

**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

# **EHF ,RINCK‘ Convention**

## **Current Status**

**Doru Constantin SIMION  
Senior Manager – EHF Office  
RINCK Convention Expert**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



# 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## Part 1. The current status of the ‘Rinck’ Convention

1. The way to .....
2. The childhood discussions
3. Actual status
4. Conclusion

## Part 2. “EHF Rinck Convention. A managing factor inside Europe-wide education development”



EHF Competence Academy & Network



## 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

- The way to .....
- In 1994 the EHF Methods Commission started with the following mission:
- To be a “service institute” for European handball federations in different task domains.
- Overall strategy to realise the objectives:
- A pro-active exchange of knowledge, experiences and innovations,
  - Between European handball experts,
  - Between Europe and other continents,
  - Between handball and other sports,
  - Between EHF and other institutions, etc.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**At the same time .....**

- **1993 - A study of European commission and Coopers & Leybrand:**
- **“The Impact of European Community on Sport”**
  
- **1994 - Research of ENSSEE concerning qualifications for sport occupations.**
  
- **1994 - 1995 Proposition by ENSSI:**
- **“European Structure for 5 levels of Coaches’ Training”**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



## 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

### In this way the EHF Methods Commission started in 1994:

- A strategy to facilitate the mobility of knowledge and professionals within “the expanding open market” and including also EHF member federations.

### One of our objectives:

- The creation of an Europe-wide framework for coaches’ qualifications in handball.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



## 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

- 1995 - Brainstorming group meeting
- Result: A concept of philosophy, principles, areas of competence and a basic education structure.
  
- 1996 - Working group meeting
- Result: A proposal concerning: Age and experience, minimum duration, areas of competence, domains of sciences. All divided into 3 levels.
  
- 1997 - Brochure “Structure of Coaches’ Education in EHF”



EHF Competence Academy & Network



# 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## The impact:

- Almost no reaction from bigger handball federations for different reasons.
- More enthusiastic reactions from minor and “new” federations.

We feared “a dead end”!

The unexpected luck:

- 6 top federations of UEFA (DEN, GER, ITA, NED, FRA, ESP) signed a “Coach Education Structure” and the EHF Congress requested for an Europe-wide structure.

## We continued with a 2-trail-strategy:

- Support of courses in young federations to show the interest and importance of good coaches’ education,
- To invite an elite of 6 top federations.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**1999 - Creation of an elite group (CZE, DEN, FRA, HUN, GER, RUS). All invited federations responded in a positive way and were present in 2 meetings to construct a draft.**

**There was commitment concerning:**

- Scope of application,**
- Objective of a convention,**
- Principles,**
- Competent bodies to approve and to control,**
- Withdrawal,**
- Sanctions,**
- Jurisdiction**



**EHF Competence Academy & Network**





**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

# **2000 - EHF Congress in Tel Aviv**

**6 nations signed the convention.**

**There was a sport political decision to start and to  
implement a Europe-wide convention of interested  
handball federations.**



**EHF Competence Academy & Network**



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**The main discussions referred to:**

- How to bridge the gap between the past and future at that time?
- How to award “old” certificates?
- How to monitor and to evaluate the national processes?

**Practical questions:**

- How to describe profiles?
- Control of examinations?
- How to organise the “daily business”? (Organisation, administration, finances etc.)



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

## **Actual status**

- Formal application and signing by the president during an official EHF meeting.
- Mutual recognition refers only to **EHF Master Coach Certificate (category IV)**
- All EHF Master Coaches will be registered in a EHF data base,
- Minimum requirements have to be fulfilled and guaranteed by signatories
- The unique identity of education within the federations will be respected
- EHF monitors and controls.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



## 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

**EHF ‘RINCK’ Convention** promotes the European integration and particularly, the free movement of the specialists (coaches and trainers, physical instructors etc.) stressing on the coordination and the mutual recognition of national systems in educating and instructing in the field of handball.

For the moment the EHF counts on of a group of **37** signatory nations .

