

#EuARE 2026 Panel

SPORT AND RELIGION IN THE GLOBAL ARENA: NEUTRALITY, FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, AND THE GOVERNANCE OF DIVERSITY

Friday 03 July 2026 from 15:00 to 19:30, Parenzo - A12

CHAIR

PROF. MARIA D'ARIENZO
University of Naples Federico II

SPEAKERS

CATERINA GAGLIARDI

University of Naples Federico II

*Equal opportunities and non discrimination in sport:
legal issues relating to gender identity, sexual
orientation and religion*

FRANCESCO SALVATORE REA

University of Naples Federico II

*Athletes' religious freedom and the sport system.
Legal aspect of a changing identity*

NEVENA DIMITROVA

Bulgarian Academy of Science of Sofia

*From ritual to performance: Orthodoxy
and the formation of sporting ethics.
Bulgarian perspectives*

DAVID DURISOTTO

University of Cagliari

*Sport and religion: between international
rules and national adaptations. A
comparison of some cases*

MARIA CRISTINA IVALDI

University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli"

*Football, faith and national federations:
navigating religious diversity
in a global context*

FABIO BALSAMO

University of Naples Federico II

*Social inclusion through sport: the contribution of
religiously inspired Third Sector organizations*

SOFIA OSNATO

University of Pisa – University of Ferrara

*Religious symbols and Olympic neutrality: the "Athletes
Cross" at Milano-Cortina 2026*

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