

Erasmus+ Programme – Collaborative Partnership

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BRISWA

the BALL ROLLS IN the SAME WAY for ALL

Minutes of BRISWA Kick-Off Meeting

Deliverable Form	
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INTRODUCTION

The kick-off meeting of the BRISWA project took place in Rome, Italy on the 11th of January, 2017. The meeting was hosted by SYDIC on University of Tor Vergata. The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- Sharing main Points of Attention and Project Mission
- Presenting Institutional Partners (SYDIC, ACADEMY FC, BULGARIAN SPORT FOR ALL ASSOCIATION, COLTEA BRASOV 1920, YOUTH FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT DOO, DHSE, UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA)
- Sharing Project Documents (Gantt chart, Budget);
- Explanation on how justify the project costs;
- Showing Next Steps;

The following sections provide the agenda as well as an overview of the meeting discussions and conclusions, and it is structured according to the presentation slots, as identified in the Agenda. Unfortunately, due to bad weather conditions in Europe, many flight cancellations occurred, forcing the representatives from the University of Macedonia to not attend the meeting physically, but participate in conference call with the project coordinator. Similarly, the representatives of Coltea Brasov and Youth Football Tournament DOO due to the same weather conditions arrived late and had a personal meeting with the project coordinator the day after the official date of the kick-off meeting.

1. Meeting Agenda

15:00-15:10	10'	Welcome – outline of meeting agenda	SYDIC
15:10-15:40	30'	Partners brief presentation	All
15:40-16:00	20'	Project Overview	SYDIC
16:00-16:20	20'	WP0 - Management and Coordination of the Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities and Key Milestone (MS) • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	SYDIC
16:20-16:40	20'	WP1 – Racism in Europe: Analysis and results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities and milestone • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	SYDIC University of Macedonia
16:40-16:50	10'	Coffee Break	
16:50-17:10	20'	WP3 – Training Course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities • EAB and EUC set-up; • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	SYDIC
17:10-17:30	20'	WP4 – International Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities and Milestone • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	All
17:30-17:50	20'	WP5 – Dissemination and Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities and Milestone • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	All
17:50-18:10	20'	WP6 – Quality Management and Project Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the WP activities and Milestone • Consortium Agreement • Determine key priorities/ action list & planning for the next 6 months • 10' Discussion 	All
18:10 – 18:30	20'	Final Considerations	All

Table 1. Agenda of the Kick-Off Meeting

2. Meeting Results

This section provides a summary of the meeting discussions and conclusions. Note that the subsection order may differ from that in the Agenda, reflecting the actual meeting progression.

2.1. Individual partners and respective roles presentations

In this slot, each (SYDIC, ACADEMY FC, BULGARIAN SPORT FOR ALL ASSOCIATION, DHSE) partner presented their organisation profile, the activities relevant to their role in the BRISWA project, and in many cases the involved personnel.

All partners referred to the expected benefits to their organization from participating in BRISWA. In addition, Stefano Armenia, President of SYDIC welcomed all participants at the kick-off meeting. More specifically:

- Stefano Armenia (SYDIC) referred to a long run idea, Development of Simulation Model and Policy Recommendation with the aims to implement a Decision Support Tool in order to provide a unique simulation environment in charge of hosting models, make them run and make their data interface with Graphical User Interface developed in a web environment; to further test and tune the model in order to proceed with experimentations; to validate the model using the collected by survey's data from each partner nation.

Moreover, Stefano Armenia (SYDIC) presented his role as the project manager within the WPO, talking about BRISWA budget issues and the role of SYDIC in the project management activities: managing all the typical reporting and financial activities required by the EU while supporting all the partners within the project consortium.

- Daniela Dasheva (Bulgarian Sport For All Association) presented the BSFA profile and the activities relevant to BSFA's role in the project as leader of WP4 – International Workshop organization.
- Tamas Hegedus (DHSE) presented the DHSE profile and the activities relevant to DHSE's role in the project.
- Andrea Augello (AFC) presented the Academy Football Club profile and the role of his football Association on BRISWA leading , in WP5 (supported by all Partenrs) Dissemination and Communication; AFC is involved as WP5 leader for the definition of Dissemination action plan, the development of BRISWA Project web site, production of dissemination materials and, overall, for dissemination and exploitation activities. Furthermore he propose to the consortium to organize an international Workshop in Rome also in June 2017 during an international Tournament organized by them;

2.2. Project overall picture

The BRISWA project aims at re-examining racism and discrimination in football, defining it in a more concise way and promote a more thorough and active approach against it.