- 7 April 2000, Tel Aviv / Israel: **CZE, DEN, FRA, HUN, GER** and **RUS**
- 17 November 2001, Vienna / Austria: **BUL, NOR, POL** and **SWE**
- 5 June 2002, Salzburg / Austria; **AUT** and **POR**
- 8 Mai 2004, Nicosia / Cyprus: **CRO** and **SLO**
- 13 October 2007, Rome / Italy: **SVK**
- 27 September 2008, Vienna / Austria: **SUI**
- 24 October 2009, Limassol / Cyprus: **ESP, ITA, MNE** and **TUR**
- 25 September 2010, Copenhagen / Denmark: **LUX**
- 17 November 2011, Vienna / Austria: **ENG, IRL** and **LAT**
- 23 June 2012, Monte Carlo / Monaco: **BLR, CYP, ISL** and **SRB**
- 2 June 2013, Cologne / Germany: **EST, NED** and **ROU**
- 4 May 2014, Budapest/Hungary: **FIN, GRE, ISR, MKD** and **MLT**
- 13 February 2015, Vienna/Austria: **LTU**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

## **Conclusions**

**We are proud and optimistic on what we have realised up to now:**

- There is a formal co-operation.**
- Together we are focussed on a common target.**
- We have more insight in educational structures of other federations.**
- We have more respect for other philosophies and**
- We have observed a more open attitude to “other” and critical reflection on the own situation.**



**EHF Competence Academy & Network**



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**We are still looking for more balance in the whole process.**

- The balance between the freedom of federations and the requested need for more control and sanctions.**
- The balance between perception of terms and supposed contents of definitions.**
- The balance between certificates and licences to control continuous learning.**
- The balance between traditional education and more modern philosophies.**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**We are still doubting about .....**

- The seriousness of federations in fulfilling the requirements and to co-operate in a pro-active way;**
- Serious co-operation inside the countries between federations and academies / universities etc.;**
- The objective and fair evaluation of prior learning and experience.**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

## **We are still worrying about .....**

- **Opposition by conservative powers in case you want to change, to innovate;**
- **People who are still supposing **EHF Master Coach** is an honorary award;**
- **Universities, supposing they offer the best and most modern education,**
- **And federations, supposing they know everything best;**
- **Not-related institutes marketing ‘our’ title ‘**EHF Master Coach**’;**
- **Political opposition in non-EU countries.**



EHF Competence Academy & Network





2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

*From the EHF RINCK Convention  
to an  
EHF Coaching Licensing System -*

**A Vision ?**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**RINCK Convention PRINCIPLES (since 2000)**

- Coordination and mutual recognition of both standard guidelines and certificates in the field of coaches' education of handball in Europe
- Preserving and safeguarding the regional and national characteristics of coaches' education.
  
- Facilitating the direct admission to work as a handball coach in each of the signatory member federations, based on a coaches' education programme in European Handball which was initially divided into five categories



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2013 EHF ,RINCK‘ Convention Seminar for  
Signatory Nations  
5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013 / Vienna**

# **Objective 1**

- It has always been an EHF objective to put on offer a fair concept for all 51 EHF Member Federations to become a member of the **Rinck Convention** in order to foster handball development by setting-up an appropriate coaching education structure/framework as well as to facilitate the mobility of coaches within Europe in compliance with EU standards (“**Bologna Process**”).



EHF Competence Academy & Network



2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## Objective 2

- After further discussions with the R.C. signatories and by motivating the current R.C. Non-signatories to join the Convention it has been introduced an **EHF Coaching Licensing System (as of 2012)** for the sake of handball development in Europe and the strengthening of the **“professional status” of handball coaches in the EHF Member Federations (coaching as a recognized occupational field).**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## Objective 3

- In the spirit of “**Life - Long - Learning**”, the EHF together with its Member Federations shall take the responsibility for a further and continuous education of the **EHF Master Coaches** as well as all other “licensed” coaches within the **Rinck Convention**.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

# **Coaching as a Profession**

The EHF Rinck Convention’s major objective is to create and protect the coaching profession and ease the way for the free movement of qualified coaches within Europe in accordance with European Law/EU Standards. The EHF also wants to promote the exchange of coach education by encouraging its 51 member federations to share technical knowledge with the overall benefit of European Handball in mind.

