

The House of European Sport

Tweets of the month



EOC EU Office

@EOCEUOffice

27 July

#POINTS Project application
@EOCEUOffice selected by
@EU_Commission @EuSport for
@EUErasmusPlus funding
@EOCmedia
[http://www.euoffice.euolympic.org/blog/points-project-application-eoc-eu-office-selected-european-commission ...](http://www.euoffice.euolympic.org/blog/points-project-application-eoc-eu-office-selected-european-commission...)

EOC EU Office

@EOCEUOffice

25 July

Important upcoming changes
@EUErasmusPlus for sport
organisations outside of EU as
Erasmus+ Sport goes international

EUSport

@EuSport

24 July

It's the moment you've been waiting for... Here are the results of the April 2017 #ErasmusPlus Sport calls!
[https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/selection-results/erasmus-plus-sport-call-for-proposals-eaca032016_en ...](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/selection-results/erasmus-plus-sport-call-for-proposals-eaca032016_en...) #EUSport

SIGGS Project

@SIGGS_EU

20 July

European Commission selects
#SIGGS Project of @EOCEUOffice
as "success story"
@EUErasmusPlus @EUSport
[http://siggs.eu/blog/siggs-project-selected-%E2%80%9Csuccess-story%E2%80%9D ...](http://siggs.eu/blog/siggs-project-selected-%E2%80%9Csuccess-story%E2%80%9D...)

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EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

Let me start with some excellent news for the EOC EU Office. Our project application 'Single Points of Contact for Sports Integrity' (POINTS) has been selected by the European Commission for co-funding out of the Erasmus+ Sports Programme (see separate article on page 7). In this POINTS Project, the EOC EU Office will work with 18 partners, including the IOC and INTERPOL, in order to increase the expertise of National Olympic Committees as well as European and national Federations in the fight against corruption and match-fixing and in strengthening the governance of the organisations. The EOC EU Office is looking forward to start the three-year project on 1 January 2018.

With a spectacular opening ceremony on 23 July 2017, the Summer Edition of the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) in Győr has started. EOC acting President Janez Kocijančič praised the Hungarian National Olympic Committee and the EYOF Organising Committee for their outstanding preparation of the event. Furthermore, he underlined that "the most important message of the *European Youth Olympic Festival* is to use the power of sport to bring the youth of Europe together in friendship." With 2500 athletes participating in the event, the EYOF is the biggest youth sport event in Europe and the edition in Győr is officially supported by the Erasmus+ Sport Programme of the European Union.

Without having clear indications yet in which way the Erasmus+ Programme will develop under the next multiannual financial framework (2021-...), the implementation procedures of the sports chapter of the current Programme are continuously improving. Only recently, the EU Commission has announced that it will facilitate the conditions for the participation of non-EU partners in Erasmus+ Sport projects for the next call for proposals (see separate article on page 10). So far, the applicants had to justify in the application phase the added value of these partners. In case the added value was considered as insufficient, the whole application was considered ineligible. As a result, applicants were generally not willing to take the risk of including a non-EU partner. This negative rule will be abolished and will consequently increase the openness of future applicants to integrate partners from non-EU countries. Once integrated in a collaborative partnership, the non EU-partners enjoy the same rights (e.g. in terms of reimbursement of costs) than the other partners from EU countries. The next step would be to widen the scope of Programme Countries in order to increase the number of potential applicant countries. Especially the involvement of Switzerland would increase the number of sport federations being able to submit their own applications substantially.

I am delighted to inform you that the EOC EU Office will move at the end of September to its new facilities, located on Avenue de Cortenbergh 71 in Brussels. These new premises have an excellent infrastructure for meetings up to 50 participants and will allow the EOC EU Office to create new formats of events or to offer the possibility for partner organisations to organise meetings in these facilities. We are looking forward to host our partners and other guests soon.

Due to the upcoming summer break of the European Institutions in Brussels and Strasbourg, the next edition of the Monthly Report will be published at the end of September.

