



Jacob Kornbeck
– Biographical note –

Born 1968, Jacob Kornbeck is an EU civil servant with extensive, hands-on sports policy experience. In his free time, he enjoys part-time lecturing as well as writing academic articles, book reviews and commentaries on issues linked to sport, sports policy and sports law. As an external lecturer, he has taught sports policy at the German Sports University Cologne (2012–2019) and remains connected with its Institute of European Sport and Leisure Studies (IESF). He is currently teaching sports law at the University of Lille (2021–) and European law at the School of Administration (HVF) in Ludwigsburg (2024–). Every month, he publishes an article in the French newsletter *L'officiel juridique du sport*. In 2025, he was attached to the Free University of Brussels (ULB) as an external researcher (*collaborateur scientifique*) in the Faculty of Science, Department of Geography and Geoinformation. At ULB, his role is to contribute to research on sport, urban planning and public policy as part of the research cluster IGEAT (Institut de Gestion de l'Environnement et d'Aménagement du Territoire).

Highlights

As a former Policy Officer in the Sport Unit of the European Commission (2001-14), Jacob is a co-author of the *White Paper* (2007) and *Communication on Sport* (2011). His responsibilities comprised anti-doping; sport, health and participation including health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA); injury prevention; sports volunteering; relations with the Council of Europe, UNESCO, the WHO and the academic world. Representing the Commission in international anti-doping fora for 13 years, Jacob was heavily involved in work related to data protection in the fight against doping. He served as secretary to the expert groups drafting EU Physical Activity Guidelines (2008) and Recommendations on Doping in Recreational Sport (2014). Representing the Commission as an observer to the Council of Europe's Anti-Doping Convention, he was instrumental in negotiating the Enhanced International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information (ISPPPI) of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) (2009) and the related Annex on Retention Times (2011). These novelties gave data protection and privacy a permanent place on the EU's sports policy agenda. As secretary to an expert group set up by the EU Council of Ministers, Jacob steered the preparation and adoption of four EU contributions to the World Anti-Doping Code revision (2012-13) which were adopted by the Council and presented officially to WADA by the EU Presidency. He was involved in the day-to-day business of drafting briefing

notes, speeches, media products, policy proposals and Commission replies to parliamentary questions. As a financial officer, Jacob ensured compliance with the Financial Regulation in spending actions, including accounting, auditing and recoveries. As a public procurement officer, he handled a range of tenders, encompassing the first-ever EU-wide study on the link between physical inactivity and overweight/obesity (2004) and an equally ground-breaking study on doping prevention in recreational sport (2014). For over a decade, Jacob selected and coached Sport Unit interns, most of whom are now pursuing highly successful careers in and around the sport sector.

As a Legal Officer in the Secretariat of the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) (2014-17), Jacob worked on the monitoring of draft legislation, as well as cooperation with Member States in law enforcement using large-scale EU databases, where he was part of the secretariat for the Second-Generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) Coordinated Supervision Group. He also had tasks related to information and communication, such as the monitoring of early developments in legislative proposals and case law, and external representation, vis-à-vis the Council of Europe in particular.

As a Policy Officer in the European Commission's Youth Unit (2017-23), Jacob was in charge of relations with EU Presidencies, the Council of Europe and third countries, including external representation and negotiation as well as a grant management. He was

developing policies related to evidence, knowledge and youth work, chairing expert groups on policy indicators (2019-21) and youth work (2021-22), set up by the EU Council in 2019 and 2020 respectively. He managed the EU Structured Dialogue in the field of Youth (2017-18) and is a co-author of the 2019 Communication *Engaging, Connecting and Empowering Young People* (2018) and the current EU Youth Strategy 2019-27. Besides policy development, external representation and negotiation, Jacob was handling grants to the European Youth Forum (EYF), EU Presidencies and the Council of Europe, including accounting, audits and recoveries, ensuring compliance with the Financial Regulation. He acted as a regular evaluator on selection committees within the Commission's Education and Culture department (DG EAC) as well as the affiliated executive agency (EACEA). Compliance work further encompassed advice on data protection issues provided to Youth Unit colleagues acting as delegated data controllers for a range of in-house large-scale databases with online registration tools. In 2022–2023, Jacob spent much of his time working with third countries, especially those of the Western Balkans and Central Caucasus, including in processes steered by the Commission's DG NEAR (European Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations) (now DG ENEST). He was a regular speaker at events organised by the Commission's Visits Service, and a host in the framework of the EU Visitors' Programme (EUVP), a VIP programme common to all EU Institutions hosting tomorrow's leaders from all around the world.



As a Programme Manager in the Erasmus+ Coordination Unit (since 2023), Jacob has six distinct roles: (1) 'Data protection': ensuring compliance with Regulation 2018/1725), providing advice to colleagues and National Agencies, handling of data leaks, handling of requests from National Agencies for authorisation to share data with law enforcement and prosecution authorities, to be decided by in accordance with Art. 19 Staff Regulation (SR); (2) 'Management of complaints': working with unit colleagues on ongoing complaints from participants in programme activities, applicants (including unsuccessful applicants) and the general public, including the organisation of guidance for National Agencies; streamlining of reception procedures; (3) 'Access to documents requests': coordinated guidance and support for unit colleagues on ongoing cases, including cases from the National Agencies, all in accordance with Regulation 1049/2001; (4) IPR protection: supporting in-house IPR teams in collecting evidence of

trademark use and other relevant evidence from own databases and National Agencies for Erasmus+; (5) 'Early detection, exclusion and other forms of sanctions': supporting colleagues in this and others units in matters related to the exclusion of potential applicants, including the use of the EDES database and the preparation of case files, all in accordance with Art. 133–145 Financial Regulation; (6) 'Advice on other cross-cutting legal issues'.

The Unit acts as a focal point for 50+ National Agencies for the EU funding programmes Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, in EU, EEA and Programme countries, making payments, providing guidance and advice, evaluating performance, etc., all based on a unique cascade model of indirect management. His role involves advising the four teams and leadership of the Unit on all legal aspects related to programme implementation in indirect management, as well as contributing to the development of guidance and rules on programme indirect management and supporting the supervision, monitoring and audit activities, in close cooperation with other relevant teams in DG EAC. In the field of communication and publication, Jacob drafts feedback letters, ensuring overall consistency of contributions of other operational and horizontal units, in relation to the programme lifecycle.



Work history

(2023–) Programme Manager, European Commission, Erasmus+ Coordination Unit, Brussels

(2017-23) Policy Officer, European Commission, Youth Unit, Brussels

(2014-17) Legal Officer, Secretariat of the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), Brussels

(2001-14) Policy Officer, European Commission, Sport Unit, Brussels

(1999-2001) Translator, General Secretariat, Council of the European Union, Brussels

(1998-99) Language instructor, Centre de Langues Luxembourg (CLL)

(1997) Robert Schuman Scholar, European Parliament, Luxembourg

(1995-97) Freelance journalist, *Trierischer Volksfreund*, Trier, Germany

(1995) STOA Visiting Scholar, European Parliament, Luxembourg

Education

(2020) Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln: Doktor der Philosophie (Dr.phil.) – thesis on the EU and sport

(2017) Universität Bayreuth: Master of Laws (LL.M.) (Sports Law) – thesis on the European Commission's ISU case (antitrust law, loyalty clauses in ice-skating)

(2015) European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), Maastricht: Data Protection Certification Course (renewed 2020)

(2014) University of London: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (Social Pedagogy) – thesis on Europeanisation in national higher education curriculum policies

(1997) Universität Trier: Magister Artium (M.A.) (History, Spanish, Pedagogy) – thesis on the Roman concept of international law (*ius gentium*) and its reception in mediaeval and early modern times

(1996) The Open University, UK: Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) (Social Science)

(1995) The Open University, UK: Diploma in Applied Social Sciences (Dip.App.SS)

(1995) Universität Trier: Zertifikat Europäische Studien

(1987) European School, Luxembourg: European Baccalaureate



Selected books (some titles abbreviated)

(2023) (ed) *EU Antitrust Law and Sport Governance: the new frontier?* London: Routledge.

(2022) (ed) *Sport & Brexit: regulatory challenges and legacies.* London: Routledge.

(2020) *Die Konsolidierung des Politikfelds Sport durch die Europäische Kommission (2001-11).* Heidelberg: Springer.

(2014) *Alternatives to Convergence? Social work and social pedagogy in German, Danish and Belgian higher education (1989-2004).* Bremen: EHV Academic Press.

(2013) *Inspiration from Brussels? The European Union and Sport.* Bremen: EHV Academic Press.

Selected sport-related papers (some titles abbreviated)

(2026) Sportpolitik und Steuergerechtigkeit. Die FIFA-Entscheidung des französischen Verfassungsrats vom 28.12.2024. In: Vieweg, K. (ed) *Erlanger Sportrechtstagung 2024.* Berlin: Duncker & Humblot (accepted)

With Naul, R. (2026) Sport development and young people: the role of international and supranational organisations. In: Lindsey, I.; Strittmatter, A.M.; Sam, M. &

Rich, K. (eds): *Routledge Handbook of Sports Development. 2nd edition.* London: Routledge (accepted)

With Courtet, M.C.; Jakob, A. & Trosien, G. (2026) Between lex Olympica, lex publica and Public Finance: National Sports Agencies in France and Germany compared. *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Kinanthropologica (AUC-K)* (accepted)

(2025) Brexit, the Specificity of Sport and the Horizontal Application of EU Law: the House of Lords and the urgency of free movement. *International Sports Law Journal*, online first, 17 October, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40318-025-00315-x>.

With Kolah, A. (2025) Data Protection. In: Hessert, B.; Goh, C.L. & Anderson, J. (eds) *Elgar Concise Encyclopedia of Sports Law.* Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 91-95.

(2025) Les supporters et les aides d'État : dénonciations légitimes mais soumises à des exigences contraignantes. *Jurisport*, 264, 36-38.

(2025) Doping Repression as Smart Justice? Hardie x Herrmann on the neoliberal challenge to traditional Western liberal procedural justice. In: Tausch, A. (ed) *A Global Life and Global Scholarly Publishing for Social Justice: Festschrift for Peter Herrmann.* Hauppauge, NY, USA: Nova Science Publishers, 155-172.

With Donnellan, L. (2024) Athlétisme et hyperandrogénie. *Jurisport*, 249, 33-36.

With Steiner, U. (2024) Exonération fiscale et constitutionnalité : aspects franco-allemands. *Jurisport*, 255, 35-37.

With Fischer, P.; Miège, C. & Stopper, M. (2024) Responsible Sport and State Oversight: sports organisations as civil society organisations and private regulators in France and Germany. *International Sports Law Journal*, 24:1, 3-19.

