



Work Package 2

DESK RESEARCH

(report)

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INTRODUCTION

Even though we live in a predominantly visually oriented society, print media remain an important source of information. This is also the case in sports, since there are still many who prefer reading newspaper than informing themselves through other sources of information (television, radio, internet) (Boyle and Hayes, 2000). Sports journalism is a special field within a wider area of journalism. Individual journalistic genres are not so prominent here, as they often mix and consequently lead to a hybridization of genres (report, commentary, statement ...). Otherwise, the journalistic texts in the newspaper can be divided into two large groups – the informative and the interpretative genres. The first includes news, reporting and also conversational types of genres, in the second comments, editorials, journalistic portraits and the like are representative (Košir, 1988).

Sports journalism is therefore subject to slightly different rules and principles, as its essence is not only to provide objective information on sports events, but also to comment on them, explain the background, interpret the developments in the foreground; there are many interviews and searching for exclusive information. As the base of sports fans and those who follow the sports grows at the same time, sport journalists need to offer their readers, listeners and/or viewers much more than a mere description of events. It is not unusual, therefore, that only interesting, original and diverse reporters “survive”. Sport journalists cannot be completely passive observers of events, since professional sports is, after all, one of the most emotionally charged human activities, be its actors (athletes, coaches, executives...) or spectators.

Nevertheless, the journalist must be careful to remain as objective as possible or reasonably biased, meaning that he or she is able to support his or her opinion with strong arguments. It may happen, namely, that a journalist acts too much as a sports enthusiast, who forgets on fulfilling his or her reporting duty. Excessive bias is inconsistent with quality sports journalism. The sports journalist must be serious, critical and thorough, but not overly inclined towards the side that he or she is cheering for or offensive to opponents (Doupona Topič, 2009). How writers present a particular athlete, what kind of adjectives they use to describe their game or character, is decisive for readers’ perception of athletes (Kennedy and Hills, 2009). With the popularization of sports, there is also an interest for athletes extending beyond sport

competitions and sports events. In other words, readers, viewers and listeners are also interested in their privacy and personality.

The amount of news itself has increased, as reporting often refers to different player transitions, the use of illicit stimulants, the commercialization of sports, various sports spheres are being reported on, but, according to the results of our research, the topic of dual career does not yet feature as frequently detected content.

Sports career can be defined as systematic engagement in sports of a particular person for several years, aimed at achieving individual excellence in sports (Alfermann and Stambulova, 2007). Stambulova et. al. (2010) considers this term to refer to all levels of competitive sports and, depending on the level reached by the athlete, may be of local, regional, national or international character. Depending on the athlete's status, we distinguish between amateur or professional sports careers, which are often also occupational ones (Stambulova et al., 2010). Maintaining a dual career, ie. reconciling sports and academic careers, is a great challenge for athletes (Aquilina, 2013). Research also suggests that athlete's need to coordinate the requirements of the two fields is not sufficiently taken into account, either in academic or in sporting environment.

METHODOLOGY

Since we could not find research with similar goals in the available literature, we decided to design the methods to verify the research questions independently.

In the theoretical part, we touched on some specifics of media coverage and reporting on athletes. We defined dual career and framing and explained the characteristics of journalistic genres used in newspaper texts. To identify the characteristics of dual career in the media, we chose the combination of quantitative methods (basic statistical parameters in genre analysis) and qualitative methods (discursive analysis). Their use is described in more detail below. The qualitative method was chosen as a way of reviewing that will help us determine in what form certain descriptions appear. In addition to statistical enumeration of phenomena, the purpose is to examine the journalistic reporting in more detail. We believe that by looking more closely at the individual texts we are able to achieve a better understanding, as suggested by Ragin

(1994, p81). An additional reason for choosing qualitative analysis is that this kind of analysis is generally more suitable for finding hidden meanings, meanings below the surface, as opposed to quantitative methods that are more suitable for analysing clearly recognizable meanings (Hesmondhalgh, 2006, p121).

The types of journalistic texts and the content of journalistic discourse were identified in six countries: Italy, Germany, Spain, Romania, Lithuania and Slovenia. The period under review covered a time interval of three years, the analysis was based on newspaper contributions on the dual career of athletes. Based on basic statistical parameters, we were researching:

- *number of articles per country*
- *types of articles (journalistic genre)*
- *main focus of articles*

As a tool for interpreting the dual-career reporting, we used critical discursive analysis¹, which, as one of its founders puts it (Fairclough, 1995), addresses broader social issues and explores how social changes are reflected on the micro-level of issue under consideration².

Critical discursive analysis is a method in the social sciences whose subject of research is, for instance, media text, public speech or linguistic social interaction. The ideological aspects of language use and power relations are often invisible and merely implicit. The aim of critical discursive analysis is to make these obscure aspects of discourse visible. In this way, critical

¹ As explained by Dijk (1991) the critical discursive analysis is a multidisciplinary approach that examines the use of language and communication on a socio-cultural context. This method seeks in particular to reveal how the cognitive, social, historical, cultural or political context of language use and communication affects the content, meanings, structures or strategies of text or dialogue, and conversely, how the discourse is an integral part of the structure of these contexts.

² According to Fairclough (1995), each discursive event consists of three levels. On the level of the text we analyse the content and form of the text, which are inseparably linked and mutually determined. The level of discursive practice is the second level, that connects text with social practice. The analysis of discursive practice, therefore, explains how participants interpret and produce texts in practice, but it also includes the relationships of one discourse with other discourses. The third level of analysis is the level of social practice. Here we need to address the links between different parts of society, which Fairclough identifies with different situations, institutional contexts and broader social contexts.

discursive analysis intervenes in social practice and social relations and is therefore an integral part of political activism directed against racism, sexism, homophobia and the like. The essence of critical discursive analysis lies in its intervention in the relationship between the dominated and oppressed groups against the dominant groups. Due to its subject of research (text, speech, linguistic social interaction), the nature of discursive analysis is primarily interpretative. Since no law exist that would ensure that things have only one true meaning, which never changes in time and space, the analysis is limited to interpretation (Fairclough, 1995).

Since discursive analysis focuses on language in the media, it is very useful for analysing newspaper texts. In our analysis we used it in our aim to detect, as objectively and impartially as possible and based on facts from the language and actualised narrower and broader context, the presence of important factors of dual career in media discourse. The analysis was undertaken on three levels:

- we analysed the content of the articles in which we were looking for typical framework
- we analysed the characteristic sentences that illustrated the descriptors sought
- we analysed the entire articles and compared them across countries

Our purpose was in no way to personally place ourselves on whatever side, nor to value the presence of ideologies as morally controversial, which is usually implied by the »ideologically defined« relationship. On the contrary, ideologies, as understood in the context of critical discourse analysis, are, in our view, a normal phenomenon in human society, which cannot be surpassed and do not allow or enable us to place ourselves beyond them. The only thing we tried to do was to reveal them, from as much as possible unbiased point of view, since awareness of the presence of ideologies in discourse is essential in our view.

Based on qualitative analysis of 93 articles from six countries on dual-career media reporting, we wondered what types of contributions occur and, above all, how dual-career athletes are treated in media. We were relying on critical discursive analysis and taking into account the narrower and broader social context. We were curious about the differences in reporting between the six countries. In the analysis of media discourse of the articles under

consideration, we searched for elements (descriptors) and frameworks on the basis of which it would be possible to differently categorize or frame the discourse, with which media tries to co-create a specific perception of events among its readers. The findings helped us to interpret the results from which we tried to determine whether countries use different media discourse.

THE CODING PROCESS

In determining the descriptors, we used some of the foreign research already done, which also tested the reliability and the validity of the set criteria (McGannon, 2012; Stan, 2017), and we adapted the selected criteria to our research question, focused on dual career.

McGannon's (2012) initial coding categories were based on dominant motherhood representations (e.g., traditional motherhood ideals, supermom) and athlete roles (e.g., successful, competitive) identified from the literature. An "other" category was created to remain open to new themes and these were refined into new and/or higher order themes as analysis proceeded.

Stan (2017) thematic categories inferred from the theoretical framework coupled with empirical content-driven evidence are the following: empowerment, disempowerment, resistance, lifestyle, body image, physical self and professional trajectories.

In our research, the content of articles was examined according to the following criteria:

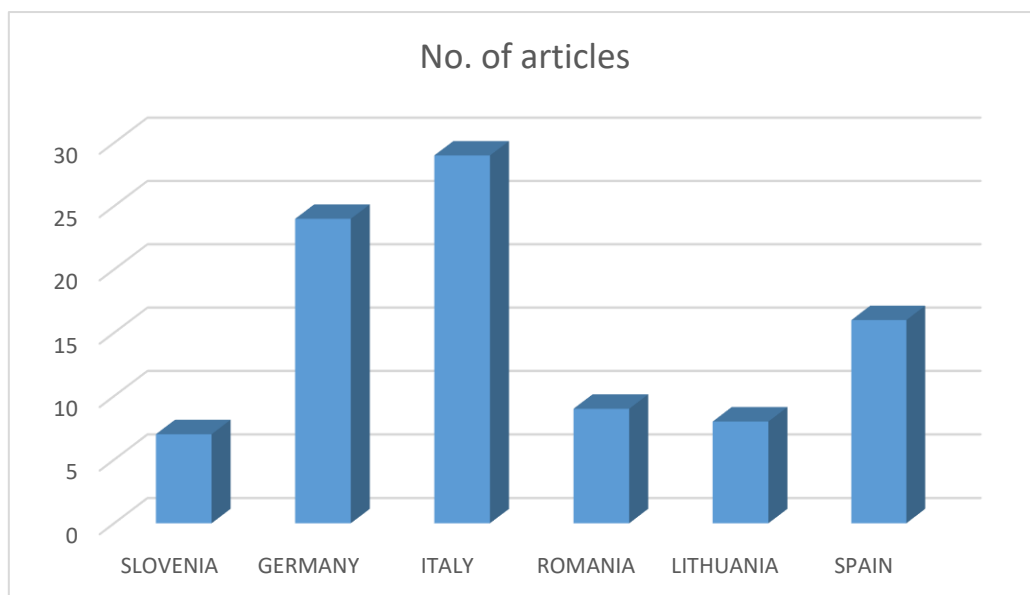
- Adjustments, coordination of DC commitments
- Feature of education
- Feature of sports activity
- Feature of career path
- Role model
- National guidelines on dual career
- Support of family

For more transparent data collection, we created a coding sheet (in the Annex). The following data were written down in the qualitative coding sheet: Article ID, Title of article, Date of the article, Newspapers, Main focus, Journalistic genre.

