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Project Radical (Ex)Change

Spanish National Focus Group

Date: 15th September 2021, 16:00 – 18:00

Place: Online, Zoom platform

Organized by

Universitat de les Illes Balears (Spain)

15th September 2021

Focus Group Coordinators:

Alexandre Garcia-Mas (UIB)

F. Xavier Ponseti (UIB)

Participants (in Alphabetical Order):

- Iñaki Arbea, Department of Integrity Responsible, LaLiga (LFP).
- Cossette Franco, Antropologist and Pedagogue, University Pablo de Olavide.
- Salvador Fornés, Referees Committee, Technical Manager of Formation, Balearic Islands Soccer Federation.
- Elena García, Sports specialized journalist, “Diario de Mallorca”.
- Alexandre Garcia-Mas, University of the Balearic Islands (UIB), **Coordinator**.
- Rafael Muela, Betis Balompié Football Club Foundation.
- José Carlos Pérez, Sevilla F.C. Foundation.
- F. Xavier Ponseti, University of the Balearic Islands (UIB), **Coordinator**.
- Amedeo Spadaro, San Francisco Grassroot Football Club Manager, Economist Lecturer at the UIB.
- Florentino Villabona, Security and Integrity Director, LaLiga (LFP).

Focus Group Methodology

- A. **First phase: Sending all participants the document “Radical (Ex)Change” Project and Information**, obtaining some written feedback from them. The comments and suggestions were then incorporated to the document and presented again before the FG were realized.
- B. **Second phase: Realization of the FG following the IOTC Guidelines.** Recording of the sesión, and transcription of the interventions. Coordinators has made up at the FG beginning the normalized inputs (questions posed by IOTC), and intervened in some points during the FG for to re-activate the discussion among the participants.
- C. **Third phase: Content Analysis** of the participants’ interventions in the FG. **First** of all, has been detected the relevant concepts expressed during the FG, both after the inputs made by the coordinators, and spontaneously or by commenting with the other participants.
Second, a panel (three PhDc and post-doc UIB-GICAFE students), has worked out in the blind the grouping categories for to include each concept previously detected.

Results

The results of the Content analysis has been structured in three different levels:

1st Level: Relevant concepts expressed by the participants.

2nd Level: Grouping Categories.

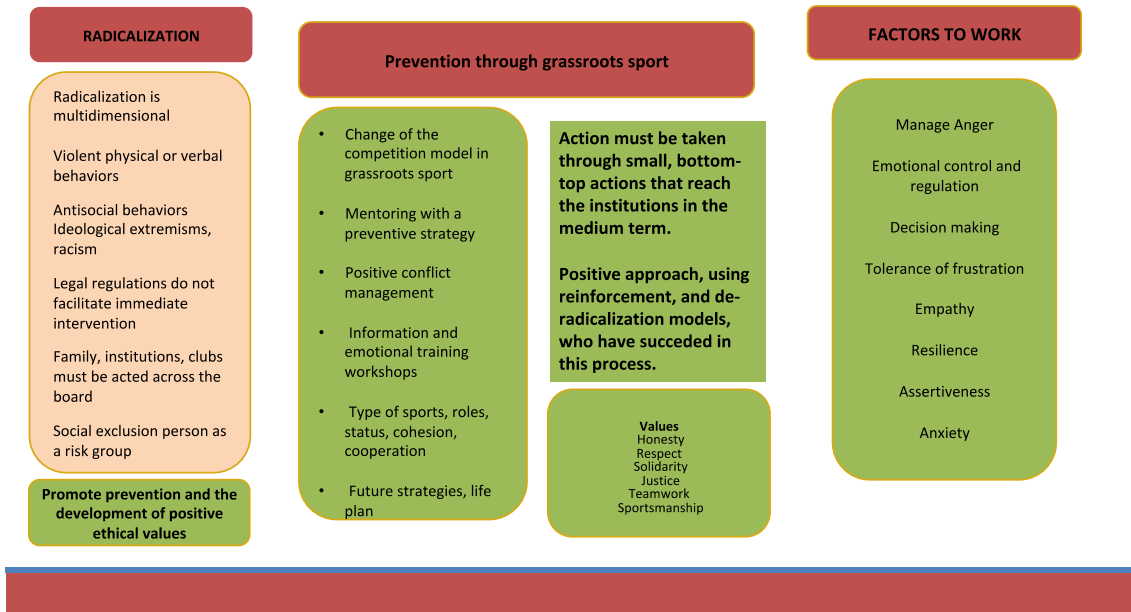
3rd Level: Participants’ Literal quotes.

