

EASS2023
Budapest

Hungarian University
of Sports Science

May 30 – June 2, 2023

Transitioning sport –
Transitioning European societies



TF

1925

eass
European Association for
Sociology of Sport



HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY
OF SPORTS SCIENCE

TRANSITIONING SPORT – TRANSITIONING EUROPEAN SOCIETIES

eass2023 Budapest Conference

Book of Abstracts

eass
European Association for
Sociology of Sport



HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY
OF SPORTS SCIENCE
BUDAPEST

EASS2023 Budapest | May 30 – June 2, 2023
European Conference for the Sociology of Sport
Conference Chairs: Dr Szilvia Perényi & Dr Tamás Dóczi
Email: eass2023@tf.hu

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Welcome from EASS

Dear Conference Participants!

The European Association for Sociology of Sport (eass) was founded on November 16, 2001 in Vienna. During its first years (2001-2006), Otmar Weiss served as President and Georg Anders as Secretary General. In 2004 the European Journal for Sport and Society (ejss) was established and has since been edited on behalf of the eass.

The idea for founding the eass originated from two key factors. Firstly, up to that time there had been no organization representing experts in the area of sport and social sciences on the European scene. Secondly, the accession of ten new member states to the European Union in 2004, most of them Eastern European countries, posed a number of challenges not only for politics and the economy, but also for sport and social sciences. This process of enlargement concerned not only the Eastern European countries, but all of Europe. In an ethnically diverse population, sport can facilitate cultural dialogue. Hence, the exploration of sport's sociocultural, sociopolitical and socioeconomic functions has become a task of increasing importance for the sociology of sport.

In this context, new perspectives for scientific orientation and research activities (e.g., cross-cultural studies) have evolved on the European scene. It is essential for the sociology of sport to investigate the development and differentiation of sport over time and across different societies. The eass conferences, which are held annually, help shape the discipline, and the scientists involved contribute to building international networks and relationships in the forefront of the field. This facilitates both the circulation of knowledge, as well as international research collaboration. Such bridges are vital for sparking new initiatives and for creating a larger scientific community.

Therefore, the theme – Transitioning Sport - Transitioning European Societies – of the eass2023 Budapest Conference, the 19th annual conference of the European Association for Sociology of Sport represents the main issues and challenges that sport faces and also, how it can contribute to the wellbeing, welfare, development and sustainability of European societies. And I want to thank the organizers with Szilvia Perényi for organising this years' conference.

Laila Susanne Ottesen

President

European Association for Sociology of Sport (EASS)

Welcome from HUSS

Dear Participants of the eass2023 Budapest Conference!

The Hungarian University of Sports Science cordially welcomes the European and global social science community to eass2023 Budapest, the European Conference for the Sociology of Sport, between May 30 and June 2, 2023.

Founded in 1925, the former College of Physical Education (TF) is approaching its 100th anniversary in 2025, and is looking to live up to its past by taking advantage of new opportunities. As one of the oldest, most successful and professionally acclaimed universities for education and sports science in Central Europe, we greatly respect and value our legacy, preserve our traditions and continuously explore innovative methods in education and research.

MTSE/HUSS, traditionally called "TF", is the proud home of numerous Olympic champions, great sports coaches, educators and recreation experts. The HUSS community provides support throughout the careers of our students and alumni, helping them to aspire personally and professionally and enjoy a life-long career support. The university is currently involved in a major campus reconstruction and expansion project. The infrastructural development runs parallel with substantial development in our educational programs and research portfolio, quality assurance as well as a complex internationalization initiative, including mobility services, English language programs and strategic institutional partnerships. As a result of our modern curriculum, multifunctional sports facilities and community spaces and events, our students enjoy the opportunity to obtain competitive knowledge that meets labor market requirements while accumulating lifelong experiences with unique TE student life. Our dedication also serves larger aspirations of improving the health and well-being of Hungarians and those beyond our borders as well.

The Hungarian University of Sports Science has three major areas where attempts to exploit the undisputed developmental role of sport and sport science. In the case of health, in the area of performance, and in the area of community with harnessing the moral, educational, character and community development potential of sport. In addition to its noble mission, the Hungarian University of Sports Science aims to create, deliver and market specific training programmes, courses, products and services in the fields of health, performance and community development.

I hope that in the future we will be able to meet the institutions of the eass2023 Budapest Conference participants in these areas, and that we will be able to cooperate in new educational, research and innovation programmes, exchange ideas and think about new initiatives together in the future.

Tamás Sterbenz

Rector

Hungarian University of Sports Science (HUSS)

Welcome from the Chairs

Dear Colleagues!

Please feel warmly welcome to the eass2023 Budapest Conference, the 19th annual conference of the European Association for Sociology of Sport (EASS). Thank you for joining our conference and welcome to Budapest.

With the theme - Transitioning Sport – Transitioning European Societies - of the eass2023 Budapest Conference, we want to showcase the changes that sports organisations need to face in all European societies today.

The decade of the 2020s has so far witnessed immense changes in the ways we think about the world, our place in it, and also in how we go about our everyday activities. The Covid-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the various physical and economic restrictions we had to live with have connected us with technology more than ever, and have put our mental health to stress that had been unprecedented in the life of most generations living on the planet. Many re-evaluate their life situations, relationships and the things they find important in life. These times have shown both the unimportance of sport (when focus turns to basic survival skills), and the importance of it (how much we need a good run, a fun game, or to be entertained and distracted from the problems around us).

European societies, organizations and individuals have responded to the crisis in different ways, and there are contrasting ideas of how to move forward from here. This is true for sport and its social functions as well – concerns of sustainability, social justice, equity and exploitation keep asking questions about how the different areas of sport should develop in the future and about how sport can maintain its structures, functions and spaces; how sport can actually contribute to the well-being of people in transitioning societies in the face of globalization and crisis.

We do hope that the eass2023 Budapest conference will provide a forum for scholars to discuss and debate these important issues. Beyond the main theme, the congress will also feature a diverse range of sessions to enable scholars, including postgraduate students, the opportunity to share their latest research.

We also hope that the social program, including the Special Cultural Night at the Hungarian National Dance Theatre with traditional folk dance, the City Tour of Budapest with a nice walk around Parliament, Heroes' Square, and St. Stephen's Basilica, visiting a small Danube riverside town, Szentendre, the spa experience, the visit of sport facilities and a walk at the Castle will all add a nice, welcomed feeling to your experience in Budapest and at our university.

Szilvia Perényi

EASS extended board member

Tamás Dóczi

ISSA advisory board member

Hungarian University of Sports Science (HUSS)

Scientific Committee of the Conference:

Szilvia Perényi, eass extended board member, Head of Local Scientific Committee
Tamás Dóczi, Local Organising Committee, member
Andrea Gál, Local Organising Committee, member
Gábor Gécz, Local Organising Committee, member
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Adam B. Evans, eass extended board, member
Magnus Ferry, eass extended board, member
Irena Slepíková, eass extended board, member
Carlos García Martí, future eass organising committee, member
Mojca Doupona, invited member
Natalia Organista, invited member
Monika Piątkowska, invited member

Organising Committee of the Conference:

Szilvia Perényi, Head of Local Organising Committee
Tamás Dóczi, Local Organising Committee, member
Tamás Sterbenz, member
Gábor Gécz, member
Dániel Mezei, member
András Király, member
Dalma Cseh, member
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Nóra Csepregi, member
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Péter Szabó, member
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Young Research Award Selection Committee:

Annelies Knoppers (University of Utrecht)
Daniel Burdsey (University of Brighton)
Carlos García Martí (European University of Madrid)
Davide Sterchele (Leeds Beckett University)

EASS2023 BUDAPEST – BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Programme at a glance

	Tuesday, 30 May 2023	Wednesday, 31 May 2023	Thursday, 1 June 2023	Friday, 2 June 2023
7.30-8.00		Morning Run	Morning Run	Morning Run
8.00-8.30		Registration opens	Registration opens	Registration opens
8.30-9.00				
9.00-9.30	PhD Workshop	eass board meeting	Paralell Session #1	Paralell Session #7
9.30-10.00			Paralell Session #4	Paralell Session #8
10.00-10.30			Coffee Break	Coffee Break
10.30-11.00			Keynote	Keynote
11.00-11.30			Lunch	Lunch
11.30-12.00				
12.00-12.30			Closing Ceremony & Young Researcher Award	
12.30-13.00				
13.00-13.30		Paralell Session #2	Small panel sessions & Parallel session 5	Lunch
13.30-14.00				
14.00-14.30	Opening & Round Table	Registration	Coffee Break	
14.30-15.00			Coffee Break	
15.00-15.30	Welcome Speeches & Reception	Registration	Paralell Session #3	Paralell Session #6
15.30-16.00			Paralell Session #6	
16.00-16.30				
16.30-17.00		Coffee Break		
17.00-17.30		General Assembly of eass	Social Events	Departure
17.30-18.00				
18.00-18.30				
18.30-19.00				
19.00-19.30		Special Cultural Night - Hungarian Dance		
19.30-20.00				
20.00-20.30			Conference Dinner	
20.30-21.00				
21.00- till late				

Tuesday, 30 May, 9:30-13:00

Room: Main building, C103 München

PhD Workshop

PROGRAM

1. **Michał Lenartowicz** (Poland) associate professor, Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education

Interdisciplinary approaches in sports research

2. **Adam B. Evans** (Denmark), Editor in Chief of the European Journal for Sport and Society (ejss); associate professor at University of Copenhagen,

How to publish in quality journals

3. **Dunja Antunovic** (United States), assistant professor of sport sociology at the School of Kinesiology at the University of Minnesota in the United States.

Preparing for the academic job market

Opening of the eass2023 Budapest Conference

Tuesday, 30 May, 14:30-15:30

Room: Building K1 (Main entrance) Aula

Short welcome form the Organisers

Szilvia Perényi, eass extended board member, Hungarian University of Sports Science

Round table

“New trends and practices of publishing in scientific journals”

Participants:

Monika Piątkowska: Deputy Editor of Physical Culture and Sport. Studies and Research; a Polish scholar, educationist, and manager, Head of the Department of Organization and History of Sport at the Josef Pilsudski University of Physical Education.

Adam B. Evans: Editor-in-Chief of European Journal for Sport and Society (ejss); Associate Professor University of Copenhagen, Denmark Departments of Sport, Individual & Society

Ákos Koller, Executive Editor of Sport Research International (*SPRINT* – a starting new journal Hungarian Academy of Sciences); Professor emeritus and head of Science Board of Hungarian University of Sports Science

Moderator: **Tamás Dóczi**, Hungarian University of Sports Science

Opening Speeches

Szilvia Perényi, eass extended board member, Hungarian University of Sports Science

Remco Hoekman, eass past president, Mulier Institute

Hanna Vehmas, eass president elect, University of Javeskule

Ákos Koller, Head of Science Board of Hungarian University of Sports Science

Welcome reception

Aula – same location

Plenary Session #1

Wednesday, 31 May, 11:00-12:00

Room: C2-104 Athens

Chair: Tamás Dóczy

DUNJA ANTUNOVIC

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What is Still “New” about Social Media?

The Importance of Sociology of Sport in Research on Mediatization

Digital platforms are central to the production and consumption of sport media content and have disrupted the relationship between media organizations, athletes, governing bodies, and audiences. The process of “mediatization,” which entails changes in the institutional order and transformations in society, is pronounced in all levels of sport, including international mega events and recreation. The implications of mediatization are uneven and context specific. To document the emergence of new platforms, representation strategies, and networked interactions between stakeholders, scholars have produced a high volume of research. Indeed, over the last 10 years, journal articles, edited collections, and special issues have published empirical findings and have also reflected on the theoretical and methodological limitations of this work. However, considering the ubiquity of social media, the continued disruptions, and the persistent social inequalities, sociology of sport researchers are particularly well positioned to contribute to this area of research.

This talk examines the role of sociology of sport in evaluating and analyzing the implications of social media in sport. First, I overview key findings to address what was “new” about social media. Then, I examine how sociological research expands and contradicts industry narratives about the “transformative” potential of social media. Finally, I identify theoretical and methodological challenges in sociological research on social media. While my focus is specifically on agenda diversity in relation to gender, national identity, and disability, these dilemmas are relevant for other areas of sport studies. The talk intends to invite a discussion about future directions for research for European sociology of sport and wider international sociology of sport communities pertaining to the complex relationship between social media and sport.

Dunja Antunovic (PhD, Penn State) is an assistant professor of sport sociology at the School of Kinesiology at the University of Minnesota in the United States.

*She is co-author of the book titled *Serving Equality: Feminism, Media, and Women's Sport* (Peter Lang, 2022) and has published in over 30 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters on issues such as gender norms in the sport industry, implications of digital media in mega-events, and sports media theory and methods. Antunovic has taught various classes in Kinesiology and in Communication departments, including sport history and philosophy, global perspectives in sport communication, and international communication.*

Antunovic is a former tennis player -- she represented Hungary at the FISU World University Games in Bangkok 2007 and Belgrade 2009.

Plenary Session #2

Thursday, 01 June, 11:00-12:00

Room: C2-104 Athens

Chair: Szilvia Perényi

ANDREA PETROCZI

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What do we know about (the wicked problem of) doping in sport?

Doping is frequently labelled as ‘wicked problem’ without much thought given to how this ‘wickedness’ manifests in problem recognition and how it impacts proposed solutions. Research activities in doping and anti-doping have exponentially increased in the past 25 years from to about 50 to 450 outputs a year, demonstrating progress in improved testing methods and sensitivity, better understanding of the behavioural drivers, increased number of educational programmes and interventions, as well as progressing toward closing the gender gap among scientists. Yet, one must ask what practical difference we have made. Surprisingly little is known about the prevalence of doping.

Preventive efforts aiming to protect clean sport and clean athletes are notably lacking understanding of the meaning of ‘clean’ in sport, athlete identity, performance and performance enhancement, and there is a scarcity of research into motives for clean sport behaviour or the role of personal values underpinning anti-doping education. Progress in social science research in antidoping has been hindered by one or a combination of the following factors: (1) small number of ‘career anti-doping researchers’ with sustained engagement; (2) myopia of the Western European dominance, (3) researchers’ limited hands-on field experience, (4) lack of connection to other fields outside sport from where anti-doping can learn, adopt or make sensible shortcuts, particularly in understanding what are the factors whereby an internationally funded entity unable to extract itself from the failed rules, cases,

standards, systems and processes it has built for itself and the global anti-doping community in the last twenty years, (5) lack of engagement with elite sport and athlete population which result in conclusions and recommendations from research being drawn from experiences of university students and student athletes, (6) impenetrable academic writing (with often mandated focus on theories, not practical implications), (7) ill-informed research priorities and overly restrictive rules for grants and briefs for contract research, and (8) unaccommodating research environment at academic institutions which favour classic academic credits over societal impact. Only by exposing each, and tackling them head-on, an honest and open dialogue between academics, practitioners, funding bodies, publishers, peer reviewers and HE institutions could emerge, and new, progress-focused arrangements could be formulated. In doing so, an honest examination of feasibility of a globally harmonised closed-loop system that demands compliance but is indifferent to effective performance is warranted, along with a fundamental re-think into what research constitutes paradigm change with the anti-doping system, rather than what constitutes tinkering within the existing system, with a particular concentration on the reasoning and intent behind what types of research is chosen, funded, and distributed. If we do not act, we might, collectively and unintentionally, fossilise anti-doping research to the point of futility, and thus become part of the problem, not the solution.

Andrea Petroczi is a Research Professor at Kingston University London and an internationally recognised anti-doping expert with background in psychology, management & marketing, and journalism. She is a Senior Research Fellow at ELTE (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary), and also holds a visiting position at KU Leuven (Belgium), at 'Foro Italico' University of Rome (Italy) and at the Willibald Gebhardt Institute, University of Münster (Germany).

Her research covers several anti-doping topics with present focus on doping prevalence; the meaning of 'clean' in sport, in performance enhancement and in anti-doping; the impact of anti-doping on clean athletes; athlete vulnerability, and the role of values and personal integrity in anti-doping education.

She obtained a PhD in sports administration with a doctoral minor in research methods and applied statistics from the University of Northern Colorado (2002); and a PhD in psychology from the University of Sheffield (2015). She is a founding member of the Clean Sport Alliance and she chairs WADA's Doping Prevalence Working Group.

Parallel Sessions

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 1: 9:00-10:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sport policy and governance 1

Chair: Siegfried Nagel

INFLUENCES OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP ON SPORT-RELATED KNOWLEDGE: FINNISH MUNICIPALITY TOP DECISION-MAKERS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS KNOWLEDGE ADOPTION IN SPORT

LEE ANNA¹, KÄRKKÄINEN SALME², VEHMAS HANNA¹, SUOMI KIMMO¹

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²University of Jyväskylä, Faculty of Mathematics and Science

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Low state control over sport policies and unawareness of the role of autonomous local governments across western societies have caused significant challenges in meeting new demands in public physical activity. More than ever, while local leaders are now liable for sport-related decision-making, a debated question is whether proper knowledge have been internalized in decision-making concerning sport. Instead of addressing technical problems in sport-related knowledge transfer, this has become a political challenge for municipalities. Drawing on the institutional approach within the Weberian policy-administration regime typology, it is hypothesized that distributed leadership between policy-administration contexts is an important capability among local leaders to bridge sport-related knowledge between multilevel decision-making processes. Drawing on large-scale survey data from 1 523 top decision-makers in Finnish municipalities, we conclude that the adoption of sport-related knowledge in local decision-making is conditioned by individual leadership capabilities in group contexts. Moreover, the study showed that leadership is essential in the adoption of sportrelated knowledge especially among the political top decision-makers. A middle-up-down leadership model could be more effective than traditional top-down or bottom-up models in the process of knowledge adoption. While this indicates that local governance patterns exist in sport-related knowledge adoption, functional solutions and models should be considered in the promotion of public wellbeing through physical activity.

Keywords: local decision-makers, sport knowledge management, municipality, local sport policy, institutional theory

MUNICIPAL SPORTS MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE INDEX

STAREPRAVO, FERNANDO AUGUSTO¹; MEZZADRI, FERNANDO MARINHO²; GARCIA, BÁRBARA²; PAULI, DAYANE ROCHA DE²; SOUZA, JOÃO VICTOR MORETTI DE²; CAVALIERI, MARCO ANTONIO RIBAS²

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Developing methodologies that allow measuring and comparing empirically the quality of sports management in municipal public administration is a topic of academic and social interest. The objective of the study is to present the Index of Municipal Sports Management and Governance (IGGE-M), developed to measure and compare the quality of sports management and governance in municipal public administration. The Index was built from four indicators: type of organization, human resources, planning, transparency and social control, based on the literature on state capabilities; and weights defined for each dimension, as follows: 10% for type of organization (org); 20% for human resources (hr); 30% for planning (plan) and 40% for transparency and social control (trans). In this sense, the calculation of the IGGE-M was established as follows: $IGGE-M: 10\%IGGE_{org} + 20\%IGGE_{hr} + 30\%IGGE_{plan} + 40\%IGGE_{trans}$. The IGGE-M was designed based on large surveys in which we applied an instrument questionnaire to thousands of municipal sports agencies in Brazil. In line with the literature on evidence-based policy and evaluation, we intend the index to contribute to a better understanding of public governance and sport management, exchange of good practices among local governments, improved use and allocation of public resources, and to the academic literature on sport policy, evaluation, and governance.

Keywords: sport, management, governance, index, Brazil

COOPERATION OF THE SPORT CLUBS AND PUBLIC SECTOR IN SERVICE PROVISION

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During the last decades, the economic depressions, the emergence of new public management doctrines and the marketization of society have mixed traditional public sport provision between public and third sectors in Finland. As the representatives of the third sector, sport clubs are increasingly providing the services which the public sector used to take care of.

The main research questions in this case study are how the sport clubs and the public sport services together provide services in the swimming hall and how hybridization manifests in the sports service provision related to swimming hall in one Finnish city. The research data consists of written documentation of the services and thematic interviews with the club operatives and the public authorities responsible for the service production in the swimming hall. Billis's theory of hybrid organizations is used in theory driven content analysis.

Only the largest sport clubs had resources to start to service provision for their non-members besides their own members. The clubs themselves recognized these services as fund-raising activity instead of public service provision even though these activities were outsourced by the public sport services. This kind of service provision could be interpreted as one feature of hybridization of the clubs which is also shown as the businessification of their activities.

Keywords: third sector organizations, sport clubs, public services, hybridization, swimming hall

INNOVATIVE LOCAL SPORT POLICIES IN GERMANY? LIMITS AND OPTIONS WITH A SEMI-SOVEREIGN STATE AND QUASI-CORPORATIST INTERMEDIATION

MÜLLER-SCHOELL, TILL¹

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Innovative sport policies aiming at social inclusion and community development are politically commonplace and usually legitimize public spending and the role of sports governing bodies. In actual practice in German cities and municipalities local sports policy systems face difficulties in implementing and maintaining such policies. The aim of the paper is to contribute to our understanding of the reasons for these difficulties and to identify the conditions under which innovation takes place.

The description of the local sport polity outlines the relevant actors and their responsibilities. The core result is the semi-sovereign characteristic of public authority and the strong role of associations and clubs. The analysis of organized and informal sports shows that sports clubs and associations cover only a fraction of sports activity and they struggle to organize marginalized groups. Parts of this mismatch can be healed within a cooperative policy-making network of quasi-corporatist intermediation, but the problem remains: Are new approaches to the inclusion of marginalized groups possible or probable?

A first approach is the empirical investigation of the policy-making network with an eye to newcomers and representatives of marginalized interest. A second is the analysis of exemplary innovative programs like sports for all beyond clubs and sport in the context of local community development.

Keywords: local sport policy, marginalized groups, governance networks

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 1: 9:00-10:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Sport and gender 1

Chair: Anna Vilanova

THE FEMINISATION OF TRANSNATIONAL FOOTBALL MIGRATION IN GHANA? REFLECTIONS ON YOUNG FEMALE PLAYERS' ENLARGED ASPIRATIONS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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²Loughborough University

³University of Passau

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The growth of girls' and women's football in Africa and an increase in the number of professional leagues, mainly in Europe and North America, has given rise to increasing levels of and aspirations for transnational football migration among African female youth. Beyond developments in football, this trend reflects a wider feminisation of transnational migration in Africa since at least the late 1980s and potentially, of enlarged demands, responsibilities and possibilities for African females on the back of neoliberal reform across the continent. In order to explore how these sporting, cultural and economic transformations influence the football-related aspirations of young female players in Ghana, this paper draws on observations and interviews from four bouts of ethnographic fieldwork in Ghana, Sweden and Denmark between 2015 and 2022. Our findings illustrate that transnational football mobility is understood and pursued by female youth players in Ghana as a strategy, albeit a highly speculative one, to improve ones' own life chances and negotiate and potentially fulfil reciprocal obligations and 'entrustments' to family. As such, this paper allows us to begin to theorise how football becomes one way for girls and young women to navigate the transition from the life phase of youth into respectable social adulthood.

Keywords: female youth; Ghana; football; transnational migration; aspirations; social becoming

GENDER RELATION AND SPORT: THE EXPERIENCES OF FEMALE SAUDI FOOTBALLERS

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Saudi Arabia's engagement in sport is currently one of the emerging topics in the international sports media, particularly since rumour occurred that Saudi would mutually bid with Greece and Egypt for the FIFA football World Cup 2030. Hosting multiple international sporting events, the takeover of Newcastle United and Cristiano Ronaldo's contract with Saudi football club Al Nassr are vehicle to gain political recognition, hence constituting a key part of the national development strategy Vision 2030. Following in the footsteps of neighbouring country Qatar, Saudi Arabia invests and reforms drastically in national sport infrastructure, as such in women sport. In the last five years extensive transformation took place, starting with women being allowed to attend football matches in 2017, two years later the Saudi Arabian Football Federation organised an unofficial women's football tournament and officially launched the Saudi Women's Football League. Similar developments took place in Qatar 10 years ago, however, the Qatari reforms targeting women involvement lacked in sustainability. This study aims to understand the effects of current national developments on Saudi females who are engaged in football and their role within these developments. An ethnographic lens will be applied to provide insights in female footballer's perspectives. The study will draw on intersectionality and social inclusion theory as main theoretical perspectives in investigating the role of football to women in a culturally altering society. The findings will provide a better understanding on gender relation and sport in the unknown though highly relevant context of Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: gender, football, Saudi Arabia, players' perspectives, social change

DEVELOPMENT AND CHALLENGES IN WOMEN'S ELITE FOOTBALL IN NORWAY

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Although women's football was not formally banned, it might be called "*the ban period*" (1930s to 1970s), due to Norwegian FAs effort to keep the sport outside the clubs. It was too physical sport for women, and focus was at injury risks, challenges of menstruation, and problems with getting pregnant and giving birth afterwards. The first-generation of football playing women was part of the anti-authoritarian wave at the end of the 1960s, followed by the women's movement in the beginning of the 1970s. Women did not want to stay behind, and they wanted to take part, move borders, and break barriers, and from 1995 it turned to be the largest organised sport for women in Norway. Despite the existing anti-discrimination laws, women inside football must fight for equal rights, and face challenges on their way to a professional career. Norway was the first country (in 2017) that made "*an equal-pay-deal*" for both genders playing for the national football team. Nevertheless, the huge focus on men's football creates economic capital for men and male elite clubs. Such privileges and power are difficult to share, or give away, for individuals and clubs. Norway's first female FA president Lise Klaveness, in March 2022 signed a collaboration deal named "*Equal Opportunities*" between elite women clubs, elite men clubs, and the Norwegian FA (2023-2028). Professional opportunities as "*Proff-days*" for elite players, and increase in sponsors and media interest are crucial, but it is still necessary to make changes at a structural level by the NFA.

Keywords: elite football, women, "equal-pay-deal", "professional days", gender equality

THE FIXATION ON WOMEN BEING UNDERREPRESENTED AS TOP LEADERS IN SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS - IS THERE AN ALTERNATIVE?

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Women are clearly underrepresented as top leaders in The Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports (NIF), who is an umbrella organization which organizes all national sports federations in Norway. The research on gender, power and governance in sports organizations often address this problem from the standpoint of women. Measures are also usually aimed at women. Mentoring program for women and other «girl projects» are examples of that. My research project addressed this problem from the standpoint of men. Inspired by Institutional Ethnography (Dorothy Smith) I did fieldwork and interviews with men in top leading positions. From this point of departure, I tried to map out how ‘what these men did’ in their everyday life as leaders, that contributed to uphold the skewed distribution of power between women and men in the organization. The results point to the fact that there are important changes to be made in how sports organizations address the problem of becoming more gender equal.

Keywords: gender, leadership in sport, institutional ethnography, Norway

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 1: 9:00-10:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Youth sport 1

Chair: Magnus Ferry

GAME RULE ADJUSTMENTS IN YOUTH SPORTS

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Rules of the game are important for how sport is experienced by (young) athletes, but also by other stakeholders such as parents, coaches and supporters. In recent years, Dutch sports associations have started adjusting (amending, deleting or adding) rules in youth sports to create more child centred sport environments. Our research aims to give insight into which rule adjustments have been implemented, why this was done and into the effectiveness of the process and outcomes of these rule adjustments.

We conducted semi-structured interviews with representatives of 17 sports associations. We asked them which rule adjustments they have made, what reasons they had for doing so and how they have experienced the process of adjusting rules.

Results show that increasing fun is the overarching goal for most sports associations to adjust rules in youth sports. For example, reducing the focus on performance, creating success experiences and guaranteeing physical safety. By increasing fun, the sports associations hope to retain members and attract new members. Furthermore, many sports associations have experienced resistance when implementing new rules. Especially coaches and parents with a background in the sport in question do not want the 'identity' of the sport to be affected and therefore prefer to keep the rules unchanged. Also, sports associations generally do not (yet) know the outcomes of conducted rule changes in relation to the aspired goals like increasing positive experiences and combating dropout. To properly study the effectiveness of game rule adjustments and the outcomes can inspire and help other (Dutch) sports associations to improve child centred sport environments.

Keywords: youth sports, game rules, rule adjustments, sports associations, dropout

ORGANIZED YOUTH SPORT PARTICIPATION BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A NATIONWIDE STUDY AMONG NORWEGIAN ADOLESCENTS 2014-2022

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Organised youth sport have a strong position among Norwegian youth. Thus, restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic had major consequences for a large number of young people. In the beginning of the pandemic, all social activities were closed, including school and leisure activities. Until all remaining restrictions were lifted on February 12, 2022, other regulatory measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic were maintained and adapted several times, including organised sports, to account for changing levels of infection risk. In this paper, we ask what consequences restrictions had for youth sport participation among Norwegian youth during and after the pandemic – at the population level and in different subgroups such as gender, age, and socioeconomic family background. We used youth survey data (Ungdata) conducted in almost all Norwegian municipalities repeatedly from 2014 til 2022 (N=426.000). Using multilevel techniques, we examined secular trends in participation rates in a seven-year periode before the pandemic (2014-2020) and compared these to participation rates during the pandemic (2021) and after (2022). The results showed that participation rates were somewhat lower (2-3 percentage points) during the pandemic compared to the year before. After the pandemic was over, the participation rates did not pick up again. These findings are discussed within the context of the fact that there was also a downward trend in young people's participation in organized sports in the period before the pandemic occurred, and that the consequences of the pandemic seem to have different consequences in different subgroups.

Keywords: youth sports, COVID-19, Norway

SOME NOTES ON UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL FOOTBALL SPECIALIZATION AND ELITE LEVEL ACHIEVEMENT

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Elite level achievement in football can, besides the training in the club, be advanced through elite sport schools at the upper secondary school. These systematic talent development environments are of central interest in this study. Previous research in the area has been extensive, with a particular focus on football academies and environmental success factors (e.g., Cooper, 2021; Larsen et al, 2013). To date, research undertaken has not in any greater extent taken into consideration non-club environments such as the upper secondary school specialization in Sweden (2-3 trainings/week during school hours). A dual career program was launched for 16-year-old ones in order to achieve international top-level in sport (Lund, 2014). Drawing on questionnaire (1026) and interview (25) data from men and women that at the age of 15 were selected to a national talent program, this study focuses on the consequences of upper secondary school specialization for elite football in adulthood. Findings from the questionnaire data showed that football specialization schools did not increase the likelihood for playing elite football at the age of 21. The analysis of players' experiences of upper secondary football schools showed that the understandings of school specialization for developing as a football player can be found in the players' background, present level as well as the school activities. In conclusion, the findings provide insights about sport specialization within the context of football.

Keywords: talent development, gender, soccer, dual career, elite athletes

RELEVANCE AND QUALITY OF THE GIPUZKOAN EXTRACURRICULAR YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM: AN EVALUATION FROM A POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE

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Physical activity and sport (PAS) programmes are an important part of organised extracurricular activities for children and young people. They appear as potentially inclusive environments where students could be provided with holistic development based on active and healthy lifestyles. The aim of this study was to evaluate and describe the Gipuzkoa School Sport Programme (GSSP) from the Positive Youth Development (PYD) perspective. The research was carried out based on CPAR (Critical Participatory Action-Research) methodology: a “CPAR group” was created –including researchers and policymakers– to carry out the evaluation of the GSSP in which we analysed a) the social environment or PYD climate and b) life skills (Holt et al., 2017). The evaluation and description of the GSSP confirmed that it meets most requirements for providing positive development contexts and opportunities for PYD. The choice of prioritising multisport and deliberate play and putting early specialisation aside seem key conditions to ensure PYD-promoting environments. This work could serve as a referent for decision-makers in organisations dedicated to designing, developing, implementing, and evaluating PYD-focused extracurricular youth sport programmes.

Keywords: Sport programs, Physical activity and sport, Positive Youth Development, CPAR, extracurricular sports program

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 1: 9:00-10:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Sport, health and wellbeing 1

Chair: Michał Lenartowicz

INVESTIGATING THE ROLE OF SPORTING SUCCESS AND FAILURE FOR THE RISK OF ATHLETE BURNOUT: INITIAL FINDINGS FROM THE GERMAN IN: PROVE PROJECT

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Burnout symptoms have increased among elite athletes over the past decades (Madigan et al., 2022). The scientific debates over athlete burnout are dominated by sport psychologists and numerous psychological antecedents of burnout have been identified such as personality factors (e.g., perfectionism) or coaching styles (e.g., autocratic coaching). Complementing this research, this paper presents a sociological perspective, according to which burnout results from the systematic imbalance of personal investments and rewards in an organization or an area of life. Especially elite sports demand high pressure and personal sacrifice, which can trigger burnout in case of missing successes and personal failures. Burnout is conceptualized (Raedeke, 1997) as a condition consisting of three underlying dimensions (exhaustion, sport devaluation, reduced sense of accomplishment). We investigate under what conditions the elite sport environment represents a potential factor for the development of burnout. Whereas every sporting competition produces winners and “losers” at the same time, we assume that the non-fulfilment of sporting expectations plays a potentially central role in the process of “burning out”. We investigate these assumptions based on cross-sectional data from German elite athletes (N=276), who were surveyed for the interdisciplinary research project “Individualized performance development in elite sports” (in:prove). Preliminary results show that burnout symptoms are rather widespread and seem to be “endemic” in the elite sport system (e.g., physical and mental exhaustion) and personal disappointment in important sporting competitions is a crucial risk factor for athlete burnout. Thus, we advocate for an extended multidisciplinary perspective for burnout research in sports.

Keywords: athlete burnout; disappointment; elite sports; exhaustion; health

THE RELATION BETWEEN HEALTH AND PERFORMANCE ALONG THE TALENT DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS OF ELITE ATHLETES, MUSICIANS, AND MATHEMATICIANS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Sport scientific research often references sport as a healthy pursuit. Critical sport sociological scholarship, however, questions the positive association between sport and health. Health-related risk-taking behaviors as well as the mandate to subordinate one's health to performance are common within elite sports' culture of risk. Recently, similar cultural values have also been described for other high-performance domains such as music and academics.

With the current study, we aimed to better understand the interrelationship between health and high-performance pursuits such as elite sports, music, and mathematics. Specifically, we explored how high performers negotiated the relationship between health and performance along their talent development pathways.

Adopting an interpretivist constructivist approach, we conducted 30 semi-structured interviews, with ten athletes, musicians, and mathematicians each. Through reflexive thematic analysis, we analyzed patterns within the data related to how high performers experienced and constructed the relation between health and performance along their talent development pathways.

We identified four overarching themes: (1) Health and performance as an anti-thesis, (2) Wear and tear as part and parcel of high-performance pursuits, (3) Health as a capacity for elite performance, (4) There is more to life than performance.

Values representative of the culture of risk predominated the early stages of the high performers' careers leading them to believe that health and performance contradict each other. Later in their careers, some high performers began to critically question these beliefs and began to value health as a capacity for performance or even tried to abandon the performance imperative from their lives.

Keywords: health, performance, talent development, elite athlete, well-being

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 2: 13:00-14:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sexual abuse and violence in sport

Chair: Anna Vilanova

POWER IMBALANCE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT: EXPERIENCES OF ICELANDIC FEMALE ATHLETES

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On January 11, 2018, Icelandic women in sports shared their stories of sexual harassment, sexual abuse, and inequality under the auspices of the metoo hashtag. Research indicates that sexual harassment and violence are persistent problems within sports and that the culture even supports and accepts such behavior. Sexual harassment is tolerated and normalized, as shown by the facts that its harmful effects become overlooked and that sexual relationships between young athletes and coaches are considered harmless and even an accepted norm. In this context, however, it has been shown that there is a strong connection between power imbalance and an increased risk of sexual harassment in sports.

This study aimed to shed light on sexual harassment in sports from the perspective of Icelandic female athletes. The power imbalance in the athlete-coach relationship was at the forefront of the study. In-depth interviews with 30 female athletes—from individual and team sports—were conducted from 2019 to 2021. These interviews have given insight into the power imbalance between athletes and their coaches and how this power imbalance within the culture of sports and reactions to allegations are risk factors for sexual harassment. Interviews also show that the culture of sports (through the focus on winning at all costs and overconformity by the athletes) confirms the coaches' power, which can spread to their personal lives and increase the risk of sexual abuse and harassment even further. There is a need to change the culture of sports and the power imbalance in the coach-athlete relationship to prevent interpersonal violence.

Keywords: sports, sexual harassment, power, coach-athlete relationship, culture

SOCIO-CULTURAL STRUCTURES ENABLING SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN SPORTS - ANALYSIS OF THE HEARINGS FROM THE GERMAN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

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Objectives: Listening to the reports of those affected by sexual violence and systematically analysing them is an essential element of the comprehensive investigation into sexual abuse in youth sport. In alignment with “The Whyte Review” (Whyte, 2022) and the “VOICE Project” (Rulofs et al., 2019) the presented research project systematically investigated reports of sexual violence in the German sport context in order to identify socio-cultural structures of the sport system that enable misconduct.

Methods: The research team analysed 72 reports of adults who had been subjected to sexual violence in sport during their childhood. The reports were gathered by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in Germany. Analysis was based on qualitative methods; participatory approaches including survivors’ perspectives were applied.

Findings: Although experiences of violence vary intersubjectively, the analysis identified a number of social-cultural structures that allowed the violence to occur undetected in the system of sport. These structures include unequal gender relations and heteronormativity, disciplining regimes and unclear boundaries in relationships characterized by closeness, trust and ritual in sporting settings.

Discussion: Since several affected athletes reported serious resistance in sports clubs and associations when they attempted to disclose their experiences of violence, it seems that especially the universally widespread positive narrative of sports stands in the way of disclosing abuse against children in sports.

Conclusion: Listening to the accounts of victims of violence and making them available to a wide audience is an essential element in raising broad awareness of child abuse in our society and in sports.

Keywords: child abuse, violence, prevention, intervention, child protection

IS SAFEGUARDING AGAINST SEXUAL AND HARASSMENT ABUSE A PRIORITY IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT? AN ASSESSMENT OF 40 INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS' POLICIES

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Over the past decades, numerous cases of sexual and harassment abuse (SHA) in the sports world have come to light, disclosing that gender-based violence is a systemic issue in sport (Davies & True, 2015), a worldwide threat affecting all sports and levels (Fasting et al., 2003 ; Fasting, 2015).

Sports organisations have been criticized for the sluggishness of their actions to tackle this issue (Parent, 2011, Kavanagh et al., 2020), even it's considered as an urgent task (Mountjoy et al., 2016). IFs' reluctance to change their governance are considered obstacles to an effective response towards SHA. Yet, as authorities in charge of sport integrity, IFs have an important moral and legal role to play (Mountjoy et al., 2016)

As IFs' actions on prevention and safeguarding policies have not been not sufficiently studied (Lang et al., 2018), we analyse the SHA-related policies and actions taken by 40 Olympics IFs. Data from IFs' websites have been collected through annual reports, statutes, ethic codes and safeguarding policies. We conduct a systematic review of their initiatives (or absence of): trainings, action plans, dedicated creation of integrity body or whistleblowing systems, etc.

We propose a classification of IFs, revealing different patterns among IFs. Results also highlight two trends: (1) the creation of specific entities dedicated to integrity topics, which raises questions of their power and effectiveness, (2) the growing importance linking "sport and human rights", which seems to have supplanted the notions of integrity and safeguarding.

Keywords: sexual abuse, violence, international sport federations, safeguarding, human rights

INTIMACY SPACES IN SPORTS TEAMS: FROM CLOSENESS AND AFFECTIVITIES, TOWARDS THEIR DISCOMFORTS, SILENCES AND THE NORMALIZATION OF DYNAMICS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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Practicing sport is much more than performing a regulated physical activity, competing and/or overcoming collective or individual objectives. In this field, the affective and relationships are very important, idealizing many sport values and different forms of organization. Different researches (Marks et al., 2012; Parent et al., 2016; Kroshus, 2019; Bisgaard & Toftegaard, 2019) have examined sexual violence in sports. They have pointed out the high prevalence of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in sports. This paper aims to make an approach to the forms of organization in sports, pointing out their hierarchies and systems of strict discipline, where exacerbated practices might occur, sometimes normalized through the special sensitivities in which sports athletes coexist. All of this will lead us to reflect on the foundation of these systems and the vulnerabilities in which athletes may live. The main hypothesis is that sport has risk factors in the occurrence of sexual abuse and sexual harassment relationships, above other public contexts. These factors may help to explain the high incidence of sexual violence in sport. The methodology used has been to carry out 30 interviews (athletes and coaches). This paper will show that there are indeed risk factors in sexual abuse and sexual harassment in sport related to emotional intensity and strict hierarchies and forms of organization and obedience. In addition, it is urgent to study this normalization of certain exacerbated dynamics, above other public contexts, as a form of prevention.

Keywords: sexual harassment, sport, gender, sexual violence, emotions

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 2: 13:00-14:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Sport, physical activity and social groups 1

Chair: Remco Hoekman

PATTERNS OF PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND EXERCISE AMONG ADULTS IN GREENLAND: UNDERSTANDING LEVELS OF CONSCIOUSNESS AND REFLEXIVITY IN A MODERNISED SOCIETY

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Objective: The aim of this study is to examine the major sports- and exercise activities in leisure time practised by adults in Greenland and to understand how these patterns and choices of activities are influenced by modernisation and globalisation through the lens of Antony Giddens' structuration theory. **Methods:** The study utilised a combination of cross-sectional survey data (n=1153) and semi-structured interview data (n=18). **Results:** The most popular sports- and exercise activities in leisure time among adults in Greenland included weekly walking in cities, towns, and villages (51%), walking or hiking in nature and mountains (43%), trips by boats (35%), and picking, gathering, and gleaning berries, herbs, mushrooms (34%). Fishing from boats and hunting marine mammals also ranked among the top activities, though they are no longer necessary for survival in modern society. The popularity of these activities suggests that traditional outdoor activities are still valued and maintained in modern society, reflecting both a historical and cultural consciousness as well as a practical one. **Conclusions:** Choices of sports- and exercise activities in leisure time in Greenland are closely related to tradition and history, but also reflect a discursive and practical consciousness as modernisation and globalisation continue.

Keywords: sport participation, leisure time, Greenland, outdoor activities, Giddens

LITERATURE REVIEW OF SPAIN'S SOCIAL CLASS DIFFERENCES IN SPORT PARTICIPATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

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Economic inequality is one of the main risks of today's societies, an inequality that has been growing in recent years. Inequality has consequences for health, being worse as the socioeconomic status deteriorates, a relationship established both globally (Bartley, 2017) and in Spain (Padilla, 2019). Health is linked to physical activity and sport participation, which also suffers from an inequality that has not been eliminated in European societies. In the Spanish cases, it has been established that the levels of sport practice are positively correlated with the economic and educational level over the last forty years (García Ferrando and Llopis, 2020). However, research on sport inequality is sparse in Spain, and the purpose of this paper is to systematically review all the sociological evidence available on the matter to establish a state-of-the-art. inequality in sport and physical activity in Spain.

For this, a literature search will be carried out in the main Spanish and international scientific databases to identify all studies on the differences in the rates of physical activity, sports participation, and health in the last 10 years (2013-2023) will be selected. The review has not yet been finalized, but its results will be ready for presentation at the Congress.

Keywords: social class, sport participation, Spain, inequality, health

SIGNS OF EQUALITY IN SPORTS AND MOVEMENT HABITS AMONG ADULTS IN DENMARK

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Denmark is generally one of the most equal countries in the world. Equal access to sports is likewise highly prioritized. In practice, however, social inequality in sports and movement participation still exist. Using a nationwide cross-sectional data sample, this study investigates areas of equal participation rates regarding selected sports activities and organisational settings. Seven social groups are subject to the investigation: *people with Western and non-Western origins, cash assistance recipients, early retirees, and people with a mental, physical, or cognitive impairment*. The choice of social groups in question is based on the previous knowledge of inequality in sports and movement participation, as well as Bourdieu's view of habitus, which describes how people's backgrounds and experiences are decisive for choices made later in life. Data is collected through an online survey in 2020 and includes responses from 163,000 adult Danes (15+ years). By using logistic regressions, the current study points towards a general social inequality in sports participation, which is in line with previous studies. However, at the same time, the study highlights specific activities where patterns of inequality are reversed, and the probability of participation is found to be neutral or greater for the selected social groups. This will be discussed in relation to cultural differences (habitus) and societal structural conditions (possibilities).

Keywords: inequality, sport participation, habitus, social groups, vulnerable groups

"I SPENT MOST OF MY TIME IN MY GARDEN"- SUSTAINED DETERMINANTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY LEVELS IN OLDER ADULTS

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Objectives: Evidence suggests that certain elements of the built environment can help promote physical activity levels (PAL) among older adults. As structured sport participation declines with age, more attention has been given to gardening, which has been shown to have effect that is significantly positive for physical activity levels as well as other psychological health outcomes.

Methods: Empirical studies of PAL of older adults (n=444 older adults) assessed with the General Physical Activity Questionnaire (GPAQ) and semi-structured interviews were used to investigate the determinants of reaching the recommended level of PA in older adults. Quantitative (binary logistic regression and independent t-test) and qualitative analyses were performed to analyze data.

Findings: Gardening was the only ($p = 0.042$) predictor of weekly PAL among older adults. "Gardeners" (n = 254) were more likely (1.85 times) to report higher PAL than those who didn't garden (n = 197). In addition, we found owning a dog ($p=068$) to be a near-significant predictor, indicating that dog owners (n=71) were 0.5 times more likely to report higher levels of PA than non-owners (n= 380).

Conclusion: Gardening and, in some examples, dog ownership were found to be important daily/weekly routines and positive means of achieving the recommended PAL. In addition to the positive social effects of gardening (e.g., social networks, bonds of friendship, etc.) and the economic effects (producing one's own food), the overall health of older adults can benefit, so it is important to promote these activities and provide facilities at the local and national level.

Keywords: physical activity levels, older adults, daily/weekly routines.

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 2: 13:00-14:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Sports spectatorship and fandom 1

Chair: Mariann Vaczi

THE FEMINIZATION OF CHINESE FOOTBALL FANDOM AND THE ‘INAUTHENTICITY’ OF WOMEN FANS: A CONFUCIANISM-BASED FRAMEWORK

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Football operates as a place of reproducing Connell’s (1995) ‘hegemonic masculinity’ in most countries across the globe. Whilst the majority of studies have focused upon the importance of football for men, a growing body of work has begun to examine women’s experiences as fans. However, the experiences of Chinese women fans have to date been unexplored. Chinese women spectators of men’s football games have shown a growing trend in recent years, increasing from 13.4% in 2017 (iResearch, 2017) to 38% in 2021 (Deloitte, 2021). In response to this trend, our study examines the ‘feminization’ of football fandom in China (Pope, 2017).

Using an online qualitative survey (n=165) of women fans of the Chinese Football Association Super League (the CSL) clubs, our findings examine fan perceptions of changes in the numbers of women at matches in recent years and reasons for this ‘feminization’. We also examine perceptions of women as ‘inauthentic’ fans. We draw on Confucianism as a framework for the gender expectations of women football fans, based on the traditional Confucian concepts of ‘Fidelity’ (忠贞), ‘Obedience’ (顺从) and ‘Proper duties’ (正业) in Chinese society. In doing so, we examine the following themes: sexualized objects, celebrity fans, consumers, and subordinate gender roles.

In conclusion, this paper makes one contribution towards changing the dearth of research on Chinese women football fans. There is a need for further research to amplify Chinese women’s voices and reduce gender inequalities in football.

Keywords: football, fandom, China, Confucianism

DOING GENDER IN SUPPORTER CULTURES. A FRAMEWORK FOR STUDYING FEMALE SUPPORTERS OF MEN'S FOOTBALL IN NORWAY

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The proportion of female spectators/supporters in men's football is increasing, yet still limited (Caldwell, 2011). Traditional supporter cultures were based on norms and practices of white, working class masculinity, but commercialization of football and upgraded facilities in elite football have contributed to a more welcoming atmosphere for more groups. Yet, most supporter cultures appear to stick to noisy, spontaneous and often verbally aggressive codes of conduct. On the other hand, Scandinavian supporter culture generally supports inclusive practices and norms, often officially banning sexism, homophobia and xenophobia.

The aim of this paper is to examine how female supporters of men's football navigate and negotiate femininity in a milieu characterized by masculine codes of conduct. How are gendered practices played out? Do fans form female networks/groups within the broader supporter culture?

The paper draws on sociological concepts aimed at distinguishing between different forms of supporters/fans, and on recent research on female supporters in men's football (e.g. Pope, 2017, Lennis & Pfister, 2015, Radmann, White & Hedenborg, 2022). Theoretical lenses include Goffman (self-presentation, impression management) and aspects of theories of gender.

This is a conceptual paper, aimed at establishing a framework for a study of female supporters in Norwegian men's football.

Keywords: football supporters, football and gender, female supporters, supporter culture, femininity

FAKE FANS OR ORIENTALISM? – FIELD NOTES FROM THE 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP IN QATAR

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The 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar became one of the most controversial sport mega events of all times, at least in the Western world. The allocation of the tournament to Qatar back in 2010 caused shock and took place under a large cloud of claims about corruption. Calls for boycott grew among European football fans and some leaders in the years that followed, especially as news of the conditions for migrant workers at the construction sites for the seven new stadiums filtered through. The world cup kicked off with fans, especially in Scandinavia and Northern Europe, claiming they would not watch a minute of any game. This stand was enhanced by images from the Qatari capital Doha showing groups of Asian migrant workers waving flags for national teams from South America and Europe in the days he world cup. These were largely portrayed as “fake fans” in Western media. This paper is based on field observations and conversations with participating fans at the world cup in Qatar, with a focus on their experiences and the local organisational side of the event. Theoretically, Edward Said’s concept of “Orientalism” (Said, 1978) will be explored in the discussion of findings from this fieldwork, with a particular concern for Arab perspectives.

Keywords: sport mega events, football supporters, orientalism, fake fans, FIFA

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 2: 13:00-14:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Sport and doping

Chair: Ekain Zubizarreta

SUBSTANCES, SUPPLEMENTS AND OTHER MEANS: AN EXTENSION OF DIET. NORWEGIAN ATHLETES UNDERSTANDING OF PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING SUBSTANCES.

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Several studies have investigated how certain substances and practices become classified as illicit and approach doping by exploring performance-enhancing substances, capturing the permitted, prohibited, and the ambiguous, often referred to as grey areas. After conducting interviews with twenty-four ambitious youth athletes about their understanding of these substances and their daily communication with actors in their network about these, we argue that much can be learned by exploring how they talk about food and eating. Previous studies have revealed that antidoping discourses can strongly restrict athletes' discussions about doping and doping-related topics. It was also our experience that the athletes were, to some extent, held back by this discourse. However, our analysis demonstrates that food and eating are central in the interviews, not only because the athletes are cautious about discussing doping-related topics but because they use it as a pivot point for their meaning-making regarding performance-enhancing substances. According to Scrinis (2008), the current understanding of food is dominated by a focus on nutrient composition and is defined as *nutritionism*. He claims that this understanding shapes the relationship between food and the body. Ventresca and Brady (2015) suggest that these ideas are taken up differently in different contexts. Especially in the sporting context, where athletes are encouraged to eat certain foods at certain times and the right amount. In our view, athletes understanding of food and eating and their negotiating of nutritional supplements, such as protein shakes, can inform us about how they understand and view performance enhancement.

Keywords: nutrition; nutritional supplements; meaning-making; performance enhancement, youth sport

REGULATORY ISSUES RELATING TO CERTAIN SPORTS LAW AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN RELATION TO DOPING OFFENCES

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Introduction: Doping can be identified as a widespread problem in sports and has become a global problem. Anti-doping legislation established by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and enforced by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) aims to protect the ethical principles of sport and fair play.

Purpose: Our research purpose is to examine the legal regulations of the issue of doping in sports, the task of anti-doping bodies, comparing current legislation at the international and domestic level, and reviewing the literature.

Examination method: secondary sources, based on legal regulation and policy analysis, literature research.

Result: The research is in progress, the secondary literature research and the primary legal case analysis are aligned with the legal regulations in force at all times.

Discussion: From a psychological approach, Lentillon-Kaestner V, Hagger MS et al. (2012) came to integrate the health-damaging effects of performance-enhancing drugs. According to Anjum GS, Mumtaz N. et al. (2020), legal regulations and ethical standards are the most significant factors that discourage athletes from using prohibited performance-enhancing substances/methods. As Sian Clancy, Frank Owusu-Sekyere. et al. (2022) emphasize, preventing the violation of anti-doping rules, and increased awareness of the concept of clean sport are essential among athletes and the sports community.

Conclusion: The issue of doping, its legal regulation, sanctioning, integration of its harmful effects on health can be important for all athletes and sports professionals by expanding their horizons of knowledge.

Keywords: doping, sport ethics, fair play, regulation

TOWARDS THE SOCIOLOGICAL ENLIGHTENMENT OF WHISTLEBLOWING ON DOPING IN SPORT

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The major doping scandals in recent years were not revealed by laboratory testing but rather by whistle-blowers. Furthermore, anti-doping organisations are increasingly turning to whistleblowing as an instrument in their fight against doping.

Research on the phenomenon is slowly taking off. In line with principles of the ‘sociological enlightenment’ (cf. Luhmann 2009: 83ff.; Bette 2011: 7ff.) and the benchmark of whistleblowing research in general, we demonstrate that characteristic shortcomings, blind spots and deficits of previous studies must be dealt with through future research.

1. Case analysis: Until now, investigations have primarily focused on the intention to blow the whistle. There is a special need for studies on the factual decisions of whistle-blowers and their intended and unintended consequences.
2. Contextualisation: In most studies, athletes and other sports protagonists are asked to engage in self-assessments and to provide their subjective perspectives. In future research, social contexts, systemic logics and generative mechanisms that play a role in the decision to report doping need to be investigated.
3. Amorality: Whistle-blowers in sport are often explicitly or implicitly constructed as moral agents who are committed to bettering sport and employ whistleblowing as a practice of empowerment. All the more, alternative motivations, latent functions and escalatory dynamics of the decision-making process should be examined.

As a discipline for incongruent and amoral observations, sociology can contribute significantly to a better understanding of the social complexity of whistle-blowing on doping in sport and to deriving essential implications for its application as an anti-doping strategy.

Keywords: whistle-blowing, anti-doping, elite sport, sociological enlightenment, amorality

SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIC DISCUSSIONS ON DOPING

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What questions, insights, and discussions mobilize researchers on doping and anti-doping? What do we know, and what remains to be studied? Our communication aims to respond to these questions and therefore examines the state of research on this subject. These questions and their implications are in line with a recurring demand from institutions involved in the fight against doping to create an observatory on the analysis of doping. To answer these questions, we created a large corpus of scientific articles published in English (n=322) and we used the textual analysis software Prospéro (Chateauraynaud 2003), a software that allowed us to analyze the corpus using an approach of the sociology of science. Results show that anti-doping research focus primarily on some dimensions of the object (f.ex., anti-doping regulations) while others seem almost forgotten. Our research will allow us to interrogate the notion of “cumulativity” (Abbott, 2015, Walliser, 2009) by discussing the possibility of creating metrology to capture the evolution of research on this issue. Furthermore, we will discuss the notion of "epistemic community" by trying to understand a possible specificity of the object.

Keywords: doping; anti-doping; sociology; observatory; scientific articles

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 3: 15:00-16:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sport policy and governance 2

Chair: Monika Piątkowska

MANAGEMENT OF SPORT ORGANIZATIONS AT THE CROSSROAD OF RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY: PERCEPTIONS, PRACTICES, AND PROSPECTS AROUND THE WORLD

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Sustainability and responsibility related issues in sport have received a great deal of media attention recently. Cases dealing with economic corruption, sexual harassment, racism, and unethical coaching practices are examples of the issues that have questioned the functions and positive spirit of sport. More and more cases both in top level and grassroots sports indicate that sport sphere is not an island of its own, but rather a solid part of the societal activities that influences people's lives in different ways around the world.

Sport organizations are expected to manage their affairs responsibly and sustainably. However, the understanding of the meaning of responsible and sustainable management, respectively, is unclear and/or varies immensely across publications.

This paper aims to shed light theoretically and conceptually to these matters, and evaluate how sport organizations in the public, private, and non-profit sectors define responsible management and sustainability, and what kind of practices are carried out in their daily operations. An emphasis will be placed on evaluating the current and future meanings of sustainable and responsible management in the organizations.

For this purpose a research project was launched to collect data from 22 countries around the world about how responsibility and sustainability are defined by their sport organizations and what kinds of related cases have recently occurred. The data is collected by interviewing representatives from different sport sectors, and the data is analyzed with the means of thematic content analysis. The first-round results are expected in spring 2023.

Keywords: responsibility, sport organisations, sustainability, sport management

EXPERIENCES OF SOCIAL RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBERS IN RURAL SPORTS CLUBS

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Social recognition and reputation are considered relevant factors for a stable voluntary engagement in sports clubs. Up to now, the extent to which club members experience recognition from the club's management has been studied (Schlesinger & Nagel, 2018). This study investigates the importance of recognition experiences for the maintenance of voluntary commitment from the perspective of board members and the social mechanisms for the production or denial of social recognition. The data were collected as part of the BMEL-funded project "Civic Engagement in Peripheral - Rural Areas of the New Federal States".

The actor-theoretical model of sports club development (Nagel, 2007) serves as a heuristic framework. Sports clubs are corporate actors that develop through the ongoing mutual constitution of members' social actions and social structures over historical time. In this context, norms and values for social recognition are negotiated and (re)produced between the actors.

To reconstruct group-specific and cross-group orientations and experiences, 12 group discussions were conducted with current and former board members in rural sports clubs. The data was analysed using the documentary method (Bohnsack, 2021).

Social recognition or disrespect is experienced differently when dealing with club members. Board members take on various volunteer roles in the sports club. Social recognition is experienced primarily in the role of coach or instructor. However, board activities is perceived as invisible to other club members. The presentation shows how recognition or disrespect is established between groups of actors with different orientations and how an experienced lack of recognition can lead to exit plans.

Keywords: civic engagement, social recognition, board members, documentary method

**THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SWISS SPORTS FEDERATIONS:
ADDRESSING, LAUNCHING, AND IMPLEMENTING DECISION-MAKING
STRUCTURES AND PROMOTION PROGRAMMES**

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Many historically male-dominated sports still have a lower participation of women and girls. At the same time, sports federations are becoming increasingly active in promoting women's sport. However, efforts need to reach the local clubs, which organizes actual sport participation, but do not necessarily follow the reasoning of the federation. This raises the question as (1) how the promotion of women and girls moves on a federation agenda and (2) how specific structures and programmes are launched and implemented in practice.

To examine these questions this study uses qualitative case studies in three selected Swiss sports federations. Ten problem-centred interviews with decision-makers and six focus groups with club representatives were conducted to trace policy cycle phases (Enjolras & Waldahl, 2007) of the promotion of women and girls.

The study shows processes of outsourcing a "women's sport department" in two federations to generate visibility. Yet, decision makers report insufficient financial and human resources to have impact beyond visibility and promotion programmes are (partially) funded by external actors. Committed actors at both federation and club levels as well as societal expectations and demands are key drivers of this development. In many cases, clubs are already committed to the topic. In summary, external pressures, steering impulses and organisational goals are conditions for the successful promotion of women and girls in organised sport.

Keywords: women, sport federations, sport clubs, policy cycle, case study

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 3: 15:00-16:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Sport and power relations, conflict, resilience

Chair: Laszlo Peter

SPORT AND SECESSIONISM: ALTERNATIVE TRAJECTORIES IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY AND CATALONIA

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Just before the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020, Catalonia was experiencing week-long street fights and protests as a culmination of its pro-independence politics that was first articulated in 2010. This lecture will draw from years of ethnographic fieldwork to compare the different ways nationalist, pro-independence, and autonomy aspirations are both constructed and reflected in Basque and Catalan sporting cultures. Special attention will be paid to the Basque Athletic Bilbao and its localist signing policy, the Catalan FC Barcelona and its transformations from “more than a club” to a “club that unites the world,” and a Catalan traditional sport called castells, or human tower building, which has emerged lately as a symbolic expression of Catalan bottom-up political constructions. These comparisons will discuss the Basque and Catalan regions in relation to other European contexts where independence movements and autonomy claims constitute a particular conundrum for state-region relations.

Keywords: football, castells, politics, national identity, Spain

TO FACILITATE FOR LEISURE ACTIVITIES – POWER VS. SUSTAINABILITY IN LOCAL POLITICAL PROCESSES

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In this paper I will examine the potential conflict between what resourceful local actors promote and implement of facilities for leisure activities, be it sport facilities, floodlight trails, skate parks, green park areas, and what should be the sustainable solution when facilitating for leisure activities. Sustainability refers here both to the ecological impact – the carbon footprint, the impact on the natural environment etc. - and social sustainability – in this case social differences in access to such facilities. These two often interact: Environmentally friendly facilities have lower threshold for participation, still such facilities like green urban spaces can be spatially distributed in a way that implies uneven social distribution (“environmental injustice”, Suárez et al 2020; Pham et al 2012). The analysis and discussions are based on existing literature both case-driven and more general empirical studies. There has been done quite a lot on the uneven social distribution of the facilitation for leisure activities, however, somewhat less has been done on the ecological impact. Thus, we will include measurements as transportation, consumption of resources, pollution etc. to tentatively detect these effects (McCullough et al 2018: chp. 4); i.e. an urban green space that implies large transport needs can be less environmentally friendly than a frequently used sport facility in the city. The local political processes are analyzed using a three-level approach of power execution based partly on Luke's three dimensions of power and partly Bourdieu's concept of social field and symbolic power (Bergsgard 2019).

Keywords: leisure, facilities, sustainability, local politics, power

THE POWER STRUGGLE FOR GOVERNANCE AND AUTHORITY IN THE INSTITUTIONALISATION OF BREAKING

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Action sports are undergoing a process of institutionalisation with their Olympic inclusion. As previous research points out, the institutionalisation process is not always constructive and peaceful processes in many cases. Drawing upon a case study of South Korea's breaking, this paper examines how the K-breaking stakeholders struggle to become a legitimate member of the nation's Olympic movement. Using document analysis and semi-structured interviews with 10 key individuals involved in the process (e.g., self-organised breaking organisations, the NGB of breaking, and veteran breakers), four key findings are suggested. First, breaking crews were reorganised as formal sport organisations due to external institutional pressures (e.g., its Olympic inclusion and national sport governance structures). Second, breakers' conflicting perspectives and identities caused a split within the breaking community as to how to cooperate with the existing sport federation, the Korean Federation of Dancesport (KFD). Third, some breakers resisted the KFD, the National Olympic Committee-sanctioned Governing Body of breaking, and breaking's integration as a sub-discipline of dance sport, while the KFD strived to persuade the opposing breakers to participate in the KFD (e.g., as board members). These findings suggest that without wider support from breakers, it might be difficult for the KFD, the current NGB of breaking to obtain comprehensive legitimacy in its regulation of the newly emerging action sport.

Keywords: action sports; breaking; power struggle; institutionalisation, the Olympics

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 3: 15:00-16:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Child protection and safeguarding in sport

Chair: Åse Strandbu

ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INCREASED FOCUS ON RELATIONAL COMPETENCE AND CARE IN SPORT COACHING

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When we interviewed top-level coaches in Norway they called for breaking away from what they call the ‘traditional’ coaching role. A coach should treat each athlete on the basis of who they are and not just on the basis of how they perform in their given discipline. Further, the coach must care about each athlete’s well-being. The coaches contend these are necessary relational skills that make every coach better, and that ‘care-giving skills’ help coaches act in a way that enhances performance.

We want to discuss caring in coaching practice by relating it to Beauvoir's concept of ethical freedom and Foucault’s discussion of ethical self-creation. According to Beauvoir the discussion about care must be linked to the characteristics of the context and to the freedom of others, and this gives us an analytical starting point for discussing different ways of practicing care. For Foucault ethical self-creation is the form a subject creates for their self through a combination of problematization and work on the self. Is it possible to combine Foucault’s discussion with Beauvoir’s perspective?

The empirical material stems from a mentoring programme for aspiring coaches held under the auspices of Olympiatoppen. Each coach is offered extensive, individually adapted mentoring over an entire year. We ask coaches why they choose the way they do, how they argue their choices and what kind of dilemmas they experience. What characterizes their perspective, choices and behavior?

Keywords: relational competence, ethical freedom, self-creation, care

DISCOURSES OF CHILDREN’S RIGHTS IN SPORT: TIED UP IN CONSERVATIVE IDEAS OF PROVISION AND PROTECTION?

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Concerns about children’s rights in sports have existed for many years, although there’s a dearth of research (David, 2005; Eliasson 2017). Concerns straddle matters such as who’s best qualified to lead and organise sport for children, whether competitive sport puts children at risk (e.g. too much attention to talent development with extreme training regimes, which in turn can lead to abuse connected to performance-enhancing drugs, eating disorders), violence in sport (e.g. sexual abuse), and whether children have to comply to adult norms rather than values that serve the interests of children.

Against this backdrop, the paper aims to problematise the idea of children’s rights in sport as universal values whose implementation is a matter of overcoming geopolitical and/or socio-economic constraints. It builds upon the work of scholars in children’s rights studies (Bendo 2019) who contend that the three ‘Ps’ of children’s rights - provision, protection and participation – are saturated by power relations and complexities. By drawing upon a discourse analysis (Markula and Silk 2011) of Norwegian sports policy of children’s rights, it will reveal, for example, how dominant liberal notions of access and entitlement to sports arenas, or ideas about children as vulnerable and in need of protection, perform ideological work that inhibits competing discourses and practises such as conceptualising children as autonomous beings and proactive meaning-makers in sporting arenas. It aims to illuminate how the re-storying of ideas about children in sport could pave the way for new imaginaries.

Keywords: children’s rights, sport, discourse, policy

THE EXPERIENCES OF SPANISH ELITE GAY AND BISEXUAL MALE ATHLETES

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There is broad academic consensus that sexual minorities have been marginalised in both sporting culture and in the academic literature. The present research is the first one to examine the experiences of being gay or bisexual in Spanish elite sport. Eleven Spanish elite men athletes participated in the study. The participants were aged between 18 and 51 years old. All participants were involved in a semi-structured interview. Before each interview, the purpose of study was explained, all ethical procedures were outlined, and participants' informed consent was obtained. A thematic analysis was conducted. Guided by Connell's concept of hegemonic masculinity and the process of individualization, our findings demonstrate that all athletes have received and have seen homonegativity during his life and career. But, at the same time, the sport and its context has empowered them. Findings highlight how these athletes are paving the way, doing a more diverse masculinity. It is being accepted by many sport agents, but not all of them. This study is in line with recent research in Europe (Braümuller et al., 2020; Hartmann-Tews, 2022) where homogenativity episodes are still common in sport settings. Some patterns are identified among interviewees as mechanisms of hegemony (Connell & Messerschmidt, 2005). Besides, athletes are not just passive recipients of meanings or sport policies but change agents as well. Considering the results, more measures have to be developed in Spanish sport in order to create a safe environment for gay and bisexual athletes. In this sense it is important to implement specific training on gender and sexualities to sport agents (athletes, coaches, staff...), and improve inclusive policies in sport institutions.

Keywords: Spain, sexual minorities, hegemonic masculinity

PREVENTING VICTIMISATION IN SPORT BY USING INTERNATIONAL AND HUNGARIAN SPORTS LEGISLATION AND GOOD PRACTICE

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Description of phenomenon: Victimisation in sport is identified as a global problem with incidents occurring at individual, interpersonal and organisational levels (Kerr, 2023). Following international trends, the need to clarify issues and practices for safe sport has had a significant impact on Hungary. The Hungarian Swimming Federation's (MÚSZ), 'clean slate policy' is presented by analysing two procedures that highlight legal and moral-pedagogical obligations, developed to protect participants through application of legal and ethical principles of sport and fair play.

Objectives: To examine the legal framework of proceedings in the Túri and Szilágyi cases, investigated by the MÚSZ, and which allowed the internal regulation of sport as a social subsystem to be enforced. In the analysis, the issue of good practice is explored through an intervention programme following case studies. The process leading to proposed solutions is approached, not by sanctioning behaviour, but by prevention based on the principles of child-friendly approaches (Rhind & Owusu-Sekyere, 2020).

Justifications: The secondary literature research and primary case law analysis will be adapted to the legislation in force. Document analysis identified that legal regulations and ethical standards are important factors that encourage sportspeople, athletes and parents to avoid inappropriate practices, to cooperate, and to avoid any form of abuse (physical, physical, emotional or psychological). These standards reduce harm and subsequent psychological problems that can lead to sport withdrawal (Hurst, 2022.). In our research, we found the integration of the effects of different social sciences related to pedagogical, psychological and sport victimology (Szekeres, 2019).

Keywords: sportsvictimisation, sports legislation, 'clean slate policy', abuse, good practice in swimming

The project is financed by the NRD Fund.

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Parallel Session 3: 15:00-16:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Various issues in sociology of sport 1

Chair: Till Müller-Schoell

**VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT IN SPORTS CLUBS IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS
-FINDINGS OF THE "GERMAN SURVEY ON VOLUNTEERING" 2014 AND 2019**

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The recruitment and retention of volunteers is a key economic and cultural "survival requirement" for sports clubs. Especially sports clubs in rural regions have been complaining for some time about growing problems in mobilising committed members. Against this background, the project "Civic engagement in sports clubs in peripheral rural areas of the new federal states in Germany" (promoted by the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food) is currently underway. As part of the project, a secondary analysis of the representative population surveys of the "German Survey on Volunteering" from 2014 and 2019 each with over 25,000 respondents aged 14 and over will be carried out in order to examine voluntary engagement in the field of "sport and exercise" (in sports clubs as well as in self-organised initiatives). The presentation examines voluntary engagement in sport with a view to socio-spatial differences between rural and urban areas. The data show, among others, that the proportion of volunteers in sport has decreased from 2014 to 2019, with even greater losses in rural areas than in urban areas. The urban-rural differences cannot be predicted solely by the shrinking population shares due to demographic change. In view of these findings, questions about the recruitment and retention of volunteers in rural sports clubs arise in a special way, which will be discussed further in the lecture.

Keywords: voluntary engagement, volunteering, sports clubs, rural areas, urban areas

AN EXAMINATION OF THE IDENTITIES OF CHINESE FEMALE ATHLETES WITH PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENTS: MARRIAGE AND SOCIAL STATUS

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The focus of this paper is on the identities of Chinese female athletes with physical impairments, with the specific reference to their marriage and social status. There has been limited research and media coverage to date on the experiences and identities of Chinese athletes with physical impairments, especially female athletes, and the existing literature fails to highlight the intersection of athletic identity, gender identity and disability identity in the lives of these women. Therefore, with the aim of giving a voice to these athletes and bringing more attention to a neglected group of people, this research examines Chinese disabled female athletes' perceptions of their own multiple identities. From the perspective of an interpretivist paradigm and a constructivist ontology, the research is qualitative, using the methods of semi-structured interviews to collect data and thematic analysis to explore the relevant themes associated with their athletic identity, gender identity and disability identity. This particular paper sheds light on the dating, marriage, and social status experiences of these female athletes. Diversity and commonality in the experiences of 15 participants were found.

Keywords: women athletes, physical impairments, identity, marriage, social status

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

EASS General Assembly: 17:00-18:30

Room: C2-104 Athens

Program:

Laila Susanne Ottesen: Reflections on the past years of EASS

Elections

Greetings of the new president

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 4: 9:00-10:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sports spectatorship and fandom 1

Chair: Sunčica Bartoluci

PERFORMATIVE NATIONALISM IN POLISH FOOTBALL STADIUMS AND FANS' VIEWS AND ATTITUDES: EVIDENCE FROM QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH

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Football stadiums are one of the places where nationalistic views are presented. This is done by means of displays held by organised supporters – ultras. This study aims to examine (1) to what extent the postulates of performative national ideology presented by ultras in Polish stadiums are shared by fans of Polish football clubs; and (2) whether they translate into corresponding attitudes at the individual level. The study is based on a survey conducted on a sample representative for Polish citizens (N=4030) from which football fans were extracted (N=643). The results show that being a fan of a Polish football club accounts for significantly higher scores on postulates referring to ethnic and racial criteria of national identity, belief in permanent struggle of nations, small nation type of collective memory and glorification of past war heroes. They also indicate that a higher level of acceptance of these postulates by fans predicts higher levels of prejudice against minorities and other nations, and higher levels of national pride.

Keywords: nationalism, football, fans, ultras, cross-sectional study

NON-DISTINCTIVE SPORT CONSUMPTION IN POLAND: ARE SOCIAL CLASSES REALLY RELEVANT IN SPORT CONSUMPTION ANALYSES?

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Objectives: The research goal was to analyse whether sport consumption in Poland is determined by social classes. The analysis included TV and other electronic media sport spectatorship, attending live sport events, sport betting, socialization into sport consumption. The survey was carried out twice – before and during the COVID-19 – and the possible impact of the pandemic on class-related sport consumption was also analysed.

Methods: Research methods included two nationwide representative CATI surveys of 1000 adults in 2017 and 2021. In order to see the impact of social class, a sport consumption index was developed. It included watching sport on TV, press, radio and Internet sport consumption, sport betting, live spectatorship and self-evaluation of sport fan engagement.

Findings: Respondents from both surveys presented low levels of sport consumption, and social classes were less relevant to sport consumption than gender. Social class was much less important as a determinant of sport consumption in 2017 than in 2021. In 2017 differences between social classes were not statistically significant. This situation has changed in 2021 when class membership did significantly differentiate respondents' consumption index value.

Discussion and conclusion: Sport sociology research focuses on sport fans. In this research, the general population mundane sport consumption was analysed. Social class impact on sport consumption was very limited and concerned only the 2021 pandemic survey. Our data confirm omnivore thesis related observations showing higher and more diversified sport interests among higher class members, but the patterns we have seen are no so clear as in much research on sport fans.

Keywords: sport consumption, mass media, social classes, sport spectatorship

DO PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS HAVE DIFFERENT SPORTS PREFERENCES ACCORDING TO THEIR SOCIAL STATUS? A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE PARTICIPATORY VERSUS SPECTATOR SPORTS PYRAMID

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Social stratification is a classic theme in social science research that focuses on sports involvement. Empirical studies have conclusively shown that the higher one's social standing is, the more likely one is to actively participate in sports. However, research into the social stratification of sports preferences is remarkably scarcer. The present study takes a closer look at the social status of both participatory sports and spectator sports. More precisely, specific sports are analysed according to the social position of sports participants and sports spectators. In this way, a social status pyramid of both participatory sports and spectator sports can be drawn. It is then analysed whether upper-class participatory sports can also be classified as upper-class spectator sports, and whether this social status resemblance also applies to middle-class and lower-class sports. Thus, the key research question is whether the participatory sports pyramid is a reflection of the spectator sports pyramid, or whether significant differences can be observed and, if so, how these incongruities can be explained. Explanations will be based on theories of cultural and economic capital. For the analyses, we rely on representative large-scale survey data collected among adults. To determine the social position of the respondents, the level of education and the occupational status will be used. Based on previous findings, a comparison over time can be presented as well. The results can be of inspiration to policymakers to optimize their sport programs for specific groups of participants and consumers.

Keywords: sports participants, sports spectators, social stratification, social status pyramid, cultural and economic capital

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 4: 9:00-10:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Social inclusion in and through sport

Chair: Tor Söderström

“REFUGEE FOOTBALLERS”: A SOCIOECOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF FORCED MIGRANTS IN THE ITALIAN AND GERMAN ELITE FOOTBALL SYSTEM

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Within the context of the recent European “refugee crisis” and its long-term consequences, this article investigates the research question “how does inclusion to top-level football look like from the perspective of footballers with a refugee background?”. To assess this question, ethnographic material and interviews of two research projects including competitive footballers with a refugee background in Germany and Italy are merged and contrasted. The material was examined using methods of qualitative content analysis and interpreted through the ecological systems theory. The results show that inclusion to professional football is a complicated task for refugee footballers. Besides the existing high requirements to play football competitively, refugees are faced with the hurdles and consequences of a forced migration. Moreover, refugees build their networks within the process of resettlement, without a clear path for inclusion to elite football. Those who “make it” have relied on key enablers within their microsystem, and on mesosystemic interaction, further emphasizing the importance of networks for professional development within football. In contrast, exosystemic and macrosystemic factors further hinder the possibility of inclusion in competitive football, on top of the existing difficulties of a forced migration. The process of seeking inclusion in competitive football however has been identified as a positive element that can provide direction in resettlement and opportunities for socialization.

Keywords: football, refugee, sport careers, ecological systems theory, forced migration

“TO CLEAN UP YOUR HEAD” – SPORTS AS COPING MECHANISM FOR UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN

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Acculturation constitutes a unique challenge for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Being without their families, they have to face multiple diverse difficulties: a new language, different cultural norms and values, increased uncertainty and vulnerability due to their transition to adulthood (McDonald, 2016), and traumatic childhood experiences (Keles, 2016). In addition, many UASC do not receive enough social support in the receiving countries (Menjívar & Perreira, 2019).

While these aspects were found to potentially hinder integration (Jore et al., 2020), sports were found to be a coping mechanism for acculturation difficulties, supporting social inclusion (Müller, 2019; Stura, 2019; van der Zee, K., & van Oudenhoven, 2022). Hence, this study examines from the perspective of the professionals who take care of them, if and how sports activities in sports clubs were an important coping mechanism for UASC and how other sports club members supported them in their acculturation process.

The framework of this study specifically builds on how sports can be a stabilizing factor and how it can play an important role in the integration process of refugees (Abur, 2016; Stura, 2019).

A qualitative approach with semi-structured interviews was applied. 32 professionals were interviewed, who mainly work with the minors after the first reception in Austria and Germany. The interview guides were based on previous research on sports, acculturation and intercultural competence (Stura, 2019). Addressed were their daily life challenges and coping, and especially if and how sports assists them during their acculturation. A qualitative content analysis will yield final results by May. A preliminary data analysis shows that sporting activities helped the UASC to manage daily stress and get in touch more easily with members of their new home.

Keywords: migration, sports, integration, social cohesion, coping

ORGANISED SPORT IN REFUGEE SITES: SOCIOLOGICAL FINDINGS AND PEDAGOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS ON MULTIPERSPECTIVITY

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Refugee sites are a means to manage large-scale refugee movements, a recurring event in today's world. Sport is supposed to have beneficial effects for the residents of such sites and is therefore an activity, which is standardly organised by the sites' management. Moreover, many NGOs and 'Sport for Development and Peace' programmes endorse the use of sport in emergency situations—including in refugee sites—to achieve several biopsychosocial objectives. There is a growing body of scientific literature, however, that is calling into question the beneficial effects of sport in this setting as well as the rationale behind this idea.

Against this background, the question 'How does multiperspectivity influence sport in refugee sites?' is explored based on one case study. The material collected through two ethnographic studies carried out at the refugee sites of Niamey (Niger) in 2019 and 2022 is used to conduct a (sociological) analysis of multiperspectivity in sport and to develop (pedagogical) proposals on how to incorporate multiperspectivity when devising sports activities for refugees. The fact that the perspectives and motivations beyond the actual sports activities in the refugee site setting might be extremely heterogeneous leads to conclude that multiperspectivity is key for planning, organising and monitoring sports activities, and that refugees' positions must also be acknowledged. Programmes and practical ways of achieving these objectives are recommended with a focus on the role of trainers and coaches.

Keywords: refugee site, sport for development and peace, multiperspectivity, systems theory, sport in refugee sites

OBSTACLES IN LEARNING TO SWIM FOR CHILDREN WITH A REFUGEE BACKGROUND

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Statistics on swimming safety in the Netherlands show that immigrants are more likely to become victim of drowning accidents. Compared to their native peers, migrant youth from non-european countries are nine to ten times more likely to drown. In the Netherlands, water is all around and being able to swim is both necessary and an important leisure custom. However, being able to swim isn't self-evident for everyone.

We studied the reason behind this social inequality, by identifying factors that hinder children with a refugee background to follow swimming lessons and obtain swimming degrees. In-depth interviews were held with 9 parents of refugee children and 10 professionals involved in the issue from a policy- and/or practical perspective.

We found 6 intertwining issues that prevent refugee children from learning to swim: 1) different culture and swimming-customs in the country of origin, 2) not being able to prioritize swimming lessons, 3) an insecure living situation, 4) financial issues, 5) language barrière and 6) insufficient options for teenagers- and/or young woman-only lessons. These multiple issues make that refugee parents need extra support in prioritizing, starting and continuing swimming lessons for their children.

This conclusion raises the question who is and should be responsible for offering this support. The role of local governments and their collaboration with other stakeholders in ensuring the safety of (these) children should become more clearly defined, so that parents can be offered education and guidance in organizing their children learning to swim.

Keywords: learning to swim, children, immigrants, the Netherlands, barriers

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 4: 9:00-10:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Sport, physical activity and social groups 2

Chair: Klára Kovács

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY HABITS AND SELF-RATED HEALTH

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Objectives: Studies have shown a strong correlation between poor self-rated health and several more objective indicators of poor health. Furthermore, several studies have demonstrated a correlation between how physically active people are and their self-assessed health. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the correlation between different forms of movement and self-assessed health.

Methods: The analyzes are based on data from a survey in 2020 in Denmark of adults' exercise habits. The questionnaire, answered by more than 163,000 adults, included questions about participation in different forms of sports and exercise, self-assessment of physical and mental health and sociodemographic and socioeconomic background.

Findings: A logistic regression analysis shows large differences between forms of movement in terms of the strength of the correlation between practicing a type of physical activity and self-assessed health. The correlation is strongest for running, fitness, gymnastics, and activities on water, while the correlation is relatively weak for activities in water and outdoor life. This also applies to mental health, but the types of activity with a strong correlation differs from self-assessed physical health and the correlation is weaker.

Discussion: Some of the positive correlations may be due to the fact that people in good health practice various forms of physical movement to a greater extent than people in poor health.

Conclusion: The analysis shows that the correlation between being physical active and self-assessed health differs a lot between types of physical activity, but the correlation is stronger for physical than for mental health

Keywords: movement forms, exercise habits, self-rated health

ON DIFFERENT PATHS? THE MEANING OF SPORT THROUGH ADOLESCENCE

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In this paper, we study what processes in young peoples' lives that play a role in their decision to stay in or opt out of youth sport as they grow older. We analyze data from the longitudinal qualitative study *Inequality in Youth* where 81 young people, 40 girls and 41 boys, from four different local contexts in Norway are interviewed. The main research question in the study is how inequality appear and develop during the years of adolescence. The teenagers have been interviewed about several topics such as leisure, friendship, parents, school and plans for the future from they were 13 years old and started upper secondary school in 2018, through the covid 19-pandemic, and into emerging adulthood. At the last interview time in 2023, the young people will be 18 to 19 years old and in their last year of high school. Sport participation has been part of the interviews at all interview points. In his paper, we investigate how sport weaves in, or out, of youth's lives as they grow older, based on the informants that were active in sport from the outset of the study. We seek to understand how and why youth's paths through sport during their teenage years vary according to social background, such as socioeconomic status, gender and place. The longitudinal data combined with interviews with the young peoples' parents, give a unique opportunity to understand how the meaning surrounding youth's sports participation change as youth grow older and processes that unfold over time.

Keywords: youth, youth sport, sport participation, qualitative longitudinal research, gender

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE CHANGES IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OF ADOLESCENTS

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Objectives: The main aim of our investigation was to analyze and summarize critically with deeper understanding of previous studies conducted on physical activity (PA), sport, and other health behaviors during the Covid-19 epidemic with a view of establishing new studies through literature gaps identification.

Methods: The literature search was designed with a pre-prepared study protocol approved by two independent reviewers and experts in the field of physical health and sports. The search used two databases, Web of Science and Science Direct. Selection criteria were followed based on the study objective. Keywords search results were verified by the independent reviewers resulting after exclusion criteria based on quality checks in 67 studies that were finally included in the study.

Findings: While most studies concluded that the epidemic was associated with decrease in PA, increased sedentary lifestyle, stress, and anxiety level, some identified an improved dietary intake and sleep quality. Our study, on the other hand, highlights that critical geographic inequality exists in the literature in respect to the underdeveloped countries requiring further studies to be conducted in these areas to fill these existing gaps.

Discussion: Aspects of physical activity, sports, health behaviors, demographics, and sampling were analyzed in the 67 included studies in relation to Covid-19 epidemic and provided their results that might form the basis of future investigations.

Conclusion: While a decrease in PA was generally detected, an improved dietary behavior was identified in some studies. However, large geographic inequalities in respect to where the relevant studies were conducted exists.

Keywords: sports consumption, physical activity, Covid-19, health behaviour, youth & adolescent children

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 4: 9:00-10:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Sport and identities

Chair: Bente Ovedie Skogvang

NEGOTIATING POSITIONALITY OF A WHITE, MALE FOOTBALL COACH IN FEMALE FOOTBALL: AN AUTOETHNOGRAPHIC CASE STUDY

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This research is an autoethnographic enquiry into one of the authors' (ND) experiences as a white, male football coach in a female-only football team. The research aims to negotiate positionality of a white, male football coach in female football and reflect on the (re)production of masculinity and whiteness through the everyday practices as a coach. Furthermore, because of the complex intertwining of race and masculinity with neo-colonialism, we critically discuss how dominant social and cultural norms of coaches constrain the club's ambition for social advancement, social inclusion, and equity. Data collection relied on field notes gathered through participant observation of the team's training, competitions, and extra-sportive activities. The team was ethnically, socio-culturally and socio-economically diverse, but only consisted of girls with limited or no experience playing club-organized football. The researcher (ND) acted as one of the coaches amongst girls between 15 and 20 years old. At the time of writing this abstract (January 2023), five months of the ongoing fieldwork were completed. Epiphanies during this fieldwork are the subject of reflections by both authors to relate the personal to the cultural. Data analysis has yet to take place.

Keywords: football, whiteness, masculinity, autoethnography, gender

FEMALE BODYBUILDING AND FUNCTIONAL FITNESS ATHLETES' IMAGE AND IDENTITIES: A CASE STUDY FROM HUNGARY

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Bodybuilding has an aim of presenting the ideal physique that showcases muscularity, definition, symmetry, and balance. Women practicing the sport are training to the fullest of their potential to showcase their physique. Meanwhile, women athletes who are engaged in Functional Fitness, known for its common name CrossFit, perform a different set of fitness and strength exercises to go beyond their capacities and limits in being the "fittest". Although having a muscular and defined physique for women training for functional fitness is not a criterion in their events and competitions, it is initially seen that most of the women doing the sport manifest muscular and defined physiques. These similarities/dissimilarities of the two disciplines make it an interesting question for research to undertake in-depth analysis of the athletes engaged in these activities, to explore their narratives, motivations, and ideals. Our aim for this study is to observe and determine the similarities and dissimilarities of these women in their perceptions towards muscular and strong physique. Through participant observation and semi-structured in-depth interviews, the authors document the stories, ways, and means of the athletes. It was found that athletes in Bodybuilding and Functional Fitness have diverse identities especially when it comes to their identity as athletes in related disciplines while having similarities in the context of sport in Hungarian society. Achieving feats not only in competitions but also relating to their victories in daily life shows that sport is always an integral part of their lives, and they appropriate it with the current situations.

Keywords: bodybuilding, women, identities, fitness, gender

PRECARIOUS PURSUITS, BROKEN ‘DREAMS’ AND UNWANTED TRANSITIONS FOR NORTHERN IRISH SOCCER MIGRANTS.

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For young aspiring Northern Irish (NI) footballers, the dream of ‘making it’ as a professional is dependent on their ability to migrate to England or Scotland. However for most who make this move, the reality is that their aspirations fall short either at the end of their youth training or in the early stages of their career. Without a professional career, players must make the unwanted decision to return to NI. Drawing on a wider project involving semi-structured interviews with forty ‘returned’ male players, this paper applies Pierre Bourdieu’s conceptual Triad to analyse the various challenges and experiences associated with the return transition to NI. Chief amongst these, is how identity construction in and through the aspiration of being a professional footballer has impacted – both positively and negatively – to their return home. The paper demonstrates that deselection initiates a process of precarization (subjective feelings of uncertainty), and how this impacts on the players’ identities. Importantly, the application of two of Bourdieu’s lesser-known concepts – social death and second birth – helps to understand how the returned NI footballers utilise their varying forms of capital to demonstrate agency in accommodating their transition home to NI.

Key words: Northern Irish footballers; Bourdieu; habitus; return migration; agency

CAREER TRANSITIONS FROM THE ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE: COOLING OUT THE MARK WITH POSSIBLE SELVES

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Objective: Achieving and then maintaining a career as a professional athlete is hard. Saturated labour markets and the ever-present risk of deselection or injury means that career transitions are an inevitable feature of all athletes' biographies. Like many other professional sports organisations, English Premier League (EPL) clubs have been called upon to provide adequate support to players upon their release from their club and subsequent transitions from professional elite sport.

This investigation examines the experiences and attitudes of EPL players during their career transitions and contextualise the support that EPL club Education and Welfare Officers (EWOs) offer players during this transitional process.

Methods: Vignette interviewing was employed to engage a purposive sample, consisting of ten EPL players and five EWOs. A combination of Goffman's cooling-out metaphor and notions of Possible Selves is used to unpack the experiences of both players and EWOs.

Discussion: Findings illustrate how players are *cooled out* as part of their career transitions by EWOs encouraging players to engage with *possible selves* both in and away from footballing environments.

Conclusion: Such a discourse contributes to the empowerment of individuals to manage their own identities and successfully navigate their career transitions from one club to another or away from the professional game entirely.

Keywords: career transitions; identity management; athlete welfare; professional football

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 5: 13:00-14:30

Room: C001 Paris

Small panel session: INAMOS project

Chair: Karsten Elmoose-Østerlund

EFFECTS OF INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES ON VOLUNTARY SPORTS CLUBS AND MIGRANTS - THE INAMOS PROJECT

SCHLESINGER, TORSTEN¹, ELMOOSE-ØSTERLUND, KARSTEN², FAHLÉN, JOSEF³, GOHRITZ, ANDREAS⁴, IBSEN, BJARNE², JARCK, HENNING⁵, NAGEL, SIEGFRIED⁶, SEIPPEL, ØRNULF⁷, STENLING, CECILIA³, STRANDBU, ÅSE⁷, EHNOLD, PETER⁴

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Introduction

Despite COVID-19 and environmental issues, migration and the integration of migrants/refugees are currently among the most pressing issues on the political agenda in Europe, intensified by the influx of refugees triggered by the war in Ukraine at the beginning of 2022. As voluntary sport clubs (VSCs) could mitigate this challenge and serve as an important integration catalyst (Spaaij, 2015), the European Commission, and its member States support sport-based initiatives to integrate migrants/refugees into European host societies. Despite the existence of these programmes, only a comparatively small number of VSCs are directly involved in such targeted ‘integration through sport’ practices. To increase the number of VSCs, which are willing and able to implement targeted integration measures significantly, it is necessary to understand how national or regional policies can reach the local level and impact practices. To address this challenge, the international research project INAMOS (*Integration of Newly Arrived Migrants through Organised Sport – From European Policy to Local Sports Club Practice*) takes a holistic view by including the entire impact chain in its analysis, starting with political integration programmes, continuing with the implementation by VSCs and ending with the effects on migrants/refugees.

Content of the Small Panel Session

The aim of the Session is to present and discuss selected findings from the INAMOS project in four presentations:

(1) Implementation of the programme *Integration Through Sports (IdS)* within German federal state sport confederations (*Responsible: Jarck, H. & Schlesinger, T.*)

(2) The role of capacity (building) for the integration work of VSCs – Results from case studies in five European countries (*Responsible: Nagel, S., Gohritz, A. & Ehnold, P.*)

(3) Integration work of VSCs: Experiences of people with a migration background in five European countries (*Responsible: Strandbu, L. & Seippel, R.*)

(4) Lessons to learn: Implications and recommendations for politics and sport (*Responsible: Elmose-Østerlund, K., Ibsen, B. Fahlén, J., C. Stenling & Schlesinger, T.*)

Multi-Level analytical Framework

The theoretical basis of the INAMOS project is the multi-level analytical framework based on Esser (1993, see figure 1). To explain changes in social structures the model combines the macro-, meso-, and micro-level (Nagel et al., 2015). The macro-level comprises the social framework conditions for corporate and individual actors, who are responsible for the collective outcomes. At the meso-level the organisation, structural characteristics, and goals as well as the actions of VSCs are important. For the questioning of the conditions of social integration, the consideration of the member perspective as well as the migrants' perspective in relation to the club structure is indispensable (micro-level).

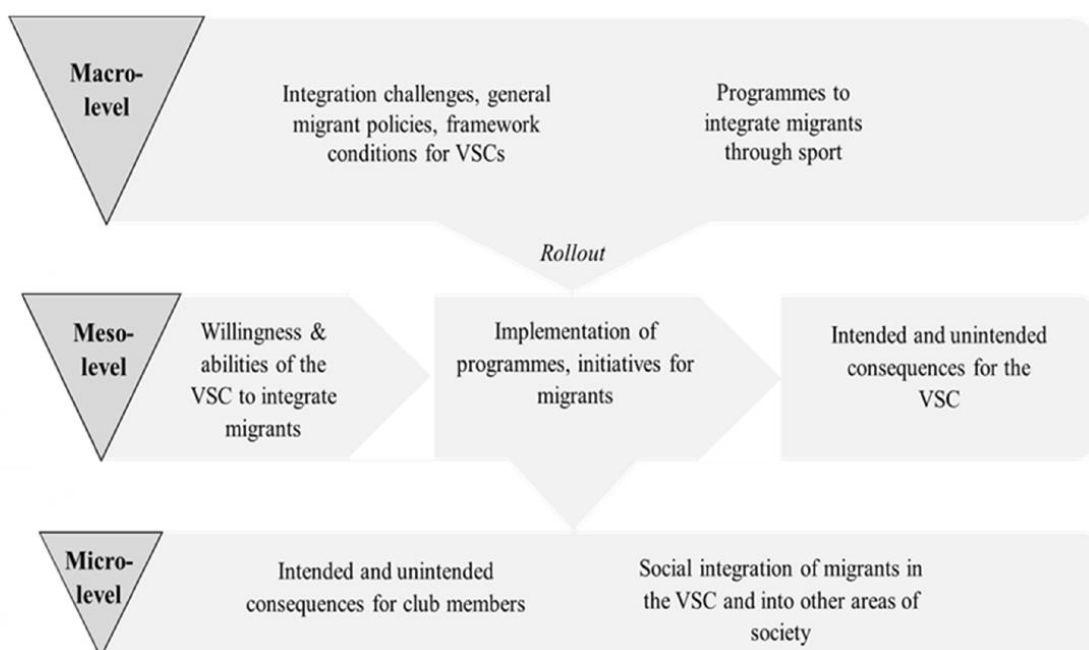


Figure 1. Multi-level conceptual framework for analysing integration work in VSCs

To deal with the problems and issues at the different levels, the overarching multi-level analytical framework was supplemented in each case by theoretical concepts such as governance (Hoye et al., 2020), concept of capacity (Hall et al., 2003), or concept of integration dimensions (Elling et al., 2001).

Method

According to Yin (2014) the project follows a holistic multi-case study design by analysing social integration in organised sport with a specific focus on the implementation of specific projects and integrative measures initiatives in 34 VSCs in Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland. In each VSC, at least one problem-centred (semi-structured) expert interviews (N=60) were conducted with a selected decision-maker. In addition, 61 club-members and 57 people with migration background were interviewed in focus groups or interviews across all participating countries.

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 5: 13:00-14:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Small panel session: MEASURE - disability sports

Chair: Caroline van Lindert

ERASMUS SPORT METER MATTERS: TOWARDS FINDING MEASURABLE CRITERIA FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION IN SPORTS

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Social inclusion in sport is a developing concept that represents the intertwining of the sports and social spheres. It supports every individual, regardless of his/her psycho-physical abilities or social circumstances, for a dignified inclusion in the regular weekly sports activity of the mainstream sports environment.

A wider framework is provided by many international documents, such as The White Paper on Sport and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The challenges mainly relate to: (1) vague protocols, methods and approaches, (2) how to offer the entire spectrum of sports participation from recreation to the competitive level, (3) the need for additional training of coaches for different approaches regarding to the ability of the involved athlete and (4) co-funding coaches work and inclusive programs. In the Erasmus Sport project Meter Matters, we try to answer some open questions of social inclusion in sport and, as a result, contribute to better co-funding. To achieve this goal, we have created a definition of social inclusion in sport. We also checked the existing co-funding criteria in three partner countries (Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia). Our goal is to create a proposal of measurable criteria for co-funding social inclusion in sports. We will achieve this with interviews and focus groups, which will consist of various actors such as: decision-makers at the national and local level, club managers, coaches, volunteers, social workers, athletes and their parents, or guardians. At the conference, we will present the partial results of the conducted interviews and the interviewees.

Keywords: definition of social inclusion in sports, funding criteria, mainstream sports environment, interviews with decision makers, various actors focus groups

PARTICIPATION IN SPORT BY PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY IN EUROPE. A CROSS-NATIONAL COMPARISON

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The upcoming Palgrave Handbook of Disability Sport in Europe (Van Lindert, Scheerder & Brittain (Eds.), 2023) explores the various ways disability sport is delivered throughout Europe, as well as the extent to which persons with a disability (pwd) participate in sport and how data are collected. Key findings from a cross-national comparison of sport participation data in 19 countries in Europe are presented. Besides a focus on the disability sport structures and policies, if available, sport participation data are included per country, supplemented by a secondary analysis on pan-European data on sport participation by pwd. Although most countries have some kind of inclusion policy towards pwd, only few take structural measures to monitor developments in disability sport policies and participation levels in this population. Four different types of data sources were found across the 19 countries: (i) national population surveys; (ii) school-based surveys; (iii) sports clubs surveys; and (iv) registration data from sports organisations. In general, regardless of the data source, participation levels of pwd in sport are much lower than those for peers without disabilities. Collection and interpretation of sport participation data in pwd across Europe is hampered by various shortcomings, among which, a lack of objective measures to define disability and sport participation. Moreover, specific groups of pwds may be underrepresented or excluded from surveys. To be able to compare activity levels of pwd with those of the general population, large representative population samples are needed, with the inclusion of both indicators on disability and on sport participation.

Keywords: measuring sport participation, disability sport, cross-national comparison, persons with disabilities

MEASURE session

Round table Authors of The Palgrave Handbook of Disability Sport in Europe

Chair: Jeroen Scheerder

Mojca Doupona, University of Slovenia

Caroline van Lindert, Mulier Institute

Szilvia Perényi, Hungarian University of Sports Science

Remco Hoekman, Mulier Institute

Thursday, 01 June 2023
Parallel Session 5: 13:00-14:30

Room: C102 Barcelona
Theme: Sport and the media
Chair: Dunja Antunovic

STORYPORTING AS AN APPROACH FOR SPORTS JOURNALISM

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Objectives: In the era of digital journalism, speed seems to overturn quality. This leads to the question of what constitutes good sports journalism today. Against this background, this paper uses the newly developed approach of storyporting (Nübel & Doppler, 2022) to analyse its usefulness for qualitative sports journalism.

Method: For the analysis, we conducted a pilot study using qualitative interviews with five German media professionals from different kinds of media. The collected data were qualitatively analysed using MAXQDA.

Findings: From the perspective of the interviewed experts, the storyporting method provides an ideal type of how sports journalism should work. The combination of evidence-based reporting and emotional storytelling seems to fit well in the field of sports journalism. Nevertheless, some experts question whether this method can be implemented due to time and scope pressure.

Discussion: Sports journalism often deals with highly affected events, situations and experiences that are highly emotional. In this context, it proves to be a special challenge to maintain neutrality, objectivity, criticism, or balance as important journalistic quality criteria. The storyporting method is an offer to combine more emotions-driven storytelling with fact-based analysis.

Conclusion: According to the central results of this pilot study, storyporting meets with a primarily positive response from sports journalists, encouraging them to combine emotional storytelling with fact-based analysis and future scenarios. Due to the limited number of interviews in only one country further studies using larger samples and comparing different countries are necessary.

Keywords: storyporting, sports journalism, evidence-based reporting, storytelling, journalistic quality

“I WANT TO RETURN THE PAIN THEY GAVE ME” RESPONSE FROM THE MEDIA AND FANS TO THE LIU BROTHERS’ RELOCATION FROM HUNGARY

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Over the past decades, numerous successful athletes were naturalized to become Hungarian citizens and earn international recognition and success for themselves and the country. The reverse does not happen that often, successful Hungarian athletes usually do not leave Hungary to represent another country. This is why the news of the departure of the Chinese-Hungarian short track skaters, Shaoang Liu and Shaolin Sándor Liu, two of Hungary’s brightest sports stars, shook sports fans and the media in the fall of 2022.

In the paper we will analyze the responses voiced on digital media platforms by various stakeholders, to the brothers’ decision to compete for China from 2023, following their former coach, Chinese citizen Jing Zhang. During our qualitative thematic analysis, we look at the two athletes’ communication throughout the process, the reactions of political and sport leaders, the media’s interpretation of the situation and fans’ reactions in Hungary. In addition, we also take a brief outlook at responses to the situation in the Chinese digital media. The results are to be presented according to the key themes emerging from the reports and reactions, in the framework of cognitive/normative narratives of disappointment.

Keywords: national identity, naturalization, media, short track speed skating, Shaoang Liu, Shaolin Sándor Liu

‘REPLACING’ TRADITIONAL SPORTS WITH ESPORTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC – IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS WITH TOP-TIER MEDIA JOURNALISTS

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Objectives: This paper is the result of a larger project on how media sports changed during the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 had a massive impact on both traditional and electronic sports. Researchers reported the remarkable esports growth during the pandemic. COVID-19 has made it highly visible, hence this was thought to be a step in gaining widespread public approval as a ‘real’ sport, temporarily ‘replacing’ many traditional sports. The presented paper aims to evaluate these views by looking at the voice of insiders, sports and esports journalists.

Methods: Our research is purely inductive, as we conducted 15 in-depth interviews and used the so-called conventional content analysis. We have studied journalists representing the top-tier media in Poland thus having expert knowledge and particularly interested in the issue of esports.

Findings: The popularity of esports is growing and our respondents confirmed this. Nevertheless, they emphasized the financial and organizational problems of esports during the pandemic showing that, contrary to popular belief, the esports industry was also strongly affected by lockdowns. Additionally, respondents indicated many different problems related to the interpenetration of traditional sports and esports occurred or intensified during the pandemic.

Discussion: Studying insiders is important in finding theoretical contributions to esports, as the insiders' voice indicate directions as to how esports should be analyzed. The presented paper casts doubts on the studies stressing the long-term impact of lockdowns on both traditional sports and esports and the connections between these two.

Conclusion: New phenomena that emerged during lockdowns resulted from already existing links between traditional and electronic sports and did not cause a permanent change, reevaluation of understanding of both.

Keywords: sports, esports, COVID-19, pandemic, media

DOING ‘SUCCESSFUL AGEING’ AND GENDER: INSIGHTS FROM THE USE OF SELF-MONITORING TECHNOLOGIES

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The use of smart watches and monitoring of biometrics for promoting physical activity and health among aging subjects has become a widespread and popular phenomenon. We explore self-tracking practices against the social backdrop of smart technologies and how they have become interwoven with strategies for upholding healthy lifestyles. A youthful appearance is interpreted as a marker of good health in neoliberalist society. Physical activity and sport are traditionally fields in which stereotypical ideas about femininity/masculinity are produced and reproduced, albeit with instances where they also can be challenged (Markula & Pringle, 2006). Self-monitoring practices through quantifying bodily functions have become embedded in dominant discourses of “successful aging”. Research suggests that there exist gendered expectations as to how men and women can achieve this ideal (Gilleard & Higgs, 2014; Katz, 2000; Martin, 2011).

Data is generated through in-depth interviews and participant observation with female and male Norwegians over the age of 60 (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2009). We scrutinize whether self-tracking practices contribute in reinforcing gendered, aging embodiment, or whether such practices have the potential for disentangling traditional, gendered ways of “doing aging”. We critically explore this phenomenon through the lens of discourse analysis and Foucauldian notions, such as technologies of the self and biopower.

