

#### Supporters Committee Preventive Measure Against Violence In Sports Facilities

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#### Abstract:

The term "committee" may be taken lightly by some and considered to be an infeasible procedure, but a reference to the definitions of committees shows that they are useful and perform a range of tasks, given their nature.

The sports legislator refers to the Supporters Committee in the legal texts as a preventive measure against violence in sports facilities that contributes to the promotion and development of physical and sports activities, Considering that sports violence has affected various actors.

We touched on the concept of committees in general, then the applications of the Supporters Committee in Algerian sports legislation, and the relationship of this committee to sports violence practiced in sports facilities, as well as the way they are organized and functioned.

Keywords: Supporters Committee; Preventive measure; Sports violence.

#### Introduction:

Violence has risen to the level of a phenomenon in Algerian society, where the Algerian authorities sounded the alarm, given the significant number of crimes that became committed twenty years ago, that is, after the bloody decade that Algeria experienced in the nineties of the last century.

This violence has spread to many fields, including the family field, the educational field and the sports field, as Algerian stadiums have become open arenas for quarrels, discord and various types of physical and moral violence between various actors (supporters, players, administrators), and this violence has had social, economic, psychological and physical effects. In order to find solutions to this phenomenon, which does not extend to our customs, traditions and religion in any way, the competent authorities, in cooperation with specialists in various fields (sociology, psychology, law, Sharia, security, sports), sought to besiege this phenomenon and put it on the autopsy table to find out its causes and scientific and practical conditions.

One such solution is the new legislation in the field of physical and sports activities (Law No. 13 05 of July 23, 2013 on the organization and development of physical and sports activities) and its related applications, from which the Advocates Committee emerged.

What is the legal system of the Advocates Committee in Algerian sports legislation?

#### 2- General hypothesis:

The Advocates Committee has a role in reducing violence inside sports facilities under Law No. 13 05 on the regulation and development of physical and sports activities.

#### **3- Objectives of the study:**

Shedding light on the tasks and mechanism of organizing the Advocates Committee under Algerian sports legislation, and its role in confronting and combating violence in all its forms and colors in sports facilities.

#### 4- Previous and similar studies:

**The first study:** conducted by Abdelnour Zainab and Idris Khoja Nadira entitled "Prevention of violence within sports facilities within the framework of Law 13-05" The study aims to shed light on this scourge by addressing the most important legal measures taken by the Algerian legislator through the aforementioned law on the organization and development of physical and sports activities and one of the most important findings of the study is the need for serious and strict application of Law No. 13-05 and the activation of the texts of its articles to punish anyone who caused the commission of acts Violence against sports facilities with the maximum penalties, as the penalties imposed on the public must be written in clear font on entry tickets (Abdel Nour Zeinab: 2021).

**The second study:** conducted by Omar Damana entitled Prevention of violence in sports facilities and mechanisms to combat it under Algerian legislation, this study aimed to identify the interest of the Algerian legislator in the phenomenon of violence in the sports field in accordance with the previous legislation represented in Law 04/10 of August 14, 2004. Related to physical education and sports. which It seems that it was simple, but due to the growth of

this phenomenon, the Algerian legislator went into more detail through Law 13/05 of July 13, 2013 on the regulation and development of physical and sports activities, where its provisions combined the awareness and preventive aspects and the deterrent and punitive aspects alike (Omar Demana: 2023, 155.)

**The third study:** conducted by Sami Kabbahem in 2023 entitled The Legal Approach to Combating Violence in Algerian Sports Facilities This study aims to address the Algerian approach to combating violence associated with sports events in sports facilities, and among the most important findings are:

Algerian law guarantees the existence of preventive legal measures, starting with the prevention of violence during sports events in facilities, and legal remedial measures that end cases of violence. Algerian law also establishes duties on the organizer of sports events and also duties on the management of the sports facility to prevent violence, and these obligations are considered as an obligation associated with achieving a result in which care is not sufficient and under penalty of legal liability of all kinds (Sami Kabbahem: 2023).

#### 5- Controlling concepts and terminology:

#### 5.1. Definition of committees:

**A Melhem definition:** "A number of individuals with diverse experiences selected by the administration to solve a specific administrative problem that falls within the scope of their competence to decide on it or research it and collect information about it in order to provide the administration with the necessary recommendations or suggestions to overcome it."

