



WADA Athlete Rights Impact Assessment





The problem:

The World Anti-Doping Code (Code), including its systems and processes, has produced countless cases of injustice which have profound impacts on the health, wellbeing and careers of athletes.

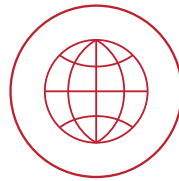
The World Anti Doping Agency has a special responsibility under the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) to address, prevent and mitigate against such impacts but has failed to do so. Undertaking an athlete rights impact assessment is the first essential step.

Why act?

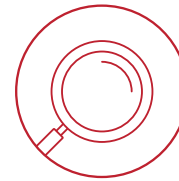
The first essential step for WADA to:



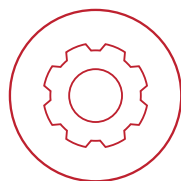
Rebuild athlete trust and confidence



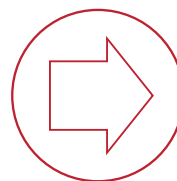
Begin implementing a human rights-based approach, including compliance with international requirements



Know and show how its systems are connected to athlete harm



Take action to prevent, mitigate and redress adverse impacts



Get ahead of regulatory initiatives requiring human rights due diligence

WADA's knowledge gap on impact:

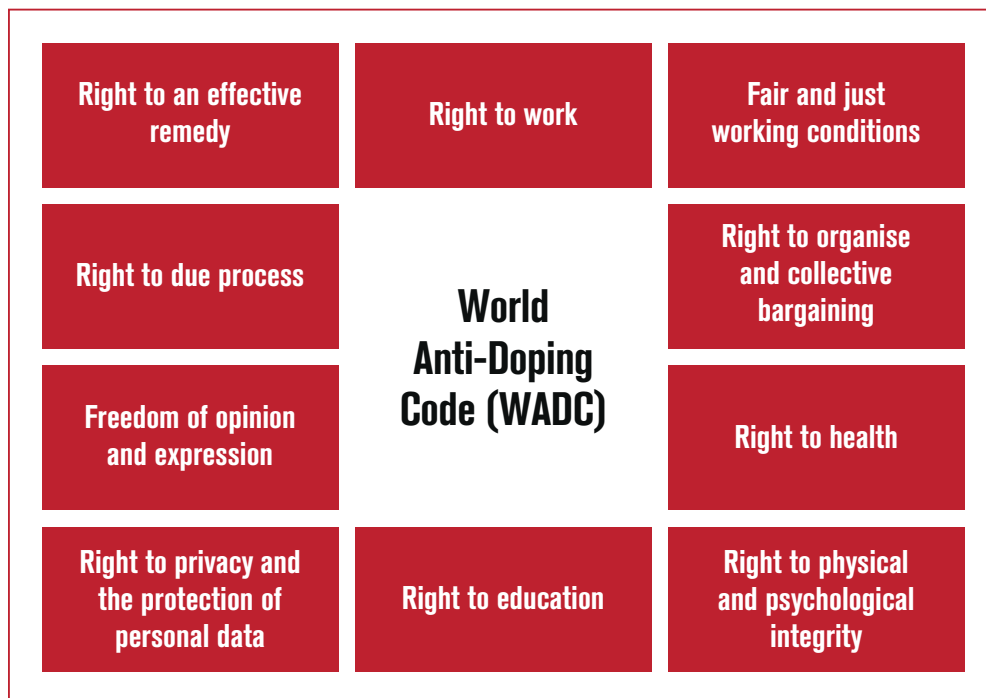


Existing research on the compatibility of the Code with international human rights is lacking as it is:

- Not based on the responsibility to respect human rights under the UNPGs
- Conducted in a factual vacuum that neglects the lived experiences of athletes



Accordingly, the Code has adverse impacts on various athlete rights which are neither understood nor researched by WADA, including:



What needs to be done: Terms of reference for an Athlete Rights Impact Assessment

In accordance with the UNGPs, WADA should undertake a tailored impact assessment that



Identifies, understands and addresses the adverse impact of WADA's regulations and processes on the internationally recognised human rights of athletes



Includes impacts WADA causes, contributes to or is directly linked to



Provides a series of recommendations to key stakeholders on how to protect, respect and uphold athlete rights