

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023
for examination in 2023**

File may be downloaded at:

[HTTPS://ICH.UNESCO.ORG/EN/FORMS](https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms)

*Please provide only the information requested below.
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

A. Identification of the organization

A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Sportimonium

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Sportimonium

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90144

A.2. Address of the organization

Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.

Organization: Sportimonium

Address: Trianondreef 19, B 1981, Hofstade-Zemst, Belgium

Telephone number: + 32/15618220

Email address: sportimonium@sportimonium.be

Website: www.sportimonium.be

Other relevant
information:

A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: Vanistendael

Given name: Cornelis

Institution/position: Sportimonium

Address: Trianondreef 19, 1981 Hofstade-Zemst, Belgium

Telephone number: +3215618220

Email address: Cornelis.vanistendael@sportimonium.be

Other relevant
information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework², as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.

B.1. Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

Not to exceed 250 words

There is an active network of **support organisations for cultural heritage** that are specialized in a domain of safeguarding ICH. Sportimonium contributes in this network, supporting the thematic field of traditional sports and games with its communities, groups and individuals. See also:
<https://immaterieelerfgoed.be/nl/netwerk>

¹ . In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.

² . For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

B.2. Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Until 2020 Sportimonium actively produced game material in house to make it available for groups and communities. On site in Hofstade Sportimonium also hosted a game garden where groups and individuals could, under guidance of our team learn to practice a choice of traditional sports. We also disposed of our own lending service for gaming material and provided instruction manuals. These activities are now more actively promoted by other organisations in Flanders. Sportimonium currently reassesses its role in this network of stakeholders for the future.

B.3. Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium over the years has been contributing by coaching heritage communities in the framework of the Inventory for ICH in Flanders and the inventorying process on the online Platform for ICH immaterieelerfgoed.be led by NGO Workshop intangible heritage in coordination with the Flemish Government. Also, Sportimonium launched an inquiry dedicated to the memory of sport, which combined an inventorisation of archives, object collections, oral history, and knowledge about sports in general and traditional sports in particular. The results of both projects contributed in a new 4 year plan we presented to the Flemish Government in which we build further on the results of both projects. In 2023 we are in a transition phase as an organisation. Therefore we will start to implement our new approach in the course of 2024

B.4. Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium was cooperating with the governmental bodies regularly until 2020. A staff member of Sportimonium was a member of the national (Flemish) committee of Intangible Cultural Heritage since this committee started in 2009 until 2020. This committee evaluates the applications for the (Flemish) list of intangible cultural heritage and gives its advice to the Minister of Culture in this matter and, when asked for, about other questions concerning intangible cultural heritage. As of 2023 Sportimonium aims to commit again to this advisory role. New staff had been hired and will continue to take part in the mentioned bodies and committees.

B.5. Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium as the museum and documentation centre for the (in)angible heritage of sports and games in Flanders has been promoting and educating to the public since many years. Sportimonium is not only working in the field of Culture but also strongly connected with the domain of Sports in Flanders.

Further, Sportimonium collaborates with a series of NGOs and institutions (often subsidized by the government) in Belgium that are taking care of the safeguarding of the many expressions of Intangible Cultural Heritage through mediation, fieldwork and other forms of heritage work. To name some of them: Werkplaats immaterieel erfgoed, Centrum voor Agrarische Geschiedenis, Histories, Cemper, Het Huis van Alijn, Openluchtmuseum Bokrijk. Some of them are UNESCO-accredited NGOs. Furthermore, there is a cooperation with the umbrella organization Vlaamse Traditionele sporten (Flemish Traditional Games Federation), recognized and subsidized as a sports federation by the government).

B.6. Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Staff members gave lectures on intangible cultural heritage and how it was put into practice by Sportimonium, on the one hand to inform the general public about the richness of the games traditions (of adults) and on the other hand to stress the importance of intangible heritage. For the same purpose numerous publications have been edited. Other publications were meant to disseminate the results of the scientific research carried out by Sportimonium in collaboration with the universities. Lectures and publications by staff members of Sportimonium are also intended to raise awareness for intangible cultural heritage. Also, the seminars organized by Sportimonium or to which it cooperates, have an awareness raising objective. Our lending service and our animation team equally contributed to that goal. Last but not least, Sportimonium contributed to the production of a film about the Ludodiversity programme with the Flemish UNESCO Commission. This film will be published in 2023 to the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the 2003 Convention.

B.7. Describe your organization's participation in **facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.**

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium's facilitation for the engagement of communities, groups or individuals in order to safeguard intangible cultural heritage mainly happen through:

- outreaching the ludodiversity programme,
- presenting and education traditional sports and games in the Sportimonium Museum,
- coaching the development of safeguarding by heritage communities related to the Inventory for ICH in Flanders,
- participating in the European Network and on .

There is a need to (re)activate from 2024 on, co-creative projects in order to do so actively. This will be at the heart of all our processes and actions.

B.8. Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

Since 2019, Sportimonium has been involved in the Tocati programme for the safeguarding of traditional games and sports. This multinational programme by Italy, Croatia, Cyprus, France and Belgium was selected in 2022 on the Unesco Register of Good Safeguarding Practices. Furthermore, there is of course the experience with the UNESCO Good Safeguarding Practice of Ludodiversity, and our contribution in the Tocati multinational programme and network collaboration. Sportimonium has also contributed in International exchanges through the European Traditional Sports and Games Association (ETSGA), and the International Traditional Sports and Games Association (ITSGA), the intercontinental network

B.9. Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium was not directly involved in the drafting and editing of the State's Periodic Report because of a period of transition challenges at that time.

B.10. Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

See B3 of this questionnaire: Tocati programme for the safeguarding of traditional games and sports

C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO**
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

See B of this questionnaire: production of a film about traditional sports with our partners for the Flemish UNESCO Commission

Cooperation with the UNESCO Chair for ICH of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in the Tocati programme (Prof. Dr. Marc Jacobs).

D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

No

D.2 Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.

Not to exceed 100 words

No

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

Not to exceed 500 words

No

E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):

E.1. *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

1 staff / English

E.2. *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

Not to exceed 250 words

We did work across the following domains:

- Ludodiversity & Traditional Sports and Games
- Handicrafts: producing and maintaining game material in wood, plastic and metal
- Performance: songs, dances and rituals related to sports and games

We will continue to do so in the future.

E.3. *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Sportimonium is coaching several traditional sports and games dossiers with the heritage communities in the context of the Inventory for ICH in Flanders. As mentioned above, staff of Sportimonium was also a member of the ICH expert committee in Flanders until 2020.

E.4. *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

1 Staff/ English – academic bibliography available here - <https://biblio.ugent.be/list/NXQyvaPxj9H5KJKaQwx7fw6dmWAnO>

E.5. *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

Not to exceed 250 words

1 staff member has experience participating in academic symposia (presentations, panel discussions) mostly about dance history and traditional dance (+10 symposia). Furthermore, there is the experience with the UNESCO Good Safeguarding Practice of Ludodiversity, and our contribution in the Tocati

multinational programme and network collaboration.

F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: *Cornelis Vanistendael*

Title: *Conservator*

Date: *10/03/2023*

Signature: