

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

17 June 2026

Dear Yvette,

Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions [MS No.7/2026]: CRAG extension deadline request

I am writing to you about the Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions that was laid before Parliament under the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 (CRAG) on 4 June. As you know, CRAG gives Parliament 21 sitting days to scrutinise agreements prior to ratification.

The Committee considers the agreement to be politically and legally important and intends to report it to the House. In light of its importance, we hope to take oral evidence on the agreement to support the Committee's consideration of it. We also consider it important for the House to have the opportunity to debate the Agreement within the CRAG scrutiny period.

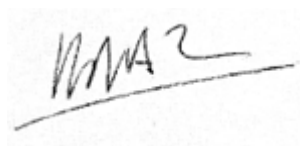
The current scrutiny deadline, 13 July, would make it very difficult for the Committee to take oral evidence on the Agreement before producing a report or to secure a debate, particularly in light of the Committee's existing scrutiny of other agreements recently laid under CRAG. The Committee has previously highlighted the challenges that the CRAG period poses in these respects in its report, *Treaty Scrutiny in Westminster: Addressing the Accountability Gap*. The Committee also notes that the Convention was laid for scrutiny and ratification with limited advance notice, despite the fact that it was first signed by the UK in 2018.

I am therefore writing to you to request an extension of fifteen sitting days to the current scrutiny period for this agreement, which we understand would take the deadline to 13 October 2026.

I would be grateful if the Government could respond to this request in writing by **Monday 22 June** to allow the Committee time to plan its work. As usual, we will also expect the Government's decision on extension to be communicated transparently to both Houses via a Written Ministerial Statement.

I am copying this letter to Seema Malhotra MP, Minister for the Indo-Pacific and Minister for Equalities (responsible for treaty policy), and to Stephanie Peacock MP, Minister for Sport, Tourism, Civil Society and Youth in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

With best wishes,





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