Enjoy your read,



Folker Hellmund

Director EOC EU Office

EUROPEAN UNION AND SPORT

Estonian EU Presidency kick offs with Sport Directors Meeting and Conference on the Role of Coaches

The Estonian EU Presidency organised a Conference on the “Role of Coaches in Society” in Tallinn on 13-14 July with a view to bring together representatives from the EU Member States, the Commission and the sport movement to discuss this topic, which is quite new on the EU level. Coaching is a priority for the Estonian Presidency and Council conclusions are expected to be adopted on this topic in November.

The two-day Conference was opened by the Estonian Minister of Culture, Indrek Saar, and by Deputy Director-General of DG EAC of the European Commission, Jens Nymand Christensen. The EOC EU Commission Chair, Jüri Tamm, also addressed the audience in the opening session.

During different sessions during the two days, the topic of coaching and the role of coaches in society were addressed from different perspectives: the role of coaches in the 21st century, the values in their work, the needed skills as well as gender equality. With various inspiring speakers and good practice examples, the

Conference provided some valuable insights. The outcomes of the Presidency Conference will contribute to the drafting of the Council conclusions.

Before the Presidency Conference, on 12 July, the Sport Directors meeting was organised, bringing together the Directors of the Ministries responsible for sport from EU Member States. The three topics on the agenda were: coaching, the future of the structured dialogue with the sport movement and the future of the Erasmus+ Sport Programme.

The next event of the Estonian Presidency will be the Conference on “Promoting Sport, Physical Activity and Athletes’ Dual Career in and with Universities”, which will be organised in Tartu, Estonia, on 21-22 September. This Conference will be followed by the official opening of the European Week of Sport on 23 September, also in Tartu, with the presence of Commissioner Tibor Navracsics.

EESC: Public Hearing on European Solidarity Corps and Youth Initiative

On 18 July, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) organised a public hearing in the context of its opinion on the Youth initiative and the Solidarity Corps (SOC/566) in order to discuss how to ensure high quality standards for both initiatives and how to offer a better future to Europe's youth.

In September 2016, the European Commission President Juncker announced the creation of the European Solidarity Corps. The initiative aims at giving young people aged 18-30 the chance to take part in a broad range of solidarity activities across the EU. Sports associations are explicitly mentioned as potential receiving organisations. Since its kick-off on 7 December 2017, more than

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30,000 young people have subscribed to the database of the ESC and the first participants have now started their placements.

In May 2017, the Commission delivered its legislative Proposal of a Regulation of the European Solidarity Corps, which is part of a broader set of initiatives called “Investing in Europe’s Youth”. The draft Regulation, which tackles the main budgetary issues of the Corps, now needs to be adopted by the European Parliament and Council before it can enter into force. In their Joint Declaration, the EU institutions committed to delivering on the proposal by the end of this year.

During the EESC hearing, panellists and stakeholders emphasised the importance of quality placements and participation of disadvantaged young people in the Solidarity Corps as well as the necessity to put in place outreach activities and to create a dedicated budget. The main contentious point of the new initiative is in fact its funding since the majority of funds will be redeployed from already existing Programmes, most notably Erasmus+ (EUR 197 million) and the Employment and Social Innovation Programme (EUR 10 million). The debate then focused on two main issues: the involvement of youth organisations in the

management and implementation of the Solidarity Corps and the occupational strand of the project.

Regarding the second issue, Tom Vrijens, President of the Youth Committee of ETUC, firmly expressed his worries concerning the risk of job substitutions resulting from the misuse of unpaid volunteers to perform activities that should be undertaken by qualified professionals. This practice could negatively affect vulnerable groups (e.g. elderly) for which the quality of the service is of fundamental importance.

Robert France, Head of sector in charge of youth activities within Erasmus+ of the European Commission, stated that the issue had already been taken into consideration; the EU institutions will be monitoring the situation using specific tools and feedback from the participants.

The EESC opinion is supposed to be adopted by the end of October of the current year and will be preceded by two study groups encounters.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[EESC Draft Opinion SOC/566 on Youth initiative / Solidarity Corps](#)

[European Commission Proposal of regulation on the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps](#)

European Commission publishes study on Coaches’ education and Gender Perspective

The Estonian Presidency of the EU has organised a Conference on the role of sport coaches in society on 13-14 July 2017 (see separate article). One of the topics discussed at this Conference was a study published by the European Commission on “Mapping and analysis of education schemes for coaches from a gender perspective”, published in July as well.

