

EMANUEL MACEDO DE MEDEIROS

Biography

Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros was born in the island of São Miguel, in the Portuguese archipelago of Azores. Emanuel graduated in Law from Faculty of Law of the University of Lisbon, specialising in legal and economic sciences. Emanuel holds post-graduations in Sports Management, by the Portuguese Catholic University, and Professional Sports Law, by the Faculty of Law of the University of Coimbra, as well as an executive master on “Leading Economic Development” by the Harvard Kennedy School.

Throughout his career, Emanuel played an active role in several youth, citizenship and politic organisations. He was President of the Jurisdictional Council (1995 – 1997) and President of the Congress of Social Democratic Youth (1997 – 2000) of the Azores. In 1998, under the national leadership of Dr José Manuel Barroso, former Prime Minister of Portugal and President of the European Commission and current Chairman of Goldman Sachs, he was appointed Secretary General of the Social Democratic Party of the Oporto district, comprised of 18 municipalities.

As a lawyer, Emanuel began his career in 1993 at PLMJ, the largest and most prominent law firm in Portugal at that time. From 1993 to 2000, Emanuel collaborated with Boavista FC as Director of the Legal Department and, in June 2000, he was appointed Secretary General of the Portuguese Professional Football League; a role he carried out until January 2006. When Emanuel’s role at the League ceased, the Portuguese clubs, gathered at the League’s General Assembly, conferred him a vow of praise (“voto de louvor”), approved by unanimity and acclamation, in recognition for the services rendered to the League and Portuguese Football. The same had happened when he was elected to the UEFA Professional Football Committee in 2004.

From 2002 to 2014, Emanuel was a member of several Committees and Working Groups within both UEFA and FIFA, including but not limited to the UEFA Professional Football Strategy Board, the UEFA Professional Football Strategy Council and the UEFA Professional Football Committee, as well as the FIFA Club Football Committee, FIFA Task Force “For the Good of the Game” and Working Groups on International Match Calendar and on Regulatory Reform on Sports Agents , among others.

Emanuel is one of the founding fathers of the Association of European Professional Football Leagues (EPFL) and, on 06 June 2005, he was unanimously elected as its CEO, being responsible for the definition and implementation of the strategies necessary to meet the Association’s objectives and its daily political, administrative and financial management. He was also statutorily responsible for the representation and coordination of the EPFL and the Leagues with FIFA, UEFA and other sports bodies and political institutions, such as the European Commission, European Parliament, Council of Europe and national Governments and Parliaments.

Emanuel also holds a seat at the European Union’s Expert Group on Good Governance in Sport, since 2011. The areas covered by this body include good governance, sports betting integrity, players’ transfers and agents, youth protection and economic development.

In 2007, Emanuel played a key role in the creation of the Sports Rights Owners Coalition (SROC), a global forum of over 50 international and national sports bodies and competition organisers with a particular focus on rights issues.

On the 1st of July 2008, Emanuel co-founded the European Social Dialogue in the professional football sector under the auspices of the European Commission, and led the employers' delegation on behalf of the EPFL until March 2014.

In March 2012, Emanuel was appointed Ambassador for Sports Ethics by the Government of Portugal.

After nearly nine years at the helm of the EPFL, as elected CEO, Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros announced his decision to leave his role on 31 March 2014. The announcement was made during the EPFL General Assembly (Paris, 25th October 2013), in front of the whole international football community, in a speech that culminated in a standing ovation. In appreciation for the high services rendered by Emanuel to the EPFL, the European Leagues and European Sport, the EPFL General Assembly tributed him, by unanimous decision and acclamation, in 2014, with a vow of praise and recognition.

In October 2013, Emanuel became member of the Advisory Board of the ICSS (International Centre for Safeguarding Sport), an international organisation and global hub of expertise on sport security, safety and integrity. In June 2014, Emanuel was appointed CEO of ICSS Europe and ICSS Latin America, currently ICSS INSIGHT.

In addition, Emanuel is a member of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, and member of the World Economic Forum / PACI's Advisory Committee, member of the Consultative Committee of EPAS/Council of Europe, and member of the OECD's Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade.

Emanuel is a proud co-founder and Coordinator, since 02nd November 2015, of the Sport Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA), the world's largest independent, multi-stakeholder global coalition in the field of sports governance and integrity. Based in Geneva, the organisation currently represents more than 100 members, supporters and leaders from the world of sport, government, international organisations, global businesses and civil society.

Emanuel Macedo de Medeiros also cooperates, as guest professor, in International Masters on Sports Business, Law and Management and has several publications related to Professional Football and Sports Law. He also participates, as a keynote speaker, in an extensive number of high-level conferences every year across the world.