Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee Thursday 26 June 2026 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

# The UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill

- 1. The <u>UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill</u> was introduced on 12 March 2025. The Bill and its accompanying documents are available <u>online</u>.
- 2. The Bill establishes commercial rights protections in line with UEFA's requirements for hosting EURO 2028 matches in Scotland. EURO 2028 will be co-hosted by and the UK and Ireland, with the matches held in Scotland due to take place at Hampden Park in Glasgow. There will also be at least one official UEFA fan zone in Glasgow.
- 3. The Committee took evidence on the Bill from Scottish Government officials at its meeting on <u>8 May 2025</u>. Following this evidence session, officials <u>wrote to the Committee</u> to provide further information, included at **Annexe A**.
- 4. The Committee received written submissions on the Bill from the <u>Scottish</u>
  <u>Football Association</u>, the <u>Scottish Human Rights Commission</u> and UEFA. <u>Police Scotland</u> has also provided further information regarding online enforcement of ticket touting restrictions. These submissions are included at **Annexe B**.
- 5. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee considered delegated powers in the Bill at its meeting on 3 June 2025 and <u>reported its conclusions</u> on 5 June 2025. The Committee agreed that the delegated powers in the Bill are appropriate in principle.
- 6. The Committee will hear evidence on the Bill from—
  - Richard Lochhead, Minister for Business;
  - Lucy Carmichael, Head of Events Strategy and Delivery, Scottish Government; and
  - Ninian Christie, Lawyer, Scottish Government

Clerks to the Committee June 2025

## CEEAC/S6/25/20/2 Annexe A

Directorate for Culture and External Affairs Major Events Division



Clare Adamson MSP Convener Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee Scottish Parliament

Via email: ceeac.committee@parliament.scot

5 June 2025

Dear Convener

## **UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill – Follow-up Information**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee on 8 May 2025 to discuss the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill. I appreciated the thoughtful and constructive engagement from members and welcome the opportunity to provide further clarity on a number of points raised during the session.

As committed, I am writing to follow up on three specific areas:

### 1. Police Powers and Enforcement Authority

We undertook to review the powers of entry and search included in the bill - particularly those that may be exercised without a warrant - and to confirm how these compare with existing police powers and previous legislation, such as the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Act 2020.

As set out in the Policy Memorandum for the Bill, ability to take quick action is a requirement of UEFA for certain areas of commercial rights protection. The powers set out in the current bill are consistent with those included in the <u>UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Act 2020</u>. In reviewing comparable legislation, we have identified several examples across Acts of the Scottish Parliament where constables - or, in some cases, other enforcement officers - are granted powers to enter premises without a warrant or prior permission. These powers are typically conferred for the purpose of detecting or investigating specific statutory offences.

In each of these cases, the offences in question do not relate to matters of life and death. Rather, the powers are framed to allow entry without a warrant only in circumstances where urgency is a factor - specifically, where waiting to obtain a warrant could frustrate enforcement action. This is broadly aligned with the approach taken in section 24(2)(b) of the UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill.







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Examples of such provisions include:

Section 138 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

Section 20 of the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2013

Section 22 of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015

Paragraph 5 of schedule 1 of the Wild Animals in Travelling Circuses (Scotland) Act 2018

Paragraph 4 of schedule 2 of the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022

Paragraph 5 of the schedule of the Hunting with Dogs (Scotland) Act 2023

Paragraph 6 of the schedule of the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Act 2024

## 2. Online Ticket Touting Enforcement

The committee raised questions about how online ticket touting will be addressed, particularly given the territorial limitations of the proposed legislation. We have been in discussion with Police Scotland on this matter.

Police Scotland will respond to the committee directly on this issue, and we hope their input will provide further clarity on how online ticket touting will be managed in practice.

#### 3. Coordination with Other Host Governments

During the session, members asked about the legislative approaches being taken by other host nations in relation to ticket touting and related enforcement. We agreed to follow up with our counterparts in the UK, Welsh, Northern Irish and Irish governments to ask what they can share with the committee at this stage about current plans and any relevant legislative developments.

In response, the UK Government has indicated that it is still working through how best to deliver UEFA's requirements, including in relation to extra-territorial jurisdiction, taking into account the approach taken in previous sporting event legislation and recent legislation relating to the provision of online services. UK Government continue to work collaboratively with Government partners as this develops.

The Welsh Government has no plans to introduce its own primary legislation but will continue to work collaboratively with the UK Government and to ensure that UEFA's requirements are met.

The Northern Ireland Executive has indicated it is not currently considering bringing forward specific legislation, but will continue to work with the UK Government as required, to ensure any commitments under their control are met.

The Government of Ireland has indicated that in Ireland, the Sale of Tickets (Cultural, Entertainment, Recreational and Sporting Events) Act 2021 (the Act) prohibits the sale or advertising for sale of tickets or ticket packages for a price exceeding their original sale price for events taking place in designated venues and for designated events. The Act sets out the enforcement powers of An Garda Síochána in relation to entry and search as well as the arrest without warrant of those breaching Section 15 of the Act. This legislation was enacted with a particular focus on UEFA EURO 2020 which was upcoming at the time and gave specific mention to that event. The provisions of the Act do not apply outside of Ireland.

It should be noted that in Ireland an exemption applies where advertising for sale of a ticket or a ticket package is by or on behalf of a charitable organisation or an amateur sports club







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for a relevant event where the sale of that ticket or ticket package has been approved by an event organiser, and the proceeds of the sale are used only for the purpose of funding the activities of the charitable organisation or amateur sports club.

The Government of Ireland will continue to work with Government partners to ensure that the commitments made to UEFA by Government are met.

I hope this information is helpful to the committee in its ongoing scrutiny of the bill. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if any further clarification or assistance is required.

Yours sincerely

**RACHAEL MCKECHNIE** 

Deputy Director, Major Events







UEFA response to questions related to ticketing and the proposed Scottish Event Legislation – 20 June 2025

#### **UEFA EURO 2028 Ticketing Information**

UEFA notes that the Committee has requested details about the ticketing strategy, including the numbers and price ranges of tickets and the timescales, for UEFA EURO 2028. These matters are not yet finalised and, as such, there is nothing we are able to share with the Committee at this time. Annex 1 does, however, contain a copy of the UEFA EURO 2024 Ticketing Brochure, which provides detailed information in respect of ticketing for UEFA EURO 2024, including details on the ticketing sales phases which were adopted for UEFA EURO 2024, facts and figures in relation to UEFA EURO 2024 tickets, the ticket quotas available to different target groups, the categories and prices of tickets and the sales rules applicable to UEFA EURO 2024 tickets. This brochure is also available online at <a href="https://editorial.uefa.com/resources/0285-18f5d897b875-386120c0b803-">https://editorial.uefa.com/resources/0285-18f5d897b875-386120c0b803-</a>

<u>1000/ticketing brochure uefa euro 2024.pdf.</u> We hope that this document provides some context to UEFA's processes on ticketing for the most recent UEFA European Football Championship, albeit that we are not in a position to confirm that the exact same process would apply for UEFA EURO 2028.

#### **UEFA's general position on ticket resale**

Tickets for a UEFA European Football Championship (commonly referred to as a "UEFA EURO") are always in high demand. The importance of the UEFA EURO coupled with UEFA's obligation to develop football lies at the heart of UEFA's ticketing policy, namely ensuring that tickets are distributed fairly. In particular, UEFA has strived to guarantee that the distribution of tickets is characterised by fair value and fair access, notwithstanding the fact that the demand for tickets significantly exceeds supply. In fact, the demand for UEFA EURO tickets significantly exceeds supply such that tickets would become prohibitively expensive if pricing were subject to ordinary dynamics.

The above principles of fair value and fair access are reflected in UEFA's usual practice of distributing tickets for the general public via a lottery and charging affordable ticket prices so as to ensure attendance across a wide socio-economic spectrum. In addition, UEFA seeks to ensure that tickets for UEFA EUROs (and indeed for other matches and tournaments where UEFA is the seller of tickets, such as the UEFA Champions League Final and UEFA Women's EURO) are sold to genuine fans wanting to attend the matches and not to individuals whose sole aim is to resell the tickets at a profit.

As a result, UEFA's ticketing terms and conditions prohibit unauthorised resale; whilst tickets can be resold to friends or family members for the face value of the ticket, UEFA prohibits tickets being offered for sale or transfer, including online.

It is important to note that the participating national associations ("PNAs") in a UEFA EURO determine who their ticket allocation should be sold to. Such PNAs may implement a system where, for example, only their most loyal fans are able to purchase a ticket.

#### The need to restrict resale

Despite the ticketing terms and conditions, UEFA is very aware that tickets for its matches are advertised for sale and resold in breach of the ticketing terms and conditions. Such resales can take place in a number of different ways, including via secondary ticketing platforms and via the more traditional 'street touts', and are often for a price in excess of face value (sometimes vastly in excess of face value). Tickets also often appear on the secondary market before tickets have even been offered for sale by UEFA. This entirely undermines UEFA's ticketing policies and the reasons for these policies, including consumer protection.

UEFA has also seen in recent years the growth of 'bots' when it comes to the sale of tickets for its matches, including UEFA EURO 2024. The sole aim of these bots is to purchase as many tickets as they can so that the tickets obtained can then be resold (inevitably at above face value). During ticket sales phases for its matches, UEFA's ticketing platform is flooded with applications made by bots. Whilst UEFA invests significantly in adopting measures which aim to identify the bots and exclude any applications made by them from receiving tickets, some of these bots are extremely sophisticated and it is not always possible to identify them. In this respect it is important to note



UEFA response to questions related to ticketing and the proposed Scottish Event Legislation – 20 June 2025

that UEFA places limits on the number of tickets which fans can buy for a particular match; the use of bots is a way to circumvent these limits, thereby taking tickets away from genuine fans.

UEFA would further like to note that it sees, first-hand, the effect of unauthorised ticket resale on fans. Fans who have purchased tickets on the secondary market often come to the UEFA Ticketing Centre onsite at events such as the UEFA Champions League Final or UEFA EURO as they have not received the tickets that they purchased, sometimes having paid exorbitant prices for such tickets. In such circumstances, the fan's only recourse is to contact the seller or the platform from where they purchased the tickets. Fans also come to UEFA's Ticketing Centre's with counterfeit tickets, seeking UEFA's assistance. Whilst being able to make a report to the relevant authorities, the fan's only other recourse is to contact the seller or the platform from where they purchased the tickets. UEFA therefore witnesses the disappointment and distress which follows from being told that UEFA cannot assist in these situations. Whilst UEFA acknowledges that not all ticket resales result in these outcomes, they are outcomes, nonetheless, that are seen far too often.

#### **UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill (the "Bill")**

In order to protect the principles of fair value and fair access as explained earlier, UEFA has requested legislation to be in place in Scotland for UEFA EURO 2028 which prohibits the resale of tickets. UEFA seeks to ensure that tickets for UEFA EURO 2028 are sold to genuine fans wanting to attend the matches and not to individuals whose sole aim is to resell the tickets at a profit.

By way of full transparency, due to the specific concerns around security at football matches and due to consumer protection concerns in allowing tickets to be resold, UEFA had sought to have legislation in place which prohibited the unauthorised sale of tickets generally. However, the Bill which has been proposed does not do this; instead the Bill proposes to make it an offence to sell a ticket at above face value or for a profit. Despite such legislation not being in line with UEFA's usual position, for the reasons explained above UEFA still believes it is important (and indeed necessary) to have legislation in place which makes the resale of tickets for UEFA EURO 2028 above face value, or at a profit, a criminal offence.

We note that the Committee had various questions in relation to certain provisions of the Bill and we therefore wanted to take this opportunity to clarify our position in respect of the Bill. We hope that the background information provided earlier in this document also provides some further context in this respect.

It should be noted that UEFA did not draft the Bill and therefore the wording, and the reasons for such wording, are primarily down to the Scottish Government. We can therefore only speak to the general principles captured in the Bill, rather than specific wording. This also applies to the jurisdictional reach of the Bill; this was a matter for the Scottish Government, including having the exceptions for providers of information society services etc. in Schedule 1 of the Bill.

In relation to the general prohibition on the resale of tickets above face value or at a profit, we can only repeat what we have said above; UEFA has strived to guarantee that the distribution of tickets is characterised by fair value and fair access, notwithstanding the fact that the demand for tickets significantly exceeds supply. The unauthorised resale of tickets entirely undermines this policy and we believe that it is therefore both reasonable and proportionate to request that legislation is in place to protect both UEFA and fans in this respect.

We note from the report of the meeting of the Committee on 8 May 2025 that there was some concern around the wording which exempts UEFA from the touting offence. This wording is, of course, not there to allow UEFA or any persons working for UEFA to 'tout' tickets. UEFA is an organisation and is the owner of the commercial rights for UEFA EURO 2028. It is therefore imperative that we (or third parties authorised by us) are permitted to sell tickets for the tournament, even if such sales are at a profit. Revenue from ticket sales is something which, along with other revenue from UEFA EUROs, is invested back into football and UEFA cannot therefore be at risk of being caught by the ticket touting offence by selling tickets.



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We also note from the report of the meeting of the Committee on 8 May 2025 that there was some concern around the wording for the registered charity exception. The charity exception is actually one which has been included despite our objections. Whilst UEFA, of course, recognises the important work carried out by charities (UEFA has its own charitable foundation), use of tickets for charitable auctions etc. is not permitted by UEFA's ticketing terms and conditions. To allow tickets to be used in such manner would, in UEFA's opinion, cause confusion as to the legitimacy of such tickets and also be open to exploitation. Already, and despite the provisions of the ticketing terms and conditions, UEFA has, in fact, seen situations where tickets are being advertised purportedly for charity, however, on further inspection of such offers it becomes clear that only a proportion (often a small proportion) of the proceeds actually goes to the charity. This is clearly not appropriate. The Bill at least provides for some tangible measure of what a charity is, which we believe is important in order to avoid the exception itself being exploited.

We also take this opportunity to provide some information in respect of the use of the revenue from UEFA EURO 2024, where a record €935m of that revenue will be redistributed between the 55 UEFA member associations through the HatTrick programme. Additionally, €331m has been awarded to associations in prize money and a further €240m given to domestic clubs that released players for the tournament. It is to protect UEFA's ability to use UEFA EURO revenue in this way that legislation is being requested.

Further information on the legacy of UEFA EURO 2024 can be found in the UEFA EURO 2024 Tournament Summary, available at <a href="https://editorial.uefa.com/resources/0290-1ba7a17c0ca4-877b61cc8359-1000/uefa euro 2024 tournament-summary v17.pdf">https://editorial.uefa.com/resources/0290-1ba7a17c0ca4-877b61cc8359-1000/uefa euro 2024 tournament-summary v17.pdf</a>

Annex 1 – UEFA EURO 2024 Ticketing Brochure



## CEEAC/S6/25/20/2 Annexe B



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#### **Ticket Sales Timeline**

Fans will be able to easily apply and purchase tickets from the official website: euro2024.com/tickets.

Third-party ticketing websites and secondary ticketing platforms are not authorised to sell tickets.



## Ticket sales phases explained

## 3 October - 26 October 2023: Pre-draw application phase

Since the fixtures are not known yet, fans can apply for tickets based on the dates and venues. However, it is already known which group stage matches the German national team will play. As in previous tournaments, the first application phase is the best chance especially for local fans to be part of EURO, regardless of which team is playing.

#### Approx. 14 November 2023: Ticket application outcome

Applicants will be notified about the outcome of their ticket application. Successful applicants will have ~10 days to pay for their tickets.

#### November 2023: 'Fans First' - Waitlist sales

Some tickets will go on sale due to failed payments. Unsuccessful applicants will be the first to be informed about the new ticket availability. This exclusive priority is part of the 'Fans First' programme. Fans will be invited according to their ranking in the lottery.



#### 2 December 2023: Final tournament draw+ Ticket sales to general public

The UEFA EURO 2024 final tournament draw will take place at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, determining six groups of four. A second sales phase will start. The general public will then be able to select matches played by specific teams when applying for tickets via euro 2024.com/tickets.

#### From 4 December 2023: Sales to fans of qualified teams

At this point, 21 out of 24 participating national teams will be known. Tickets will go on sale to the fans of these 21 national associations. The ticket sales will be organised in close cooperation with the participating national associations. Similar to previous tournaments, the process allows tickets to be sold according to the ticket allocation principles each participating national association is applying for their fans.

#### March 2024: Resale Platform available

The Ticket Resale Platform allows fans to offer their tickets for resale at face value via EURO2024.com/tickets. This eliminates the risk of acquiring invalid or fraudulent tickets and ensures that sellers receive their money in full. Tickets offered for resale will be released at specific dates. Therefore fans will not have to constantly check if tickets were put on resale.

#### April 2024: Sales to fans of teams that qualified through the play-offs

UEFA EURO 2024 play-offs: Between 21 and 26 March, 12 teams compete for the 3 remaining spots in the final tournament. Tickets will go on sale to these 3 national associations. The ticket sales principles will be agreed in close collaboration with the participating national associations.

### May 2024: Last-Minute-Sales

In case some tickets remain unsold or further tickets become available following the finalisation of the stadium configuration, they will be made available on a first-come, first-served base.

#### 14 June – 14 July 2024: Final tournament

51 matches will be played in 10 German host cities during 23 match days. The opening match will be played in the Munich Football Arena while Olympiastadion Berlin stages the final.

#### 23 June – 14 July 2024: Knockout stage matches ticket sales

Tickets will go on sale to the fans of the national teams just after they qualify. Tickets will be held back until the qualification of the teams to allow a large quantity of fans to follow their team throughout the tournament. These tickets will be sold according to the ticket allocation principles each participating national association is applying for their fans.

## Facts and Figures

- Based on the anticipated capacities of the 10 venues, approximately 2.7 million tickets will be available
  across the 51 matches. These figures do not take into account the number of seats that have to be
  deducted for security reasons, camera and media positions and other operational reasons.
- >80% of tickets will be for the fansof the teams and the general public.

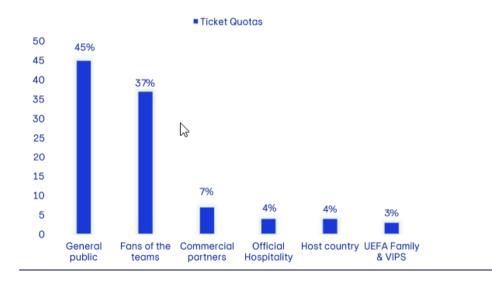


- 1.2 million tickets will be available to the general public and 1 million tickets will be available to fans of the teams.
- A total of 380'000 tickets will be available at the cheapest price category ('Fans First')
- 270'000 tickets will be available for €30
- 1milliontickets for less then €60
- Only four tickets per match are allowed for each application to enable as many applicants as possible to see matches.
- To ensure tickets purchased are valid, fans must only buy tickets via EURO2024.com/tickets. Tickets
  bought anywhere other than through the official sales channel may be invalid, non-existent or
  counterfeit, and those in possession will be denied entry to the stadium.
- If demand exceeds availability during the first public sales phases, tickets will be allocated via a lottery. In later sales phases, tickets will also be soldon a first-come, first-served base.
- Tickets will be sold to individuals only; companies are invited to purchase official hospitality packages.

#### **Ticket Quotas**

EURO 2024 is a complex event which is based on ticket quotas. This means that tickets are reserved for certain groups that place their orders according to specific timelines (for instance, three participating teams will only be known two months before the tournament, as they will qualify via the UEFA EURO 2024 play-offs in March 2024).

1.2 million tickets for EURO 2024 will be sold directly to the general public online via euro 2024.com/tickets. Additionally, UEFA has contractual arrangements with commercial partners (sponsors and broadcasters), host country, participating national associations and other entities that are entitled to ticket allocations in acknowledgement of their support inorganising the tournament.





The global sponsors and national supporters of UEFA EURO 2024 will make a high number of tickets available to fans through promotional lotteries and competitions. Tickets will also be reserved for the DFB (Deutscher Fußball-Bund), the host cities, VIPs and members of the UEFA Family, i.e., non-participating associations, UEFA committees, clubs, football confederations and other football-related entities or individuals.

## **Categories and Prices**

## **Price categories**

Tickets will be offer in four standard price categories for UEFA EURO 2024. The following principles apply for the definition of categories in the stadium. The application of such principles is dependent on the configuration of each stadium and may vary slightly.



Symbolic graphic

- Red: Category 1 seats are located on the main and opposite stands or in the lower blocks in the corners.
- Blue: Category 2 seats are located in the corners and behind the goals; or on the main and opposite stands, above the Category 1 seats.
- Green: Category 3 seats are located in the corners and behind the goals, further away from the pitch than Category 2 seats.
- Orange: 'Fans First' seats are located behind the goals.





#### **Public transport**

Public transport within the regions and Host Cities is included in the match tickets (valid for 36 hours MD from 6 am to MD+1 until 6 pm).

Match ticket holders who wish to travel within Germany can purchase discounted national long-distance tickets for their round trip via Deutsche Bahn. For match ticket holders travelling from outside of Germany, a discounted EURO 2024 InterRail pass will be available.

## 'Fans First'

UEFA has extended the 'Fans First' programme which was initially launched for UEFA EURO 2020. While 'Fans First' tickets were only available for 3 matches for the previous edition of UEFA EURO, these will now be available for all matches. Making 380'000 tickets available at affordable prices across all 51 matches is testament to UEFA's respect for the fans who truly represent the spirit of the game. Furthermore, to ensure fans are given every possible chance to secure tickets, those who are unsuccessful in their ticket application will automatically be entered into the 'Fans First' programme. These fans will be thefirst to be informed about new EURO 2024 ticket availability (on account of unsuccessful payments or tickets that were not used by other target groups). Supporters in the 'Fans First' group will be given an exclusive priority period to purchase these tickets. Fans will be invited according to their ranking in the initial lottery.



## **Diversity & Inclusion**

The UEFA EURO 2024 celebrates diversity and inclusion, ensuring that everyone regardless of their personal characteristics can be a part of it. In line withmajor international sports events, there will be tickets available at every match for fans with disability or limited mobility. Wheelchair users will have a space reserved for them and spectators with limited mobility that require accessible seating can apply for easy access tickets. Regardless of their location in the stadium, all wheelchair user and easy access tickets are priced in themost affordable category. A complimentary ticket for a companion, as well as a parking pass can be requested. Valid proof of eligibility will be required when applying for tickets. Live commentary by an audio-descriptive commentator will be provided and broadcasted for all matches via a web-based solution that is accessible for everyone via mobile app. Therefore, visually impaired fans can purchase any of the available tickets and will be able to listen to the live commentary from any seat in the stadium using their own mobile phone and headsets.

In order to prevent and fight all forms of discrimination and ensure the rights of all are protected, all gender entrances and toilets will be available in all stadiums and will be accessible by all ticket categories. Furthermore, a rapid response mechanism that helps anyone who is feeling vulnerable will be implemented in all stadiums.

#### **Prime Seats**

Prime Seats offer an additional option for fans that are interested in centrally located seats within Category 1 (possible location shown below within the dark red area). Prime Seats will be offered as of the December sales phase.

Group stage	Opening match	Round of 16	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final
400	900	500	700	900	2'000

Prices in EUR

7



Symbolic graphic



#### Official Hospitality packages

For those looking for a premium match experience and guaranteed ticket(s), the 2024 Hospitality Experience AG is selling packages starting at  $\[ ext{\ class} \]$  is selling packages starting at  $\[ ext{\ class} \]$  per person. Depending on the package, the benefits include first class service from elite viewing positions, gourmet catering, live music to private in-skybox TV. The packages are available for purchase online at  $\[ ext{\ class} \]$ 

Club	Prestige	Platinum	Skybox
From 1'250	From 1'850	From 2'300	From 2'300

Prices in EUR

### Sales rules

To ensure a fair allocation of the tickets, the following rules apply for the first ticket sales phase:

- The ticket application process will start on 3 October 2023 at 14:00 CEST and end on 26 October 2023 at 14:00 CEST. During this phase, fans can adjust or cancel their application at any time. After the application window has closed on 26 October 2023, no changes or cancellations will be possible.
- Fans can apply for a maximum of fourtickets per match (one for the applicant and up to three for guests).
- The allocation of tickets for the tournament will be independent of the time the application is registered, giving all applicants an equal opportunity.
- Individuals can apply for only one price category per match. However, to increase the chances of
  receiving tickets, fans can indicate their willingness to accept tickets in other categories if the selected
  category is not available.
- Tickets cannot be requested for two matches taking place on the same day.
- Tickets reserved for fans will not be made available to commercial entities.
- Individuals can only submit one application for the tournament. The above rules apply to all ticket types available for purchase.

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY TICKET SALES AT THE STADIUMS DURING THE TOURNAMENT.

### **General information**

### **Ticket Payment Process**

Ticket payments must be made in Euros. Accepted payment methods are Alipay+, credit or debit card.

Applicants will receive an email informing them as to whether their application has been successful or not. Fans may also be partially successful, meaning that for some matches their application was successful, whilst unsuccessful for other matches. If an application was successful for a given match, fans would always be allocated all tickets they applied for.

Successful applicants will be given a limited time (approximately ten days) to make full payment for <u>all</u> the tickets they have been allocated. It will not be possible to exclude tickets or matches from the payment. Once UEFA receives the full payment, fans will be notified via email that their tickets are secured. In case of an unsuccessful payment in the given timeframe, these tickets will be released and made available to the 'Fans First' group.



#### **Ticket distribution**

100% of the tickets will be distributed via UEFAs blockchain-based mobile ticketing system, which was already used for the majority of tickets for UEFA EURO 2020 and UEFA Women's EURO 2022, as well as for UEFAs Club Competition Finals and the UEFA Nations League Finals. There will be no paper tickets and no print-at-home tickets.

Fans will be provided with more detailed information closer to the tournament.

#### **Customer service**

A list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is available in English and German at euro2024.com/tickets. Should fans have further questions, they can contact the customer service through the online form in the FAQs. All customer questions will be responded to via email in a timely manner.

#### **Commercial partner promotions**

Please note that only commercial partners of UEFA EURO 2024 are authorised to offer tickets in lotteries and other competitions. For a complete list of commercial affiliates, please refer to uefa.com/euro2024.

#### Important notes

- UEFA EURO 2024 stadium rules and the Ticketing Sales General public Terms and Conditions apply in all cases. The full version of the stadium rules and the terms and conditions can be found on uefa.com/euro2024.
- · Fans are required to adhere to the seat numbers noted on their tickets.
- All items that compromise security (e.g. weapons, fireworks, glass bottles, large banners, laser pointers) are not allowed for use in a stadium [3] fans will be searched, and any such items will be confiscated before entry into the stadium.
- UEFA will exercise its right to refuse entry into a stadium in instances where the UEFA EURO 2024 stadium rules or the ticket terms and conditions are violated. The ticket will be confiscated.

#### **Unauthorised sales**

UEFA is aware of unauthorised ticket sales and strongly advises against buying tickets through channels other than those mentioned in this brochure.