This study originated from the 2014 Council Conclusions on Gender Equality in Sport, in which the Commission was encouraged to conduct

research on various fields of gender equality, including coaching. The study first mapped the current training and education schemes for coaches, in particular their accessibility for women, in order to identify best practices that promote equality.

According to the study, the most common type of approach aimed at promoting equality in coach education is currently women-only courses. This works well in areas where the numbers of women coaches are low to begin with, and where there is

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a particular perception that coaching is a male-dominated profession. Some other federations prefer a quota-based approach in mixed programmes, seen by those federations as more beneficial for women. However, there is currently a lack in facilitation for women by providing flexible timetabling or childcare facilities according to the study results.

A number of good examples have been highlighted in the study, such as:

- The benefits of having strong involvement and commitment of high profile coaches (men and women) in coaching education programmes for women
 - The benefits of linking coaching education actions and related empowerment and mentoring activities
 - The importance of neutral sport coaching bodies having a lead role in engaging a wide range of sport federations in innovative and gender-related coaching education programmes.
- The possibilities for European federations to work in partnership with national federations to develop coaching education opportunities for women (for example through funding provision but also ensuring the commitment of national federations to support women with coaching opportunities post-training).
 - The role of national sport agencies in the development and evaluation of gender education modules which are relevant to education and training in all sports.

The findings of the study will be used for the follow-up on the recommendations of the XG Good Governance on Gender Equality in Sport and for the work of the Estonian presidency.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[EC Study: Mapping and analysis of education schemes for coaches from a gender perspective](#)

[XG Good Governance Recommendations on Gender Equality in Sport 2016](#)

Council of the EU agrees position on the 2018 budget

On 12 July 2017, the Council of the European Union agreed on its position on the 2018 EU budget, ahead of the negotiations with the European Parliament (EP) that are expected to start in October. The EP had already agreed on general guidelines for the preparation of the 2018 budget in March 2017 and is currently discussing a detailed position with a plenary vote, which is expected to take place on 25 October. All discussions are based on the Commission's proposal of 30 May 2017.

The Council's position for 2018 amounts to 158.9 billion € in commitments and 144.4 billion € in payments, up by 0.6% and 7.4% respectively compared to the 2017 EU budget. However, overall the Council decided to cut down the

Commission's draft budget for 2018 by 1.2 billion € in commitments (-0,75%) and by 795.5 million € in payments (-0,55%), a point that the EP subsequently criticised.

Sustaining growth and job creation remains one of the Council's most important priorities. Regarding positions relevant for Sport, the Council proposes to fund the Erasmus+ Programme with 2.3 billion € in commitments (+9.5%) and 2.1 billion € in payments (+13.1%) as well as the new European Solidarity Corps, with 72.8 million € in commitments and 55.7 million € in payments. The Commission had proposed 43 Mio.€ in commitments and 35 Mio € in payments for the sport Programme under Erasmus+.

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The Council is expected to formally adopt its position early September in order to be ready for negotiations with the EP from end of October.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[European Council Press Release \(12/07/2017\): "Council agrees its position for the 2018 EU budget and backs increase of 2017 EU budget"](#)

[European Parliament Press Release \(12/07/2017\): "Council's position on EU Budget for 2018 contradictory, says EP rapporteur"](#)

[European Commission Press Release \(30/05/2017\): "2018 EU budget: Commission proposes budget with focus on jobs, investments, migration and security"](#)

FUNDING PROGRAMMES, STUDIES AND PROJECTS

Selection results Erasmus+ Sport 2017 published

On Monday 24 July, the European Commission published the selection results of the Erasmus+ Sport 2017 call for proposals for which the deadline was 6 April 2017. This call included the possibility to submit applications for Collaborative Partnerships, Small Collaborative Partnerships and Not-for-profit European sport events.

For the 2017 call for proposals, the European Commission received 370 eligible applications of which it selected a total of 160 for funding (which means a success rate of around 43,2%). This amount includes 66 Collaborative Partnerships, 84 Small Collaborative Partnerships and 10 Not-for-profit European sport events. The Collaborative Partnerships were divided in four groups of priorities with 25% budget safeguarded for each group:

- Group 1: HEPA and European Week of Sport
- Group 2: Dual career and Volunteering
- Group 3: Combat doping and match-fixing – Good governance
- Group 4: Social inclusion & Combat violence, racism and discrimination

Among the selected projects, there is the POINTS Project of the EOC EU Office in the field of good governance and combating match-fixing (see separate article). In addition, there are several Collaborative Partnerships that are coordinated by NOCs: NOC of Italy (CONI Servizi) in the field of HEPA, NOC of Bulgaria on Dual career and NOC of Croatia on Good governance. In addition, the NOC of Slovenia will be coordinating a Small Collaborative Partnership on skills development and the NOC of the Netherlands has been awarded a not-for-profit European sport event grant for the European Sport for All Games in the Netherlands in 2018. Various NOCs will also be engaged in different projects as project partners. The POINTS Project of the EOC EU Office for instance includes no less than 11 NOCs.

The publication of the selection results was done considerably earlier than previous years. The EOC EU Office welcomes this as it allows the coordinators as well as the project partners more time to make the necessary arrangements.

As usual, the EOC EU Office will do an in-depth analysis of the selection results in the upcoming months when more details become available, for instance on the composition of the project consortia. In particular the involvement of grassroots sports and organised sport in general

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is one of the key elements to be considered in this assessment. The next call for Erasmus+ Sport will most likely be published in October-November this year with a deadline around April 2018.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[EACEA Website - Selection results](#)

POINTS Project application of EOC EU Office selected by European Commission

The project application on 'Single Points of Contact for Sports Integrity' (POINTS) by the EOC EU Office has been selected by the European Commission for co-funding out of the Erasmus+ Sports Programme. The application had been prepared earlier this year and had been handed in for the deadline of beginning of April 2017.

The main objective of the POINTS Project is to help National Olympic Committees (NOCs), European federations and national sport federations in Europe to safeguard the integrity of their respective sport(s) and to strengthen their governance. One of the innovative elements of the projects is that it focuses on integrity in the wider sense of the word encompassing and combining integrity issues such as anti-corruption, personal integrity, integrity of sports competitions (including the prevention of the manipulation of sports competitions) and good governance.

The methodology is based on the idea to set-up 'Single Points of Contact for integrity'. This concept has already been developed in certain countries and sports, in particular in the prevention of the manipulation of sports competitions. Therefore, the POINTS Project aims to take stock of the current situation and to further develop this concept for NOCs as well as European and national federations and to broaden it to integrity in general. One particular objective is for instance to develop an educational programme to provide training and support for

Single Points of Contact. In terms of good governance, the POINTS Project will also build on the achievements of the SIGGS Project of the EOC EU Office.

To implement this ambitious project, the POINTS Project can build on an impressive consortium of 18 organisations including 11 NOCs (Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, France, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Italy, Portugal, Germany and Croatia), 3 European federations (European Athletics, European Volleyball Confederation and FIBA Europe) and 3 specialised organisations (INTERPOL, Sport & Recreation Alliance UK and EOSE). The IOC, through its Ethics and Compliance Office, is an associated partner to the project.

With the announcement of the selection results as early as mid-July, there is considerable time to prepare the launch of the project in January 2018. The project will run for a total of three years with various activities scheduled in the various countries of the consortium.

The EOC EU Office is extremely pleased that the application has been selected and looks forward to start the implementation. Further information on the project launch (e.g. launch of website and planning of Kick-off Meeting) will be communicated in due time.

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EOC EU Office's SIGGS Project selected as "success story"



The 'Support the Implementation of Good Governance in Sport' (SIGGS) Project of the EOC EU Office has officially been selected by the European Commission as a "success story". The SIGGS Project ran from January 2015 until December 2016 and was officially supported by the Erasmus+ Sport Programme of the European Union.

The selection was made by a panel of experts from the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission. In a letter to inform the EOC EU Office, it was explained that *"Success stories are finalised projects that have distinguished themselves by their impact, contribution to policy-making, innovative results and/or creative approach and can be a source of inspiration for others. The choice of your project as a success story was made on the basis of a selection process according to rigorous criteria regarding the quality, relevance and results of your project."*

The EOC EU Office is extremely pleased with this recognition of its hard work over the past years. Folker Hellmund, Director of the EOC EU Office, stated that *"the SIGGS Project is a typical example of how the EU can contribute to challenges within the Olympic and Sports Movement. We would like to thank the Commission as well as all project partners once*

again for the fruitful cooperation and for the trust that they have put in the EOC EU Office to implement this ambitious project."

Following this selection, the SIGGS Project will be marked as "success story" in the 'Erasmus+ Project Results Platform' of the European Commission. This platform gathers all project results of Erasmus+ Projects in one comprehensive database.

Despite the fact that with the adoption of the final report of SIGGS all formal procedures have been finalised, the SIGGS Project still continues. First of all, the good governance self-evaluation tool for NOCs and national sport federations remains online. Secondly, activities are still taking place, including for instance a Workshop on good governance organised by the European Volleyball Confederation (CEV) for national volleyball federations on 1 September during the CEV Congress. And finally, through its upcoming POINTS Project (see separate article), the EOC EU Office will continue its efforts regarding governance and sports integrity.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[SIGGS Project in Erasmus+ Project Results Platform](#)

[Link to SIGGS self-evaluation tool](#)

[SIGGS Project website](#)

Commission publishes calls for proposals for sport projects on radicalisation and on integration of refugees

On 4 July 2017, the European Commission published two calls for proposals for sport projects, that cover the topics of “Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees“ and “Call for proposals for Monitoring and coaching, through sports, of youngsters at risk of radicalisation”.

Sport organisations can apply for both calls alone and can receive up to 60.000 € of funding. Projects need to be implemented between 1 January and 31 December 2018. The **deadline for applications is the 18 August 2018**.

Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees

The Commission plans to fund around 20 projects in this field. A non-exhaustive list of the main activities eligible under this call for proposals is listed below:

- sport activities aimed at promoting participation of refugees, organised with a gender balance approach, and involving local populations;
- development, identification, promotion and sharing of activities and good practices about participation of refugees, into sport activities with the clear aim at their integration into host societies;
- awareness-raising activities on the practical and proved added value of sport in relation to the integration of refugees into societies, taking due account of gender equality;
- preparation, development and implementation of educational and training modules and tools;
- dissemination actions in the field of sport;

Monitoring and coaching, through sports, of youngsters at risk of radicalisation

The Commission plans to fund around 15 projects in this field. A non-exhaustive list of the main activities eligible under this call for proposals is listed below:

- activities aimed at supporting anti-radicalisation processes, that are implemented by eligible applicant in cooperation with local public authorities responsible for radicalisation, terrorism and for police. Activities must have gender balanced approach;
- development, identification, promotion and sharing of activities and good practices about monitoring and coaching, through sports, of youngsters at risk of radicalisation;
- awareness-raising activities on the practical and proved added value of sport in relation to anti-radicalisation processes;
- identification of sport activities at risk of radicalisation processes;
- dissemination actions networking activities.

To be eligible the activities should include an evidence based gender equality methodology.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[EAC/S16/2017: „Call for proposals for Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees“](#)

[EAC/S17/2017: „Call for proposals for Monitoring and coaching, through sports, of youngsters at risk of radicalisation“](#)

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Commission announces changes to Erasmus+ Sport to improve participation of non-Programme Countries

On 24 July 2017, the European Commission announced that it would make changes to improve the participation of organisations not coming from Programme Countries from the next call for proposals in October 2017 onwards. These changes should be seen as an effort to strengthen the international scope of Erasmus+ Sport Programme.

Participant countries in Erasmus+ projects can generally be divided into two groups:

- **Programme countries**, meaning the 28 EU Member States, and five countries who have specific agreements in place on their participation, namely the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey. Organisations from these countries can be both applicant and partner in Erasmus+ Sport projects.
- **Partner countries**, meaning all other countries, divided in several regions. A full list of Programme and partner countries can be found [here](#). Contrary to Programme countries, organisations from partner countries cannot be project applicants, but only project partners. In addition, there is a need to prove an “essential added value” to be able to be included as a partner organisation.

