

Network for the exchange of good practices on the integration of youngsters at risk of radicalization through sports



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Italy National Focus Group

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FG Participants

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Table 1. Content Analysis Level 1 & 2:

The table presents an analytic framework of key concepts expressed by FG national experts such as important ideas, experiences, expert knowledge, opinions, or preferences to illuminate the study. Level 2 of content analysis involves placing each key concept into the relevant category.

Category

Concept

<p>Research/Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sport and training against radicalization (STAR) - 3years old and it was developed as a sports operator’s need analysis ◆ Capacity building activities ◆ Risk exposure, in relation to aggressions within youngsters, increases with the lack of awareness about discrimination mechanisms and decreases among those coaches/individuals who are knowledgeable. ◆ The exposure to violence among the youngsters decreases for coaches who consider professional experience acquired during their career to be important ◆ To fill the gap between sport and disabilities through the Insuperabili method
<p>Definitions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No universally accepted definitions of extremism and radicalization ◆ Radicalization is a complex dynamic process ◆ Radicalization happens at different levels: personal, community, and society level.
<p>Sport operators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sport operators who studied social subjects were less likely to experience episodes of aggression ◆ Coaches, trainers and professional figures are a part of the sport ecosystem
<p>Prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sport is a tool to tackle violent radicalization, however, there is the need to develop <i>ad hoc</i> approaches for every specific case (Personalized approached) ◆ Disengagement programs are often complex and holistic ◆ Capacity building ◆ Developing relationships and networking ◆ Two programs: “integriamoci” and “work placement”. These two have been the most effective in preventing marginalization and radicalization

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Preventing radicalization means preventing the isolation of youth, and of women, not just men.
Psychosocial and cognitive development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Difference between disengagement and deradicalization (behavioral change and cognitive shift) ◆ Identity
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Youth and their vulnerability, which is often due to their path of identity building ◆ Relations are a crucial reason why youngsters begin a sport. ◆ Youth identity
Youth and extremism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Push: marginalization, lack of employment, weak governance, inequalities, human rights abuses ◆ Pull: ideology, group belonging, group mechanisms and financial incentives ◆ Personal factors: personality, psychological disorder, traumatic life experience <p>the factors of risk such as poverty, inequality, frustration, rebellion, fragility of social context and young age, exclusion.</p>
Youth and gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Female migrants are sometimes excluded from the wider urban community ◆ The creation sport activities dedicated specifically to women's requests and needs - to create a space for women only ◆ Offer them solutions about their lacks in the city and include them in the wider urban social stratus
Youth and Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Programs of social inclusion with refugees were different because individuals were quite diverse. Double edged sword: integration into Italian community and inclusion among diverse refugee community. ◆ Xenophobia and xenophobic attacks ◆ Mafia
Counternarrative approaches/speech	None provided

Sport interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Training guideline for sport instructors and coaches to prevent radicalization and violent extremism in sport ◆ Sport as a recreational activity can provide an outlet to aggressive tendencies and repressed anger in subjects at risk of radicalization
Levels of Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The teachers, the school environment, psychologists, the family, and social operators are important actors ◆ The cooperation among different actors (sport ecosystem) ◆ A multidisciplinary team composed of skilled and professional staff, where the coach has to possess a wide range of abilities in different areas.
Limitations/challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Motivation, dealing with youngsters' personalities and expectations, maintaining cooperation and the value of sport, keeping the involvement and the focus, rules observance, aggression, and patience. ◆ Segregation in the locker rooms, a low budget in public sport, and other structural social issues ◆ Language barrier ◆ Multicultural education

Participants Literal Quotes:

Manuela Brunero – UNICRI

- ◆ Radicalization is a dynamic process, not linear.
- ◆ Sport is one component of a much broader effort.
- ◆ The drivers to violent extremism are often described in terms of push, pull factors and personal factors.

Raffaella Palumbo – Links Foundation

- ◆ Groups with coaches and sport operators who studied social subjects are less likely to experience episodes of aggression

- ◆ Anti-radicalization process is not only made by one type of actor but is a cooperation between different actors

Raenato Marino – Centro Sportivo Italiano

- ◆ Italian Speaker

Sara Vivirito – CEIPES

- ◆ Sports are a set of activities that can provide and outlet for aggression, anger and repressive tensions.
- ◆ Sports in young people can express their emotions
- ◆ Sport, if possible, can channel physically aggression in a regulated way.

Tommaso Pozzato – Balon Mundial

- ◆ The answer against radicalization is that people need to have a relationship to enter and share their culture.

Maria Lole Volpi – Head coach of Insuperabili

- ◆ We make social inclusion of the disabled through work activities.

Gian Marco Duina – Altro Pallone

- ◆ Every time we work on social inclusion, I think the issue of radicalization in its forms, its something we are trying to address and tackle somehow.
- ◆ Football is a powerful weapon to tackle discrimination, especially isolation.
- ◆ Preventing radicalization, means preventing isolation of especially youth, and women.
- ◆ Sport is a language accessible to most of the population