With Kolah, A. (2024) Fandaten und Datenschutz: Datenaustausch zwischen

- Sportrechteinhabern, Sponsoren und Geschäftspartnern. In: Vieweg, K. (ed) *Erlanger Sportrechtstagung 2023*. Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 131-152.
- (2023) Berücksichtigung der „besonderen Merkmale des Sports“ bei der Implementierung des britischen EU-Austritts („Brexit“)? In: Vieweg, K. (ed) *Erlanger Sportrechtskongress 2022*. Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 111-135.
- (2023) The slow yet steady rise of EU sports antitrust law. In: Kornbeck, J. (ed) *EU Antitrust Law and Governance*. London: Routledge, 1-25.
- (2023) EU antitrust law and the future of the sports pyramid and the ‘one federation’ principle. In: Kornbeck, J. (ed) *EU Sports Antitrust Law and Governance*. London: Routledge, 133-157.
- (2022) Drei EuGH-Testfälle im 40. Jubiläumsjahr des EG/EU-Sportkartellrechts. *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Kartellrecht (ÖZK)*, 15:3, 112-115; 15:4, 148-155; 15:5, 194-199.
- With Naul, R. & Petkovic, S. (2022) The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on physical activity and health of children and adolescents in Europe. *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Kinesiology (AUC-K)*, vol. 58:1, 5-17
- (2022) Post-pandemic policy priorities for financing sport and physical activity in the EU. *Acta Facultatis Educationis Physicae Universitatis Comenianae*, 62:1, 83-95.
- (2022) Sport & Brexit : quels défis réglementaires ? *Jurisport*, 227, 38-42.
- (2022) Sport Regulation between Brussels Effect and Brexit Dividend. In: Kornbeck, J. (ed) *Sport and Brexit*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 224-248.
- (2022) Sport, Brexit and the Regulatory Role of the European Union. In: Kornbeck, J. (ed) *Sport and Brexit*. Abingdon: Routledge, 3-22.
- (2021) Modèles territoriaux de la politique sportive : approches européennes. *Revue GRASPE*, 43, 93-111.
- (2021) Wirtschaftliche Eigeninteressen: kartellrechtlich legitim „per se“ oder „im Kontext“? *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Kartell-recht (ÖZK)*, 14:2, 58-61.
- (2021) Spanish Professional Football Clubs: how salient is the exact nature of the aid provided? *European State Aid Law Quarterly (ESAL)*, 20:1, 120-138.
- (2021) Droit dur ou droit mou ? L’Union européenne et la promotion des APS. *Jurisport*, 216, 39-41.
- (2020) Entflechtung, Rücknahme oder Sanktionsverzicht? Ansätze einer kartellrechtskonformen Anwendung des Ein-Platz-Prinzips durch Sportverbände. *Europäische Zeitschrift für Wirtschaftsrecht (EuZW)*, 31: 24, 1072-1078.
- (2020) Modèles économiques de la politique sportive. *Annales de la Faculté de Droit d’Istanbul*, 69, 227-246.
- (2020) Spanische Fußballclubs: Steuervorteile, Immobilientausch und Bürgschaften als indirekte Beihilfe. *Zeitschrift für Beihilfenrecht (BRZ)*, 12:3, 131-139; *ibid.*, 12:4, 187-194.
- (2020) What can SGBs do to comply with antitrust rules while maintaining the “one federation” principle? *International Sports Law Journal*, 20:3-4, 223-226.
- (2020) Die Urteile Biffi und UB des EuGH und der Bumerang-Effekt der besonderen Merkmale des Sports. *Europäische Zeitschrift für Wirtschaftsrecht (EuZW)* 31:14, 603-609.
- (2020) Statutory provision as a legal base for data transfers to third countries for anti-doping purposes. *International Sports Law Journal*, 20:1-2, 55-81.
- (2020) Foreword. In: Sloot, B.v.d. et al. (eds) *Athletes’ Human Rights and the Fight against Doping*. The Hague: T.M.C. Asser Press, vii-xviii.