#### **Media enquiries**

For general questions, please contact media@efa.ch





UEFA response to questions related to street trading and the proposed Scottish Event Legislation – 23 June 2025

#### UEFA EURO 2028 - UEFA's hosting terms and conditions in relation to street trading

#### 1. The hosting conditions in relation to street trading

UEFA notes that the Committee has requested details around the hosting conditions insofar as they concern street trading during UEFA EURO 2028 (the "**Tournament**"). The relevant conditions were set out and provided to the Scottish FA, Glasgow City Council and other relevant stakeholders in the EURO 2028 Tournament Bid Requirements. A summary is provided below.

#### Rights Protection Programme

Obligations in relation to street trading form part of the hosting authorities' overall obligation to plan, resource and implement a rights protection programme in collaboration with UEFA ("**Rights Protection Programme**"). The intention of the Rights Protection Programme is to prevent certain unauthorised activities such as:

- the sale of counterfeit goods
- unauthorised/unregulated street trading i.e. the trading of unofficial products and services
- ticket touting
- ambush advertising

#### Unauthorised street trading

In relation to unauthorised street trading, the hosting authorities are required to:

- ensure that there are effective measures to protect and enforce against unauthorised street trading (of merchandise and food and beverage).
- procure that the relevant authorities in the host cities (including, to the extent required, city authorities, police, public prosecutors or courts, customs and the IP and trade mark office) are enabled and empowered to comprehensively protect UEFA and its commercial partners against unauthorised and infringing activities.
- provide a commitment not to grant temporary/permanent licences in relation to the undertaking of any activities that could result in street selling.
- take all reasonable measures to prohibit, restrict and prevent unauthorised street trading (including the removal of all existing (temporary) sellers).

#### **Applicability**

The requirements are applicable during Tournament time and only in specific areas ("**Event Zones**") within the host city which are central to the tournament such as:

- · the Stadium Commercial Perimeter an area identified in the immediate vicinity of the stadium; and
- other areas relevant to the hosting of the event such as Fan Zones and Fan Meeting Points.

#### Counterfeits

In addition to street trading more generally, there are further terms and conditions which are relevant to the trading of counterfeit products – these are products which feature the intellectual property of UEFA (such as registered trade marks) without UEFA's consent. Such trade marks include the official Tournament logo, the EURO trophy, the Tournament mascot, the Host City logo or other elements of EURO branding.

Use of UEFA's registered trade marks is reserved for UEFA and its official partners and unauthorised use of them constitutes trade mark infringement. Hosting authorities are required to:

ensure that the authorities and the laws and regulations of the host country grant robust protection to UEFA's
intellectual property rights including ensuring that trade marks and other intellectual property relating to the
UEFA EURO can be registered/protected.



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- ensure effective measures to protect and enforce against the sale of counterfeits.
- ensure that the relevant authorities in the host cities take all necessary actions in relation to the unauthorised
  use of UEFA's intellectual property and other rights in these including by preventing: the production, sale or
  distribution of counterfeits related to the Tournament.
- provide a commitment not to grant temporary/permanent licences in relation to the undertaking of any
  activities in relation to the distribution of counterfeits.
- take all reasonable measures to prohibit, restrict and prevent sales of counterfeit goods.

#### Enforcement

Connected to the obligations concerning unauthorised trading and the sale of counterfeit products, hosting authorities are required to:

- coordinate with the relevant authorities to organise and provide sufficient resource and personnel for Matchday prevention and enforcement activities in connection with the Rights Protection Programme.
- ensure any violations are dealt with quickly and effectively.

#### 2. UEFA's general position in relation to street trading

The key objectives of the Rights Protection Programme are to:

- protect the exclusive nature of the rights granted to UEFA's official partners who provide significant funding for the Tournament and the football eco-system in Europe more generally.
- protect consumers, particularly from sub-standard, poor quality merchandise.

#### Protection of commercial rights

It is important to note that UEFA is **not** a profit-making organisation. The revenues generated by UEFA are used to fund competitions such as the Tournament and, primarily, are reinvested back into football. Further information on this reinvestment to UEFA's National Association (including the Scottish FA) via UEFA's Hat Trick programme can be found in our response to the questions on ticketing matters.

The licensing of official merchandise and the granting of food and beverage concessions are two of UEFA's key revenue streams and the commercial value of such rights is dependent on the level of exclusivity that UEFA can offer its partners. In this regard, the presence of a high volume of unauthorised street trading activities in and immediately around Event Zones undermines the value of the rights granted by UEFA. Without the terms and conditions imposed on such unauthorised activities by the Rights Protection Programme, UEFA's ability to secure such partners and generate revenues for reinvestment into football would be impacted.

#### Consumer protection

UEFA's opinion is that fans visiting the Event Zones should be assured of the quality and safety of the products and food and beverage that are being offered to them. In this regard, UEFA has no control of the provenance, quality and safety of the products and services being offered by unauthorised street traders.

In addition, UEFA has processes in place regarding the ethical standards of the supply chains of its official licensees. UEFA cannot make such assurances to fans in relation to products and services being offered by unauthorised street traders. In relation to the trade of counterfeits, these are criminal activities and such activities are often connected to organised crime groups.



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#### 3. UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill (the "Bill")

The effectiveness of efforts to tackle unauthorised trading during the Tournament will, to a large extent, be dependent on the strength of the laws in the host countries and the cooperation of the hosting authorities.

In this regard, as part of the hosting obligations, the hosting authorities are required to procure that relevant authorities issue such additional laws, decrees, orders, instructions, etc. as are within their relevant competencies or remits so as to ensure that UEFA receives the relevant levels of support and assistance as contemplated.