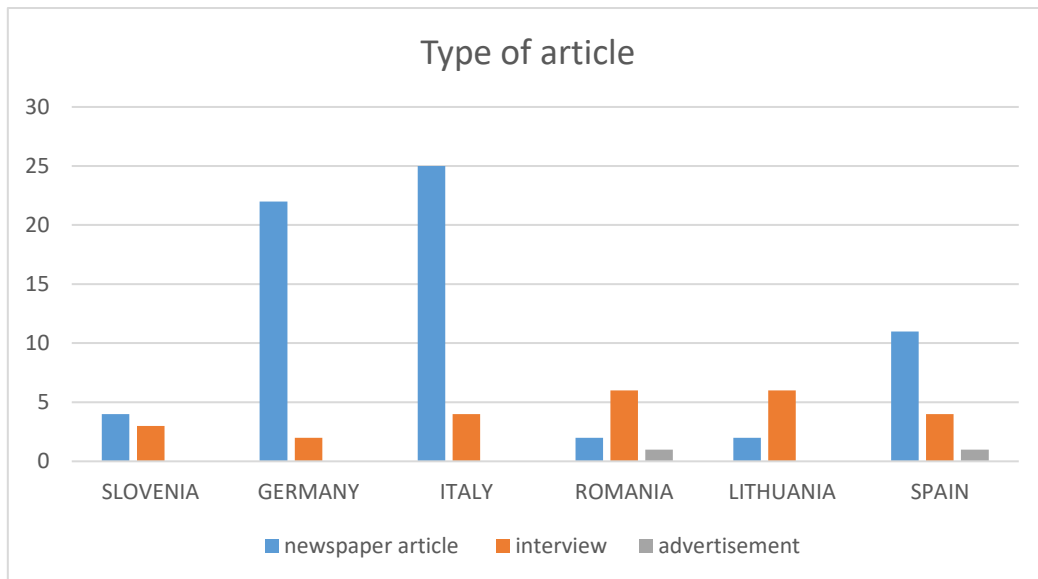
We also wrote down the exact transcripts from articles according to the descriptor (A to G) and indicated in which paragraph there was a particular section of the text. The latter made it easier for us to search the same text again if we found a spelling error.

THE RESULTS OF QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

Starting with some basic quantitative information it should be mentioned that the number of all media articles analysed was 93 (29 from Italy, 24 from Germany, 16 from Spain, 9 from Romania, 8 from Lithuania and 7 from Slovenia), of which 66 were newspaper articles, 25 were framed as journalistic interviews and 2 were represented as advertisements. The main focus categories of texts analysed were either sport either education either dual career.

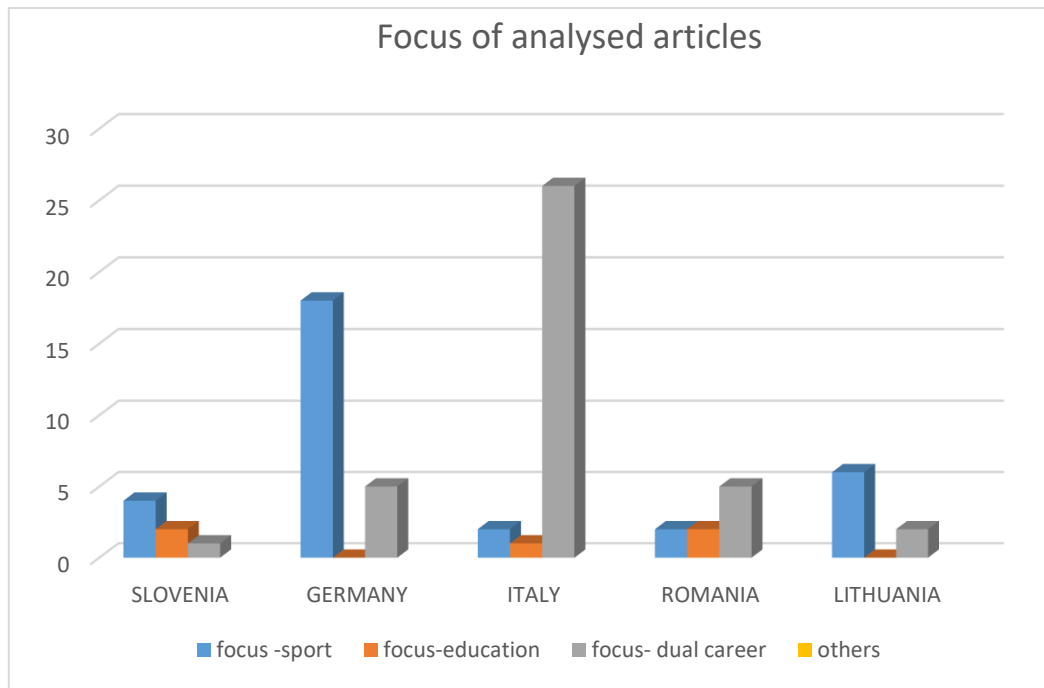


Graph 1: Number of all articles analysed.



Graph 2: Types of articles analysed.

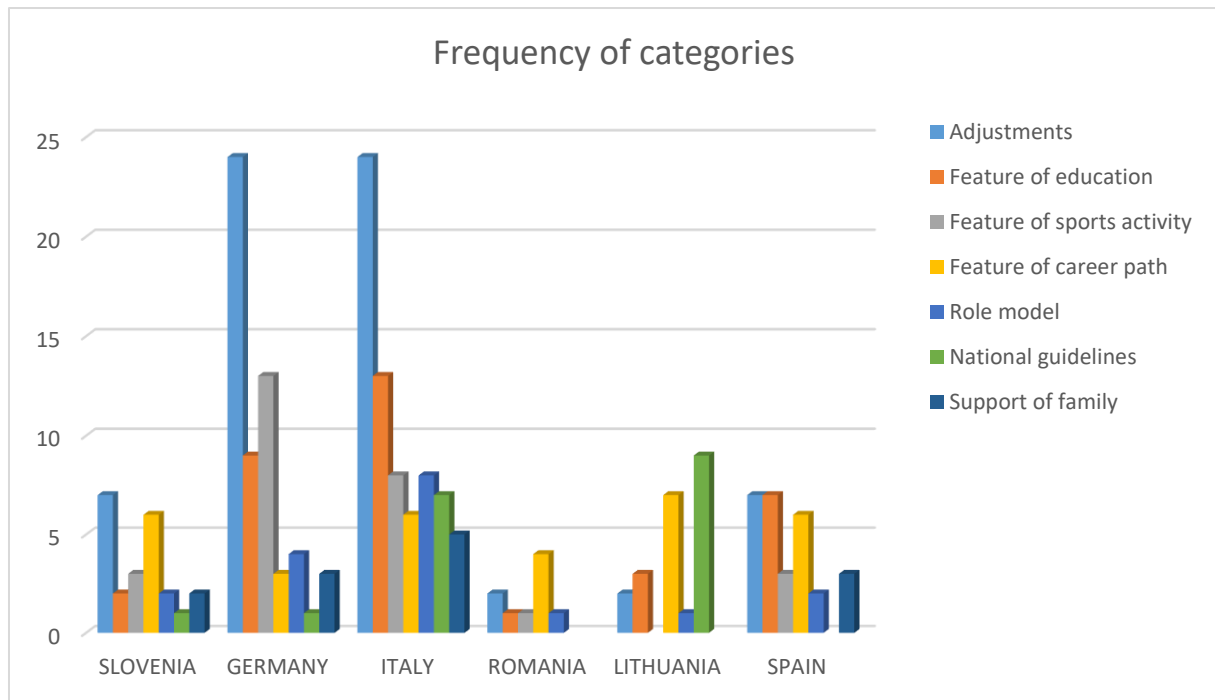
The number of all articles mainly focusing on sport was 37, 8 articles were primarily focused on education, and there were 48 articles that mainly focused on dual career. In terms of cross-country comparisons at this level, Italy stands out with a strong core of articles whose main focus was dual career (26 articles were identified with this focus, only 2 mainly focused on sport and one on education) and Germany with the most common main focus on sport (18 of the 24 articles were identified in this way, the other 6 highlighted dual career). The distribution of focus on these three emphasised topics in analysing articles from other countries did not show any significant discrepancies.



Graph 3: The main focus of articles analysed.

In terms of coding categories, articles were analysed through 7 coding categories: (1) adjustments, coordination of dual career commitments, (2) feature of education, (3) feature of sports activity, (4) feature of career path, (5) role model, (6) national guidelines on dual career and (7) support of family.