- (2019-20) Zugang zu Sportanlagen als Kanon EU-beihilferechtlicher Zulässigkeit. *Zeitschrift für Beihilfenrecht (BRZ)*, 11:4, 155-160; *ibid.*, 12:1, 3-9.
- (2019) State Aid and Sport: Lessons for VAT Law? *European State Aid Law Quarterly*, 18:2, 138-156.
- (2019) Neue EU-Haushaltsordnung erkennt Freiwilligenarbeit als förderwürdig an. *Zeitschrift für Stiftungs- und Vereinswesen*, 17:3, 102-104.
- (2019) Strafbarkeit des Eigendopings. Zur US-Gesetzesvorlage „Rodchenkov“. *Journal für Rechtspolitik*, 27:1, 1-9.
- (2019) HEPA as “le geste sportif”? Structures versus activities in public policies. In: Scheuer, C. & Dreiskämper, D. (eds) *Papers offered to Roland Naul*. Aachen: Meyer & Meyer., 183-205.
- (2019) Specificity, Monopoly and Solidarity in the European Commission’s ISU decision. *Journal of European Competition Law & Practice*, 10:2, 71-79.
- (2018) The distinction between private life and data protection: the ECtHR’s joint decision in *FNASS v France* and *Longo v France*. *Journal of Data Protection and Privacy*, 2:2, 120-134.
- With Kayser, B. (2018) Do public perception and the ‘spirit of sport’ justify the criminalisation of doping? *International Sports Law Journal*, 18:1-2, 61-78.
- (2018) Health-friendly sport policy: an emerging soft law doctrine. In: Anderson, J.; Parrish & García (eds) *Research Handbook on EU Sports Law and Policy*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 49-78.
- (2017) Une européanisation top-down et bottom-up. La lutte antidopage de l’Union européenne. In: Gasparini, W. (ed): *L’Europe du football*. Strasbourg: PUS, 51-67.
- (2017) Athlete consent as a legal base for data transfers to third countries for anti-doping purposes. *International Sports Law Journal*, 17:1-2, 68-85.
- (2017) Bosman and Athlete Welfare. *Liverpool Law Review*, 38:3, 307-323.
- (2016) Transferring athletes’ personal data from the EU to third countries for anti-doping purposes. *International Data Privacy Law*, 6:4, 291-298.
- (2016) The EU, the Revision of the World Anti-Doping Code and the Presumption of Innocence. *International Sports Law Journal*, 15:3-4, 172-196.
- (2015) The Stamina of the Bosman Legacy: the EU and the revision of the World Anti-Doping Code (2011-13). *Maastricht Journal of European and Comparative Law*, 22:2, 283-304.
- (2015) Why increased transparency could strengthen the fight against doping. *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Sportmedizin*, 66:5, 121-127.
- (2015) The Diversity of Sports Volunteering in the EU. In Rosendal, N. (ed) *Voluntary Work and Youth Unemployment*. Copenhagen: DPU, 99-118.
- (2013) Revisiting the system of bans and justifications in the World Anti-Doping Code. *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy*, 7:3, 313-330.
- (2013) Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (HEPA): Exercise by Prescription. *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Sportmedizin*, 64:6, 157-161.
- (2012) Harmonisation de la lutte contre le dopage. In: CNOSF (ed) *XIIème Colloque national de lutte et de prévention du dopage*. Paris: CNOSF, 103-111.
- (2011) Wozu Dopingbekämpfung in dürftiger Zeit? In: Buschmann, Lämmer & Petry (eds) *Festschrift Walter Tokarski*. St. Augustin: Academia, 131-150.
- (2010) Dopingbekämpfung: Harmonisierungspotential durch die EU? *Monatsschrift für Kriminologie*, 93:3, 198-213.
- (2009) Activités physiques et sportives et promotion de la santé. In: Callède, J.P. (ed) *Sport et santé*. Pessac: MSHA, 157-170.

(2008) Anti-Doping in and beyond the Commission's White Paper on Sport. *International Sports Law Journal*, 3-4, 30-35.

(2007): L'activité physique et le sport contre la sédentarité, le surpoids et l'obésité. In: CNAPS) (ed) *Séminaire de Bruxelles*, 47-49.

(2006) Sport und EG/EU (1974-2004). *Sport & Gesellschaft*, 3:1, 81-103.

(2003) Anti-Doping-Aktionen als Jugendpolitik. *Unsere Jugend*, 55:5, 215-223.

(2005–07) University of Trier: social work and social pedagogy, 16–21 h p.a.



See also

LinkedIn – Researchgate – Academia – <https://pro.sport.fr/tag/jacob-kornbeck> (monthly newsletter articles in French)

Contact

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Academic teaching

(2024–) School of Public Administration and Finance (HVF) Ludwigsburg: European law and sports law, 10–20 h p.a.

(2021–) University of Lille: European sports law, 6 h p.a.

(2015–19) Audencia Business School, Antenna Paris: Sports policy, 6 h p.a.

(2012–19) German Sports University (DSHS) Cologne: sports management and sports policy, 10–14 h p.a.

(2010–11) Free University of Brussels (VUB) holder of the Willy Calewaert Chair: sports policy, 14 h p.a.

(2005–07) Solvay Business School (ULB) Brussels: sports policy, 2 h p.a.

(2005–06) Danish School of Education (DPU) Copenhagen: social pedagogy and social policy, 2 h p.a.

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