

- Press release -

WFEB announces winners of the 2022 Ethics in Sports Awards during the 6th World Summit on Ethics & Leadership in Sports

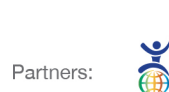
Germany's Soccer Club 1. FC Union Berlin, India's Former Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju, current Sports Minister of Haryana Sandeep Singh and Norwegian Handball Champion Anja Hammerseng-Edin were awarded for their outstanding contribution to sports

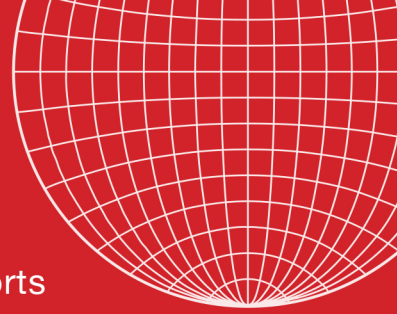
Brussels, 14 October 2022 – In a moving ceremony, the recipients of the 2022 Ethics in Sports Awards were announced during the conference proceedings of the 6th World Summit on Ethics & Leadership in Sports held from 13-14 October 2022 in Bangalore, India.

The 2022 Ethics in Sports Award in the category '**Outstanding Organization**' was conferred to Germany's first league soccer club **1. FC Union Berlin e.V.** By conferring the Award for "Outstanding Organization" to 1. FC Union Berlin, the Board of Directors of the World Forum for Ethics in Business (WFEB) recognized in particular 1. FC Union Berlin's deeply-rooted social responsibility and commitment to address social issues through their various initiatives, which, among others, use sport as a tool in the education and development of the young generation and teach important values such as respect, tolerance and teamwork. Through 1. FC Union Berlin's achievements and value-driven initiatives, the organization serve as a role model not only for the sport, but for the community at large. 1. FC Union Berlin has impressively shown that sporting success and social responsibility can go hand in hand, and, in fact, that a leadership-style based on human values and ethics are the pillar for sustainable success.

The 2022 Ethics in Sports Award in the category '**Outstanding Contribution to Sport**' was conferred to Hon. Mr. Kiren Rijiju, Minister of Law and Justice, India for the development that sports in India took under his leadership as a Minister of Sport. Kiren Rijiju has put the importance of sports in the forefront of the political decision-making and initiated a paradigm shift in the public reception and awareness of professional sports, and sports in general. Thanks to the sporting schemes that Kiren Rijiju, has set-up, he has given hidden talents and potential athletes from underprivileged backgrounds the opportunity to pursue a sporting career and has changed the lives of many aspiring athletes in India. Kiren Rijiju has revived the sports culture in India at the grass-root level and has impressively demonstrated the importance of sports in society. Under his leadership, India has become a successful Olympic Nation.

The 2022 Ethics in Sports Award in the category '**Resilience in Sports**' was conferred to Sandeep Singh, Sports Minister of Haryana and Former Captain of the Indian National Hockey Team for impressively showing how, through the love for sports, he could not only overcome any challenge that was thrown upon him, but that every challenge made him perform even better afterwards. From being hit by a stray bullet





during a train journey while on his way to join the national team for the 2006 World Cup in Germany to making a successful comeback to the field after 2 years of recovery and then going on to become one of the most dreaded drag-flickers in the world, the Captain of the National Hockey Team and now the Minister of Sports for the State of Haryana, his passion and dedication for the game and his resilience in sports serve as a great inspiration for any athlete and beyond.

The 2022 Ethics in Sports Award in the category **'Mental Health in Sports'** went to Ms. Anja Hammerseng-Edin, Professional Handball Player and World Championship Bronze Medalist, for her outstanding contribution to break the stigma about mental health in elite sports. Through her own successful professional handball career and through her projects off the pitch, which include programs based on breathing techniques and meditation, Anja Hammerseng-Edin has continuously advocated and acted towards elite sports program that put the individual's health and wellbeing in the spotlight, and that focus on mental health as a core criteria for sustainable success on and off the pitch.