Table 1. Content Analysis 1st Level and 2nd Level: Relevant concepts expressed by the participants, placed in each of the categories considered.

Concepts	Categories
Clear definition of radicalization: attitudes, beliefs and/or behaviors	RESEARCH
What are the real values that the youth people have nowadays? We are perhaps using an ancient book of recipes?	
It is possible de-radicalization through the use of sport, or just sport should be a preventive tool?	
Why sport is better than other activities (e.g., music, reading, playing, etc.) for to work in this field as a tool?	
Evaluation of risks vs benefits to build up social interventions	SPORTS MANAGERS
Evaluation of the impact of direct professionals (pedagogues, coaches, etc.) respect to the impact from institutional managers and gestors	
Building up co-ed mentorships for the target youngsters (same age, similar worries, same or similar language, etc.)	EDUCATION
Technical staff must learn to read, and to express emotional considerations	
Separate clearly: "Prevention of radicalization through sport", vs "Prevention of radicalization in sports"	Radical(Ex)Change PROJECT
The absolute and basic role of the different types of families	PSYCHOSOCIAL
Nowadays, the family has in some way "deserted" their role as the social institution who has to show and enforce rules from home out, is left in the hands of external agents	
Basic targets: coaches in early ages, families and peers	
Positive approach vs sanctions and punishment	INTERVENTIONS
Utilization of sport models (relevant referent). If possible, someone who have come out of radicalization	
Utilization of the social pressure (teammates, peers, etc.) for to obtain desired behaviors and avoid the ones not desired	

<p>De-normalize the use and understanding of the violence</p> <p>Intervention has to be designed in a “Bottom-to-Top fashion”, small actions acting as a “snowball”</p> <hr/> <p>Competitive vs Non-competitive sports, it is possible?</p> <p>Clear rules, non-ambiguity, embedded in the sport institution tradition</p> <p>Values as the respect to the adversary, officials and referees; effort; delaying rewards; presence of many stimuli; group identity; teammates interdependence; etc., are intrinsic to the sport practice, and should be able to be transferred to a life plan for the youths</p> <p>There are a lot of institutions (Officials, NGOs, Clubs, etc.) working in this field but without an effective coordination, neither with impact analysis of their campaigns and interventions</p> <p>Clear difference between big Clubs, with specific professionals and sections addressed to the work with families, players follow-up, etc., respect to the small and more grass root clubs with no such facilities</p>	<hr/> <p>SPORT FEATURES</p>
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Figure 1. An analysis-intervention proposal within the Radical (Ex) Change Project.



Spanish National Focus Group Global Comments

1. Preventive action must be clarified, differentiating it, with respect to corrective intervention regarding radicalization and sports.
2. The current values, attitudes and associated behaviors, accepted as normal by young people today, must be updated through research.
3. Radicalization is multidimensional, the objective of the intervention must be focused as precisely as possible.
4. The training processes must include mentoring by peers of the targeted youths.
5. The formative-educative processes must ensure the maximum transfer of the desired values to the global life plan of the young people.
6. Action must be taken through small, bottom-top actions that reach the institutions in the medium term.

7. At the macro level, generic actions are not enough, but effective and contrasted actions must be designed to deny the normalization of violence in sport, and, by extension, outside it.
8. Family and peers are the most relevant psychosocial factors, followed by coaches and, ultimately, sports managers.
9. Regarding the interventions, especially the “bottom” and the most direct ones, the actions in the line of marking positive and negative behaviors (with sanctions, or rules) should be combined with the positive approach, using reinforcement, and de-radicalization models, who have succeeded in this process.

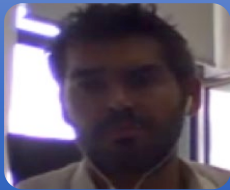
3rd Level: Participants' Literal quotes.



Respect and dialogue



- Workshops, working with families
- Change the competition current model
- The big value of the prevention



- Sport is a great field for to fight against radicalization



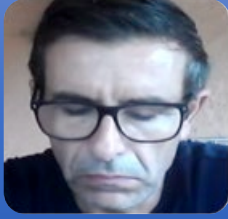
- The easiest way to skip a rule is if it is not clear
- "Good deal" in sports, work positively



- Respect and you will play



- In sport we all play, not only on the pitch



- Let us not accept the normalization of violence.
- The basic competitive model must be changed.

Screenshots of the Focus Group development

