

EUROPEAN ATHLETICS ANTI-DOPING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

European Athletics is determined to increase its fight against doping. We want to ensure a clean sport and fairness amongst all competitors. One way is to search for cheating athletes through doping controls. We are continuously increasing and improving the number of controls in all our events. However, controls and tests are only one tool to identify those athletes that already broke the rules and have cheated everybody by doping.

We want to support the true and clean athletes when they start to engage in our sport. We need to show them that we are ready to help them and to give them guidance to challenge doping. European Athletics aims to promote education for awareness, knowledge and prevention. Only if the athletes know the rules and know the danger of doping they can act in the right way.

As a long term goal we desire to contribute with our programme to promote the ideal of fairness and respect among athletes. We need to fight doping as it is destroying the fundamental principle of our sport: fair play.

With the support of UNESCO, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the IAAF, we implemented a European Athletics anti-doping education programme. The programme will undergo continuous evaluation and be adapted to the needs of our athletes and the demands to combat doping.

In order to target the youngest group of athletes, the programme takes place at all editions of the European Athletics under 23 Championships and the European Athletics Junior Championships. And from 2010 on it will also be staged at the biannual European Athletics Championships.

All competing athletes will have a chance to take part in an electronic quiz to test their knowledge about doping. The quiz is a multiple choice test which will give a detailed explanation in case of wrong answers. Each athlete will get an individual score and time to answer the questions.

The programme will run during the competition days in order to give all athletes the possibility to take part. Great prizes for the participating athletes can be won.

All Member Federations are encouraged to motivate their athletes to take part in this important programme. Only together we can make our sport drug free.