The Bill meets the requirements of the Rights Protection Programme (including in relation to unauthorised street trading and counterfeit sales) and would, in UEFA's opinion, greatly assist the local organising committee for Glasgow with its hosting of the Tournament.

#### 4 Additional considerations

We note from the report of the meeting of the Committee on 8 May 2025 that there was some concern around UEFA "profiting without restriction". As noted above, this observation is incorrect as UEFA is a not for profit organisation.

UEFA is very keen to ensure that host countries and host cities benefit from the opportunities, interest and excitement connected to the Tournament. UEFA has therefore sought to achieve a balance between ensuring that (1) the rights of UEFA and its partners are protected; and (2) the host cities and existing businesses within them are able to benefit and thrive from the opportunities that hosting such an event can bring.

UEFA has therefore carefully considered its hosting requirements in relation to the Rights Protection Programme (including on the prevention of unauthorised trading) to ensure that they are proportionate. It is important to note that:

- The requirements only apply to the Event Zones in the host cities which will be specific and defined traders
  are not prevented from trading in other parts of the host city during Match Day or in other parts of the host
  country during the Tournament. We note that the Bill provides for the host city to provide alternative
  arrangements for existing street traders.
- Existing permanent businesses (e.g. restaurants, shops, bars) are not prevented from carrying on their business as usual.
- The requirements are only applicable for the Tournament and no other football competitions hosted in the host city.
- The requirements are more stringent in relation to the sale of counterfeit goods which constitutes trade mark infringement.
- The requirements do not impact on existing Match Day traders' normal, anticipated Match Days and usual revenue days throughout the season. The requirements only apply to this exceptional, large scale event which only takes place every four years and for which the viability of hosting is dependent on certain commercial protections as indicated in UEFA's Rights Protection Programme requirements.

In UEFA's opinion, the Bill addresses these points. UEFA notes that the Bill also provides a comprehensive list of exemptions.

In addition, UEFA notes that the Bill will require Glasgow City Council to publish guidance on trading and advertising measures to give Match Day traders and existing businesses time to prepare appropriately for the Tournament. UEFA is committed to ensuring that local traders and businesses have clarity regarding what activities are permitted and prohibited around the Tournament – UEFA would be happy to provide views and assistance in relation to the terms of such guidance.



UEFA response to questions related to street trading and the proposed Scottish Event Legislation – 23 June 2025

#### 5 Final remarks

We note that the Committee had various questions in relation to certain provisions of the Bill and we therefore wanted to take this opportunity to clarify our position in respect of the Bill. We hope that the background information provided earlier in this document also provides some further context in this respect. Please note that we have not provided any detail in this response on the ambush advertising obligations under the Rights Protection Programme as no question was specifically asked on this topic. If there are questions on this topic, please let us know.

Finally it should be noted that UEFA did not draft the Bill and therefore the wording, and the reasons for such wording, is the legislative responsibility of the Scottish Government. We can therefore only speak to the general principles captured in the Bill, rather than specific wording.

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Police Scotland Response concerning online enforcement

Instances of ticket touting online related to the UEFA EURO 2028 tournament reported to Police Scotland would be reviewed and subsequent enquiry directed by the tournament crime lead (assigned by Police Scotland) in conjunction with the police licensing unit. The designation of investigation and possible enforcement would be allocated based on a number of criteria. For example, the value, scale and location of the suspected offence, and in liaison with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS).



3 June 2025

Clare Adamson MSP Convenor Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

## By Electronic Mail

Dear Clare,

### **UEFA European Championship (Scotland) Bill**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide evidence in relation to the Scottish Government's proposed legislation above.

On behalf of the Scottish FA, as a proud co-host of UEFA EURO 2028, I am pleased to lend my full support to the Bill as tabled, and can confirm that the Scottish Government's major events directorate has worked extensively with UEFA, UK and Ireland 2028 Limited, Glasgow City Council (Glasgow Life), and Police Scotland, in presenting an appropriate legislative framework commensurate with hosting, and protecting, the third largest sporting event in the world.

Based upon the shared experience of UEFA EURO 2020 previously, I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the Scottish Government, and your own committee, for the excellent progress that has already been achieved in delivering upon a key hosting obligation to the event owner, UEFA.

I have noted the contents of the evidence taken by the committee on 8 May 2025, as kindly provided by the Scottish Parliament, and have no further comment to provide at this time.

Due to a prior business commitment on 19 June, I regret that I will be unable to attend the committee's next scheduled meeting.

Yours sincerely

IAN MAXWELL CHIEF EXECUTIVE







# Written Evidence to the Constitution, Europe, **External Affairs and Culture Committee on UEFA** Championship (Scotland) Bill 2025

## 1. Summary of our key points

The Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) is grateful to the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee for providing us with the opportunity to provide written evidence on the elements of the Bill which are relevant to the mandate of the SHRC.

Having considered the Bill, we offer the following advice:

- The Committee should recommend that the Scottish Government should assess the potential impact of this Bill on human rights, in particular Articles 5, 8, 10 and 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and ensure any interference is necessary, proportionate and lawful. We suggest that process be put in place to ensure that Glasgow City Council monitor the human rights impacts of these measures and create appropriate channels for grievance.
- We would also recommend an accompanying statement confirming that Enforcement Officers enforcing the offences created by this legislation are bound to exercise their duties in a way which is compatible with human rights, in the same way that police are required to.
- Finally, we suggest that the Committee and the Scottish Government consider the broader opportunities in this Bill and elsewhere, to further embed a human-rights based approach to procurement into the commercial activities associated with this, and other mega sporting events.