Our ongoing analyses reveal that aging individuals are subject to a double, moral responsibility for maintaining youth and avoiding the inevitable, bodily decay of aging. Self-monitoring practices reinforce traditional ideals of embodied femininity/masculinity. However, there are examples of how they can be empowering and challenge narrow stereotype.

Keywords: aging, gender, physical activity, health and self-tracking

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 5: 13:00-14:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Social justice in sport and physical activity

Chair: Enrico Michellini

LEISURE ON LOAN? THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FREE LENDING OF SPORTS AND LEISURE EQUIPMENT FOR SOCIOECONOMIC SEGREGATION IN THE YOUTH SPORT AND LEISURE SECTOR IN SWEDEN

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Objectives: The aim of this study was to examine the significance of a social innovation, free lending of sports and leisure equipment (Leisure Equipment Library, LEL), have for children's and youths' participation in sports and leisure activities. Further, we discuss whether this service can contribute to counteract socioeconomic segregation in the leisure sector.

Methods: Data consists of lending statistics kept by LELs and a questionnaire (n=427) distributed to all children and youth (7-25 years) who visited a LEL. The significance of LEL for socioeconomic segregation was analysed using the concepts of bridging and bonding social capital.

Findings: In regards of age, gender, socioeconomic background and sports habits, LEL was used by a heterogenous group of children and youth. Borrowers living in areas with socioeconomic challenges were overrepresented and came primarily from the same type of socioeconomic area in which LELs were located. In most cases, the equipment was used for play or informal sport with friends and family in their own neighborhood. Only 13 percent used the equipment for organized sports.

Discussion: To counteract socioeconomic segregation, it was important that LEL was used by children and youths from different socioeconomic areas. However, since most borrowers used the equipment with familiar people in the same area as it was borrowed, it is likely that these activities produce binding rather than bridging capital.

Conclusion: To produce more bridging social capital, free lending of equipment should be complemented with actions to secure that the places children and youth meet are socioeconomically diverse.

Keywords: youth sport, participation, sports equipment, social innovation, socioeconomic segregation

THE IMPACT OF ETHNICITY AND GENDER ON SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: AN AUTOETHNOGRAPHY

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Often, UK sport research and policy refer to ‘(South) Asians’ as a singular population. This presentation is based on the autoethnography of one of the authors, a British-Pakistani, Muslim female, in terms of their experiences of sport and physical activity and how their faith, ethnicity, and community culture shapes this. The aim is to provide a narrative from a seldom heard population, with the intention of educating academics across sport disciplines, and also practitioners, about the needs of individuals within that disparate grouping, with regard to sport and physical activity. Additionally, the article challenges sports researchers to reflect on their own positionality and privilege, and to embrace the value and legitimacy of autoethnography and other qualitative approaches, to lessen othering and give voice to what are still referred to as ‘special populations.’

Keywords: Pakistani, Muslim, ethnicity, culture, gender, sport and physical activity, autoethnography

PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF ATHLETE ACTIVISM IN ELITE SPORTS

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Over the past years, professional athletes have increasingly used their popularity to speak out about political topics off and on the field. So far, however, only few sociological studies explore how audiences react to political speech in elite sports, and existing research tends to focus on very few high-profile cases usually in the US, such as Colin Kaepernick's kneeling protest. Going beyond specific, identifiable cases, this paper investigates factors that systematically influence public support of elite athletes' political activism in Germany. Therefore, we integrated a vignette experiment into a population survey (N=1,002). Using multi-level regression models, we analyze how public support of political acts varies by political topic, the specific political action carried out by a hypothetical athlete as well as the audience's proximity to the issue in question. Moreover, we also compared whether elite athletes' political actions receive more or less support compared to non-athlete celebrities. Findings indicate that support of athletes' political activism is subject to conditions: Athletes receive more support when their critique refers to political topics abroad (as opposed to domestic topics) and when non-disruptive actions are chosen, e.g., expressions of opinion instead of boycotts. The addressed political standpoint, however, has the strongest influence on support: Actions and statements that express progressive political claims (e.g., fighting climate change) are more strongly supported compared to conservative ones. Findings add to the state of knowledge by showing which forms of political activism meet with broad acceptance and which are likely to contribute to a polarization of sports audiences.

Keywords: athlete activism, support, acceptance, protest, sport politics

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 6: 15:00-16:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sport, physical activity and social groups 3

Chair: Bjarne Ibsen

THE ROLE OF SOCIO-CULTURAL BACKGROUND AND SOCIALIZATION FACTORS IN SPORT ACTIVITY OF STUDENTS LEARNING IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

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Social exclusion – in sports as well as in all other areas of life – is linked to low socioeconomic status, poverty, unemployment, and low educational attainment. This means that disadvantaged social groups are permanently trapped in a lifestyle without much physical exercise. Social exclusion from sports activities affects a much wider social spectrum, including groups that suffer disadvantages based on gender, age, place of residence, or disability (Spaaij et al., 2015; Dóczy & Gál, 2016). In Southern, Central, and Eastern Europe, only a smaller fraction of society has the opportunity for regular sport activity, while the majority experience exclusion from the sport. Our presentation aims to find out what socio-cultural, -economic, and socialisation factors play role in students' sport activity and its frequency in the Northern Great Plain region of Hungary and higher education institutions in Transcarpathia (Ukraine), Transylvania and Partium (Romania), Vojvodina (Serbia) and Upper Hungary (Slovakia). Our analysis is based on the database of the questionnaire survey carried out among students in the examined regions (N=2005). Our results show that although students with a higher social status pursue sport more regularly and are more likely to pursue a sport in clubs, gender, habitus, parental sporting environment, and sporting friends are the main factors that play a positive role in their regular sporting activities. It means the sport habitus of parents and especially friends as socializing agents has the most important role in students' sport activity in the Carpathian basin independently from countries, gender, socio-cultural and economic background.

Keywords: socio-cultural, -economic background, socialization, sport participation, higher education students, Central and Eastern Europe

INEQUALITY IN ACCESSIBILITY TO SPORTS FACILITIES IN DENMARK

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Sports play a central role in many societies around the world. It not only contributes to the physical health and well-being of the individual, but also to community, integration and social relations across age groups and social strata. However, studies show that there is often an unequal distribution of resources between rural and urban areas when it comes to sports facilities. Urbanization and economic growth have often led to urban areas having better opportunities to invest in and maintain modern sports facilities, while facilities in rural areas are often outdated and not of the same standard. The inequality in access to sports facilities can lead to social and economic consequences, as it can be difficult for the population in rural areas to participate in physical activity and thus achieve the benefits it provides for both physical and mental health.

Based on data from the research project Moving Denmark and georeferenced registry data, I will investigate whether sports facilities in Denmark are unequally distributed when we look at the socio-economic and demographic distribution of the population. Are areas with low SES, for example, less well covered in terms of sports facilities?

Keywords: sports facilities, inequality, urban, rural, GIS, Moving Denmark

THE ROLE OF MOTIVES AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND FOR PARTICIPATION AND PARTICIPATION FREQUENCY IN DIFFERENT TYPES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

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Objectives: Few studies have examined the role of motives and social background for physical activity (PA) participation while differentiating between types of PA as well as according to participation frequency. Therefore, the aim of our study is to examine the role of motives and social background for participation and participation frequency in different PA types.

Methods: We operationalized motives according to the eight dimensions in the PALMS framework and social background as gender, age and educational level. We differentiated thirteen types of PA, e.g. running, fitness, ballgames, dance and outdoor activities. Our database is a survey of more than 163,000 adult Danes' (15+ years) movement habits conducted in the autumn of 2020. We conducted regression analyses to examine, first, differences in the motive and participant composition between the thirteen PA types, and, next, the role of motives and social background for participation frequency.

Findings: We identified large differences in the motive and participant composition between the thirteen PA types. However, we found the role of motives and social background for participation frequency to be relatively similar across all PA types. The motives enjoyment, competition/ego and mastery were positively correlated with participation frequency.

Discussion: The finding that some motives are positively correlated with frequency of PA participation indicate that frameworks that promote such motives might increase participation frequency across PA types.

Conclusion: Our study has documented that motives and social background characteristics play an important role for participation and participation frequency in different PA types.

Keywords: sport participation; motivation; PALMS; age; educational level

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 6: 15:00-16:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Various issues in sociology of sport 2

Chair: Ørnulf Seippel

SWEDISH SPORT SCIENCE STUDENTS' BACKGROUND

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Previous studies investigating the recruitment of students to sports programs, e.g. physical education teacher education, has shown that the programs largely attracts a rather homogeneous groups of students, consisting mainly of young men with an origin in the country in question and who have academic background. Perhaps a consequence of this homogeneity, research has shown that this contributes to reproduction of certain taste and values and may hinder development. The homogenous recruitment of students is also the case in Sweden and since Swedish universities are mandated to implement broadened recruitment to counteract gender, social and ethnic bias in recruitment, this must be seen as a failure. In this study the nine existing sport science programs in Sweden are in focus and based on data from Statistics Sweden's platform MONA, the purpose of this study is to analyse the background of the students enrolled at the programs. Preliminary results shows that also the sport science students are a rather homogenous group of students. Compared to all university students in Sweden, a higher proportion of the students are men ($p < .05$), a lower proportion have a non-Swedish background ($p < .05$), and a higher proportion of the student have parents with high education level ($p < .05$). Nor do the recruited students correspond to the varied background found among participants in the Swedish sports movement, where they will work and operate after the education. Given that the homogeneous recruitment may hinder development and that the students recruited should reflect the sports movements population, this can be problematic.

Keywords: ethnicity, gender, parent's education level, recruitment, reproduction

CONSEQUENCES OF THE BIDDING ACTIVITY OF BUDAPEST AND MADRID TO HOST THE OLYMPIC GAMES

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With the foundation of the Olympic Movement Coubertin launched an international multisport event, which has always reflected the processes of the social and economic environment. The organization of the Olympic Games has been influenced by the existing international relations, the economic challenges, the development of sport disciplines, and the different sport institutions. Although there were aspirations to monopolize hosting, the ideal of Coubertin of the alternating host cities came true from the very beginning.

Budapest and Madrid were two candidate cities, which, on different occasions, made efforts to become a host, but they have not been able to reach this goal until now. The aim of this study is to present and compare the processions and effects, which characterized the bidding attempts of Budapest and Madrid for the Summer Games.

Budapest has already appeared twice as a possible Olympic host before WW1, while at that time Madrid tried to lay the foundations of modern sport in Spain, and settle the conflicts with its province Cataluña and its capital Barcelona. Madrid's first attempt to candidate for the hosting was in 1972, until that time Budapest already tried to apply 5 times. Hosting efforts reappeared for both cities in the new millennium.

There were numerous consequences of these attempts, such as development of the sport and urban infrastructure of the capitals, progress in the institutionalization of sport on national level, the upswing of the cities in hosting other important international events, and the augmentation of interest in Olympic matters in both countries.

Keywords: Olympic Games, bidding, Budapest, Madrid, social consequences

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 6: 15:00-16:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Sport, health and wellbeing 2

Chair: Åse Strandbu

STAY AT HOME, BUT STAY ACTIVE: THE HIDDEN EFFECTS AND IMPLICATIONS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROMOTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Previous epidemics and pandemics have already taught us that such social upheavals can serve as a mirror of society, as general patterns of social life, existing social values, social mechanisms and processes come sharply to the fore (Lupton). The Covid-19 pandemic was no exception in this respect – wherever the virus struck, it revealed existing inequalities and class divisions inscribed in our societies. If on the one hand we often encountered the slogan that "we are all in the same boat", on the other hand we had to realise that while we all had a problem and the virus could infect anyone, we dealt with it in very different ways: some on yachts, others in leaky inflatable boats (Salecl). In our presentation, we will try to answer the question of what the pandemic illuminated and amplified in the field of sport and other forms of physical activity. More specifically, if on the one hand the lockdown that was otherwise specific to the Covid-19 pandemic restricted everyday movement, familiar habits and previously taken-for-granted freedoms, on the other hand the message "stay at home" was accompanied by an invitation to the population to remain active nonetheless. In what context do such messages fit, what values do they reinforce and what are the hidden effects and implications of promotional activities aimed at preventing another pandemic, namely that of physical inactivity? In trying to answer these questions, we will also draw on the analysis of some messages from the Slovenian context.

Keywords: Covid-19 pandemic, physical activity, exercise, medicalisation, bodily self-regulation

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN AMONG JORDANIAN AND HUNGARIAN FEMALE EMPLOYEES

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The aim of the study was to examine the effect of the COVID-19 lockdown on Jordanian and Hungarian female employees lifestyles, their dietary habits, physical activity, division of house chores, and home office work. It is discussed that due to the different cultural backgrounds and traditions of the two countries, the epidemic situation did not equally affect women's lifestyles, online job satisfaction, and epidemic concerns.

We used an online, anonymous questionnaire interview. A total of 101 Jordanian and 80 Hungarian women have participated. The statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 28.0 software. Chi2 test was used for nominal variables, t-test and Mann-Withney test for continuous variables.

The samples of the two countries do not differ in terms of whether the interviewed spouse or whether she lives with her partner, has a job and whether her partner has changed jobs at the time of the epidemic. However, there is a significant difference in whether they have children (88% in Jordan, 68% in Hungary), whether they worked online under the lockdown (62% in Jordan, 81% in Hungary), the amount of work done at home, and in the division of labor with the partner. Jordanian women showed less satisfaction with working online than Hungarians, and are significantly more concerned that the disease caused by Covid-19 is more dangerous for them than for others.

Research keeps attention to the necessity of particular emphasis on proper eating and physical activity when forced to work from home and having home duties.

Keywords: COVID-19 effect, eating habits, lifestyle change, quarantine, physical activity.

Thursday, 01 June 2023

Parallel Session 6: 15:00-16:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Various issues in sociology of sport 3

Chair: Antonis Alexopoulos

A SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL LOGIC MODEL FOR SPORT AND WELLBEING PROGRAMMES

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Sport and wellbeing programmes have struggled with engagement and inclusion, especially in terms of socio-economic status. This engagement gap has widened during the COVID crisis at a moment when health inequalities have increased across the world. These programmes are indubitably embedded and implicated in wider societal challenges and systematic exclusion and inequality. Therefore, a systems approach is required to improve programme engagement and lessen inequalities. The Socio-ecological Logic (SEL) Model offers a novel, systems-based evaluation method which nests a logic model within a socio-ecological framework. With an accordion design, sociological levels can be compressed for a simpler systems overview but also expanded for a more detailed analysis. The aim of this model is to ensure programmes are cohesive and consistent in their design and implementation in the context of all external and internal environments and are tailored to the desired outcomes and local contexts. The objective is to identify the relationship between programme goals and structures with external factors and influences. This way, during programme creation and assessment, the replication of exclusionary systems can be controlled for, and structures and actions to counteract greater systematic inequalities can be promoted. Current programme design and evaluation models are generally either too sociologically complicated to be operationalised or too focused to consider wider systematic factors. The use of the SEL Model in the context of sport and wellbeing programmes offers a more effective means to increase engagement and inclusion through a method which is both dynamic and actionable.

Keywords: health inequalities, health promotion, systems, programme evaluation, organisational management

PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT AS COMMUNICATION: A LUHMANNIAN ANALYSIS OF AN ELITE HANDBALL TEAM

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Performance development can be viewed as a complex process, continuously unfolding as an emergent feature of interactions between actors. This study aims to examine how performance development in an elite male handball team was sustained and developed over the course of the 2020-2021 competitive season. We use Luhmann's system theoretical lens to focus on how processes of communication produce and re-produce relationships and interactions. Data was collected daily through participant observation of team activities over a period of five months and was complemented with five in-depth interviews with players and coaches.

Our analysis reveals how performance development was strongly influenced by team results and reduced to a bounded iterative process from one match to the next, based on the purpose and meaning of the team as a social system, which is to win matches. Our analysis also shows how the team engaged with complexity through the development of clear structures related to roles, expectations, social hierarchy, and the relationships that are encouraged and allowed. These relationships are self-reinforcing, continuously re-producing themselves over time, and are inherently communicative, resulting in how players experience (a lack of) trust and psychological safety.

We discuss how performance development is imbued with paradoxes characterized by contradictions, ambiguity and uncertainty. We further discuss what unintended consequences this can have for achieving team goals and results.

Keywords: athlete development; ethnography; sport coaching; systems theory; elite sport

THE ROLE OF NORTHERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN THE EMERGENCE OF NEW TRAINING METHODOLOGIES IN DISTANCE RUNNING: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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This study aims to present the major training theoretical innovations in the history of modern distance running that can be traced back to the countries of Northern Europe and the possible underlying socio-historical reasons for them. Results: Since the beginning of the modern sport, the Nordic countries have enjoyed outstanding success in distance running. In the 1910-20s, the dominance of Finnish runners was a feature of the first year-round systematic training. During the Second World War, the Swedish coach Gosta Holmer developed the fartlek (speed play) method, which enabled his runners to set numerous world records between 1500 meters and 10,000 meters. The most significant innovation in modern distance running training methods was the scientifically based interval training of the German Dr. Woldemar Gerschler, which still determines the training of athletes today. Based on empirical observations, the Dutchman Herman Verheul developed his easy interval method based on the Gerchler system. The Verheul method was characterized by high-volume and mainly aerobic sub-maximal speeds, and a big emphasis on aerobic development. This can be considered the basis of the Norwegian training method that dominates sports science research today. The latter is dominated by the use of longer intervals (1000-2000 meters) developing anaerobic speed (vLT2) monitored by lactate measurement several times a week. These innovations have been fostered by various sociological reasons (promotion of sports, sports sciences, and use of the results) and the historical context of the era.

Keywords: sports history, distance running, training theory

MAPPING EUROPEAN GOOD PRACTICES IN SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN SPORTS

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Introduction: The Preventive Child, Youth and Professional Protection in Sport (GYISZVÉD) research group has been operating at the Hungarian University of Sports Science since January 2022. Among its complex goals and expected results of the 4-year project, in the presentation we highlight the mapped good practices.

Material and methods: The focus was on national/international regulations and good practices from the fields of law, ethics, and sports - at both the organisational and sports federation/association (NGBs and international) levels. The overall research design of the research project applies both primary and secondary research techniques (including different nationwide data gathering processes), while during this secondary research a mapping desk research exercise and document analysis was conducted of the related online and off-line literature (critical reading, evaluating and organising existing English language literature on the topic). We used 4 delimitations in the research (Time delimitation – resources from 2015 were taken into consideration only; Geographical delimitation – only European good practices, with an exception of the IOC; Language delimitation – English resources were used; and Scope/population delimitation – sport sectorial documents were taken into consideration, where any type of sports professionals' activity had a child or youth as a subject/target group).

Results: After forming the clusters, six categories of good practices in safeguarding and protecting children and youth in sports has been set up: Child protection strategy; Codes of conduct and codes of ethics; Support systems and case management; Educational programs; Awareness raising; and Minimising risks. In each category minimum 4 cases, best practices have been examined. A matrix table was created to highlight the key features of the good practices, among them a notable item is the type of organisation as owner, as initiator (such as international/national/local level and GO/NGO). Among the national good practices, by country the UK, by the type of international organisation the IOC were overrepresented, while in North-West Europe the governmental organisations were initiator. Central and Eastern European countries were underrepresented in each category, which means no national and/or local level as well as GO and/or NGO initiator in what so ever.

Keywords: safeguarding children, youth sport, good practices

The project is financed by the NRDIFund.

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 7: 9:00-10:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sport and gender 2

Chair: Hannele Harjunen

GENDER ISSUES IN CROATIAN JUDO: THE VIEW OF (SUCCESSFUL) WOMEN IN “MEN’S” TERRITORY

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It is well known that most sports around the world are defined as men’s activities, resulting in half of the world’s population being generally excluded or discouraged from participating in many sports (Coakley & Pike, 2009). As Jay Coakley claims, gender (in)equity issues always exist when sport cultures are male-dominated, male-identified, and male-centred (Coakley, 2016). Despite this, recent years have seen a significant rise in women’s participation in sports. The relationship between male and female competitors in Croatian judo is ambivalent. Although there are few of them, females achieve the majority of top results in Croatian judo at international competitions. Despite this, they still meet with numerous barriers and prejudices. Due to the smaller number of female competitors as compared to males, female judo in Croatia has long been looked down upon. The goal of this research is to affirm the experiences and attitudes of female competitors on the relationships and position of women in Croatian judo. Nine semi-structured in-depth interviews were held with active and retired female judo competitors, including medallists at international juniors and seniors competitions. The research results show that women in Croatian judo are subjected to gender inequality, discrimination, and stereotypes. They see the cause of this in the dominance of patriarchal values in Croatian society. Despite all of this, they do not consider judo a “men’s” sport, and believe women and their successes are key to the popularity of the sport in Croatia.