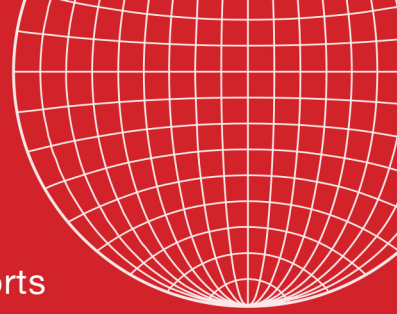
The Ethics in Sports Award stems from the annual Ethics in Business Award conferred by the World Forum for Ethics in Business to honor individuals and companies that have demonstrated the importance of human values and ethics in life and in the business arena. The Award was instituted in 2006, and is presented annually at the International Leadership Symposium organized by the World Forum for Ethics in Business at the European Parliament. 18 winners have received this award over the past years. In 2014, for the first time, WFEB recognized outstanding sustainable contributions in the sports arena and once again in 2016, 2018 and 2019. The Ethics in Sports Award recognizes an organization and / or individual that have been a leading role model in radiating and embodying ethical behavior in life and in the sports area. The recipients have inspired people to observe and practice human values, and to give equal, if not greater importance, to human values vis-à-vis success in sports. Winners are selected by the Board of Directors of the WFEB.

The 6th World Summit on Ethics & Leadership in Sports welcomed more than 400 delegates from 45 countries to seek a roadmap for protecting the original values of sports, and to unite people through sports in a post-pandemic world riddled by conflict, economic crisis and mental health issues.

"Sports can be that one thing that can bring people together. But today sport is played like a war and wars are waged like a sport," said Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, founder of the World Forum for Ethics in Business. "Players should play with a sense of responsibility and have a sense of sacredness towards their viewers and fans. Ethics is simply not doing what one does not want to be done to them, and this awareness is very important," he added.

Kiren Rijju, Minister of Law and Justice, Government of India, and former Sports Minister with the Government of India shared his views on the need to encourage a culture of sports in India, creating career opportunities within the sports ecosystem for players to take up roles as coaches, managers, sporting businesses and for a diverse viewership in sports outside of cricket. "India has a rich history and tradition of sports that goes back to ancient times. But over the years, the evolution of the society didn't bring sports





culture in the country to the extent we would desire," he shared . "Sports isn't only about winning and losing, it is more about participation and engage the self. Loving your favorite sportspersons is good, having an attachment to the game is critical. Let us compete in games with sportsman spirit instead of fighting with bullets."

Among the other speakers present were MEP Ryszard Czarnecki, Swiss MP Dr. Nik Gugger, Germany's Leading Soccer Club Union Berlin Foundation's Board Member Stefan Krauß, Narain Karthikeyan, the first Indian Racer to compete in Formula 1, Inge Andersen, Former Secretary General of the Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee, Norway, Kalyan Chaubey, President of All India Football Federation and a former Professional Football, Tom Farrey, Executive Director & Founder of the Sports & Society Program, Aspen Institute USA, and Pankaj Advani, 25-time International Billiard and Snooker world champion.

The Summit will now prepare a resolution paper which will be presented to the European institutions

The 6th World Summit on Ethics & Leadership in Sports was organized by the World Forum for Ethics in Business (WFEB), a Brussels-based global NGO with special consultative status at the United Nations' ECOSOC, in partnership with Dr. Rau Foundation, and is a continuation of WFEB's dedicated Ethics in Sports conference series. Earlier summits were held in collaboration with institutions such as FIFA, FC Union Berlin, Anti-Doping Norway and FairSport.

For further information visit www.ethicsinsports.org

Contact

WFEB Press Office

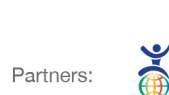
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The World Forum for Ethics in Business is a registered public interest foundation based in Belgium (N° 822.216.342). The mandate of the Forum includes all manners of pursuing and establishing the indispensable ethical foundations of business in a globalized world. Providing a platform for the promotion and defense of ethical approaches to business enterprise and corporate governance and facilitating global dialogue and fostering cooperation among the private sector, the academic world, government agencies, international organizations, the media, sport as well as secular communities and all other stakeholders are among the organization's main objectives.

Through dedicated programs at the European Parliament and collaborations with institutions such as FIFA, United Nations Geneva, Max Planck Institute, FC Union Berlin, Anti-Doping Norway, DPMA, EPO and the Technical University Munich, as well as through global leadership interventions, WFEB has been advocating and acting towards ethics, sustainability, good governance and shared value globally for 19 years. For further information visit www.wfeb.org.



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