The analysis found the highest representation of articles in the first category “adjustments and coordination of dual career commitments”. We identified 66 examples from articles in this category. With similar representation the category “feature of education” (35 examples) and “feature of career path” (32 examples) followed. 28 examples were further identified in the category “feature of sports activity” and 18 examples from both the category “role model” and the category “national guidelines”. With 13 examples, the category “support of family” had the least cases identified.



Graph 3: Frequency of categories analysed in articles.

LOOKING CLOSER AT EACH CATEGORY...

A – Adjustments, coordination of DC commitments

When analysing the examples from our most represented coding category it was found that the attention of newspaper articles in all countries were quite similar. Few key points were therefore established within the category, which can be summarized as follows. The examples were unanimous in emphasising the importance of athletes' education and the need for elite athletes to be educated in addition to pursuing a professional sports career. The following examples seek to illustrate this:

“It is therefore important that they [the athletes] acquire education at a time when they are competitively engaged in sport.” (Slovenia)

“The dual career, the combination of competitive sports and studies, has been intensively propagated by DBH for decades.” (Germany)

However, emphasizing the need for successful coordination of both the educational and sports career does not reduce the problems and difficulties identified in this area. On the contrary, successful pursuing of dual career remains a common puzzle or lifestyle choice, whose broad frames are often not yet well defined. The desire to simultaneously participate in top-level sports and the education system therefore still remains quite difficult at the level of realization.

“Sceptics fear, however, that with the top sports reform of the German Olympic Sports Federation (DOSB), the dual career will be left behind.” (Germany)

“They did not have any ear for my sports career at school. They told me that it wouldn’t work and that I wouldn’t be able to do it.” (Slovenia)

“School or sport? That is the question. For years, such Hamletic doubt has gripped hundreds of thousands of Italian families, who in the end see their sons-athletes opting for study and dropping out the physical activity. The most striking data in Italy comes from the province of Trento, where 80% of the students leave the sport to follow the school path without problems.” (Italy)

Nevertheless, newspapers articles also highlighted another possible perspective on the same issue and exposed some good practices as well. By doing so, they proved that the task is not impossible and can be successfully addressed with some will and willingness to take into account the specificity of this combination. We have selected the following examples to illustrate this:

“Reconciling the competitive activity with the study, the student life with athlete life will now be possible thanks to the new experimental program provided by the law “Buona Scuola” which officially started from this school year, already recording 415 students and institute from secondary school system.” (Italy)

“The University of Messina (UniME) starting from the next academic year, will recognize the status of student-athletes, thus facilitating the double career of those whom, in addition to being involved in the university course, are also involved in sports competitions at national and international level.” (Italy)

“The new course of studies sport science is to meet the needs of active top athletes as remote study with minimum attendance obligation and a possible stretching from two to five years.” (Germany)

“While the German Olympic Sports Confederation continues to publicly argue with the government about funding, those responsible in Germany have jointly agreed on a concept to make it easier for their own athletes to pursue their sporting, academic and professional goals.” (Germany)

“This university and the Spanish Olympic Committee (COE) created the dual career model for athletes, which allows them to combine competition at the highest level with their university studies. The success of this model has led more than 70 Olympic athletes to study at UCAM.” (Spain)

“The opening of centres such as the Ortega y Gasset, which specialises in sports, put an end to the mantra of “either you study or you train”, which for many years became a reality for young sports promises.” (Spain)

B – Feature of education

The next coding category, feature of education, has identified important common points, which are similar in form, but slightly vary in content, depending mostly on the dimension in which they are implemented. Unlike other countries (Italy, Germany and Spain, for instance, which also offered examples of good practices), examples from Slovenia and Romania were dominated by mainly exposing only the current difficulties of reconciling the educational and sports career and the lack of understanding for more radical adjustments of educational programs. The athletes from these countries therefore emphasise that in order to study successfully they need to interrupt their sports path.

“After the games I didn’t pay attention to elite swimming for a year and at that time I successfully completed my studies at Berkeley University in San Francisco.” (Slovenia)

“The natural talent of Miruna is obvious, but it is not enough; she works enormously for her age and she is very ambitious in school. She learns for tests, when leaving to or returning from competitions.” (Romania)

Otherwise, this category is marked primarily by mentions of necessary adjustments of study programs, when trying to take elite athletes into account. In several places specific features are highlighted that help athletes to successfully pursue their study process, for instance: flexibility (of exam dates and in general), exemption from university fees, exemption from compulsory attendance, e-learning, fee cuts, tutors, scholarships (Italy), extending the period of time for education (Lithuania, Germany), sending the lecture slides to the students and oral examinations (Germany), work in small groups and through internet (Spain). In addition, existing good practices have been highlighted in some places:

“This is the online platform Websport 360, a tool promoted by the Serie A League as part of the experimental student-athletes program approved by MIUR, which allows young players to privately take lessons with educational content directly from their PC, remaining always under the control of you’re their own school.” (Italy)

“Special attention is paid to the Performance Lifestyle program, which is funded by the state budget, and specially trained and accredited career advisors work with all high-skilled athletes trained for the Olympic Games. The aim of this program is to effectively address athletes' dual career problems and to help them adapt properly to the labor market.” (Lithuania)

C – Feature of sports activity

The examples in the coding category “feature of sports activity” differed between countries, but were united in the focus on sport as regards the relationship between sports and study career. In many cases, a sports career was presented or a description of one part of sportsman’s career was provided (Germany, Spain). The descriptions mainly focused either on

his or her successes and achievements (Slovenia, Germany) either on the characteristics of his training.

Examples were also identified that sought to discern general public perceptions of athletes' earning (Romania and Germany), mentioned were sports that provide the most comfortable living (Germany) and the fallacy of believing that every professional athlete is financially well-off (Germany and Romania).

Two countries, Italy and Germany, also identified examples in articles that highlighted the need to raise the awareness of the benefits of sport for the individual and the need to treat sport not as an inferior subject in schools, but as an equivalent to all other subjects, for instance mathematics, linguistics, geography, etc.

“One could understand how to restore dignity to sport in the school world, from primary school to university. Finally, we could reason on how university sport could be of enormous help to the effort that today is sustained almost exclusively by the Army forces which, thanks to their sports groups, allow thousands of our athletes to be able to continue dreaming of the Olympic Games.” (Italy)

D - Feature of career path

Feature of career path put in the centre of attention the importance of being aware of the need for both sports and educational career and that the pursuit of professional sports only may prove too great a risk later in life. Examples included a description of neglecting school due to sports on the one hand and specific insights that sports can offer on the other side (Slovenia). Short descriptions of individual sports paths (Slovenia, Italy, Germany) and efforts that sought to successfully manifest a dual career (Italy, Spain) were also presented.

The features that was emphasized the most was a constant reminder on importance of combining sports and education.

“Many universities have launched Dual Career programs. The first was precisely that of Trento 2009. Today they are found everywhere. They consist of facilities for high-level student-athletes, who often fail to follow the competitive activity and study at the same time.” (Italy)

“Rower Mindaugas Griškonis is well aware of the possibilities of a second career for an athlete. According to him, the young athlete must have another activity, "a backup to life that may or may not be needed". However, it must be held by every athlete with a head on his head and thinking about the future.” (Lithuania)

“For five years, Celia has been combining her studies with sport, something that is easier in the United States than in Spain but far from comfortable for a student: "The trick is to have a good time. If I got to the dressing room in time, I'd take out my notes and start studying. If I put my boots on early and there were five minutes left to train, that was five minutes I had to start fluid mechanics practice," he explains. "With my boots on," I ask. "And pen in hand," he jokes. (Spain)

“The director of professional sports of Barcelona, Albert Soler, reinforced Folguera's thesis and introduced the event: "We are not only concerned with the sports training of young people, but also with their academic training, their nutrition, their relationship with their family All this with the aim of giving meaning to a maxim that can be found in every corner of the club: "Better people make better sportsmen and women, more social successes, more sporting successes". This vocation makes Barça, according to its managers, "the most beloved club in the world and the most recognized".” (Spain)

E – Role model

Individual examples from different countries in this coding category were unanimous in supporting the thesis that successful athletes, who also succeeded in education and pursuing another career, are the best promotion for the concept of dual career. The positive consequences of successful student-athletes were exposed:

“Society and sport will benefit from the good image of educated athletes who make sport more attractive, are role models for young people and emphasize the importance of excellence in society.” (Slovenia)

“Furthermore, to tell how we have reconciled sports and study and how they continue to do so in their lives, there will be Sara Bertolasi, Italian athlete of rowing at both London and Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games, master degree in Sport management achieved with a score of 110 a few weeks before her participation to the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil, and the canoeist champion Gaia Piazza, master degree in Sports Science with a score of 110 cum laude, to which the national CONI has just awarded the prestigious prize “Excellent athlete, excellent student .. ”.” (Italy)

Athletes who successfully lead dual careers are important in shaping general public perceptions and encouraging further steps towards improving the situation in this field. They are the best advertisement and example of good practice that at the same time contribute to the enhancement of the value of sport itself. Not only are athletes the ones who demonstrate a possibility of successful combination of both paths, but the other fields around them and sport can also gain value directly from them.

