on violence against women and girls to the UNGA on violence against women and girls in sport**

**From Kindernothilfe e.V.**

(mainly answering **question number 9**, giving an example of good practice that has been adopted by Kindernothilfe with regards to ending violence against children and young people in sports)

In Germany, an average of 43 incidents of sexualized violence against children are reported every day. However, the number of unreported cases is significantly higher. So far, only one in three clubs has acted against sexualized violence. Often because they feel unsafe in this area.

Kindernothilfe trains and advises daycare centres, organizations and **sports clubs**, among others, on the development and implementation of **child protection policies** in Germany. Together with the clubs and organizations, Kindernothilfe develops suitable **protection policies**, builds sustainable structures and **strengthens the participation and rights of the children** and young people in the club.

Within the **trainings for sport clubs** the (club) managers learn **how to protect children from physical, sexualized and psychological violence**. Many clubs have already taken up the offer, including Bundesliga football clubs such as FC Bayern München, VfL Wolfsburg and VfL Bochum.

However, Kindernothilfe works predominantly with clubs from amateur and grass root sports as well as other organisations from the Sport for Development sector.

Since 2021, Kindernothilfe initiated **two campaigns** to draw attention to its **child protection trainings** in the field of sport:

Under the motto **"We for safe sports"**, well-known Olympic and Paralympic athletes were campaigning for child protection and children's rights in sport on the digital platform elevaide. Among others, sabre fencer and DOSB athlete spokesperson Max Hartung, rower Michaela Staelberg and para-swimmer Verena Schott were supporting the campaign.

The **"We won't let our club become a crime scene"** (“Wir lassen unseren Verein nicht zum Tatort werden”) campaign (developed by the Hamburg agency BrinkertLück) aimed to empower clubs to take a preventative approach to the issue and act quickly and prudently in an emergency.

Both campaigns intended to make sports clubs throughout Germany more aware of the trainings offered by Kindernothilfe.

In doing so, Kindernothilfe pays particular attention to the **participation of children and young people:**

Children and young people have a right to participate. Kindernothilfe attaches great importance to this when working with sport clubs. For example, the young athletes support the development of the protection policy with their expertise and experience and participate in the **risk assasment**. **Child protection officers** and **child protection teams** in which young people are involved are also provided. In the workshops and active training sessions offered, the girls and boys learn about their own boundaries, strengthen their **self-confidence** and learn more about **mental health**.

***What is a protection policy?***

*A protection policy helps schools, daycare centers, sports clubs and sports-related institutions, among others, to strengthen the rights of children and young people, to protect them effectively and preventively from physical and psychological violence, to make cases of violence against children visible and to raise awareness. The concept provides guidelines on questions such as: How do I recognize when a child has experienced violence? How can I identify and assess risks and take preventative measures? How do I deal with suspected cases and what protection options does the German legal system offer?*

**For more information about KNHs trainings:**

<https://www.kindernothilfe.de/training-and-consulting/schulungsangebot-deutschland/kinderschutz-im-sport#sport-kontakt-alof>