**B Kanaan definition:** "A group of individuals who are formally selected by the administration either to look into a specific problem and make a decision to solve it or to simply solve this problem and collect information about it and make recommendations and suggestions to the administration about it or to consider periodic problems."

**A. Atwi's definition:** "A group of specialized individuals assigned to a specific work or entrusted with a specific responsibility, and usually exercises its activities in the form of periodic meetings, and these committees may be advisory or executive, and they may be permanent or temporary." (Istabraq and Mays Al Reem, 2018, 238).

**5.2. Violence:** defined as those words, writings and actions that precede, accompany, follow or result from a sports meeting or competition, in addition to physical violence expressed by physical acts committed in the same circumstances and aimed at compromising the safety of persons, attacking public and private property, disturbing public comfort and obstructing traffic (Mohamed Mahfouz: 2005, 12 )

**5.3. Sports facilities:** They are public administrative institutions whose tasks are limited to organizing and managing sports, competitive, mass, university practices to military bodies, and also constitute sports facilities in football stadiums and in multi-sports halls, football, gymnastics, judo.(Rabouh Lakhdar: 09, 2017)

### 6. Committee of Advocates of Law No. 13 05 of July 23, 2013 on the organization and development of physical and sports activities:

After studying Law No. 13 05 of July 23, 2013 on the organization and development of physical and sports activities, it should be noted that it referred to the Committee of Advocates in Title XI, entitled:

"Prevention and control of violence in sports facilities", which explicitly indicates that one of the functions of the Advocates Committee is to prevent violence (a tribal measure) and combat (a post-action) against violence in sports facilities.

It should also be noted that Law No. 13 05 mentioned above is the first legal text that referred to the Advocates Committee, with reference to the previous legal texts, namely:

Decree No. 63254 of July 10, 1963 regulating sports and sports associations.

Ordinance No. 76-81 of October 23, 1976 on the Code of Physical Education and Sports.

Law No. 8903 of February 14, 1989 on physical education and sports and their development.

Ordinance No. 95-09 of February 25, 1995 on the direction, organization and development of the National System of Physical Education and Sports.

Law No. 0410 of August 14, 2004 on physical education and sports.

Article 196/1 of Law No. 13-05 stipulates the following: "The prevention and combating of violence in sports facilities, during or on the occasion of sports events, constitute permanent and priority processes for the development and promotion of physical and sports activities."

The measure of the Advocates Committee would promote the prevention of violence in sports facilities, in order to achieve a set of objectives consistent with the objectives of the elements of physical and sports activities, as stipulated in article 197 of Law No. 13 05, as follows:

"The prevention and combating of violence in sports facilities during or on the occasion of sports events shall aim in particular to:

Promote the values of sports and the Olympics,

Dissemination of sports ethics and sportsmanship,

Sensitizing citizens to civility, respect for others and public affairs, and combating uncivilized behavior,

Promoting a culture of peace and tolerance,

Combating violence in sports facilities."

Article 198, item 1 of Law No. 13 05, stipulates the following: "Measures to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities shall be based in particular on the following:

Develop means to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities, ".

The prevention and combating of violence is not just words spoken or written words, but obligations of all direct and indirect actors in the sports field, and this is stipulated by the Algerian sports legislator through chapter I entitled "Obligations of actors in the field of prevention and combating violence in sports facilities".

The prevention and control of violence is not only a governmental matter, but a national matter for all actors, so articles 199, 201 and 210 of Law No. 13 05 establish the following obligations in the field of prevention and control:

Article 199 of Law No. 13-05 reads: "The State, local authorities, national sports federations, sports associations and clubs, the concerned departments, the users of sports supervision, sports managers and athletes, every public or private organizer of sports events, as well as the

family and the media shall act resolutely to prevent or ensure the fight against violence in sports facilities.

In this capacity, they shall fulfil their obligations and mobilize and arrange the means to promote the prevention and elimination of violence in sports facilities, in particular by:

Section 5 Promotion of sports values and accompaniment of legally established advocacy committees,

Article 201 stipulates that: "Sports clubs and associations that organize sports events shall establish a committee of advocates, in particular with the following:

Participate in the identification and implementation of all measures to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities in strict respect of the laws and regulations in force.