“Because that person, after completing quality studies, becomes a professional in his field. Moreover, if he is a famous athlete, attracts attention in private business or the public sector, engaging in marketing. This is very important and promising. Thus, dual careers are one of our priority areas.” (Lithuania)

F – National guidelines on dual career

The naming of this coding category is pretty self-explanatory, so one might expect that the results will not be too surprising. However, what may be surprising is the fact that the Spanish and Romanian media did not provide any single example that could be classified in this group. On the other hand, examples from Italy and Lithuania dominate. All the examples, however, address institutional and national incentives for promotion of dual career. In Slovenia the case

of certificates, awarded to sports-friendly education is mentioned, the other typical examples are the following:

“The new program presented by the Ministry of Education which will allow, on an experimental basis, to combine high-level competitive activity with school commitments. The program, included in the law “Buona Scuola”, concerns 415 student-athletes from 182 schools, including high schools, technical or professional institutes.”
(Italy)

“In September this year, LTOK will organize special career training for athletes. They will introduce a new unique program for athletes - Athlete365 Business Accelerator. The training will aim to reveal the strengths of the athletes, to recognize the skills available, and to share the experience of how to apply them in other areas. In practice, athletes will be taught how to establish and maintain a relationship, how to prepare their CV and how to prepare and behave during a job interview.” (Lithuania)

G – Support of family

This coding category identifies the importance of family and its support in the successful reconciliation of sports and education.

“I risked interrupting my studies - said Satalino - because I saw the school as a difficult compared to football commitments. My parents encouraged me to continue and today I am happy to join this project to find ways to improve and reconcile school and sport.”
(Italy)

Although the number of examples in this category is rather limited compared to other categories, the emphasis placed on the benefits of family support is nevertheless clear. When parents push their children in the other direction, this can prove to be detrimental to the pursuit of their sporting goals, as the following example suggests:

““Young people are dropping out of top-level sport largely because of pressure from their parents, who are asking them to focus on their studies. Partly because the model

is inflexible. I've often come across teachers who have refused to make it easy for a student to attend a championship. Or that they have done it as if they were sparing his life, when it should be something standardised, known and accepted by the faculty before the start of the course. It can't be something that each teacher decides," considers Hernando." (Spain)

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, on the basis of our analysis we can say that despite poor overall presence of dual career in media, this topic is nevertheless unanimously represented in the light of positive effort – in addition to pursuing their sports careers, athletes should not forget on the importance of education. However, even though the benefits of dual career are universally recognized in media representations, it was possible to identify a lack of hearing and efforts to more seriously implement the necessary measures that would make pursuing a dual career easier. Approaches and attempts to facilitate easier combination of educational and sports career vary across countries. The issues of providing a systematic and institutional framework for dual career are therefore somewhat lessened by examples of good practice showing that the task is not impossible, but requires only some will and determination from those in positions of power. Adjustments to study programs are possible, especially in an age characterized by marked technological advancement that we need to recognize and take advantage of.

Our primary focus must always be on the well-being of athletes and on the overall development of sports. All this will not be possible if athletes will remain uneducated and if we will not be able to provide them customized study programs that will not at the same time impede their sports paths. Once the quality institutional infrastructure for dual career is provided, there will be more examples of successful and well-educated athletes. We can speculate that this could also represent a starting point and the best promotion for dual career that can become more recognizable and attractive to the media as well.

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APPENDIX

1 Qualitative coding sheet

1. **Article ID:** _____

2. **Title of article:**

3. **Date of the article:** _____

4. **Newspapers:** _____

5. **Main focus:** sport education dual career

6. **Journalistic genre:** newspaper article interview advertisement
other

Category (A – G)	Detailed transcription of the text from the article	Paragraph

1.1 An example of coding of the content of the article

	Category (A-G)	ID#	Specific example from the article
A	Adjustments, coordination of DC commitments		
B	Feature of education		
C	Feature of sports activity		
D	Feature of career path		
E	Role model		
F	National guidelines on dual career		
G	Support of family		

2 Examples of coding of the content of articles (all countries)

	Category (A-G)	country	Specific example from the article
A	Adjustments, coordination of DC commitments	Slovenia	It happens too often that elite athletes face difficulties at the end of their sports careers in building their out-of-sports careers, since many do not have the appropriate education and necessary experience.
		Slovenia	It is therefore important that they acquire education at a time when they are competitively engaged in sport.
		Slovenia	I haven't trained a lot lately, since I was finishing high school and I still have to complete my matura examination. In fact, I have been very tired for the last two years, the training was not so good, it will definitely get better after the graduation, when I will be physically better prepared.
		Slovenia	At the training, it happened several times that I came from school tired, and because of exhaustion, the coaches loosened me.
		Slovenia	I need to finish school, I think it's important, but it's also important that you do it well. You have to have a backup plan in your life.
		Slovenia	and had successfully finished the matura examination this year. Although she had a lot of problems.
		Slovenia	They did not have any ear for my sports career at school. They told me that it wouldn't work and that I wouldn't be able to do it.
		Italy	An initiative of the Ministry of Education that aims to reconcile in the life of a student the sport activity with the study through a new and revolutionary program, carried out with online programs and tutors.
		Italy	Reconciling the competitive activity with the study, the student life with athlete life will now be possible thanks to the new experimental program provided by the law "Buona Scuola" which officially started from this school year, already recording 415 students and institute from secondary school system
		Italy	The program includes a collaboration between the ministry (MIUR), sports federations and the institutions will have two available methods: basic and advanced. Athletes will then have the opportunity to access an online platform to consult texts and schoolwork. The school identifies the student-athlete: the sports organization certifies the competitive condition and indicates a

			<p>sports tutor, while the class council appoints a school tutor. In this way, each child can be constantly monitored by two training figures.</p>
		Italy	<p>but above all they will listen to the reports of the technical managers and of the athletes of the four sports colleges of the University of Insubria (fruit of the conventions with the National Federations of athletics, rowing, winter sports and archery)</p>
		Italy	<p>The University of Padua, like American colleges. The sport and the university career that meets in a new project wanted by the Bo to recognize the qualification of student-athlete to who is regularly enrolled and has achieved sporting merits of competitive importance. The condition? Passing the exams necessary to acquire 20 credits in each academic year.</p>
		Italy	<p>Coaches or referees can also be considered student-athletes if selected by their Federations of belonging to represent their country in the Olympics or winter and summer Paralympics</p>
		Italy	<p>Graduating by practising high-level sports is not the stuff of the other world and finally the opportunity is also granted to Italians. From some years, companies have been active as intermediaries between students/athletes and US colleges.</p>
		Italy	<p>More students practicing competitive sports and more athletes studying. This is the objective underlying the agreement that the University of Cagliari and Coni Sardegna have signed in recent days.</p>
		Italy	<p>Dejan Bregasi, 25, ex-goalkeeper of the "Primavera squad" (second team) of Sampdoria, selects young promises of football, who would not find a jersey among the professionals and proposes them to the NCAA university teams</p>
		Italy	<p>The university sports groups are born. The sports Minister Luca Lotti announced this at a press conference at Palazzo Chigi. "It is an important and beautiful project - he said - every time as the government we launch something it is an important day, but today even more because we are about to invest three million euros to finally answer some questions. "Can a good athlete also be a good university student?" All this happens in other countries, today it will be possible here also thanks to two tenders reserved to Italian universities.</p>
		Italy	<p>Is it still possible to reconcile study and football, especially if this is experienced close to the professional level, among today's young players? So much depends on the willingness of individual athletes, of course. And yet an electronic aid tool is coming to the rescue of "baby sportsmen" who is ready to revolutionize the learning process of students who share their lives between books and football.</p>

		Italy	<p>It continue also in the 2017/18 school year, the "Student-athletes" didactic experimentation, promoted by the Ministry of Education, University and Research in collaboration with CONI, the Serie A League and the Italian Paralympic Committee (CIP) to allow female students and students engaged in competitive sport not to fall behind in their studies.</p>
		Italy	<p>The University of Messina (UniME) starting from the next academic year, will recognize the status of student-athletes, thus facilitating the double career of those whom, in addition to being involved in the university course, are also involved in sports competitions at national and international level</p>
		Italy	<p>Italian schools penalize young people and teenagers who practice high-level competitive sport. Including those that represent Italy with National Teams, in Europe and in the world.</p>
		Italy	<p>The Agon project, an initiative of the Cus Torino that every year provides 24 scholarships to the most deserving student-athletes.</p>
		Italy	<p>The operation of the project is the same since 2007: there is a ranking, half of the score is given by sporting merits, half by academic ones. The best 14 are guaranteed free board, lodging and tuition fees. In addition, ten more scholarships have been added since last year, with universities offering tuition to other sporting excellence.</p>
		Italy	<p>To support the efforts of these young athletes the didactic experiment "students-athletes" has been restarted, promoted by the Ministry of Education, University and Research in collaboration with Coni, Lega Serie A and the Italian Paralympic Committee (CIP) to allow students engaged in competitive sport to maintain the steps of their studies.</p>
		Italy	<p>Sport and school, a winning combination. For the third consecutive year, the boys of Misterbianco won the final provincial phase of the project "Classe's rackets", now in its fourth edition and promoted by the national federations of badminton (Fiba), tennis (Fit) and table tennis (Fitet) in synergy with the Coni, the Miur and the Cip.</p>
		Italy	<p>In the alternative, an interesting figure - also to be multiplied - is that of the sports tutor, set up a couple of years ago, who helps young athletes when they have to go away for competitions and training, explaining to them the lessons they have lost, assisting them in their tasks, sending them the study material: a sort of almost private tutors, in short, charged with doing everything possible so that young athletes, even if absent for long periods, should not lose the year.</p>

		Italy	The theme of school drop-out is a priority of CONI. We have been working for some time to promote concrete actions that can make a difference.
		Italy	Soon a questionnaire will be distributed to some sample classes to know about the true causes of sports drop-out, but above all to understand what young people are asking to return to practice sports and where they would prefer to do it.
		Italy	School or sport? That is the question. For years, such Hamletic doubt has gripped hundreds of thousands of Italian families, who in the end see their sons-athletes opting for study and dropping out the physical activity. The most striking data in Italy comes from the province of Trento, where 80% of the students leave the sport to follow the school path without problems
		Italy	At the University of Bologna the "student-athlete" is born, a true status with specific possibilities (different and more than for the "normal" student), recognized from the 2016/2017 academic year to those engaged in major sports competitions. The practice, which brings the University of Bologna closer to the American ones, was discussed on Tuesday in the Academic Senate and obtained a favourable opinion
		Lithuania	International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes Commission support takes care of the second career of athletes, athletes' integration into society and labor market after a career. IOC programs in our country are implemented by the Lithuanian National Olympic Committee (LTOK). At the beginning of April, the International Athletes Forum in Lausanne paid particular attention to athletes' careers. Worldwide (206) Olympic Committees representatives have agreed to strengthen support for dual athletic careers by educating, providing the right information and organizing quality training.
		Lithuania	Since 2016, LTOK has organized three "Second Career" trainings for athletes. One of them was attended by the owner of the Olympic silver medal and multiple European championship champion M. Griškoniš. One of the few elite Lithuanian athletes with their own business.
		Romania	Performance athletes get cheered on by millions of people. They work since their youth and they invest a great amount of time in their development. But often their career ends sooner than in other professions.