The BRISWA approach will try to address the aforementioned issues in a more comprehensive way. The proposed approach is based on three pillars:

1. Re-examining racism and defining it more concisely

Since racism in football is not independent from racism in society, it is essential to study the literature as well as past and present cases with the purpose of identifying those common indicators that cause racism to be created and expressed. In parallel, to increase the insights on the appearance of racism in football, a study will be conducted that will search for relevant data on football games themselves.

2. Developing and testing policies to fight racism in football

Studying the past, the current trends and opinions of football fans and adopting best practices from other countries does not guarantee the success of policies. More often than not, policies generate unintended consequences and face resistance that results in their failure. Especially for a complex societal issue like racism, where there are many uncertainties regarding societal context and human behaviour. Hence, we deem important not only to develop a political framework to fight racism in football, but also to create a platform that will allow for experimentation in a consequence-free environment. For this purpose, the BRISWA project will use simulation models. The data, trends and indicators from the project, will be used to create models with the methodology of System Dynamics. The developed simulation models can be used to identify scenario exemplars on how racism is born, how it thrives and how it can be fought. The results obtained thus far, will be collected in a single document called "The Handbook of racism in football".

3. Comprehensive anti-racism campaign

The Handbook and the online tool are not sufficient to fight racism; they are important results and indications, but they must be translated into actions. Thus, the final pillar of the BRISWA project will be a comprehensive anti-racism campaign that will consist of three actions:

- a) Bring the fight against racism inside the football fields by organizing friendly games before official championship games of the participating countries that will promote the message that racism is a threat to football and must be dealt with;
- b) Extend the effort of the BRISWA project beyond the project's conclusion time. The Handbook and the online simulation tool could be (and should be) used as educational material for football academies and schools;
- c) Organize and conduct a training course that will train representatives from football clubs, associations and enthusiasts on the phenomenon of racism in football.

The project will have a total duration of 18 months.

General points of attention on the activities:

- Analyze the context in various European championships and the literature in order to have a State of The Art of various actions applied so far to combat the phenomena of discrimination;
- Create a survey to Spread in various countries and more specifically football associations, football academies, supporter clubs etc.;
- Analyze the data and collect everything in a single document called “The Handbook of racism in football”;
- Develop a System Dynamics Model that will try to explain in a quantitative way how the phenomenon of racism is created and spread in football stadia and use the model to test potential policies and countermeasures;
- Identify users in the early stages of the project in order to engage them (signing a MoF) and to facilitate their comprehension of the final delivery and to use their connections and knowledge as a base to spread the survey and develop a training course;
- Identify experts. Each expert will be rewarded for the consulting effort.
- Dissemination has to be done from the early stages as well. Dissemination and engagement will work through workshops, web site and logo, social marketing and so on.
- Dropbox sharing system is privileged. Organization: there will be an administrative folder managed through an access policy and a documents folder public for the partners.
<https://www.dropbox.com/home/BRISWA>.

The project is articulated in 6 main technical work packages (WPO to WP6):

- WP1 (9 months) - RACISM IN EUROPE: ANALYSIS AND RESULTS –The package has the objective to analyze the literature in parallel with past cases, when racism was manifested in football games. From the study, indicators will be drawn that will offer insights on what are the circumstances and conditions that cause racism to be created and expressed in football events.;
- WP2 (4 months) – DEVELOPMENT OF SIMULATION MODEL AND POLICY RECOMMENDATION have the objective to develop a simulation model that will allow for experimentation in a consequence-free environment;
- WP3 (6 months) - TRAINING COURSE have the objective to create the basis and the material for a training course on racism in football;
- WP4 (18 months) - INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS – are the one of the most important work packages because the workshops are the communication tools of the BRISWA project’s results and objectives to the outside world. Each partner country will host an international workshop with the purpose of disseminating the message of BRISWA as widely as possible.
- in WP5 (18 months) is set up the dissemination and communication plan;
- WP6 (18 months) QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY - The project organization is designed to meet the objectives of all its stakeholders as well as the European Standards for research. As a result, the work package is a continuous activity that will last for the entire project lifetime to ensure that the results and reports are of the highest quality

The project management (WPO) covers the entire duration of the project, and is intended for all activities related to the general management and coordination of the project (kick-off meetings, coordination, project

monitoring and evaluation, financial management) and all the activities which are cross cutting and therefore difficult to assign just to one specific work package.