Promoting sportsmanship and spreading and maintaining sports ethics among its members.

The Minister in charge of Sports shall determine the conditions and modalities for the establishment, organization and functioning of the Advocacy Committees."

Article 210 reads: "National sports federations must enact regulations related to the organization of all events assigned to them, especially for demonstrations that require special security measures, as they must include in their regulations special provisions for this type of demonstration, especially disciplinary sanctions against clubs, sports managers, advocacy committees and users of sports supervision who violate these provisions."

In application of these legal provisions, we find a number of articles that provide for the prevention and control of violence in sports facilities, including:

# 6.1. Annex to the Model Organic Law of the National Sports Federation contained in Executive Decree No. 14 330 of November 27, 2014 laying down the modalities for the organization and functioning of the National Sports Federations as well as their Model Organic Law:

Article 24 of the Annex states: "The Federal Office is the executive organ of the Federation.

Under the authority of the President of the Federation, the administrative, technical and financial management of the Federation shall be guaranteed.

In this capacity, it shall be entrusted with the following:

Article 6: Ensure respect for sporting ethics and sports regulations and take every measure aimed at preserving them."

### 6.2. Annex to Executive Decree No. 15 74 of February 16, 2015 laying down the provisions and the model statute applicable to the amateur sports club:

Article 3 of the Annex stipulates the following: "The amateur club shall undertake the following tasks:

Article 20: Ensure the awareness of its athletes and members of civilization and respect for others and public affairs, and the dissemination and preservation of sports ethics and the promotion of sportsmanship.

Article 21: Participate and contribute effectively to all measures to prevent and combat violence inside sports facilities, especially the supervision of its athletes and supporters."

### 6.3. Executive Decree No. 14 243 of August 27, 2014 defines the powers of the Minister of Sports.

Article 2 stipulates that: "The Minister of Sports, in liaison with the relevant ministerial departments, shall exercise his powers in the field of sports.

In this capacity, the Minister of Sports shall be charged with the following:

Paragraph 8 states: "Identify measures aimed at developing ethics and sportsmanship and combating violence within sports facilities, in liaison with the sectors and bodies concerned."

### 6.4. Executive Decree No. 16 84 of March 01, 2016 defining the powers of the Minister of Youth and Sports.

Article 3 stipulates the following: "The Minister of Youth and Sports shall be responsible for all activities related to sports, and in this capacity he shall be entrusted with the following: Paragraph 6 reads as follows: "Identify measures aimed at developing sports ethics and sportsmanship and combating violence within sports facilities, in coordination with the sectors and bodies concerned."

## 6.5. Article 25 of the decree of 04 July 2018 defines the composition, organization, functioning and powers of the Third African Youth Games Organizing Committee in Algeria and the nominal list of their members, entrusted with the following:

Identify mechanisms for mobilizing advocates and means that encourage the promotion of sportsmanship, sports ethics and a culture of peace and non-violence through the organization of various campaigns and competitions."

#### 7. The way the Advocates Committee is organized and conducted:

The composition of this committee is studied within the framework of the decision of December 23, 2014 setting out the conditions and modalities for the establishment, organization and functioning of the advocacy committees.

This decision consists of 19 articles, divided into three (03) chapters.

This committee was established in application of the provisions of Article 201 of Law No. 13 05 of July 23, 2013 on the organization and development of physical and sports activities. (Article 1)

Article 201 stipulates that: "Sports clubs and associations that organize sports events shall establish a committee of advocates, in particular with the following:

Participate in the identification and implementation of all measures to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities in strict respect of the laws and regulations in force.

Promoting sportsmanship and spreading and maintaining sports ethics among its members.

The Minister in charge of Sports shall determine the conditions and modalities for the establishment, organization and functioning of the Advocacy Committees."

"The Advocates Committee is a structure established at the amateur sports club or sports association at the initiative of the sports associations and clubs stipulated in Law No. 13 05 and after deliberation either from the general assembly of the amateur sports club or the sports association, or from the general assembly of shareholders or partners of the professional sports club or the sole partner of the professional sports club." (Article 6)

"It is not possible to establish more than one committee of supporters for each sports association or sports club, whether professional or amateur." (**Article 3**)

"The domicile of the Advocates Committee is located in the place where the club or association with which it is placed is located.