		Romania	A school to train those who want to work in sport-business is a solution, maybe even the revival chance for Romanian sports. A sports business academy was founded in Romania, the only academy of this type in Eastern Europe. Sports Business Academy has been active since 2015, and this year it was accredited and it may issue degrees recognized in the European Union.
		Germany	<p>“With his sports-political commitment he has overreached himself.”</p> <p>„Since he cannot restrict himself to fencing to make the finale of his sporting career at the Olympic Games next year its climax, he reduces his sports political commitments.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„The question of where active people see their professional future after sport also needs to be answered at an early stage.”</p> <p>„The public is often not at all aware that athletes need a second supporting leg to stand on.”</p> <p>„Those who are not employed by the German Armed Forces or the police usually strive for a so-called dual career, he says: Training alongside sport is quite normal for rowers. Most of my colleagues study.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„The dual career, the combination of competitive sports and studies, has been intensively propagated by the DHB for decades.”</p> <p>„Up to what point can I do this parallel, and am I then well trained enough?”</p> <p>„It is about easier access to universities, about flexible handling of examination dates.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„The German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) wants to counteract this and in 2013 introduced a ten-point Dual Career Program.“</p> <p>„There is a need for a care system, and I believe we can do that through the career advisers and sport psychologists at the Olympic bases.”</p> <p>„There are some examples of problems with career after career.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„When the twenty-nine-year-old was due for the state examination, the date collided with the World Rowing Championships.”</p> <p>„For example, it is relatively easy for elite schools to organise lessons in such a way that they are compatible with competitions.”</p> <p>„They should keep their heads clear.”</p>
		Germany	„While the German Olympic Sports Confederation continues to publicly argue with the government about funding, those responsible in Germany have jointly agreed on a concept to

		Germany	<p>make it easier for their own athletes to pursue their sporting, academic and professional goals.”</p> <p>„In addition to the purely financial aspects, the paper also focuses more on the search for and promotion of talent and dual careers.”</p> <p>„For example, it is to become the rule that squad members can stretch their upper school years in order to better align learning with training and competition.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„We give top athletes the chance to learn a profession and to practice it after their career has ended.”</p> <p>„ The athlete does not need to get riches, but must have a livelihood that allows him to concentrate on his sport.”</p> <p>„So you have to look at such a concept from their perspective, not so much from the perspective of officials.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Quite a few squad athletes see themselves forced to move due to the centralization they are striving for and ask the question of meaning.”</p> <p>„I will have to end my career by 99 percent. From autumn 2018 I shall train daily in Hamburg.“</p> <p>„Does the top sports reform eat their kids?”</p>
		Germany	<p>„My own doubts arise: Can I manage the double burden?”</p> <p>„Skeptics fear, however, that with the top sports reform of the German Olympic Sports Federation (DOSB), the dual career will be left behind.”</p> <p>„The "dual career" is certainly to be found in the concept paper. To promote this, the DOSB proposes to expand the so-called profile quota.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„One sees the danger that the study would be missed out if only medal winners were supported.”</p> <p>„The goal must be to offer athletes security beyond their sporting career.”</p> <p>„As early as 1999, the adh launched the project "Partner University of Top Sports" to promote dual careers.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„The Olympic base in Hesse further expands its cooperation in the "dual career" sector.”</p> <p>„We must offer our young athletes a perspective for the time after top-class sport.”</p> <p>„The dual career offers many opportunities here.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„In order to give top athletes and coaches a professional perspective for the time after their sporting career, the Olympic base in Hesse has agreed to cooperate with the German Sports Academy.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„The offer ensures that those athletes who do not have a university entrance qualification or who frequently change their place of residence due to a change of club do not fall into a gap</p>

		Germany	after the end of their sporting career, but look forward to a good professional future.” „Athletes and coaches can complete education parallel to their sporting careers, including training as a sports administrator, sports business administrator, etc.”
		Germany	„The German Armed Forces, the largest supporter of Olympic sport in Germany with 744 permanent positions, wants to change from sponsoring athletes to being their employers.” „From 2018, top athletes will therefore be able to study sports science at the University of the German Armed Forces in Munich, focusing on prevention and rehabilitation.”
		Germany	„The new course of studies sport science is to meet the needs of active top athletes as remote study with minimum attendance obligation and a possible stretching from two to five years.”
		Germany	„It was a time when the now 28-year-old was able to experience how sport and study can be optimally combined.” „To then see what freedom is available for vocational training - and whether this can be pursued parallel to sport.” „After one and a half years as a full professional, he now gives priority to his professional career again.”
		Germany	„Competitive sport and professional career - combining both is a challenge for top athletes.” „To make this possible during a sporting career, the German Sports Aid founded the initiative “Sprungbrett Zukunft” in 2012.” „Together with companies, the German Sports Aid ensures that top athletes can achieve their professional goals in addition to training.”
		Germany	„Sommerfeld sees it as his task to accompany such an unpolished diamond through his sporting as well as his professional career.” „Elite promotion is a network project in which we work together with representatives, teachers, lecturers and employers to promote dual careers and personal development.”
		Germany	„In addition, Sommerfeld also watches over school or vocational training.”
		Germany	Two marathons are a challenge for a working person.” „Scherl is engaged in quasi high-performance sport as a part-time job”
		Germany	„But for many German sportsmen and sportswomen, the career as a sports soldier or policeman is often the only way to train at the highest level.”
		Germany	„The dual career of handball player Kerstin Wohlbold is and remains a strain.”
		Germany	„Dual career - that sounds noble. And yet every day is a drudgery.”

		Germany	<p>„Competitive sport and profession parallel, these are the true hero stories of sport.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„He already started his own business during his active time and built up an online shop for interiors with his wife and now advises players himself.“</p> <p>„All three take precautions and dare to study on the side.“</p> <p>„In football everyone dreams of a great career, so that the need for higher education or study is often not seen.“</p> <p>For Anna Schaffelhubber, competitive sport and professional career are not a contradiction in terms.</p>
		Germany	<p>„She also studies psychology, just as most Paralympic participants have to combine sport and work or education.“</p> <p>„In the meantime, one can also use her example to study how inclusion could work, in a biotope that Schnittger created space for her dual career.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„She is now regarded by sport politicians as a particularly successful example of a dual career, as proof that nobody has to shy away from studying alongside sport.“</p> <p>„Judo has always been an opportunity for her to relax after hours of mental work.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„But especially after London he had the feeling that he finally had to do something for his professional future.“</p> <p>„Early vocational orientation is therefore indispensable.“</p> <p>„Recently, the German Olympic Sports Federation has propagated the so-called dual career, the early link between competitive sport and training or study.“</p>
		Germany	<p>„This has nothing to do with the reality of 99 percent of Olympic athletes.“</p> <p>„This increases the risk of premature career dropouts.“</p>
		Spain	<p>In Spain there are two school models for dedicated athletes. The integrated centres (there are 52 public centres in Spain), where students study, train and often live, make it possible to combine them better. However, they require teenagers to give up their school, move away from their friends and often stop living with their families. In some sports, such as swimming and gymnastics, from the age of 14. The non-integrated models are based, for their part, on the fact that the ordinary school offers the student facilities in terms of justified absences. In Catalonia, the regulations also expressly provide for the adaptation of the school curriculum.</p>
		Spain	<p>This university and the Spanish Olympic Committee (COE) created the dual career model for athletes, which allows them to combine competition at the highest level with their university</p>