2.3. Review of Responsibilities for next Period (4 months)

The Deliverables to be prepared up to M4 (April 2017) regarding the BRISWA action plan are summarised on the following Table:

No.	Deliverable Title	Responsible	Due Date
D0.2	Kick-Off meeting report	SYDIC	M1
D5.1	Dissemination plan	AFC	M1
D6.1	The quality control plan;	SYDIC	M1
D0.1	Project Management Plan	SYDIC	M2
D1.1	Report on the literature and the studying of the past cases	UM	M3
D1.2	Survey/Questionnaire: The developed survey will also be made available in the project's database	UM	M4
D4.1	International Workshop in Serbia - Belgrade	YFTD	M4
A5.5.1	Friendly Match in Italy	AFC	M4

Table 2. Deliverables due on M4 of the project

It was decided that face-to-face meetings will take place every 3/4 months, after the international workshop, especially during the 1st year of the project.

2.4. Personal Meeting between representative of Coltea Brasov and Youth Football Tournament Doo

As anticipated this meeting happened on 12th January 2017 on Best Western Tor Vergata Hotel with the two representatives of the partner associations and the project coordinator represented by the Project Manager Eng. Stefano Armenia and the deputy PM Dott. Camillo Carlini. As introduction:

- Ciprian Jurubescu (Coltea Brasov 1920) presented the association profile and the activities relevant to Coltea Brasov 1920's role in the project.
- Eduvard Markovic (YFTD) presented his company profile and his role on BRISWA; He also suggest to lunch officially the project during the Balcan Football Derby Partizan – Red Star which will be hosted in Belgrade on 1st March 2017.

During the meeting they discussed about:

- The guidelines for the implementation of the project;
- familiarization with activities to implement in the next period;
- the manner of conducting seminars (workshop);
- the awakening of consciousness on the issue of racism;
- possibility of a wider action on a given territory;
- plan and program for the next period;
- monitoring, documentation, finance, budget.

In particular, Mr. Markovic propose to lunch BRISWA project during the Balcan Football derby, PARTIZAN Vs Red Star, which will be held on Belgrade on 1st March 2017

2.5. Skype virtual Meeting between representative of University of Macedonia and SYDIC

Due to extreme weather conditions in Greece, the representatives of the University of Macedonia, Dr. Jason Papathanasiou and Georgios Tsaples were not able to attend the Kick-off meeting due to flight cancellations. As a result, a conference call was scheduled with the project coordination Eng. Stefano Armenia. The conference call took place on Friday 13th of January 2017.

The main points of the call were:

- The project coordinator informed the representatives of the University of Macedonia about the kick-off meeting details that took place in Rome. He talked about the main objectives of the project, presented in brief the rest of the partners and their role in the project, underlined the schedule for the next few months, since the completion of the WP1 falls under the responsibility of the University of Macedonia and finally provided the appropriate guidelines for the development of the various tasks
- On behalf of the University of Macedonia, Dr. Jason Papathanasiou presented the team that will be responsible for the WP1 and also indicated the timeline that the University of Macedonia will follow for the completion of WP1. The two parts agreed on how the first months of the project will proceed.
- Finally, there was a discussion about the budget allocation. The University of Macedonia has several questions on budget details that the project coordinator will communicate to the appropriate officer in the European Commission and discussed on the need of a potential amendment due to an internal re-allocation of funds for the University of Macedonia.

The two parties agreed to meet in person in the next workshop of the BRISWA project.

2.6. Discussions and action points

Some relevant issues were discussed, here summarized by topics.

About the **Scope of the project**:

- YFTD underlines the opportunity to launch the project during the Balcan derby hosted in Belgrade on 1st March 2017 – Partizan – Red Star;
- AFC propose to organize an international workshop also in Italy on June 2017;
- Every possible amendment cannot be proposed before M9.

About **Engagement and Dissemination**:

- AFC stressed the importance of dissemination and user engagement from the early stages;
- Web site should be ready before the development of the survey and the Handbook with the purpose of maximizing the dissemination of the material;
- AFC advised the partners that each event has to be planned at the most two months in advance.
- Finally, AFC had the chance to talk and involve users also from main not European football academy.

About **Cost and Budget**:

- Advanced payment of 35% is already on the way. The next 35% should be completed around M9. The complete payment (30%) will be delivered at the end of the project.

Participants

Here is a table with the list of the meeting participants, including their contact email.

Name	e-mail	Partner
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Table 3. List of the meeting participants