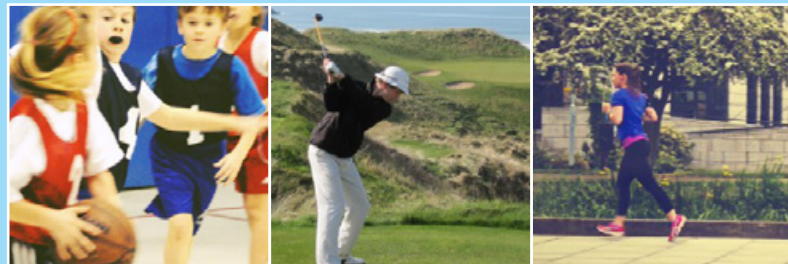


# SPORT IN THE EU

Whether it's a jog in the park, playing in a rugby team or taking a class at a fitness centre, sport is good for everybody. It brings people together, strengthens communities, and helps to keep us healthy. Since 2009, the European Commission has been working with EU Member States and Erasmus+ partner countries as well as sport organisations on sport-related issues of common EU interest and exchanging best practices on sport-related policies.



## What is the EU doing for sport?

### Improving the game: making sport more transparent and tolerant

Sport organisations should respect the highest professional standards - fans all around Europe deserve it. The EU is working with Member States and sporting bodies to improve how sport is governed across Europe. This means tackling the big threats such as match-fixing, doping, violence, corruption and racism as well as encouraging sport organisations - from local teams to international federations - to embrace the principles of democracy, transparency, inclusiveness, accountability and gender equality.

### Getting Europeans to move: promoting health, education and inclusion

Doing physical exercise helps to keep us healthy and well. But sport can also help to build team spirit and strengthen our ties with the communities that

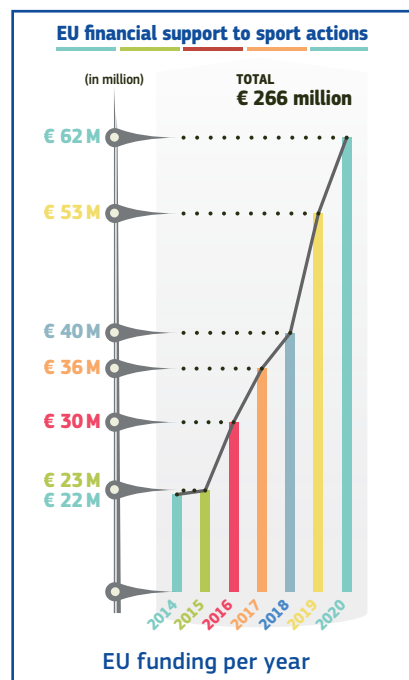
surround us. The EU supports sport activities that bring people together and create new opportunities to integrate those from under-privileged or marginalised groups in society.

### Creating growth and jobs: establishing sustainable sport business activities

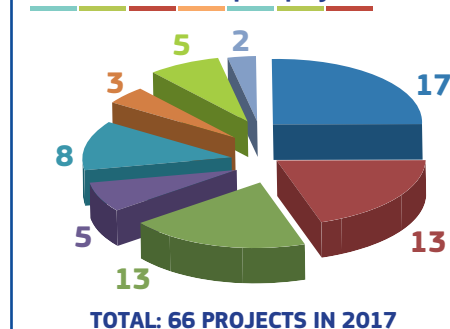
Sport is a large and fast-growing sector of our economy that already accounts for around 3% of Europe's total GDP and about 3.5% of employment in the EU. The EU promotes the economic development of the sport sector, especially through tourism, fitness, media and education, the four most important aspects of the sports economy.

## Erasmus+ supports sport actions

Since 2014, the Erasmus+ programme has been supporting education, training, and youth as well as sport activities in Europe and has been funding sport projects of all kinds. With a budget of €265 million over seven years, the sport strand of the Erasmus+ programme supports sport authorities including grassroots organisations that want to cooperate with partner organisations in other EU countries or set up not-for-profit sport events at European, national, regional and local levels.



### Erasmus+ funded sport projects



- ▶ EU physical activity guidelines and European Week of Sport
- ▶ Enhance social inclusion, equal opportunities, volunteering and participation in sports
- ▶ EU guidelines on dual careers of athletes
- ▶ Approaches to contain violence and tackle racism and intolerance in sport
- ▶ EU principles on good governance in sport
- ▶ Fight against match-fixing
- ▶ Combat doping
- ▶ Promote voluntary activity in sport

## Promoting positive social change through sport projects

### Getting children active

Erasmus+ supports **European School Sports Day**, an initiative launched by the Hungarian School Sports Federation. It aims to reach school children and **encourage them to take up sport and physical activity**. Activities include festivals of sport, school sport days, sport competitions, and whole school participation including staff and parents. The project received €238,600 in EU funding and was run in cooperation with organisations from Bulgaria, Denmark, Poland, the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

### Good governance in sport

Although many high-quality codes and principles of good governance exist in the world of sport, many sport organisations do not follow these principles day to day. To close this gap, the SIGGS Project (Support the Implementation of Good Governance in Sport) provided **practical guidance on how to implement principles of good governance** to national Olympic Committees and national sport federations. The project was organised by the European Olympic Committee and eleven partners, including National Olympic Committees and the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium). It ran from 2014 to 2016, and the guidance is **now widely available**. The project benefitted from an EU grant of €250,000.

### Combating sexual violence in sport

The **Voices for Truth and Dignity** project aims to combat sexual violence in European sport by giving those affected a voice and recording their experiences, generating crucial research data for the European sport community. Building on the resulting data, a **new platform will provide educational and training material** and enable those working in sport to exchange knowledge and success stories. Organised by the Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln (Germany) with partners from ten other countries, the project will receive €497,600 in EU funding between 2016 and 2018.



### Did you know that...

... in the 4 years before the start of Erasmus+, 88 sport projects received a total of €33 million in EU-funding?

... in 2017, for the first time, the Commission will award the #BeInclusive EU Sport Awards?



This year marks the third edition of the European Week of Sport, a Europe-wide campaign to inspire people to practise sport and, more broadly, to be active in their everyday lives.

During the Week, people will be invited to join sport events and activities organised all over Europe. These will range from small local sport gatherings to national tournaments and pan-European events. Different days will be dedicated to practising sport in a specific setting, such as at school or at the workplace, outdoors and in sport clubs or fitness centres. A network of partners supported by a team of well-known national and European sport ambassadors will promote the events around Europe.

### TAKE PART!

Learn more about the activities taking place across Europe  
#BeActive!

[ec.europa.eu/sport/week](http://ec.europa.eu/sport/week)