			<p>studies. The success of this model has led more than 70 Olympic athletes to study at UCAM.</p>
		Spain	<p>I consider myself to have suffered from burnout syndrome." Ignacio Martín was a youth player of Real Madrid ten years ago. Arriving from the Canary Islands, his routine at the residence consisted of attending classes, training during the afternoon and, only after dinner, studying without the support or guidance of anyone and without any employee worrying about his academic performance. He got used to sleeping less than five hours. "When kids go to a team like Real Madrid, parents think they're going to treat their kids like kings. They have no idea where they're getting them. At the end of the year he received the dreaded letter of leave. "I felt liberated because I put up with as much as I could. After that I didn't want to go back to another quarry. I remember the lack of confidence, the lack of nutrition, the injuries, the old school coaches and all the systemic deficiencies that I realized later.</p>
		Spain	<p>The opening of centres such as the Ortega y Gasset, which specialises in sports, put an end to the mantra of "either you study or you train", which for many years became a reality for young sports promises. "Our success has been to totally adapt the teaching method to the different calendars of the youngsters," explains Benito, who deals with sportsmen and women from such different disciplines as judo, boxing, golf or hockey on a daily basis.</p>
		Spain	<p>Adrián Ben also believes that one of the main reasons why these things happen is the lack of knowledge of the people, who do not value the work done by a sportsman who is also being trained. "Simply, like this teacher, there are some who wash their hands and don't care. They sell me some rights in the university that in the end are not fulfilled, and that there are sportsmen who depend on people like that seems to me a big problem", the Galician emphasizes.</p>
		Spain	<p>The protocol, which will be in force until the year 2024, will make it possible, among other things, to promote the practice of physical activity and sport at university level, to facilitate the incorporation of sportsmen and women into the education system, and to encourage research. Furthermore, work will be done on the implementation of the Spanish University Championships, promoting the dual career of the High Level and High Performance Sportsman.</p>
		Spain	<p>The OAD serves athletes so that they can learn about the guidance and employment training available to them under the umbrella of the EOC, with the support of other institutions with which collaboration agreements have been established. This Office, created in 2006, includes psychological, legal and tax advice, as well as information on all types of aid or scholarships</p>

			available to athletes. It also administers a wide range of employment opportunities. In short, it facilitates the life of the athlete and advises him or her on the transition once the race is over. Almost 3,000 athletes and former athletes make up the community of this Office.
B	Feature of education	Slovenia	A student of the Bežigrad Gymnasium in Ljubljana, where she will continue to live in the student dormitory this summer and then she will move to another student dormitory and continue with her education at the Faculty of Chemistry, started athletics at elementary school.
		Slovenia	After the games I didn't pay attention to elite swimming for a year and at that time I successfully completed my studies at Berkeley University in San Francisco.
		Italy	The sports high school is built on the curriculum of a traditional scientific high school, but the hours of Latin and the history of art are replaced by disciplines related to sport
		Italy	The ideal would be to establish - the autonomy of school gives us this possibility - sports high schools, more sports high schools on the model of the already existing ones, where the hours of sport are combined with those of the study without reciprocal penalization
		Italy	With the sports colleges of the University of Insubria, strongly desired by the rector Alberto Coen Porisini
		Italy	Organizing the workshop scheduled for Wednesday 11 April in the Aula Magna of the University of Insubria "Dual career: champions in sports and studies".
		Italy	A measure against dropping out of school and in favour of spreading the practice of sports among the youngest. The initiative involves over 1,500 boys and girls from 396 institutes throughout Italy.
		Italy	The collaboration between school and sport at all levels is fundamental for the training of our children: I believe that everyone, institutions first and foremost and Coni, should find the synthesis around a shared project.
		Italy	The school often does not take care of it: how many teachers know what sports their students practice? How many teachers punish their athletes-students with a school question time on next Monday knowing that they spent the weekend training or competing?
		Italy	The "Student-athletes" experimental project, now in its third edition, allows those who go to school and do high-level sports

			to have personalized study paths and follow the lessons remotely during times of greater sporting commitment.
		Italy	Over 70 children have already received funding through football (including women's) and the prospect is to double the number of students. A number that grows thanks to other companies active in the USA: Sport Links 360 and Yes, We College.
		Italy	Rich scholarships (the amount varies from college to college) allow young Italians to access studies for the four years of the courses without giving up playing soccer
		Italy	This is the online platform Websport 360, a tool promoted by the Serie A League as part of the experimental student-athletes program approved by MIUR, which allows young players to privately take lessons with educational content directly from their PC, remaining always under the control of you're their own school.
		Italy	First and foremost, the student-athletes will be exempted from university fees. In addition, they will have the opportunity to agree with the teacher a different exam date, if the already scheduled date coincides with the period of a national and/or international competition to which the students have been summoned or with a competition away. They will also be exempted from any compulsory attendance and will be able to suspend their studies for one year for important sporting commitments. Finally, they will take lessons and e-learning (where required by the Degree course to which they belong).
		Italy	But, can sport and study be reconciled? Look, I grew up at Cus Torino which is the university sports center. Not only can they be reconciled, but when it is done there is a positive effect in both fields. The best athletes I normally had were excellent students. Those who develop a method and organization capacity over time use them both in sport and in school.
		Italy	The program usually includes flexibility in terms of deadlines and exam dates, a tutor who directs the academic path, fee cuts and in some cases scholarships, such as at the Catholic University of Milan, and even educational credits, such as at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. For the other students, however, those that are not currently athletes but may have the potential to be in the future, the offer is not as wide. "Instead, everyone should be encouraged to practice sports"
		Italy	The «student-athlete» will be able to register - the Alma Mater informs - as a part-time student, having at his disposal, to acquire the degree, a number of years twice the normal duration of the chosen course. Furthermore, you can count on the help of two

			<p>tutors, one academic and one from the student union, will be able to agree with the professors an additional exam appeal a year, with the possibility of supporting it via Skype, and will be able to stay for free, for short periods, in the Er.Go student houses, the Emilian company for the right to study.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>We should ensure that athletes have the opportunity to study qualitatively for a longer period of time, to have a customized schedule adapted to their training and competition. Of course, it costs more than simple studies. But there is a great investment that ultimately pays off.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>Special attention is paid to the Performance Lifestyle program, which is funded by the state budget, and specially trained and accredited career advisors work with all high-skilled athletes trained for the Olympic Games. The aim of this program is to effectively address athletes' dual career problems and to help them adapt properly to the labor market.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>Special attention is paid to the Performance Lifestyle program, which is funded by the state budget, and specially trained and accredited career advisors work with all high-skilled athletes trained for the Olympic Games. The aim of this program is to effectively address athletes' dual career problems and to help them adapt properly to the labor market.</p>
		Romania	<p>The natural talent of Miruna is obvious, but it is not enough; she works enormously for her age and she is very ambitious in school. She learns for tests, when leaving to or returning from competitions.</p>
		Germany	<p>„ In addition to sports, he studies a combination of sociology, politics and economics in Friedrichshafen.” „The Master's program must wait until after Tokyo 2020.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Irrespective of this programme, great sporting talents who have already shown top performances have been able to extend the duration of the Upper School to four years since last year.” „You have to take all the exams, but you get an extra year to combine high school with sport.” „There, groups are formed for talented students, which also find their way into the high grades.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„In July she took part in the U20 World Championship in Hungary, in autumn she started studying sport management at the Sport University Cologne.”</p>
		Germany	<p>Therefore, the sports support of the German Armed Forces or the police was not an option for them.”</p>

		Germany	„I have to figure out how the athletes get a little money to survive at all. And then I have to take care of a top sports-compliant infrastructure, for example elite schools of sports or partner universities of top sports.“
		Germany	„Parallel to all her successes, the young woman, who has been paraplegic since birth, is studying law.“
		Germany	„Also, because Schnittger first concealed to her fellow students that she was visually impaired.“ „She's now in her fifth semester.“ „The lecturers send her the lecture slides, they often examine her orally.“
		Germany	„Only, she is not studying anything, but algorithmic and discrete mathematics, or better said, she is doing her doctorate there.“ „In her studies there is a high rate of failure, for Vargas-Koch the less is a problem, she has completed her master with a grade of 1.1.“
		Germany	„The young fencer enrolled himself at the Zeppelin University in Friedrichshafen.“ „As with all boarding schools for sports, the school time is over 13 years.“ „The loss of lessons due to competitions or training camps is currently compensated by private lessons from the director.“
		Germany	„A recent study commissioned by the German Sports Aid Association (Sporthilfe) and conducted by the German Sports University in Cologne shows how this is done.“
		Spain	I finished Business and now I have also finished a master's degree in financial markets. I started studying civil engineering, but I didn't have time to do both. In the year that I had to make the decision, I won the junior world championship and the balance leaned a little more towards sport and to take advantage of that talent I had because I could always return to study. But I've always done well and it's given me peace of mind to keep studying and training. Now I can live from sport, but it's something very ephemeral and ungrateful at times.
		Spain	Combining studies and high-performance sport is an undeniable effort for school-age athletes, because training sessions and competitions often coincide with class schedules. However, in Valencia we have one of the leading schools in Spain that offers specific programs for this type of student, the Iale International School and its Pre-University Technical Center, located in the municipality of L'Eliaana.
		Spain	Iale has been offering a special high performance program for the last 12 years, which allows students to follow classes in very small groups and at times adapted to their training, as well as

			<p>access the contents of the subjects and connect with their teachers through the Internet during competition periods.</p> <p>Now we live athletics in a different way. In the past, if you stood out at 18, you would leave your studies to focus on running. Now no one wants or can stop training. On the one hand, it's because we have more facilities to study than previous generations. On the other hand, because in the past we earned much more money at the championships and in the meetings", analyses Marta Pérez, who reached the 1500m final at the European indoor champs in Glasgow. Her observation is based, for example, on Fermín Cacho, who usually explains that he left school at 18 years old, the same day it was announced that Barcelona would organise the 1992 Games.</p>
		Spain	<p>Class from 8 to 11 in the morning. Training. Lunch. Class from 15.30 to 17.30 hours. Training again. This is the daily life of many of the youth of the Ortega y Gasset. Samuel Espinosa is one of them. From Santander, 17 years old, moved to Madrid to study the Bachelaurate with a grant from the Spanish Golf Federation. He trains five hours a day and, once a month, attends national or international championships. "In the end you start studying at 10. It's hard to get your energy out at those hours. You don't sleep much," he admits.</p>
		Spain	<p>Esther Briz. This week we spoke E Briz for 'Femenino Singular' about that mention and about her experience as a student at Stanford University in California, one of the most prestigious universities in the world, where she studied the first year of the Management Sciences and Engineering degree thanks to a scholarship obtained for her extraordinary academic qualifications (9.63 average mark in high school) and her sporting successes, including the junior world rowing championship.</p>
		Spain	<p>Susana Regüela, responsible for the training area of the CAR de Sant Cugat, explained that "academic and human training is as or more important than sports training" when it comes to focusing the career of athletes, swimmers or gymnasts who may spend up to 20 years training for Olympic events or international competitions and, at the same time, for the life that will come after the competition. Meanwhile, Pablo Borrás, the youth development coordinator at Estudiantes, opened another field and spoke of the "socio-affective" aspect of the work at the Madrid club "to help the kids who come from abroad. And he added: "That a person comes to the ACB team is less relevant than the fact that they develop in life with values such as respect and solidarity".</p>