It is regarding this essential added value that the Commission is now making changes. In the application process, applicants have to demonstrate and justify the essential added value of partner country involvement (e.g. why a similar organisation could not be found within the Programme Countries). Up until now, the situation was that if the Commission (and the external experts) did not agree with the provided justification, the application as a whole would not be considered for selection and would become

ineligible. This risk of rejection in practice meant that project applicants were in general less inclined to include organisations from partner countries.

From now on, this will no longer be the case as projects that include organisations from partner countries will no longer be automatically rejected if the particular added value of this organisation is not considered sufficient in the proposal. This means that the added value is no longer an exclusion criterion for the entire project. Nevertheless, the added value still needs to be shown in order to involve the organisation in question as a partner.

This reform significantly decreases the risk of including such an organisation in a proposal, and should thus have a positive impact on the number of proposals that include organisations from partner countries. The Commission therefore hopes that this change will lead to more participation of organisations from countries around the EU.

This change in procedure is a direct consequence of the work done by the High Level Group on Sport Diplomacy, which was created in 2015 at the request of Commissioner Tibor Navracsics. This High Level Group delivered a Report in June 2016 with various recommendations, including the need “to review the eligibility criteria of EU funding programmes to ensure that the potential of sport, in the context of projects partnering EU applicants with third countries”. The EOC EU Office has repeatedly stressed this point as well. This recommendation was also taken up by the Council in its following Council conclusions on sport diplomacy, which were adopted in November 2016. It is a very positive development that this work has now led to tangible changes in EU funding for sport and that the Commission is reaching out to sport organisations outside of the European Union.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

[European Commission Press Release \(24/07/2017\): "Erasmus+ Sport goes international"](#)

[Erasmus+: Eligible Countries](#)

[Final Report of the High Level Group on Sports Diplomacy](#)

[Council conclusions on Sport Diplomacy](#)

INTERNALS AND VISITS

European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) in Győr, Hungary

The concept of the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) was created in 1990 by Jacques Rogge, former President of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) to bring the Olympic Movement and its values close to young athletes of the age 15-17 from different sport organisations at a European level and give them an opportunity to compete in an Olympic environment already at a young age.



European Youth Olympic Festival

the honour to organise the event on 23-29 July 2017.

The EOC EU Office has also contributed to the success of EYOF Győr 2017 while assisting the Organising Committee in the application phase of their project for volunteers, which was supported by the European Union through the Erasmus+ Sport Funding Programme.

The slogan of EYOF Győr 2017 *One spirit, whole EUROPE* was strongly reflected in the numbers of the event: 2500 young athletes from the 50 member countries of the EOC competed in 10

sports: athletics, judo, kayak-canoe, cycling, handball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, gymnastics and swimming, making it the biggest youth sport event in Europe.



At the opening press conference, which took place on 22 July 2017 in Győr, the Mayor of the city of Győr and Head of the Organising Committee Zsolt Borkai, European Olympic Committees (EOC) acting President Janez Kocijančič, EOC Secretary General Raffaele Pagnozzi, Hungarian NOC President Krisztián Kulcsár and the Head of the EYOF Coordination Commission Joseph Cassar presented EYOF Győr 2017 to the of international media.

Janez Kocijančič thanked the citizens of Győr and Zsolt Borkai for the excellent organization: *"I am sure that Győr will organize the best and most memorable Olympic Youth Festival of all times."*

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The opening ceremony was called “spectacular” even by EOC Acting President Janez Kocijančič and he added: *“The most important message of the European Youth Olympic Festival is to use the power of sport to bring the youth of Europe together in friendship, and the Opening Ceremony was the perfect representation of what this amazing event is about.”*

Besides the competitions, a great choice of side events: cultural programmes, gastronomy fairs, concerts and musical events made the event more colourful.

The closing ceremony took place on 29 July where Győr passed the torch and the flag on to the host city of the next festival, Baku. Chingiz Huseynzade, the Vice President of the Azeri Olympic Committee noted that *“Győr staged an excellent EYOF event, which Baku intends to match”*.



FURTHER INFORMATION

[Website EYOF Győr 2017](#)

[Website EOC](#)

[Website European Youth Olympic Festivals](#)

PARTNERS' CORNER

Sport Parks Inspired by the Olympics – an eventful semester

Eventful, productive, enriching, and inspiring. This is how the first seven month of the two-year long project “Sport Parks Inspired by the Olympics” coordinated by the Czech Olympic Committee could be described.



A kick-off meeting in Prague, Study Visits to the Netherlands (NOC*NSF), Italy (CONI) and Belgium (BOIC), creation of the information website, drafting of first two chapters of the Sport Parks handbook, preparation of common activates for 2018; and we could go further with the list of activities of the first semester of 2017.

The main aim of the project, which brings together experts from 8 NOC (Belgium, Czech Republic, Croatia, France, Finland, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovenia) and 1 regional authority (South Bohemia), is to provide potential organisers of Sport Parks Inspired by the Olympics (NOCs) with practical hands-on guidance (interactive handbook) for the development, production,

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evaluation and sustainability of their own Sport Parks.

We rely on, and draw from, the experience and expertise of all partner organisations. This is why our study visits are constructed in such a way that as much space as possible is dedicated to sharing of good practices and concretely demonstrating activities, tips and tricks of each organisation: NOC*NSF provided the team members with a sneak-peak to the new innovative marketing strategy of TeamNL and to the 2016 Olympic Experience event. CONI welcomed the Sport Parks experts during a Masters Tennis



tournament “Internazionali” to show them on a concrete example how such sport event with a very rich side programme is organised in a joint venture with the Italian tennis Federation. The Belgian Olympic

and Interfederal Committee and its partners then shared their tips and trick on event production taking the example of the 2016 RIO HOUSE, which was organised in Oostende during the summer Olympics.

The past seven month have also seen the development - in some cases of first steps, in some others of more advanced plans - of the 2018 events, which will take place under the umbrella of Sport Park during the Winter Olympics. As the project coordinator and initiator of the Sport Parks concept, the Czech Olympic Committee will organise two Parks in the Czech Republic, and is very happy that at least 3 other project partners – NOCs of France, Italy and Slovenia - will join with their own – new - events.

Not only will the draft recommendations of the Sport Parks handbook be tested at those events, but a real network will be created whereby the Parks will be linked via common activities which are currently being developed.

The second semester will be as eventful as the first one with study visits to France and Finland, development of new chapters of the handbook, and, of course, with the preparations of the Sport Parks events 2018.

About Sport Parks Inspired by the Olympics

In essence, Sport Parks are Fan Zones or Live Sites, which have been moved to a very active, sport experience-driven, cooperative, innovative and sustainable level. Sports Parks are organised during the Olympic Games and are a place which provides people with the full Olympic experience. Visitors are part of the Olympic Team and share emotions with the Olympians through testing sports on their own or watching live broadcasts on large screens. Sport Parks play an important role. They provide people with information about different types of activities, their influence on the physical and mental condition of a person and let them learn about Olympic education.

Examples of such events:

- [Olympic Parks](#) (Czech NOC)
- [Olympic Experience](#) (NOC*NSF)
- [Rio House](#) (Belgian NOC)

The project is co-financed by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union and is supported by the International Olympic Committee.

FURTHER INFORMATION

[General information](#)

[Twitter-account of the Project](#)

NEXT MONTH

Dates in August-September 2017

15 August 2017	<i>Assumption Day, EOC EU Office closed, Brussels</i>
1 September 2017	<i>SIGGS Workshop at CEV Congress, Krakow, Poland</i>
6 September 2017	<i>EP Sport Intergroup meeting on “eSports in Europe: What policy response?” Brussels</i>
21-22 September 2017	<i>Estonian Presidency Conference on “Promoting Sport, Physical Activity and Athletes’ Dual Career in and with Universities”, Tartu, Estonia</i>
22 September 2017	<i>EOC EU Commission meeting, Tartu, Estonia</i>
23 September 2017	<i>Official Opening of the European Week of Sport, Tartu, Estonia</i>
23-30 September 2017	<i>European Week of Sport 2017</i>
26 September 2017	<i>EP Sport Intergroup meeting on “Sport, health and nutrition”, Brussels</i>
29 September 2017	<i>EOC Executive Committee meeting, Baku, Azerbaijan</i>