Keywords: female judo, women's sport, Croatian society

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS OF ADOLESCENT FOOTBALL PLAYERS, THEIR COACHES AND STAKEHOLDERS IN FOOTBALL AND SPORTS IN CYPRUS, REGARDING GENDER STEREOTYPES, MASCULINITY AND THEIR EFFECTS ON MALE-FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE"

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The current study presents data on the attitudes and perceptions of adolescent football players, football coaches and key decision makers within sports, football, and politics in Cyprus, regarding gender stereotypes, masculinity and their effects on male-female relationships and gender-based violence. Data was collected through 5 focus group discussions with 34 adolescent participants between the ages of 14 -to- 17 (mean age 15.3) and through 5 focus group discussions with 40 coaches between the ages of 23 to 56 (mean age 35.6). More specifically, the 4 groups of adolescent footballers included 28 male adolescent football players and the other 1 group of adolescent footballers included 6 female adolescent football players. Regarding the coaches, 4 groups included 34 male football coaches and 1 group included 6 female football coaches. For the data collected from key- stakeholders, in-person and online interviews were organized with 10 persons holding positions relevant with gender-based violence, coaches' education in football, positions in creating and enforcing policy in sport and football and in national policy and legislation.

The current research forms part of a larger project which aims to contribute to the prevention of gender-based violence by addressing violent forms of masculinities within the culture of football and sports in Cyprus and to ensure the engagement of men and boys (throughout Cyprus) as allies to tackle violence against women and girls. The project's direct target groups are male adolescent footballers aged 14-17, football coaches and key stakeholders in the sports community. The project also addresses the public to raise awareness on masculinity and its impact on men's and women's lives.

The partnership brings together the highest-ranking sports authority in Cyprus and the main actors predominantly involved in sport, football, education, and sexuality education. The project has the support of the Office of the Commissioner for Children's Rights and the Commissioner of Gender Equality in Cyprus who have committed to collaborate with the consortium, exchange, and share information and disseminate the project's results and outputs.

Keywords: gender-based violence, gender ideology, gender stereotypes, football

PERCEPTION OF GENDER STEREOTYPES AND NORMS IN EUROPEAN GRASSROOT SPORTS

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Many sports continue to appear as masculine systems in which traditional gender stereotypes and notions of masculinity and femininity are reproduced (Kauer & Krane, 2013). The binary gender segregation and the male narrative favour the exclusion and discrimination of female (sexism), LGB (homonegativity) and TQ+ athletes (transnegativity). The Erasmus+ collaborative project "Sport for all Genders and Sexualities" aims to promote an inclusive sports culture for all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity in European grassroot sports. Achieving this goal requires an understanding of which gender norms and stereotypes prevail in organised sports and how these determine specific processes of discrimination and exclusion of LGBTQ+ people and girls/women from sport. This is realized by a quantitative online survey with athletes and functionaries from organized sports, focussing on gender norms and stereotypes, gender connotations of sports, gender expression and inclusive/exclusive structures. The online survey runs from November 2022 until mid-February 2023 with currently over 3000 participants across Europe. The presentation provides first insights into the perception of gender stereotypes of various groups in different European countries.

Keywords: gender, LGBTQ+, discrimination, stereotypes, organised sports

FEMALE TENNIS COACHES IN HUNGARY: FAR FROM THE ELITE TENNIS

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In the coaching profession, women's proportion is much lower than men's, and the multitude of reasons behind it have been analysed by numerous scientific and professional forums. In the Hungarian context, research has paid relatively little attention to this area, although this is where male dominance is the most prevalent. This is also true for tennis, even if on the international stage, this is the sport where the struggle for the equal recognition of women began, and at present, ITF and WTA are actively engaged in promoting more balanced gender relations. In the Hungarian Tennis Federation, a Women's Committee was founded in 2020, and has been working towards the promotion of female competitors, managers and coaches as well, aiming to increase the number of women and to promote their opportunities and progress. Our paper presents the results of an empirical research, including (1) an online survey, carried out among 94 women, working as tennis coaches, with a focus on their professional progress, prestige and financial remuneration, and (2) semi-structured in-depth interviews with top competitors, club managers and the president of the Women's Committee. The results show that female coaches mainly work in leisure and youth tennis, on the level of elite tennis it is uncharacteristic to find a female coach. When compared with men, they mainly sense a disadvantage with regards to prestige, not financial remuneration, which can be explained with existing negative stereotypes concerning their professional competence.

Keywords: women, coach, tennis, gender stereotypes, recognition

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 7: 9:00-10:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Youth sport 2

Chair: Torsten Schlesinger

SOCIAL INEQUALITIES IN THE FIELD OF FOOTBALL TALENT SELECTION IN HUNGARY

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Sport as a subsystem of the society reflects all the transitions which have happened in Hungarian society, and football is not an exception. Our research focuses on the topic of social inequalities manifested in elite youth football in Hungary. Its aim is to identify those sociological factors that could play an obstructive role in the process of becoming a top athlete. In our broader research as part of a PhD project the analytical focus centres on examining the social environment of young talents trained and educated at the 10 state-accredited football academies in Hungary. The results of our preliminary research at Sándor Károly Football Academy demonstrate that the system of educating young talents in football can also be characterised by unequal opportunities. The present paper will focus on the challenges related to studying such issues in the Hungarian context. In order to explore the relationships from more aspects, we will conduct semi-structured interviews with professional directors of the academies and also with trainers who possess UEFA Elite Youth A Diploma. For the analysis, documents specifically relevant to the subject, such as the sport development programme of the academies and the summary document (Strategy of Hungarian Football 2020-2025) published by the Hungarian Football Federation are to be studied. Our special attention is drawn to those guidelines that give details not only on the sport-related role but also on other social functions of the institutions. The results are presented according to the following dimensions: broader social context of the phenomenon, territorial inequalities, obstructive factors and institutional support mechanisms.

Keywords: elite youth football, social inequalities, football talent selection, Hungarian football academies

MIDDLE-CLASS PARENTING IN YOUTH CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: MORAL CONFLICTS AND SOCIAL CLOSURE

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Youth sport is a perfect site for involved parenting and concerted cultivation. However, parenting in sport is not without its conflicts and dilemmas and is therefore also a perfect case for discussing contradictions in involved parenting and concerted cultivation. This paper is framed within Anette Lareaus theory of middle-class parenting and attempts to address contradictions within these forms of parenting. Through a reflexive thematic analysis of 21 in-depth interviews with middle-class parents involved in youth cross country skiing in Norway we explore how parents handle contradictions between a general “sport for all”-ideology in Norway and an ongoing process of social closure of cross-country skiing – to which they contribute. We describe the types of involvement and costs youth cross-country skiing entail for parents and unpack how they legitimate and frame their extensive investments within a cultural context (youth cross country skiing) increasingly critiqued of spiraling financial costs in Norwegian youth sport.

Keywords: youth sport, middle-class parenting, cross-country skiing, Norway

**INTERACTION BETWEEN COACH AND PLAYERS IN YOUTH SPORT.
ADAPTING THE CLASS TOOL FOR THE ANALYSIS OF THE QUALITY OF
COACH-PLAYERS INTERACTIONS IN COMPETITIVE YOUTH SPORT**KAFTANOWICZ, PAULINA¹¹Józef Piłsudski University of Physical Education in WarsawEmail: pk685@stud.awf.edu.pl

The profession of a sports coach plays a key role in the process of sports training. This role is particularly important in the case of children and youth sports. From the pedagogical point of view, sport can be an ideal teaching tool in terms of not so much physical fitness, but also the emotional and mental spheres. Therefore, the overriding value of sport will be the holistic education of children and youth and the implementation of their desire for lifelong learning. Currently, various forms of deviation (mobbing, corruption, doping, etc.) are observed in professional sport, which contribute to the career exhaustion among athletes. The problem of dropout in sport is more and more often noticed in children and youth sport. Although the multitude of modern technologies, smartphones, applications, and games distracts young people from physical activity, a very important motivator role in the process of competitive sports of young people is played by the coach. Numerous scientists in the field of children's and youth sport focus on motivational climate, positive youth development, dropout from competitive youth sport.

The presentation provides the concept of the doctoral thesis project *Communication styles of coaches and the quality of coach-players interaction in children and youth sports* and the preliminary results obtained during the pilot studies aimed at adapting the tool analyzing the quality of coach-players interaction during training sessions and sports competition. The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS; R.C. Pianta, B.K. Hamre, S. Mintz, 2012) is designed for the analysis of the quality of the teacher-students' interactions. During adaptation all the domains of CLASS - Emotional Support, Classroom Organization (here: Training/Game Organization) and Instructional Support were taken into consideration. The dimensions and indicators of the interaction coach-player have been adjusted to the context-specific of the coach's work and the sports environment.

Keywords: youth sport, coaching, communication styles, Classroom Assessment Scoring System

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 7: 9:00-10:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Sport and sexuality

Chair: Torsten Wojciechowski

LGBTI+ INCLUSION IN DUTCH SPORT CLUBS (PILOT EVALUATION)

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The in 2008 initiated Breakeven Alliance (Alliantie Gelijkspelen) is a Dutch alliance of sport and societal partners that strives for lgbti+ inclusion in sports. In 2022, the Alliance executed a pilot project around lgbti+ acceptance at (team)sports clubs within eight municipalities in the Netherlands over a period of several months. The goal of the pilot was to create awareness among clubs regarding lgbti+ inclusion and to find ways for improvement.

The Mulier Institute facilitated the monitoring and evaluation of the pilot. We conducted focus groups, individual interviews and survey studies. First, focusgroups were held with people from participating sports clubs to investigate their view on lgbti+ acceptance and how to improve this. For the evaluation we talked to process supervisors and people from municipalities. Furthermore, an online survey was sent to all stakeholders participating in the pilot and those who joined a workshops received a separate invitation for a short online evaluation.

Findings show that currently there is momentum for municipalities and voluntary sport clubs to invest in enhancing lgbti+ inclusion. Simultaneous, results exposed the mobilisation of inclusion teams, the sharing (experienced) knowledge, the planning of appropriate actions and to keep clubs and initiators motivated and inspired for a longer period, as a very time and energy consuming process. Unclear is how the project contributed to the aimed longer lasting cultural change. We will discuss these findings in light of the broader context and developments of lgbti+ inclusion in sport and society.

Keywords: LGBTI+ , inclusion, pilot, sport clubs, Breakeven Alliance

INCLUSION OR FAIRNESS? A STUDY ON POLICY AND ACTION ANALYSIS ABOUT TRANSGENDER ATHLETES IN SCOTLAND

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In over 25 years, the landscape of equality in sport has shifted enormously in the UK. Equality policies in sports bodies were scarce in the mid-1990s, yet it would be difficult to now find a prominent sport organisation which does not have some form of commitment to basic principles of equality and diversity in sport (Lusted, 2014). Sportscotland, which is the national agency for sport in Scotland, indicated in its strategy document that it would ‘put inclusion at the heart of everything we do’. However, in the review of transgender inclusion in sport it offered some guidance on the matter, but left the detail of policy to governing bodies of sport. LEAP Sports Scotland, which is a sports NGO, *works for greater inclusion for LGBTQ+ people and against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in a sports context.*

The study aims to examine the following questions by analysing the policies of sportscotland and sports governing bodies, as well as LEAP's campaigns and strategies:

1. How sports bodies have approached this transgender issue, in particular whether they recognise the dichotomy between inclusion and fairness, the place of medical evidence in their deliberations, and whether the possibility exists for innovative solutions to the issue?
2. How sports NGOs have responded to relevant policies, what actions they take, and their impact on policy making and public awareness-raising?

Keywords: sport, transgender athlete, policy analysis, diversity and inclusion, LGBTQ

LISTENING TO BOXING HEARTS AND BEATS: ANALYSING BOXING (THROUGH) SOUNDSCAPES

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'Young Researcher Award honourable mention'

Boxing produces unique multilayered soundscapes composed of music, voices and bodily sounds. These soundscapes serve different purposes. They are means of representation, tools of knowledge production and ways of reproducing, mirroring and contesting social divisions. In my research I approach sound and hearing in boxing both as objects of study and methods of exploring the social reality of this combat sport. Thus, I engage in a long-term project of sensory/perceptual equilibrium (Woolf, 2004; Classen et. al., 1994) in social sciences. This project attempts to disrupt the hegemony of sight as a source of data in modern science (Sparkes, 2009). Building on the more than two-year long ethnographic research among the boxing communities in Central and Eastern Europe I analyse boxing as a sonic, corporeal, and social practice.

In my contribution I pay attention to the ways gender, class and ethnicity affect the sonic characteristics of boxing soundscapes. I argue that gender plays an important role in volume and amount of sound boxers produce and in how and what we (don't) hear. To be perceived as women/men according to normative gender identities female/male boxers do not only need to behave and look but also *sound* feminine/masculine. Moreover, this sound is further influenced by boxers' other identities such as class and/or ethnicity. I show how non-conforming sound of lower class and racialised boxing bodies is perceived as less disruptive to the existing gender order.

Keywords: boxing, gender, soundscapes, sensory equilibrium, ethnography of sounds

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 7: 9:00-10:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Sport business and management

Chair: Szilvia Perényi

DO PERCEIVED VALUE AND SATISFACTION AFFECT CUSTOMERS' BEHAVIOURAL INTENTIONS? A CASE STUDY OF POLISH SQUASH CLUBS

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Although the number of studies contributing to sports sector has increased, there are no studies that analyze the perceived quality, service convenience and satisfaction of their customers in the niche sports discipline, like squash. The objective of this paper is to go deeper and analyze the relations between the above-mentioned variables in order to present the implications for the managers, who address the offer to parents enrolling their children for extracurricular activities in squash clubs.

Applying the research framework of García- Fernández et al. (2018), a sample of 120 parents/guardians from Legia Warszawa Squash Academy completed an online survey in 2021. The questionnaire was developed on multi-scales tools. The statistical analysis contained a Confirmatory Factor Analysis to examine the reliability and validity of the measurement model. Next, Structural Equation Modelling was applied to analyse the structural relations between the studied variables.

When analysing the relationship between the constructs, the model revealed that perceived quality as well as service convenience had positive ($\beta=0.77$ and $\beta = 0.21$, respectively) and significant ($p<0.001$) effect with perceived value. The correlation between these two predictors turned out to be statistically significant too ($r=0.87$; $p<0,001$). Perceived value was shown as a strong predictor of customer's satisfaction ($\beta=0.81$; $p<0.001$). Finally, satisfaction showed a very strong positive and significant effect over the behavioral intentions of squash customers ($\beta=1.06$; $p<0.001$).

The present study makes both a theoretical and a practical contribution to sport management field. It highlights the importance of perceived quality and service convenience in order to deliver expected value to the customer. To enhance customer satisfaction in the sports industry, it is essential to identify what customers perceive as valuable and work to ensure that their expectations are met or exceeded, thus leading to increased loyalty and customer retention in squash clubs.

Keywords: squash, sport management, customer satisfaction, Poland

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CSR AND EMPLOYEE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FROM THE EMPLOYER'S PERSPECTIVE

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Work culture has significantly changed in the modern, globalized world. Digitalization connects a large part of the society to the desktop more than ever, and a lot of employees sit for several hours a day in front of the computer or other devices. In workplaces where workers lead an unhealthy lifestyle, decreasing productivity and rising sick days and mental, physical exhaustion are observed (Cacelliere et al 2011). Sport, as a part of physical activity, has a positive effect on health, and quality of life, which has been verified (Lampe, 2015). The role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has increased in the last years. More companies realize the connection between sport and CSR; day by day, more companies and employers use the tools to reach their goals.

We collected the results of the relevant scientific research papers. The literature processing and data collection were done manually.

Evidence proving the value of workplace health promotion in positively influencing employees' health and wellbeing via changes to their health behaviour is growing (Pescud et al, 2015). From the employer's point of view, in addition to education for a healthy lifestyle, the promotion and support of employee physical activity is also of paramount importance. Those companies who put an emphasis on the CSR through sport, can be characterised by higher performance, changing attitudes, and different patterns of employer behaviour.

Increasing physical activity, thus less physical inactivity will also have an impact on the prevalence of sickness, number of sick days and the direct costs and indirect burdens as well (Ács et al, 2019). The role of CSR and the support of sport (physical activity) in the strategy of the company has positive benefits for the performance of the firm.

Keywords: CSR, employee's physical activity, corporate sport

CFK - THE EXAMPLE OF AN INSTITUTIONALIZED INSTRUMENT DESIGNED TO SECURE FINANCIAL STABILITY OF RETIRED FOOTBALL PLAYERS

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Many retired athletes struggle with a financial stability after they finish their professional sport careers. Only a few of them are privileged enough to save or invest sufficient amount of money to comfortably make their post-retirement living. Also only the limited group of the athletes make their decision about retirement voluntarily, great deal of them are forced to stop due to ageing or injury. There are occasional attempts to tackle the problem of sport retirement, like sports dual career concept which offer athletes an alternative occupation for instance. The objective of this paper is to present preliminary research results on CFK, administrator of the Dutch professional football bridging benefit scheme. In short, this tailor made scheme is designed to provide a basic income for professional players during their transition into a new line of work after their sport career has ended. It is unique and unrivalled-in-scope institutional solution because all professional football players under contract to a Dutch club are obliged to join the scheme. The presentation aims to answer the following research questions: What is the reasoning behind the Dutch scheme? How it is implemented? How professional football players respond to being involved? How players benefit from the scheme? Results of the research are based on the in-depth interviews with different actors of Dutch football environment, including CFK representative, and on desk research concerning the pension scheme.

Keywords: CFK, financial stability, retirement, institutional solution, professional footballers

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 8: 11:00-12:30

Room: C001 Paris

Theme: Sport, health and wellbeing 3

Chair: Torsten Schlesinger

A QUALITATIVE STUDY INVESTIGATING THE COLLABORATION AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INITIATIVE "FOOTBALL FOR THE HEART"

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There is an increased focus on the beneficial effects of recreational football for people with various diseases, as well as a focus on how cross-sector collaborations have the potential to create sustainability in health initiatives. The initiative "Football for the Heart" intends to improve cardiovascular health through sustainable training offers. According to the initiative, working groups have been established at a central and local level consisting of actors from the Danish Football Association, the Danish Heart Association, the municipalities, and the sports clubs. This article uses the integrated implementation model as a theoretical framework to determine how the central and local working groups in four municipalities collaborate on implementing "Football for the Heart". The data collection consists of five focus group interviews: one with the central working group and four with the local working groups in the four municipalities. The results show that the implementation structure for the project is based on a network cross-sector collaboration. The central working group has established the overall framework, after which the local working groups adapt the implementation to their specific contexts. In the network collaboration, the actors depend on each other in different ways, have different interests in being part of the project and collaborate on different measures in connection with the implementation. The article concludes that many parameters impact the collaboration in the working groups at central and local levels, which makes the implementation complex, and highlights factors for successful collaboration in implementing similar health-promoting initiatives.

Keywords: football, implementation, collaboration, clubs, municipalities

THE PARTICIPANTS' PERCEIVED EFFECTS OF PARTICIPATING IN "FOOTBALL FOR THE HEART" IN DANISH FOOTBALL CLUBS

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In Denmark, there have been a significant growth in using recreational football to encourage individuals to increase their physical activity levels. A growing body of evidence suggests that football-orientated exercise can have significant physical and mental health benefits for participants living with a variety of different conditions. The initiative 'Football for the Heart' (FFH) is implemented in 26 Danish football clubs with the aim of improving the quality of life for individuals living with cardiovascular disease and serving as a preventative investment in cardiovascular patients' health. This study employs a mixed-methods approach to investigate the perceived effects of participation in FFH among participants. The data for the analysis, are collected through qualitative focus group interviews in 2021 with participants from three different sports clubs and through a questionnaire survey from 2022, answered by 125 participants. The study found that participants perceived effects of participating in FHH, to be beneficial in multiple parameters relating to physical, psychological, and social well-being. Participant reported improvement in physical and mental health, as well as an increase in social networks and motivation to be active. There results are discussed in relation to motivational theory (self-efficacy).

Keywords: recreational, football, participants, perceived effects, cardiovascular disease

CHANGES IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PATTERNS OF THE ADULT POPULATION: A LONGITUDINAL, REPRESENTATIVE RESEARCH DURING THE FIRST THREE WAVES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN HUNGARY

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The COVID-19 pandemic completely changed the living conditions of people worldwide from the beginning of 2020. The main aim of our research was to examine the changes in the physical activity patterns of the different socio-demographic groups. In our representative, longitudinal, observational study we recruited 3600 Hungarian adults (18+) from all counties of Hungary in 2020-2021. Demographic parameters, self-rated mental and physical health, and physical activity (by International Physical Activity Questionnaire - short form) were measured. For statistical analysis, nonparametric tests were used, and the level of significance was set at $p < 0.05$. The average age of the respondents was 43.49 (15.13) years, 51.86% were female, and 48.14% male adults. More than one-third of the respondents rated their mental health status as worse. The weekly minutes spent physically active decreased during the restrictions of the pandemic by 121.65 (SD 292.05) minutes. The level of changes in the time spent physically active was significantly different among the different socio-demographic subgroups ($p < 0.05$). The effect of the first three waves of the COVID-19 virus changed the daily and movement behavior of Hungarian adults where the level of changes in physical activity patterns was significantly different in the examined socio-demographic groups.