The committee has the necessary means for its functioning." (Article 4)

#### 7.1. Tasks of the Advocates Committee:

"The Advocacy Committees shall be mandated, in particular:

Supervising and organizing advocates on the occasion of sports events and competitions in cooperation with the concerned sports clubs and associations and in communication with various dealers and organizers.

Participate in all measures that facilitate the reception of visiting sports teams and their supporters,

Promoting sportsmanship and spreading sports ethics among its members, and maintaining it, especially through awareness work towards advocates.

Participate in the identification and implementation of all measures to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities in strict respect of the laws and regulations in force.

Assume the obligations stipulated under the laws and regulations in force in the field of preventing and combating violence in sports facilities.

Support the club or sports association to which it is placed." (Article 2)

"In no case can the functions of the Advocates Committee replace its sports club and sports association or the tasks of other actors in the framework of their activities, especially in the prevention and combating of violence in sports facilities as stipulated in the laws and regulations in force, in particular the provisions of Law No. 1305 of July 23, 2013." (Article 5)

#### 7.2. Procedures for establishing the Advocates Committee:

"The minutes of the establishment of the Advocates' Committee shall be sent to the competent authorities of the State, the local administration in charge of sports and other relevant departments, as well as to the federation(s) and sports association(s) concerned." (Article 7)

#### 7.3 Composition of the Advocates Committee:

"The Advocates Committee includes the following: General Assembly, office president Local branches where applicable. (**Article 10**)

#### A. General Assembly:

The General Assembly shall comprise a maximum of one hundred (100) members, including the managing members of the Advocates Committee.

With the exception of the managing members of the Committee, each member shall be considered a delegate representing a specified number of members involved in a proportion determined as the case may be by the Executive Office of the amateur sports club, sports association, board of directors, board of directors or manager of the professional sports club. Each delegate shall have one vote in the General Assembly." (Article 11)

#### **B. Office:**

"The General Assembly shall elect a Bureau consisting of the following members: president Vice President, Secretary General, Three (03) members." (**Article 12**)

#### C. President (Chairman of the Advocates Committee):

"The chairman of the Advocates Committee is the only qualified speaker towards the sports club or sports association. (**Article 13**)

#### **D. Branches:**

"Local branches represent the Advocates' Committee when the latter has members residing outside the field of activity of the sports association or sports club concerned or across the national territory.

It includes members of a sports club or sports association.

It shall be represented in the General Assembly by a number of delegates in accordance with the proportions provided for in Article 11 above." (Article 14)

"At all events of a local branch, there must be a minimum number of participants determined by the General Assembly of the Committee.

The creation shall be proposed by the Bureau of the Committee and the General Assembly and approved by the Executive Office of the Association, the amateur sports club or the governing body of the professional sports club." (Article 15)

"The term of office of the members of the General Assembly and its books shall be limited to four (04) renewable years." (**Article 16**)

#### E. Committees:

"In the performance of its functions, the Bureau shall constitute the following committees:

Committee on Support, Sports Ethics and Sportsmanship,

Committee for Activation, Reception and Supervision,

Coordination, Organization and Order Committee". (Article 17).

#### **Conclusion:**

The sports legislator's reference to the Advocates Committee as a preventive measure or measure to prevent and combat violence in sports facilities proves the importance of these committees and their role in addressing and preventing violence, as violence has effects on many levels, and working to address it achieves benefits and advantages for society, and helps in the promotion and development of physical and sports activities.

Among the most important suggestions that we come up with through this study are:

Educating supporters and the sports public about the seriousness of violence and its dire consequences on the individual and on public property through all means of communication, the press, seminars, and even in schools and universities.

Educating the sports public about the texts of the laws and the degree of their application in the event of any form of violence.

Fill all loopholes leading to violence, starting with inflammatory phrases, whether in magazines or newspapers, and to all those connected with the sports public, by strictly applying penalties. Intensifying the means and material capabilities to prevent violence or at least mitigate its severity by providing exits and outlets through sports facilities to avoid friction and pressure from the masses in entering and exiting, as an example.

Intensifying psychological and social studies to address the phenomenon of violence and give the most important solutions to prevent and address this phenomenon.

Paying attention to the architecture of sports facilities and modernizing them by providing prevention and safety methods.

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