C	Feature of sports activity	Slovenia	<p>The title of the European champion in Boras was not a surprise, since she came to Sweden as one of the favourites and performed the task in a sovereign way.</p>
		Slovenia	<p>I'm not quite retired yet, I'm trying to keep a similar rhythm of life</p>
		Slovenia	<p>I've changed my lifestyle, but I really do not have as much obligations as I used to have abroad when I was a pro. I still train four times a week.</p>
		Italy	<p>Hannah O 'Sullivan had two passions since childhood: math and golf. She tried not to give up either of the two, but now that at 18 she has become one of America's greatest green promises, she had to make a decision. And despite sumptuous offers of high money and sponsors, she preferred to study at Duke University in North Carolina.</p>
		Italy	<p>What to do then? Bringing sport to primary school, for several hours and with qualified instructors. Sport should have the same dignity as math, English and Italian. From eight to 12 years should be only schools to deliver sports activities.</p>
		Italy	<p>Also ready a partnership with the MLs "two of our (student-athletes) train with MLs teams, soon someone will be chosen in the Draft"</p>
		Italy	<p>At the same time, sporting merits will have to be demonstrated. In particular, the facilities will be aimed at athletes selected to represent the national team of the disciplines belonging to CONI federations and represented at the Olympics; absolute or category champions in the Italian championships and podium in the European or world championships; athletes, coaches or referees called by their National Federation to represent Italy in the Olympic and/or Paralympic disciplines at the Winter and Summer Olympics</p>
		Italy	<p>One could understand how to restore dignity to sport in the school world, from primary school to university. Finally, we could reason on how university sport could be of enormous help to the effort that today is sustained almost exclusively by the Army forces which, thanks to their sports groups, allow thousands of our athletes to be able to continue dreaming of the Olympic Games.</p>
		Italy	<p>In Trentino we are lucky: we are the only province with curricular teachers graduated in Sport Sciences in the fifth grade. We have included graduates in Sport Sciences in first and second and in third and fourth the Coni proposes the School/ Sport project, which allows the sports clubs to enter schools.</p>

		Italy	<p>But what drives boys to drop-out? There are many reasons to drop-out. And often they add up. Decrease in confidence in one's own abilities, too many commitments, even school and the fact that not all teachers understand that sporting activity is not "enemy" of the study. But above all, putting too much emphasis on the value of competition.</p>
		Romania	<p>People believe that soccer players are the best paid athletes in the world. Nonetheless, a ranking by the famous Forbes magazine of people who managed to make a fortune from sport includes a very limited number of soccer players. Furthermore, the first 25 stars include only two soccer players. Of course, they are Cristiano Ronaldo and Leo Messi. For the rest, though, there are sports of which Romanians would not believe could actually generate such wealth</p>
		Germany	<p>„He began fencing at the age of eight, and this year he will be thirty.” “He observes his counterpart so attentively that he can read their thoughts in their strongest moments.” „Hartung painfully reached the limits of his ability to be successful on two fields at the same time at the 2017 World Championships in Leipzig.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Those who are successful in football, tennis or Formula 1 can earn a lot of money in sport.” „Most athletes, especially in marginal sports, can only dream of such salaries.” „Even when they're among the most successful of their squad.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„The back specialist of the SG Frankfurt had gone to the United States for three months.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Heymann is about 1.98 meters tall and has enormous assertiveness.” „At the age of eight, she started playing handball in her birthplace Zweibrücken, and until she was 14, she also played football and athletics.” „Individual training is tailored to the individual needs of the athlete”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Due to muscular problems she was unable to complete systematic running training for several months.” „At the Valencia Marathon she met the norm for the home European Championships next August with a time of 2:28:54 hours.” „Together with trainer and husband Marco Scherl went a new way during the basic training.”</p>

		Germany	Born in Swabia, Wohlbold has been playing handball in Erfurt for seven and a half years.”
		Germany	„Wohlbold won the championship eight times and the cup twice as a handball player, but the national team has never been as one.”
		Germany	„At that time her career in the national team seemed to be over - without countable success.”
		Germany	„I regret that sports are judged so differently.”
		Germany	„The 33-year-old was named Footballer of the Year for the first time on the following day.”
		Germany	„The exceptional athlete has rewarded her training discipline with several gold medals.”
		Germany	„I can hear whether my hand is dipping properly or not, even in water.”
		Germany	„Schnittger knows exactly how far the pelvic wall is still away.”
		Germany	„Schnittger, 22, is a hope of German swimmers at the Paralympics in Rio.”
		Germany	„Laura Vargas-Koch has practiced this for a long time over the past few months, and that is why she has now won the bronze medal in Rio.”
		Germany	„The 26-year-old is judoka in the weight class up to 70 kilograms, and with this first medal she too has freed her association from growing worries.”
		Germany	„At European and World Championships and at Olympic Games in London 2012 he occupies many top positions.”
		Germany	„The 19-year-old is a triathlete, in 2015 she was voted junior athlete of the year.”
		Germany	„ He took part in three Olympic Games.”
		Germany	„Top sport is only financially worthwhile if you win an Olympic gold medal.”
		Spain	After the London Games I was thinking for a while about whether to continue or quit. I continued, but it is complicated to find a motivation from there to four years and more having won five Olympic medals. Let's go for another one,' you say, it seemed a routine. I thought I could handle it, but that got the better of me. I didn't find the motivation in the Olympic cycle to go to Rio to continue. That's why I quit.
		Spain	I'm very late from training so I wake up at 4.30 in the morning to do my homework and study. I get home from school at 3pm, eat and leave at 5pm. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays I have football training; on Tuesdays and Thursdays I have athletics"
		Spain	Navarro was lucky: at school and high school he found no problems with teachers justifying his absences and changing his

		Spain	<p>exam dates to attend competitions. The regional school regulations allow schools to give athletes individualised treatment, but do not force them to do so, and this creates insecurity,...</p> <p>A year after graduation, the Andalusian has decided to put her academic career on hold for the time being to focus on football: "I'm young and I have the opportunity to compete at the highest level. And the peace of mind of having an aerospace engineering degree in my pocket," she explains, without a hint of vanity. "Here, moreover, I'm still training. The camaraderie, the work under pressure, the decision making... All that will serve me well when I return to the engineering field. It's a moment that will come", he sums up.</p>
D	Feature of career path	Slovenia	Elite athletes spend most of their time and energy for sports training and competitions, so they are often absent from the pedagogical process at all levels of education.
		Slovenia	The player is far from being surrendered only to tennis. When she will, it is expected that the results will go well up.
		Slovenia	After finishing high school, she will dedicate to tennis completely.
		Slovenia	If anything, professional sport brought me the insight that you can be part of a group of people without being part of the team.
		Slovenia	In short, he has achieved almost everything that can be achieved in basketball. Twelve years ago, he finished his career, but remained in basketball as a consultant and ambassador of the Chicago Bulls team.
		Italy	Then, in the fall of 2013, I moved to San Diego, started training again very seriously under the guidance of coach Mark Đorđević, went to altitude preparations in Mexico and considered the possibility of return to the swimming elite.
		Italy	We are also thinking of activating paths that allow our students to acquire patents such as a lifeguard assistant rather than an referees - continues Marozzi -. The idea is to create vocational opportunities for our kids.
		Italy	It will be a way to foster a harmonious coexistence of the university career with the sporting one, often sacrificed for practical reasons: economic problems, the coincidence of competitive commitments with lessons and exams, to mention the most frequent to which we try to obviate in the ten articles of the agreement.

		Italy	Finally, she understands what her path is: "I tried to balance the study with golf. I don't want to miss the opportunity to play for my college but also to sit in class with my friends."
		Italy	Special benefits will be awarded to student-athletes: an annual monetary contribution, the assignment of a tutor and the possibility of deciding with the professors a different date for the exam if the competitive calendar overlaps with that of the studies.
		Italy	This, for the Minister, "can become a model in Europe, a pilot but concrete project that also has the ambition to bring some athletes to the podium. "I want to emphasize that there is no competition with military sports groups, but we will support them with this Anglo-Saxon-inspired project "
		Italy	Many universities have launched Dual Career programs. The first was precisely that of Trento 2009. Today they are found everywhere. They consist of facilities for high-level student-athletes, who often fail to follow the competitive activity and study at the same time.
		Lithuania	Rower Mindaugas Griškoniš is well aware of the possibilities of a second career for an athlete. According to him, the young athlete must have another activity, "a backup to life that may or may not be needed". However, it must be held by every athlete with a head on his head and thinking about the future. When he leaves the boat, Mr. Griškoniš takes care of the affairs of UAB Mingas. The logistics company owner and director has been in business for 10 years and has 35 employees. Mr Griškoniš told LTOK.LT about the importance of the second career, challenges in business, the necessary competences and priorities. "It is very useful for every athlete to have other activities. Concentrating on just one thing is dangerous, it narrows the worldview. Not necessarily that second activity must be work, a hobby is enough. Having other activities changes attitude, brings the taste of real life, reality." "Business gives inner peace because I know what I will do after the last professional finish." "For all athletes, any second training is useful. Thinking about a second activity that can help secure a financially comfortable future needs to start with the beginning of a career."
		Lithuania	"We athletes should start thinking about starting second career as early as possible. Because after an athlete career, employers treat us as strangers. It is normal for the market and shock for the athlete. An athlete's career is a temporary thing. People clap until we win medals. In the future, we become equal to those who have clapped for us" Said jumper in height Raivydas Stanys, thinking about the end of a professional athlete's career.