## **Awareness of the coaches’ contribution for the development of the game**

To promote the idea that coaching is a profession recognized in the same way as a teacher or a doctor, because there is professional training, apprenticeship, qualifications and “front-line” tasks to be fulfilled

Using Mini Handball, Street-Handball, Handball at School and Beach Handball to fight obesity and deal with other problems in a social context (integration, gender, violence prevention, drug and internet addiction, etc.)



EHF Competence Academy & Network



2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## Definition of “coaching”

*“The guided improvement, led by a coach, of sport participants in a single sport and at identifiable stages of the athlete/sport person pathway.”*

- “athlete” > competition-oriented,
- “sport person” > participation-oriented



EHF Competence Academy & Network



2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## The main discussions

Recognition of sport coaching as a profession should take into account 3 aspects:

- **Education of sport coaches,**
- **Qualification of sport coaches,**
- **Licensing of sport coaches**



EHF Competence Academy & Network





## Coaching licence

### Recommendation:

*“Sport coaching licence has to be issued by the relevant sport federation and recognised by the national competent authority”.*

### Achievement will derive from combination of:

- Coaching competence at given level/role,
- Coach education,
- Coaching practice,
- Recognition of prior learning and current competence



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

## **EHF PRO Licensing - Preamble**

- **The European Handball Federation (EHF) is the governing body of handball in Europe! Its 51 member federations represent and stand for 51 different kinds of national and international handball know-how and competence. It goes without saying that the unique national handball schools/philosophies shall preserve and by no means be replaced by a centralized, uniform and directive handball education!**
- **Handball research, know-how exchange and competence transfer in Europe shall be fostered as an EHF service for the EHF member federations by making use of national and international handball experts as well as external lecturers from sport science, medicine, other sports, economy (marketing, equipment suppliers), media (press, TV, Internet) and other team sports.**



**EHF Competence Academy & Network**



# 2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar 13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria

## Why there was/is a need for such a step?

- Expanding European Union, changing European context (EQF, ECVET)
- Changing legislative and changing vocational qualifications
- Changing global educational context (e-learning, blended learning, recognition of prior learning and experience, description in final competence profiles)
- The changing possibilities to build up studies in different countries and universities/academies
- The changing positions and needs of national and international federations
  
- Two different occupations (participation-oriented coaches and coaches of performance athletes.
- Establishing a new framework or mapping current structures against the new and against European qualification Framework (EQF)
- Recognition of 3 education streams: federation, university, vocational
- Recognition of prior learning and experience
- Introduction of a Europe-wide licence system.

