



Youth  
in Action

## Newsletter for Youth in Action project

Issue 4 - June 2014

# Healthy development of children and young people through sport

*With the support of the Youth in Action Program of the European Union. This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein*

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# Partners

The project consortium is composed of 14 partners showing thus a high diversification which truly adds to the European and cross-cultural dimension of the project idea.

COORDINATOR **Bulgaria** International Platform for Citizen Participation

## LEAD PARTNERS:

1. **MALTA** Genista Research Foundation
2. **SPAIN** Foundation Docette Omnes
3. **PORTUGAL** CENTRO DI INICIATIVAS EMPRESARIAIS SOCIAIS (IEBA)
4. **ITALY** ASSOCIAZIONE DELLE CANOTTIERI
5. **TURKEY** KONYA IL MILLI EGITIM MUDURLUGU
6. **GREECE** ACADEMY OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## ASSOCIATED PARTNERS:

1. **GREECE** Youthnet Hellas
2. **GREECE** HELLENIC REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER
3. **TURKEY** YENIMAHALLE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND EVENING ART SCHOOL
4. **GREECE** WOMEN RETURN NETWORK
5. **SPAIN** EUROPEAN CROSSROADS
6. **ROMANIA** YOUTH ORGANIZATION SAKURA- ROMANIA-SAKURA
7. **GREECE** KENTRO EREVNON RIZES

*Making of a European Sports network international  
seminar 28-29 June 2014 | Sofia, Bulgaria*

<b>date/ time</b>	<b>PROGRAM MODULES</b>
<b>June 27th , 2014 (Friday)</b>	
Until 19:00	Arrival of participants
19:00	Dinner
<b>June 28th , 2014 (Saturday)</b>	
09:00	Registration of the participants
09:30	Opening session
09:45	Practical questions (reimbursement info)
10:00	Hopes and Fears of participants
10:30	Getting to know each other – Sport games
11:00	Coffee break
11:30	Introductory speech Youth Sports Statistics
12:00	Sport and Development workshop
13:00	Lunch
14:30	The Role of Sport in Peace-building
16:00	Practical Considerations of Using Sport in Peace-building
17:30	Questions and answer from the audience
18:00	Dinner
19:30	Welcome party
<b>June 29th , 2014 (Sunday)</b>	
09:00	How Do Youth Sports Help Kids in Academics?
10:00	The Positive Effects of Playing Sports in School
11:00	Drafting recommendations connected to the themes of the Seminar health, Participation and volunteering.Collection of practices showing excellent examples participating countries.implemented in the participating countries.
13:00	Lunch
14:00	The Formation of an International network to Explore Peace and Understanding Through Sport
14:30	Evaluation of the event
15:30	Sport games outside of the Facilities
18:00	Dinner
19:30	International evening
<b>June 30th , 2014 (Monday)</b>	
Morning	Departure of participants

# Brochure



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#### Project web site:

[www.youthsports.eu](http://www.youthsports.eu)

[www.facebook.com/hdcyps](https://www.facebook.com/hdcyps)

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT  
OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE  
THROUGH SPORT PROJECT

**HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH SPORT PROJECT**

The overall objective of **the project** is to promote the development of sustainable youth sport projects and encourage all kind of sports (non- or semi-structured football, basketball and team games, martial arts, judo, tennis, table tennis, badminton, cycling, rowing, canoeing, sailing, climbing, horse riding, etc.) and to promote the development of sustainable youth sport projects and encourage all kind of sports (non- or semi-structured football, basketball and team games, martial arts, judo, tennis, table tennis, badminton, cycling, rowing, canoeing, sailing, climbing, horse riding, etc.)

To encourage the involvement of public bodies at regional or local level from a different partner cities active in the youth sector in European youth and non-formal education activities.

To promote healthy behaviors, social inclusion and active participation of young people through the promotion of the practice of grassroots sport and outdoor activities.

To develop a European Sports network, by signing of a sport agreement during the final meeting and dissemination of findings and promotion of results on social networks.

