



BRISWA

the BALL ROLLS IN the SAME WAY for ALL



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Introduction

Sports were added as EU competence in the Lisbon Treaty of 2009 along with the need to establish and adopt a Pan-European approach to tackle issues that are a threat to sports and society. Two of the most important issues for the EU are discrimination and racism.

Since the 1990s, steps were taken towards that direction and famous anti-racism campaigns helped to significantly decrease racism inside the stadia. However, the phenomenon of racism remained. There are even voices that dispute the success of those campaigns, stating that their only success was to decrease *overt* facets of racism, while its deeper roots remained unchallenged. Thus, the EU continues to stress the need to take more actions, since the phenomenon of racism remains a disturbing problem, alas expressed in different forms:

- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (MABE) groups' representation both as players and spectators of football games is not representative of their numbers in the countries' population
- Episodes of extreme racism appear in games of the U21 teams (national or clubs), demonstrating how racism affects European citizens and especially the youth, working contrary to the efforts of the European Union towards a European integration
- Institutional racism manifested in the administrative levels of football clubs and organizations as “[...] attitudes and behaviours, which amounts to discrimination through unwitting prejudice, ignorance, thoughtlessness and racist stereotyping which disadvantage minority ethnic people”

The above mentioned problems show the covert forms of racism and discrimination, which are still prevalent, equally dangerous, but harder to detect and isolate. In this context, the European Union suggests the exchange of good practices among member states, actions to include all citizens in football regardless of age, gender, race, religion and beliefs and finally, the development of new tools that will prevent an emergence of racism in football in dangerous levels.

The BRISWA Project

The BRISWA project is co-financed under the E+ programme (Project Reference: 579960-EPP-1-2016-2-IT-SPO-SCP) with the aim at re-examining racism and discrimination in football, define it in a more concise way and promote a more thorough approach against it. More specifically, to achieve this the project will try to:

- Understand the current situation in Europe and identify the main drivers that give rise to and help spread racist phenomena
- Assess through mathematical modeling and simulation how these drivers interact with each other, how racism is spread through society and sports and finally, design, develop and test potential countermeasures in a consequence-free environment

- Implement such policies and countermeasures starting from young people and football academies
- Establish and educate a new fundamental figure in football clubs that will have the important role of identifying such issues within the clubs and ultimately put in place preventive and mitigation measures
- Disseminate the spirit of equality and anti-racism throughout Europe, with the organization of workshops/seminars and sporting events.

To achieve the full potential of the objectives, the consortium of the BRISWA project is established by partners each of who is a leading expert in their respective fields with complementary expertise. The partners are:

- System Dynamics Italian Chapter (IT): Experts in Modeling and Simulation and project coordinator
- Academy FC (IT): Football academy
- Coltea Brasov 1920 (RO): Football academy
- You Football Tournament DOO (SRB): Football academy
- DHSE (HU): Football academy
- Bulgarian Sport for All (BG): Sport Association
- University of Macedonia (GR): Experts in Mathematical Programming and Data Analysis

Communication

European Commission E+ Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details-page/?nodeRef=workspace://SpacesStore/180baae1-6840-482c-941d-6fc9e54663bf>

Official Website: <http://briswa.eu/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BRISWAOfficial/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BRISWAOfficial>

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcDJuJlvppQcIdLj45_kAzw