Sport as a Mediator between Cultures

First international German-Israeli conference on Sport for Development and Peace

Hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Sport, the Ministry of Regional Cooperation, both Israel; the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany.

Implemented in co-operation with the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sport, Israel, the Zinman College of Physical Education and Sport Sciences, Israel, the Federal Institute of Sport Science, Germany, and Football 4 Peace International.
# Thursday, September 15th, 2011

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<td>9.00</td>
<td>Breakfast &amp; Registration</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td><strong>Conference Opening</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Words of Welcome</strong> by Ms. Limor Livnat, Minister of Culture and</td>
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<td>Sport, Israel; Dr. Christoph Bergner, Parliamentary State Secretary,</td>
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<td>Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany; Mr. Wilfried Lemke, Special</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for</td>
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<td>Development and Peace; Ms. Elizabeth Longworth, Deputy Assistant</td>
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<td>Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO; Prof.</td>
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<td>Margaret Talbot, PhD OBE FRSA, President ICSSPE.</td>
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<td>11.15</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Speech:</strong> Prof. Dr. Fred Coalter</td>
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<td><strong>Sport-for-development: Tactics are more important than strategy.</strong></td>
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<td>11.45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>12.00</td>
<td><strong>1.1 Dr. Nico Schulenkorf, Benefits of intercultural cooperation in</strong></td>
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<td><strong>sport for development: Complementing international expertise with</strong></td>
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<td><strong>local community knowledge.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1.2 Dr. Irene Kamberidou, Athletes United for Peace: Reconciliation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>through sport. Questions and answers; discussion.</strong></td>
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<td>Poster Presentations</td>
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<td><strong>Keynote Speech:</strong> Prof. Dr. Ulrike Burrmann</td>
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<td><strong>The capacity of organised sports for the integration of migrants in</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Germany.</strong></td>
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and local initiatives implemented by Esparce (a local NGO) serve to explore the power and lack of local agency in the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda. Cultural exchange and insider versus outsider engagement impact on meaningful partnership engagement. Concepts are proposed that could meaningfully inform implementation practices, research and stakeholder agency across a broad spectrum of programmes and projects. A case for a holistic approach, multiple stakeholder interventions and reciprocal multi-levelled agency is proposed.

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**Presentations**

**Benefits of intercultural cooperation in sport-for-development: Complementing international expertise with local community knowledge**

**Dr. Nico Schuelenkov**  
*University of Technology, Sydney (Australia)*

There is increasing evidence that government agencies and NGOs are turning to sport-for-development (SFD) projects as a tool for inclusive social change, reconciliation and peace-building in divided societies. In a developing world context, it is particularly challenging for (western) sport organisers and ‘change agents’ to establish and maintain projects that are both professionally managed and culturally meaningful. This presentation analyses the roles and responsibilities of a change agent in Sri Lanka, a country with intergroup tension, where decades of civil war and violent conflicts have led to 100,000 casualties. Despite the official end of the civil war in 2009, intergroup relations within Sri Lanka’s ethnically, religiously and linguistically diverse society remain deeply shattered.

An interpretive mode of inquiry was undertaken on the Asian-German Sports Exchange Programme, and their contribution to inter-community development. Findings suggest that change agents hold nine key roles and responsibilities in the inter-community development process. Further examination of other projects leads to a suggestion that change agents need to fulfill all of the identified roles, and build on local knowledge to secure active community participation; achieve positive socio-cultural impacts and outcomes; and provide a strategic framework for sustainable inter-community development.

**Athletes United for Peace: Reconciliation through sport**

**Dr. Irene Kamberidou**  
*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece)*

Athlete activism, the promotion of new role models and mentors and intercultural cooperation, namely bridging social inequality gaps through sport, is vital. This is not only in view of the systematic misuse of Olympic values today, such as the increase of racial violence linked to sport events, obsessive competitiveness, commercialisation, the de-athletisation of male and female athletes in the mass media, the gender leadership gap in sport governing bodies, but especially in light of the alarming impact of globalisation on racism and xenophobia.

From examination of collaborative-intergenerational activities, conflict resolution curricula and peace projects of non-profit organisations, training institutions and NGOs striving to eliminate racism, campaigning to rid sport of anti-Semitism, as well as promoting gender equity, this presentation argues that Peace Education be incorporated into educational policies and teaching practices. What is initially required however is an all-encompassing hub of information, to pull together the multi-faceted contributions, the diverse peace education curricula and activities, and in particular those that offer both leadership programmes as well as a foundation for new ones. Providing a common hub of information for networking with diverse stakeholders, progressive thinking peers, experts in the field and especially the media will facilitate dialogue with those who are at the forefront of implementing change. Such an effort partnered by universities, education ministries and policymakers could ensure that peace education is mainstreamed throughout the system.

**Social integration through sports in adolescents with migration background – A Swiss study**

**Prof. Dr. Uwe Pühse**  
*University of Basel (Switzerland)*

Since World War II, Switzerland has observed a rising number of immigrants, ranking it among one of the most popular immigration countries in the world, and within the last few years, has tightened policies related to foreigners. During the 1990s, most cities and cantons developed programs to integrate immigrants and their children by sport. The project of this presentation is to discuss the integration of adolescents with migration background through sport. The objective is to analyze the impact of sport on social integration, emphasizing on cultural and social differences. The study is based on a comprehensive research project in Switzerland that involves qualitative and quantitative research methods.
and local initiatives implemented by Esparance (a local NGO) serve to power the and lack of local agency in the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda. Cultural exchange and insider versus outsider engagement impact on meaningful partnership engagement. Concepts are proposed that could meaningfully inform implementation practices, research and stakeholder agency across a broad spectrum of programmes and projects. A case for a holistic approach, multiple stakeholder interventions and reciprocal multi-levelled agency is proposed.

- Presentations

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Dr. Nico Schullenkopf
University of Technology, Sydney (Australia)

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Since World War II, Switzerland has observed a rising number of immigrants, ranking it among one of the most popular immigration countries in the world, and within the last few years, has tightened policies related to foreigners. During the 1990s, most cities and cantons developed efficient integration process models. The foundation of these models was based on integration through migrant assimilation. Now, integration is no longer considered a one-sided adaptation process whereby immigrants must learn the norms and values of the indigenous population. Rather, integration is a multi-faceted process whereby migrants are granted access to a plethora of resources in the Swiss government system.

Considering this notion further, sport has the potential to assist the immigration assimilation process as it plays an important role in the community system. Moreover, it is argued that migrants would learn the value systems and norms of the indigenous population to create inter- as well as intra-cultural connections. Currently, there is a significant research deficit concerning the correlation between physical activity and social integration.

The study to be presented aimed to determine if physical activity in adolescent migrants contributes to integration. A secondary purpose was to investigate which factors lead to participation or non-participation of migrants in sporting activities. Specifically, it assesses whether the influence of sport promotes or obstructs social integration of migrants.

The Women’s Islamic Games: A peace agenda?

Exploring the sporting experiences of British Muslim women

Dr. Aisha Ahmad
University of Leicester (UK)

This paper presents results from a doctorate study of the sporting experiences of Muslim women at the Women’s Islamic Games in Iran, 2005 (Ahmad, 2009). It explores the ways
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International Conference on Sport
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Wingate Institute for Physical Education
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Ministry of Culture and Sport, Israel
www.mcs.gov.il/English/

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www.bmi.bund.de

The Ministry of Regional Cooperation, Israel
www.gov.il/firstgov/english

ICSSPE
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Wingate Institute
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www.wingate.org.il

The Zinman College
of Physical Education & Sport Sciences
at the Wingate Institute, Israel
www.wincol.ac.il

Bundesinstitut für Sportwissenschaft
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