**Youth unemployment and Sport**

**The Current Situation**

Young people have been hardest hit in the labour market during the economic crisis<sup>1</sup>. As recognized in the 2013 Council Directive<sup>2</sup> on youth unemployment, there needs to be strong efforts to reduce youth unemployment and to promote young people's participation in the labour market. In the 2013 AGO, the Commission stated that Member States should create school-to-work transition for young people and develop and implement Youth Guarantee schemes. The Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee of 22 April 2013<sup>3</sup> sets out guidelines for such schemes, whereby every young person under 25 receives a good-quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education. Such schemes can be supported in particular by the European Social Fund and the Youth Employment Initiative, the latter opened in February 2013 in the European Council<sup>4</sup>. The support for the initiative will be used for the period 2014-2020, targeting regions with levels of youth unemployment higher than 25%.

Formal training and education in sport is largely underdeveloped, resulting in a significant skills gap throughout Europe. Where formal programmes do exist, activities and training programmes, particularly in swimming, have low retention rates due to age and content differences. Qualifications/learning systems are often not seen to match various current requirements and practices do not have the practical skills employers require. There is also a lack of emphasis on lifelong learning and opportunities. In addition, the lack of standardized European professional qualifications can hinder mobility, and a greater transparency and quality assurance of training programmes are required (JCAL Lyon 2 et al, op. cit.). Further, accessible and recognized training needs to be available at each level of sport – professional/elite, semi-professional, and amateur as well as for volunteers. The role of sport in creating new social relationships and breaking down traditional barriers means that providers also need to be trained in the area of equality, while new policies around working with children also require staff to undergo targeted training and certification. Policy, practice and implementation also needs to be built into training programmes to help the development of sport in general, and to help people, both general and specific, are required. In the sports sector it is critical to develop in the future and address new challenges that are emerging in the sports sector, such as the need to ensure that the

1. Youth unemployment levels have to be higher than overall unemployment, that, even independently from the crisis, there is a need for targeted action for young people.

<sup>1</sup> Council Recommendation (2013) 11/2013

<sup>2</sup> Council Recommendation (2013) 11/2013

<sup>3</sup> Council Recommendation (2013) 11/2013

**Recommendations**

As youth organisations providing sport are most influential in shaping sport culture and all actors (associations, businesses, clubs and companies, to recognize the young fans and their serious role in helping tackle youth unemployment.

Tools available such as Youth Guarantee should, according to Member States, ensure that all young people up to age 25 receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of leaving formal education or becoming unemployed.

**Recommended fields of action:**

1. Promote how sport can be used as a tool to build and transfer competences in other working fields.
2. Encourage partnerships in sport organisations aimed at strengthening youth competences of young people (including education in sport in particular). Support the role of youth organisations and volunteers, formally recognize the skills developed through volunteering, (language skills, improve skills)
3. Promote self-employment of young people in sport sector (Financial benefits and incentives for young people existing in the sport sector)



**DIAGNOSIS + SPORT FINANCING**

**Dimensional systematic projects**

**What is it for?**

For you as organization working in the area of sport as physical activity? Are you interested in working with European partners to share innovative ideas, promote sport or address sport related challenges? If so, then take a look at Collaborative Partnerships. The funding will allow you to work with like-minded organisations to exchange new practices in areas of common interest, develop new approaches and network with key stakeholders.

**What does it involve?**

Collaborative Partnerships support projects which:  
Tackle cross-border threats to the integrity of sport, such as doping, match fixing and violence, as well as all forms of intolerance and discrimination.

Promote and support good governance in sport and dual careers of sportspersons.  
Promote minority activities in sport, together with social inclusion, equal opportunities and awareness of the importance of health enhancing physical activity, through increased participation in and equal access to sport for all.

Some of the activities that are eligible for funding (Council 2009 partner) are expected to be funded between 2014 and 2020.

**The following organisations in participating countries can take part:**

- Sporting federations and national sports associations;
- Local and national government sporting organisations;
- Local and regional institutions responsible for sport policy, payment and development;
- Institutions and individuals involved in education and sport training, including universities, colleges and schools;
- Research organisations, foundations and think-tanks engaged in researching sports policy and practice.

# Future information

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