Keywords: COVID-19, physical activity, Hungary

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Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 8: 11:00-12:30

Room: C101 Helsinki

Theme: Sport, racism and discrimination

Chair: Dunja Antunovic

“I JUST WANT TO FIGHT”: ETHNIC PREJUDICE AND AGGRESSION IN THE CASE OF NORTH MACEDONIAN BASKETBALL FANS

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Literature on sport fans' attitudes has been examined through various lenses, however, ethnic prejudice as a leading factor has been overlooked.

The aim of the study is to examine the attitudes of North Macedonian basketball fans from homogeneous backgrounds towards ethnic Albanian fan groups. I depart from the concepts of ethnic prejudice and sport-related aggression. These concepts are required to better understand the complexity and correlation between ethnic prejudice (an attitude) and aggression (a behavior) within the context of sports, more specifically among fans. This study tries to answer the following questions: is there a correlation between ethnic prejudice and aggression among fans?; How do the fans describe and perceive the aggression towards the “other”?; What are the main factors that lead to aggression?; and lastly, what can we do to decrease such behavior?. To be able to understand the phenomenon of aggression among fans through these research questions, I conduct 10 interviews with basketball fan group leaders. In order to analyze the collected data, I use thematic analysis where I examine the discourse and theorize the repetitive patterns. The findings of this study will be used as a baseline for further research and understanding the complexity of ethnic prejudice and aggression within a multicultural society such as the one in North Macedonia.

Keywords: prejudice, ethnicity, basketball fans, intersection, aggression

THE PRESERVATION OF RACE TALK IN DUTCH MEN’S FOOTBALL CULTURE

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Football was always a place of hegemonic white masculinity: white men were dominant, tough, insensitive, and this was expressed in racist microaggressions. Although racism in the Netherlands is publicly declared as reprehensible, those who deviate from the normative white male still face forms of racism such as "harmless" jokes and/or comments. Previous research shows, that backstage football talk by white males, involves racial/ethnic stereotyping of athletes. Nevertheless, there is also a perception that the culture within Dutch football is changing. Several scholars argue that men's team sports (including football), are no longer the extreme hegemonic bastions they once were. Men's football culture is thus said to have shifted from hegemonic masculinity to inclusive masculinity. However, it is not clear to what extent the perspective that racism in football is unacceptable is limited to a frontstage setting and, in addition, to what extent racist backstage football talk is still part of men's football culture and whether this is seen as acceptable by football players themselves. This results in the main question to what extent racist and discriminatory microaggressions are still more prevalent in Dutch football, compared to other sports? We will explore experiences with racism and discrimination in the Dutch sports context and particularly within men’s football. We will present and discuss the results of data currently being collected through web based questionnaires among Dutch adult population, adult Dutch people with a migrant background and board members of sports clubs.

Keywords: racism, football culture, race/ethnicity, the Netherlands, sports clubs

RACIALISATION AND THE INEQUITABLE EXPERIENCES OF RACIALISED MINORITY COACHES IN MEN'S PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL YOUTH ACADEMIES IN ENGLAND

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The social and cultural arena of elite level sport can be understood as a series of contextually situated 'racial projects', within which sporting structures, discourses, populations, and spaces have become racialised over time. This is especially the case in elite level sports coaching, where the normative application of racialised ideologies, discourses, and practices has shaped the parameters of inclusion and exclusion in different ways for differently racialised minority coaches across a range of national and vocational contexts. This paper will offer an empirical and theoretical examination of racialisation and the inequitable experiences of racialised minority coaches in men's professional football youth academies in England. In doing so, the paper will draw on qualitative interviews with youth academy managers drawn from dominant and marginalised ethnicities (n=10) and racialised minority academy coaches (n=26). In particular, to illuminate their experiences of the ways in which the racialisation process has engendered inequitable interactions, representations, evaluations, and career outcomes. In this respect, the paper will focus on four inter-related areas of examination: (i) youth academies as racialised spaces, (ii) youth academies and racialised stereotypes, (iii) youth academies and racialised assessments, (iv) and youth academies and racialised outcomes. Finally, the paper will contextualise these findings from a Critical Race Theory perspective. In particular, it will draw clear linkages between the processes, experiences and outcomes of racialisation in the coaching context under review, and the dominant neo-liberal discourses of meritocracy, race neutrality, colour-blindness, and normativity of whiteness embedded in elite level sports and sports coaching more broadly.

Keywords: racialised, inequities, football, coaching, whiteness

NON-NORMATIVE BODIES AND EXERCISE: INVISIBILITY, DISCRIMINATION, AND FEELINGS OF EMPOWERMENT

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Bodies that are deemed non-normative, such as bodies that exceed the normative body size, are often made either invisible or intolerable in the discourse of sports and exercise. In this paper, I will examine fat women's experiences on exercise and physical activity. Fat people are routinely recommended exercise, however, when they do, they are often made feel unwelcome in the field of exercise. Due to the gendered nature of body norms and expectations, especially fat women are treated disrespectfully while exercising. They are harassed, ridiculed and their bodies are commented on. I will examine Finnish women's experiences of exercising. I am interested in their experiences of discrimination and exclusion in the field of sports and physical activity, but not just that. In my data, fat women also talk about their desire to exercise, being good at sports, and feelings of empowerment they have had through exercise. Since it is often assumed that fat people are not interested in, or do not enjoy sports or physical activity, it is important to bring out the positive experiences in order to shift the prevailing exclusive sports discourse towards a more inclusive one. The data used in this paper, was collected with an online questionnaire in collaboration with Finland's largest daily newspaper Helsingin Sanomat in June 2015. Approximately 18 000 Finns (17 882), of whom approximately 14 600 (14 656) identified as women, 3000 (2 904) as men participated in the survey.

Keywords: exercise, body, gender, fatness, empowerment

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 8: 11:00-12:30

Room: C102 Barcelona

Theme: Sport and sustainability / environment

Chair: Michał Jasny

SPORT'S INTEREST IN CLIMATE CHANGE ACROSS TIME AND SPACE: AN ANALYSIS OF GOOGLE TRENDS

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Sports should adjust to climate changes, yet sport organizations responses are still scant. A precondition for sports addressing climate change issues in a legitimate and efficient way is that people have a certain concern and interest for the issue. In this study we want to investigate whether this is the case. Google Trends gives data on Google searches for specific terms. Such searches on climate change and sport reflect no stands, just a tiny bit of action, a weak but valid indicator for interest in and concern for the issue. For better validity, Google categorizes searches, and our study is based on people searching for 'climate change' within the category of 'sports'. We will focus on the Nordic countries, a few (other) European countries and USA and Canada. We will study the longer perspective going back to 2004, but also, for methodological and substantive reasons, shorter timespans. First, we ask basically whether there is some concern for sports and climate change and how patterns of interest are best described. Are there any patterns at all, are they flat, trending up- or downwards, are they cyclical or are they marked by "external shocks"? For which nations and time spans? Second, we will ask for explanations to these patterns. We distinguish between two types of changes: Those coming from outside and being forced upon sports – crises, events, scientific reports – and those emanating from inside: Initiatives coming from the sport organizations themselves: External shocks versus organizational initiatives.

Keywords: sports, climate change, google trends, interest, western world

STAGING SUSTAINABILITY: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE IOC'S FRAMING OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN AN ONLINE SETTING

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Sport, as one of the key industries in the world, makes significant contribution in terms of climate change through carbon emission and (un)sustainable practices. This is particularly true for global mega-sporting events like the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and FIFA World Cups, which are known for their grand stadium constructions, high electricity usage, and the international travels of both spectators, delegates, athletes, and media personnel. In line with decade long trend of sporting mega-events' gigantism, researchers have increasingly paid attention to governance and environmental impacts, or environmental risks associated with hosting such events. This research connects with this discussion by examining the ways 'sustainability' is defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) through a digital sociological analysis of its 'IOC Media' YouTube channel and a documentary analysis of IOC's policy documents. This research draws from Beck's (2009) concept of 'staging' to explore how the IOC in a pre-emptive manner brings public attention to global risks such as climate change. Therefore, this research questions (i) how the issue of climate change is publicly framed by the IOC, and (ii) how social media such as YouTube provides another outlet for IOC's discourses surrounding their commitments to sustainable practices and policies. By engaging with these questions, this research seeks to contribute with an understanding of how policies enacted or articulated to address global risks - that remain largely uncontrollable and characterized by uncertainty - now formulate a key aspect of sport governing bodies' presence on social media.

Keywords: sustainability, Olympics, YouTube, climate change, risk

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN SWISS SPORT FEDERATIONS – A MULTIPLE CASE STUDY ON THE AGENDA SETTING OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

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In Europe, more than 60 million people practice sport in a club. Through the consumption behaviour of this large number of sport club members, sport not only has positive impacts, but can be deleterious to the environment, e.g. through the destruction of natural habitats or mobility behaviours. National sport federations, which represent sport clubs and engage in sport policy issues, could be crucial when it comes to taking measures concerning the environmental sustainability of and through organised sport. Indeed, several Swiss sport federations have already launched such programmes. This might be surprising, since sport federations are traditionally primarily committed to the interests of their member clubs and the sport as their core business. Thus, this study addresses the extent to which environmental policies are set on the agendas in national sport federations and which factors are relevant for the agenda setting of such policies. Therefore, we conducted a multiple case study with seven Swiss sport federations based on the multiple streams approach. The findings show that whereas the agenda setting of policies regarding nature conservation and access is primarily caused by national regulations, climate protection policies are mainly pushed by engaged policy entrepreneurs. Nevertheless, member interests, functional issues (as opposed to normative arguments) and good practices of other national and international sport federations were found to be crucial for all types of environmental policies. Knowledge about the agenda setting is especially important since it is a prerequisite for subsequent decisions and implementations of environmental policies and the unfolding of effects.

Keywords: ecological sustainability, sport organisations, sport associations, policy analysis, multiple streams approach

PERSONALIZING SUSTAINABILITY MODELS BASED ON ELITE SPORT CAREERS – A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Sustainability-related issues can be analyzed well using smaller societal sets. Here we study elite sport through the voices of athletes, which reflect the characteristics of society and the economy regarding power, performance, and competitiveness. The research aim is (1) to identify existential elements in elite sport through thematic analysis, and (2) to invite readers to generalize qualitative results to personalize competing models of sustainability. Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) served as a research method. Semi-structured interviews were implemented with five successful, retired elite athletes. Five higher order themes have emerged: identity, relation, transition, function, and health. Issues arising within these themes were categorized according to Coakley's labels 'Power and Performance' and 'Pleasure and Participation'. Through a two-step generalization process, we personalize two competing visions of sustainability: one in which society is embedded in the economy (the acceleration/growth model), and another in which the economy is embedded in society (the slow/degrowth model).

Keyword: sport, sustainability, well-being, elite athletes, phenomenology

Friday, 02 June 2023

Parallel Session 8: 11:00-12:30

Room: C103 München

Theme: Sport policy and governance 3

Chair: Mojca Doupona

STUDYING THE EXPECTED POLITICAL OUTCOMES OF OLYMPIC SUCCESS: A STUDY OF SPORTS STAKEHOLDERS' VIEWS THROUGH THE LENS OF THE THEORY OF CHANGE

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This study aimed to examine the expected political outcomes of Olympic success from the perspective of different sports stakeholders through the Theory of Change. We used a grounded theory approach to examine a substantive issue. To identify participants who could contribute to the development of concepts, we conducted theoretical sampling. The theoretical sampling process involved four steps. An open-ended survey was conducted. We analysed open-ended responses using NVivo software. Hungary and France were included in the sample. As a result of the study, the most significant expected outcome was advocating for an increase in funding for elite sports. Increasing international prestige and image through Olympic success, new sport infrastructures, showing the power of the country and increasing international attention, as well as environmental issues and human rights were other significant identified political factors. There was a wide range of opinions about the expected political outcomes of Olympic success in general. The notion of integrating sport and politics was expressed by some, while the opposite was expressed by others. The identified outcomes are not guaranteed and are contingent upon a variety of factors, including effective planning and implementation of programs. In addition, there should be supportive policies and systems. Additionally, it is crucial for sports stakeholders to consider the potential unintended consequences of Olympic success and to proactively address any negative impacts.

Keywords: sport policy, political outcomes, Olympic success, sports stakeholders, Theory of Change

COLLABORATIVE IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT CHALLENGES IN THE FIELD OF ELITE ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT – FINDINGS FROM AN ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTION IN A GERMAN ELITE SPORTS NETWORK

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Providing an appropriate environment for successful athlete development is a highly complex endeavor for elite sports systems. Given the lack of suitable organizational development approaches, we have designed what we call the “PRIO-Intervention” (Mayer et al., 2022).

This presentation aims to elaborate findings from the implementation process of this athlete-focused organizational development instrument for elite sports networks that follows a participatory approach.

The PRIO-Intervention is currently being implemented in the German elite sports network in the Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region. Drawing on the identified practical challenges vis-à-vis athlete development (Hear phase), the central goal of this approach is to collaboratively create appropriate solutions for the identified challenges (Create phase). Consecutively, the proposed solutions are transferred to the sports network structures (Deliver phase). All of these interconnected phases are planned and implemented by a multi-stakeholder coordination team. In order to evaluate the implementation process, we use a multi-method design referring to the CFIR approach.

To start with, we present findings regarding the installation of the multi-stakeholder coordination team. Thereafter, we focus on insights from the collaborative identification of practical challenges.

In the final part, we discuss the relevance of the Hear phase in the overall organizational development process. We conclude that the PRIO-Intervention is meant to give the elite athletes a voice and power to actively engage in developing solutions that improve their personal sports environment. By evaluating the implementation process, new insights can be gained on the opportunities and limitations of participation-based interventions in elite sports.

Keywords: participatory intervention, athlete participation, organizational development, Olympic training center, elite sports systems

THE ROMANIAN SPORTS POLICY BETWEEN NOSTALGIA AND REALITY

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In Romania sport was used for political purposes: as a tool to unite the country (interwar period), as a mean of legitimization and international diplomacy (communism), even to distract attention from economic and social problems (transition). In the same time the minorities are looking for a way to keep their identity through clubs. Romanian sports is highly debated issue, the media narratives underlies its decline and nostalgia for the golden years (the eighties) plays a role. The government is under pressure to ensure the conditions to repeat these successes. In 2022 the Sport Strategy was adopted. Based on critical text analysis and statistics and theoretically build on a chapter (Peter, L. 2020, The Romanian Sport System. Path to Commercialization”, In Rojo-Labainen, Rodriguez Diaz, Rookwood, Joel Paths (eds.) “Sport, Statehood and Transition in Europe.”, Routledge 77-95) the presentation offers the analysis of the dynamics of sports policy and the aims of the Strategy taking into account the context in which the sports operates.

Adapting the critical theory I argue that the Strategy failed to take into account social conditions like the changing demography, the evolution of sport economy or the dynamic of the of sport field.

The presentation addresses the social and economic factors that have shaped the sport reality and those are confronted with the objectives of the Strategy. Methodically, is also based on data end interviews with bureaucrats, journalists.

Keywords: sport policy, media, sport planning, government, sport performance

BOUNCING BACK OR STAYING INACTIVE? THE SOCIAL INEQUALITY IN SPORT PARTICIPATION BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE COVID-PANDEMIC

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In this contribution we address the development of educational and financial inequality in sport participation in the Netherlands over the course of the COVID-pandemic. We consider this to be an important topic providing information on whether the increased educational and financial inequality during the COVID-pandemic is only temporary or becomes permanent after relaxation of the COVID-measures. We expect more permanent increased inequality as lower educated and people with financial problems have less resources to bounce back to sport participation or to continue participating in sport over the whole course of the COVID-pandemic.

We conducted multinomial logistic regression analyses on high-quality longitudinal data from the Dutch LISS-panel (n=1.157). Our results showed that lower educated were more likely to completely drop out over the course of the COVID-pandemic versus continuous participation in sport during the COVID-pandemic or bouncing back to sports after the COVID-pandemic. Moreover, people with financial problems were more likely to completely drop out over the course of the COVID-pandemic. All in all, our main conclusion is that educational and financial inequality in sport participation further increased after relaxation of the COVID-pandemic. Our study enhances the understanding of long term impact of the COVID-pandemic on inequality in sport participation and therefore informs policy makers to intensify sport promotion policies. Ongoing attention for specific target groups is required to tackle social inequality in sport participation.

Keywords: sport participation; COVID; educational inequality; financial inequality; dropout

Young Researcher Award

Friday, 02 June, 12:30-13:30

Room: C2-104 Athens

Chair: Hanna Vehmas

The European Association for Sociology of Sport is proud to announce the 2023 EASS Young Researcher Award.

EASS YRA 2023 – WINNER:

SPACES OF FOOTBALL AND BELONGING IN ITALY: PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM'S RESISTANCE OF LIMINALITY THROUGH INVOLVEMENT IN SOLIDARITY GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

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This article provides an in-depth investigation of people seeking asylum's development of senses of belonging in and through solidarity grassroots football in Italy. In the last decade, there has been increasing interest in sport and migration studies. Yet, researchers have predominantly focused on policy-oriented questions (i.e., how can sport facilitate integration?). Through an ethnographic approach, this article examines processes of negotiation that take place in the microscale of day-to-day life in the locality. Employing the analytical framework for the study of belonging advanced by Nira Yuval-Davis and critically integrated by Marco Antonsich, four themes are discussed: the agency of people seeking asylum in appropriating football to nurture a positive sense of self; the emergence of the material environment of sporting activities as a space of belonging; the negotiation of belonging within and beyond the team; and the local neighbourhood as possible trait d'union between sport-specific attachments and development of senses of belonging to the wider community. The article contends that involvement in solidarity grassroots football can provide people seeking asylum with opportunities to develop attachments that go beyond the momentary, and play a vital role in resisting the liminality imposed by nationalist-autochthonic politics of belonging.

EASS YRA 2023 – HONOURABLE MENTION:

LISTENING TO BOXING HEARTS AND BEATS: ANALYSING BOXING (THROUGH) SOUNDSCAPES

KRISTINA ORSZAGHOVA, Charles University, Czech Republic

Abstract on p.100

Closing of the EASS2023 Budapest Conference

Friday, 02 June, 13:30

Room: C2-104 Athens

Chair: Hanna Vehmas

Goodbye note from the Organisers

It was a pleasure to welcome the European and global social science community to eass2023 Budapest, the European Conference for the Sociology of Sport between May 30 and June 2, 2023 at the Hungarian University of Sports Science.

Wish to see you again, cooperate with you and with your universities through exchange of knowledge, students, academic staff, conduct research together or implement projects.

Hope you enjoyed your stay and have a safe journey,

Sincerely yours,

Patrons of the conference:

Tamás Sterbenz, Rector & **Gábor Gécz**i, Head of the Institute

Chairs of the conference:

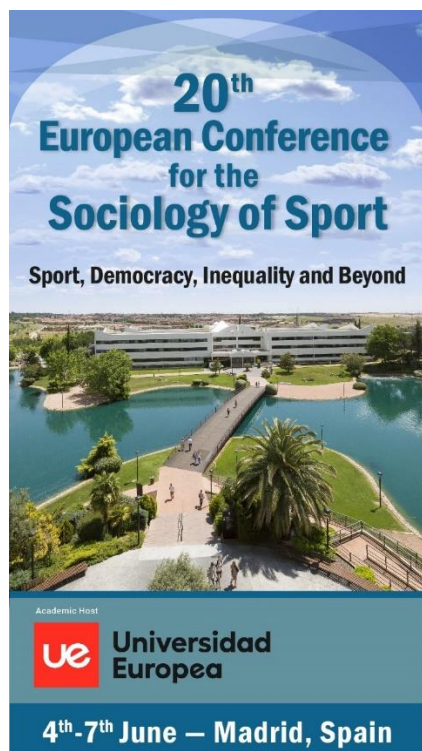
Szilvia Perényi & **Tamás Dóczi**, associate professors



EASS 2024 Conference

Sport, Democracy, Inequality and Beyond

20th Conference of the European Association for Sociology of Sport (EASS)
 Madrid, Spain, 4-7 June 2024



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Organized by


www.eass2024.com / info@eass2024.com

The 2024 EASS congress will be held in Madrid, Spain from 4-7 June. The conference will be held at the Universidad Europea de Madrid campus at the Sports Science Faculty. Preparations for the conference are underway and everything will be ready to welcome you next year.

We believe that European societies face enormous challenges in the coming years, from the fight against climate change, to gender equality, to sedentary lifestyles and the health of populations. In all these areas, sport presents itself as an essential actor and a space of struggles and tensions in defining the future of the continent, and the sociological profession has a duty to contribute to the public debate. As such, the sociology of sport must also reflect on the various forms of inequality that permeate sport and that are reflected in the emerging debates on sport for all, physical exercise or the right to the city, and do so by reflecting on the various forms of exclusion that exist in our societies as part of the democratic debate.

For all these reasons, the title chosen for this conference is *Sport, Inequality, Democracy and Beyond*. We believe that this frame would allow for enriching debates on both established and emergent topics that define our present.

The abstracts are published in the abstract book in the form they were submitted to the Organising Committee, with minor editing.

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