# 2. Background: SHRC involvement in Mega Sporting Events

Major sporting events can have a significant impact on human rights. The United Nations Human Rights Council has adopted several resolutions recognising the relevance of human rights to major sporting events, 1 both as an opportunity to









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promote human rights and challenge existing inequalities and to highlight risks to rights presented by major sporting events.

In 2013-2014, the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) played a pivotal role in the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, resulting in the first-ever human rights policy for such an event. This work positioned Scotland as a leader in integrating human rights into mega sporting events.

We advised the Organising Committee on policy development on issues such as forced evictions, labour rights, trafficking, procurement, policing, and legacy.

The Organising Committee was clear at the time that adopting a focus on human rights 'was the right thing to do: as a business, a buyer of goods and services, an employer, and as an organisation with significant reach and influence'.2

Since that time, the Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (CFNHRI) has established a sports and human rights working group. In 2018, the CFBHRI adopted the London Declaration on Sport and Human Rights, which sets out how NHRIs can protect human rights within sport.

## 3. Context

The provisions of the Bill are summarised as follows:

- Ticket touting: The Bill will prohibit the touting of a championship ticket. Touting includes the sale of a championship ticket for any value in excess of its face value. There is an exception for the auction of tickets to raise funds for a charity, and to protect those who advertise that a ticket is on sale by another individual where they did not know the seller intended to tout the ticket.
- Street trading: It is an offence to trade in an open place within an event zone during a prohibited time. This includes selling an article or a service, providing entertainment, or appealing for charitable donations. Schedule 2 includes an exemption for certain charitable collections. Existing street trading licences do not exempt the holder from committing a street trading offence in the event zones during prohibited times.
- Advertising: Like street trading, it will be an offence to advertise in an event zone during a prohibited time. An activity will be considered advertising if it









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- is a communication to the public for the purposes of promoting an item, service, business or other concern. Existing advertising licences do not grant an exemption to these restrictions.
- Enforcement of offences: Enforcement officers are defined as an employee of Glasgow City Council with sufficient experience to exercise the functions set out in the Bill, or an individual who Glasgow City Council designate as an enforcement officer. There are restrictions on who can be designated as an enforcement officer. Enforcement officers are given general enforcement powers, which means taking reasonable steps such as seizing, concealing or destroying something suspected to be an infringing article, or to enter and search a place (including a vehicle or vessel). This does not grant enforcement officers powers to search an individual, or access electronic data.
- Other provisions: including the penalties the offences can attract and the sunset clause. (if applicable)

## 3. The human rights at stake

Whilst none of the provisions in the Bill deal directly with human rights, there are areas where explicit consideration of how the provisions interact with human rights would be beneficial, to ensure that enforcement of the Bill does not infringe on enjoyment of rights.

The provisions may engage with the European Convention on Human Rights, which is protected domestically via the Human Rights Act 1998 as follows:

- Article 5 the right to liberty and security of person
- Article 8 the right to private and family life
- Article 10 the right to freedom of expression
- Article 14 the right to protection from discrimination

These rights can be limited in certain circumstances, but any limitation must balance the interests of an individual and of the community as a whole.

## 4. Our recommendations

In the context of the Bill therefore, we offer the following advice:









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Section 12 to 16 of the Bill set out restrictions on advertising. These provisions place limits on communication between vendors and the public, and as such interfere with Article 10 rights to freedom of expression. The Scottish Government should conduct legal analysis to ensure this interference is necessary and proportionate.

Section 18 sets out that "an enforcement officer may take reasonable steps to prevent or end the commission of an offence under this Bill, or in connection with proceedings or anticipated proceedings in respect of an offence. Reasonable steps can include seizing, concealing or destroying anything that the enforcement officer believes is an offending article." This does not explicitly confer power to stop-andsearch individuals to determine whether a person has an 'offending article'; however, the Bill does not set out limitations on how enforcement officers should reasonably determine a suspicion that an offence will be committed, or set out any on searching or the use of force in exercising these powers. It is important that this power is exercised in a way which is compatible with Article 5 (the right to liberty and security of person); Article 8 (respect for privacy), and Article 14, non-discrimination. This means that use of the power must be legal, proportionate, and non-discriminatory.

This Bill gives powers to 'enforcement officers', who are not police officers. It should be made clear that nevertheless, those enforcing offences under this legislation are bound by the same legal obligation under the Human Rights Act 1998 to respect human rights by carrying out their duties.

We would also recommend consideration of a requirement for Glasgow City Council to monitor and report on the human rights impacts of the measures in this Bill, and to provide channels for grievances.

More broadly, this legislation provides an opportunity to embed human rights principles into commercial practices. We recommend that the Committee considers opportunities to further embed the approach set out in Chapter 14 of the Scottish Government's Scottish Procurement Policy Handbook (Human Rights). This could be considered either through this Bill or other work undertaken in the organisation of the UEFA Championship, and could include for example further requirements for parties to monitor and report on their compliance with these principles.

## 5. For further information

Please contact Jenni Cannon, Head of Legal and Policy, at jennifer.cannon@scottishhumanrights.com









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<sup>1</sup> For example see:

- Resolution 34/18: Promotion Human Rights through Sport and the Olympic Ideal: https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/RES/43/18
- Resolution 54/25: A world of sports free from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/RES/54/25
- <sup>2</sup> Scotland Human Rights Commission statement to the UN Human Rights Council: 'Panel on the use of sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights for all/ HRC res.31/23', June 2016, available at: shrc\_statement\_sport\_human\_rights\_unhrc\_jun16.doc