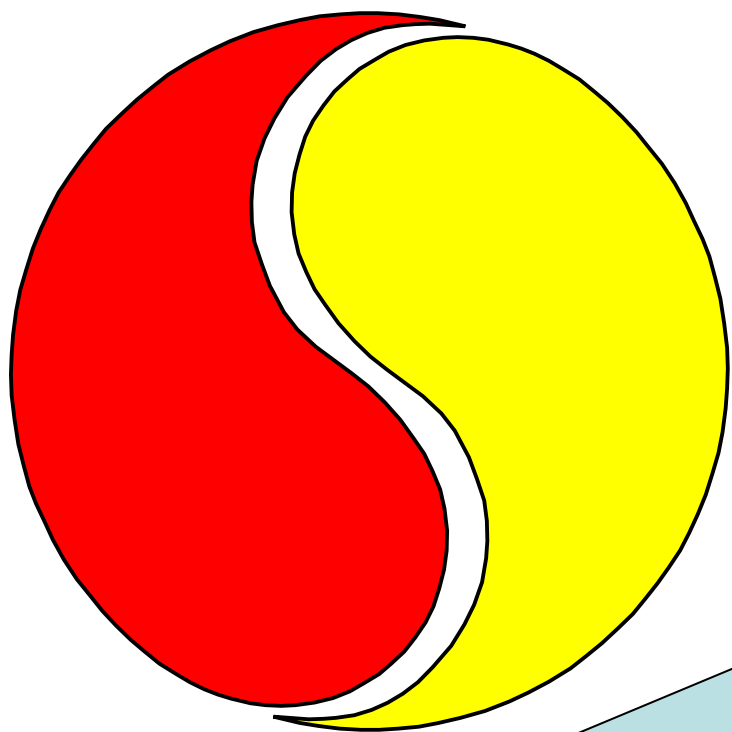


EHF Competence Academy & Network

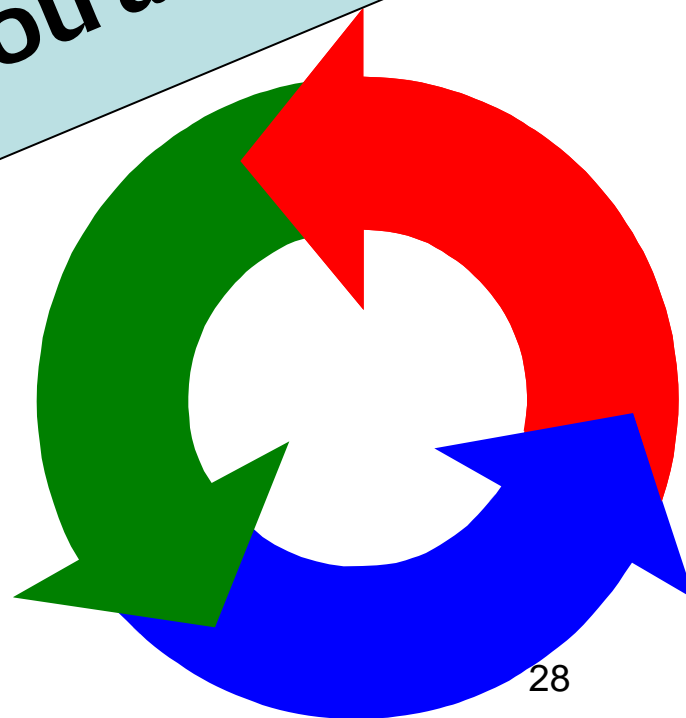




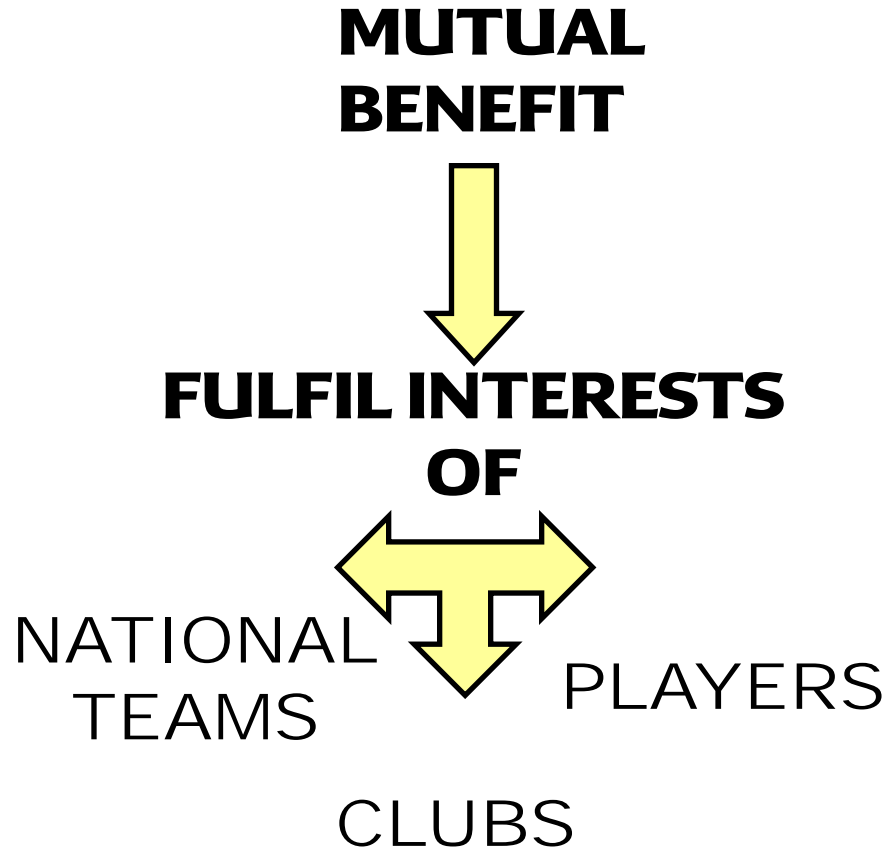
EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION



It is not necessary to **SAY** who you are,  
but to **SHOW** who you are!



# COMMON INTEREST



# Interest = Common Benefit

National Teams  
Kempa

players



Clubs



**National Competition**

**International  
Competitions**

**Leagues**

**Cups**

**European  
Cups**

**European  
Competitions**

**World  
Competitions**

**Clubs**

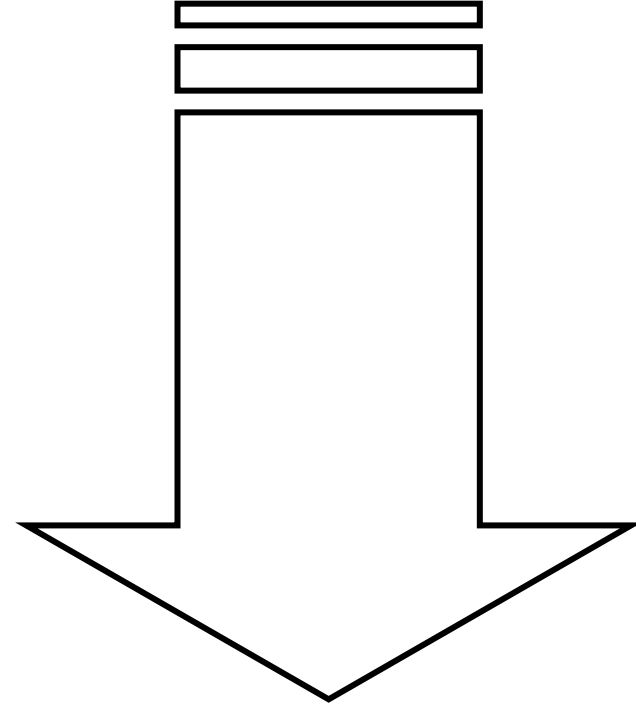
**National Teams**

**Players, Trainers, Referees, Officials, Journalists...**

# COMMON INTEREST



EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION



# DEVELOP HANDBALL



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

**The ‘signed’ convention covers the proposed  
changes in the following domains:**

- Position and qualification of coaches
- Coaches’ ethics
- Scientific base and structuring of coaches’ education
- The formal base of qualification.
- The establishment of a licensing system
- The direction of the development: recognition of prior learning,  
European credit system (**ECVET**) etc.



EHF Competence Academy & Network



**2015 EHF “RINCK” Convention Seminar  
13-14 February 2015 in Vienna / Austria**

## **EHF Objectives and Tasks - 1**

- **to maintain Rinck Convention (RC) with necessary adaptations**
- **to monitor further ENSSEE activities**
- **to find practical solutions for achieving the original goal of RC by conceiving and preparing the implementation of a Europe-wide coach licensing and certification system**
- **to define the direction which way to go for the benefit of signatory and non-signatory nations.**



EHF Competence Academy & Network



## **EHF Objectives and Tasks - 2**

- **to prepare and to implement the pillars of a tailor-made licensing and certification system for handball**
- **to consider a new course system, up-grade options, etc.**
- **to find-out and discuss consequences for**
  - **National Federations**
  - **EHF**

**with regard to infrastructure, resources, administration and finances**



*Thank you very much for your kind attention  
and expressed patience you followed the  
presentation!*

*Doru Constantin Simion:*

[simion@eurohandball.com](mailto:simion@eurohandball.com)

