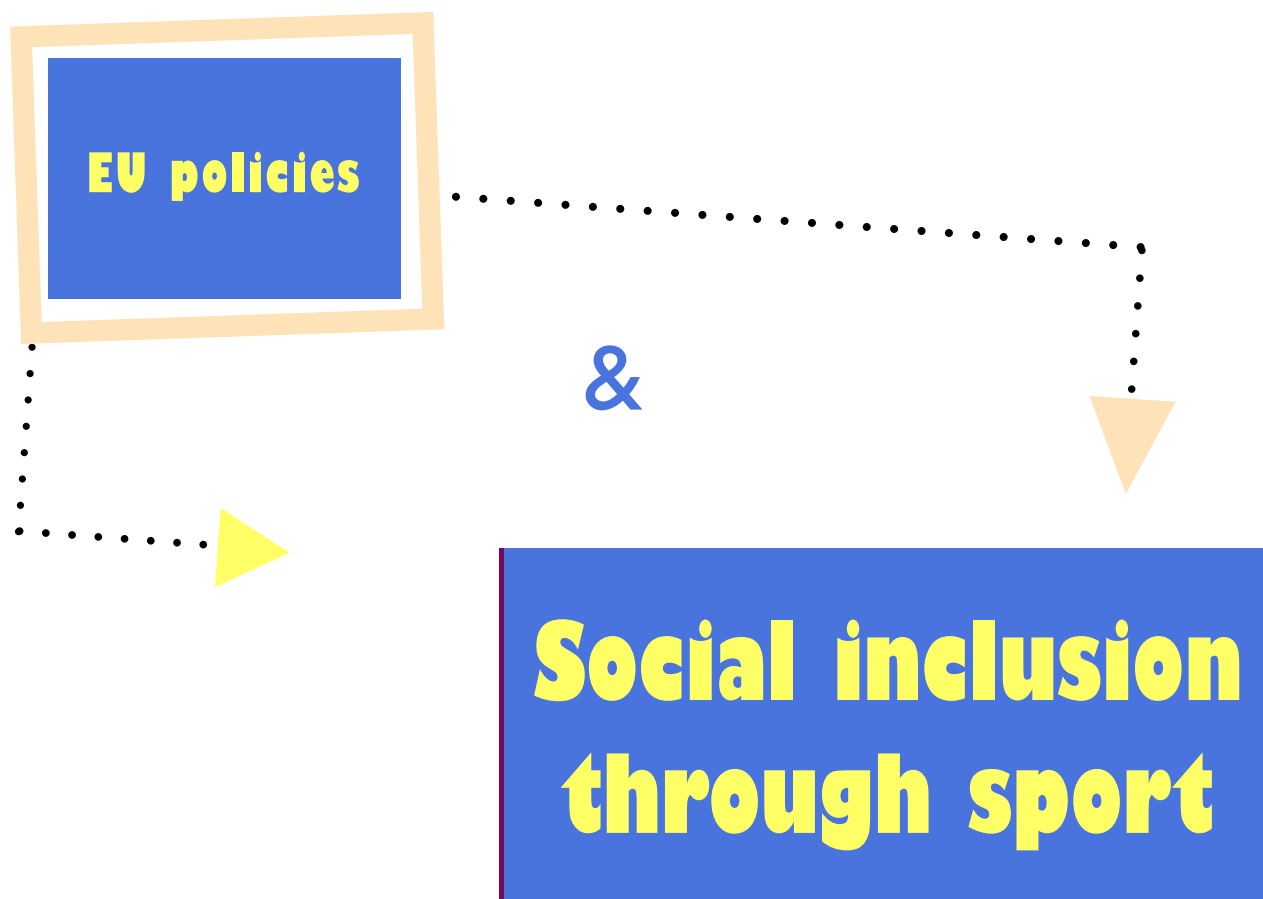


The Association



Is glad to present you



Brief elaboration for the youth exchange “Truly Trullo, a project funded by



More info <http://trulytrullo.wordpress.com/>



Sport provides citizens with opportunities to interact and join social networks; it helps immigrants to develop relations with other member of society; and it constitutes a tool for reaching out to the underprivileged or groups at risk of or facing discrimination. Through its contribution to economic growth and job creation, it can also help to revitalise disadvantaged areas. Some Member States already use sport as a tool and an indicator in their social policies, in the framework of the Open Method of Coordination on social protection and social inclusion.

It is, therefore, all the more important to promote an inclusive approach to sport.

All residents of the European Union should have access to sport. The specific needs of under-represented groups need to be addressed. Sport should play a role in promoting gender equality and in the integration of people with disabilities.

The EU has a Disability Strategy to promote the integration and equal treatment of people with disabilities. In its Action Plan to implement the Disability Strategy, the Commission will consider the role sport plays in promoting the integration of people with disabilities.

(source: <http://ec.europa.eu/sport/what-we-do/social-inclusion-integration-and-equal->



According to European Commission, sport is one of the most important tools to fight social exclusion



Sport makes an important contribution to economic and social cohesion and more integrated societies.

The Commission believes that better use can be made of the potential of sport as an instrument for social inclusion in the policies, actions and programmes of the European Union and of Member States. This includes the contribution of sport to job creation and to economic growth and revitalisation, particularly in disadvantaged areas. Non-profit sport activities contributing to social cohesion and social inclusion of vulnerable groups can be considered as social services of general interest.

The Open Method of Coordination on social protection and social inclusion will continue to include sport as a tool and indicator. Studies, seminars, conferences, policy proposals and action plans will include access to sport and/or belonging to social sport structures as a key element for analysis of social exclusion.

(source: http://ec.europa.eu/sport/white-paper/white-paper_en.htm#2_5)

Children and young adults can benefit from sport in two ways. **Sport can improve physical fitness but it can also teach valuable social skills and promote personal development.**

Sport, physical activities and games simulate many of the challenges found in everyday life. Through sport activities, young people can learn the life skills they need to deal appropriately with such challenges. Sport teaches important lessons like winning and losing, fair play, being part of a team, co-operation, leadership, discipline and working towards long term goals. Therefore sport can do much more than just make young people physically "fit"; as an educational tool it can help them become "fit for life".

(source: www.SALTO-YOUTH.net/inclusionforall/)





Education and Culture DG

'Youth in Action' Programme



Integration model of sport

Characteristics:

- sport is a means to achieve something else (other learning goals)
- focuses on problematic youth and problematic areas
- focuses on "trendy" activities in order to attract the youngsters
- cooperation with other institutions is necessary to achieve learning goals



Advantages:

- Sport is used as a lure – a fun and safe way to attract young people to the organisation. From here they may get involved in other activities
- sport is used for both physical fitness as well as for the development of personal and social skills

Disadvantages:

- costs are higher due to monitoring and follow-up of the young people
- by focusing on specific groups of youngsters there is a slight risk of making the group too homogenous

Who are young people with fewer opportunities?

Fewer-opportunity youngsters are young people who, largely due to their personal situation and sometimes also due to the choices they make, face different and/or more difficult obstacles in their lives than other young people.

Reasons can be such as: educational, social (drug addictions, orphans, discrimination...), economic (low standard of living, low income, unemployment...), mental (mental, cognitive or psychiatric disability...), physical (health problems...), cultural (refugees, immigrants, minorities...), geographical (remote rural areas, small islands...)