			<p>These words have been pronounced after the "Second Career" training. They were organized by the Lithuanian National Olympic Committee (LTOK).</p> <p>"All LTeam members are important to us. Former, existing and future. This conference is just one of the tools to help athletes become an important part of society after their sports career ends. Their knowledge and experience gained during sporting activities is authentic, incomparable and giving an advantage in their second career.</p> <p>Our mission is to help prospective Olympians, who are active athletes, but already at the next stage of life, athletes who have completed their careers," said Daina Gudzinevičiūtė, president of LTOK.</p>
		Romania	<p>A school to train those who want to work in sport-business is a solution, maybe even the revival chance for Romanian sports. A sports business academy was founded in Romania, the only academy of this type in Eastern Europe. Sports Business Academy has been active since 2015, and this year it was accredited and it may issue degrees recognized in the European Union.</p>
		Romania	<p>The response of an athlete who lacks self-confidence is frustration and doubt; the defeat shakes self-image and perceived self-efficiency. Perceived self-efficiency is the belief that you have enough skills to finalise the action or to face the rigours of future situations.</p>
		Romania	<p><i>Performance athletes get cheered on by millions of people. They work since they are young and they invest a lot of time in their development. But often their careers ends sooner than in other professions.</i></p>
		Germany	<p>„Scherl is very satisfied with her job and her employer.”</p>
		Germany	<p>“She is a teacher at the primary school there since four and a half years.”</p> <p>„Even the reduction of the working time to 20 hours with the same pay came too late.”</p> <p>„Exhausted, he announced his departure.”</p>
		Spain	<p>I compete without pressure, I know that when I'm done with athletics, a professional career awaits me." That doesn't make Irene any less ambitious about tartan, even though she had to make a choice. And she, who started very early in athletics, first as an extracurricular class in her school in Toledo, then more seriously, in the Athletics Club San Ildefonso, because she was more than good at it, she made a strong bet: she would make it compatible. So, already in Madrid, in the Complutense, while he was working hard in the 1500s - where he did not finish breaking until his coach, Antonio Serrano, advised him to change his</p>

			<p>discipline - he got, as if nothing had happened, one of the most complicated races, without a doubt.</p> <p>For five years, Celia has been combining her studies with sport, something that is easier in the United States than in Spain but far from comfortable for a student: "The trick is to have a good time. If I got to the dressing room in time, I'd take out my notes and start studying. If I put my boots on early and there were five minutes left to train, that was five minutes I had to start fluid mechanics practice," he explains. "With my boots on," I ask. "And pen in hand," he jokes.</p>
		Spain	<p>Esther Briz told us that in the United States it is common to find many students training first thing in the morning before going to class, just as she does. She gets up at 5:15 a.m. Monday to Friday and at 6 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday to train. After training she goes to class at 9:30 with the feeling that she has done "more than people usually do all day. His experience in the heart of Silicon Valley has been very positive because in addition to training with means and facilities that do not exist in Spain, he has discovered that sport can also bring him many advantages for his professional future because, according to most of the speakers who come to Stanford to give them classes, the best employees are usually the athletes because of their ability to "sacrifice, discipline and teamwork". He also told us that although he is making great progress in the field of sports, his priority is to finish his university career.</p>
		Spain	<p>The Secretary of State for Sport María José Rienda has described this agreement as "historic" because it is a "way of the future" and a "tool to connect" sport with universities. "This combination will improve the system and help in the training of High Level and High Performance Sportsmen and women and their future adaptation to society, as well as encouraging the practice of sports among university students", she explained.</p>
		Spain	<p>The director of professional sports of Barcelona, Albert Soler, reinforced Folguera's thesis and introduced the event: "We are not only concerned with the sports training of young people, but also with their academic training, their nutrition, their relationship with their family All this with the aim of giving meaning to a maxim that can be found in every corner of the club: "Better people make better sportsmen and women, more social successes, more sporting successes". This vocation makes Barça, according to its managers, "the most beloved club in the world and the most recognised".</p>
		Spain	<p>There was also space to hear how Milan works in the residence of Milanello, where great talents have emerged from the 'Calcio'. The Italian speaker, Ciara d'Angelo, stressed the importance of "monitoring" the school career of each young athlete according to their needs and divided the "overall attention" of the player</p>

			in four areas: "technical, tactical, physical and psycho-educational"
E	Role model	Slovenia	Society and sport will benefit from the good image of educated athletes who make sport more attractive, are role models for young people and emphasize the importance of excellence in society.
		Slovenia	I train with her every day, which has also contributed to my competitive advancement. She is my role model in a way, since she also proved that it is possible to be good and at the same time successful at school.
		Italy	Yesterday, before training in the afternoon, Murgia held up the role of testimonial of the experimental program "Students and athletes? Now you can "
		Italy	Mattia Cardia, a young sailor, describes the new program in this way
		Italy	Furthermore, to tell how we have reconciled sports and study and how they continue to do so in their lives, there will be Sara Bertolasi, Italian athlete of rowing at both London and Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games, master degree in Sport management achieved with a score of 110 a few weeks before her participation to the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil, and the canoeist champion Gaia Piazza, master degree in Sports Science with a score of 110 cum laude, to which the national CONI has just awarded the prestigious prize "Excellent athlete, excellent student .. ".
		Italy	The meeting was attended also by the Minister of Education, University and Research Valeria Fedeli, the CONI President Giovanni Malagò and the three-time Olympic shooting champion Campriani. "I want to thank Niccolò Campriani because this is his idea from his story as an athlete-student who trained abroad as well and tried to transfer his experience to Italy.
		Italy	Among the qualified athletes who have given their direct experience Danila Zazzera, Fiorentina Women's forwarder "The student-athlete program - said Danila Zazzera - and the Websport 360 platform will be very important tools for my colleagues who have yet to finish their path of the study and reconcile academic commitment with competitive activity."
		Italy	Valentina Vezzali, a forty-four-year-old champion with a 36-year fencing experience, Pietro and Andrea's mother and advisor of the Italian Federation of fencing, raises the problem. And invites schools to not consider sport as an opponent of educational activity but as an ally in the formation of new generations.

		Italy	<p>We have a duty - Minister Bussetti noted - to restore the right position of sport within our schools, where we are not dealing with the result but the educational aspect that it has in order to educate young people on an individual and collective level. Then, sporting activity becomes an added value capable of teaching discipline, respect for rules and authorities, a sense of responsibility, the ability to form a team, control of own body. All useful elements, if we think about them to educate a good citizen.</p>
		Italy	<p>Daigoro Timoncini, Alessia Polieri, Sara Sgarzi and Eleonora Sarti, the four athletes enrolled at the University of Bologna who participated in the 2016 Olympics, here with the rector Francesco Ubertini</p>
		Lithuania	<p>Because that person, after completing quality studies, becomes a professional in his field. Moreover, if he is a famous athlete, attracts attention in private business or the public sector, engaging in marketing. This is very important and promising. Thus, dual careers are one of our priority areas.</p>
		Romania	<p>It is true up to a point. Results may help, may provide notoriety, and from there you need a team to manage the relations around an athlete. When your image is well-constructed, you no longer depend on results. Even if you are no longer active as an athlete, this image will be maintained. See the example of David Beckham. He has retired 10 years ago and yet he benefits from an extraordinary image, but he was among the first athletes to take an army of people around him. You've got to have this feeling, to take responsibility, though you spend a lot more, because it is worth it.</p>
		Germany	<p>„Hartung has made the dual career that the German sport expects from its best.”</p>
		Germany	<p>Berger also stands as a model athlete for the elite promotion of the DHB”</p>
		Germany	<p>„The country needs new role models? -Even those friends and victims who say to themselves: Only sport is too one-sided for me.”</p>
		Germany	<p>„Anyone who thinks so positively and successfully is a role model and ambassador.”</p>
		Spain	<p>The Spanish Olympic Committee had the intervention of the President of the Government this Monday in the presentation of the Office of Aid to the Sportsman (OAD). Sánchez took advantage of the event to show his unconditional support to</p>

		Spain	<p>the sports sector, in an act full of Spanish Olympians, to whom he sent a message: "Your role goes beyond your achievements, you contribute something fundamental to the good health of a society", said the President.</p> <p>Sánchez added in his speech: "You are our best ambassadors both at home and abroad. You create a feeling of belonging and transmit values like the Olympics. When we promote sport, we take care of our country's health, sport is state policy".</p>
F	National guidelines on dual career	Slovenia	<p>Sports-friendly education certificate is a certificate for the stimulation of activities in the field of dual career of athletes, which has a great usable value directly for athletes. We want to identify which educational organizations support athletes in acquiring their education and provide sports friendly education.</p>
		Italy	<p>The program, promoted by MIUR in collaboration with Coni, Lega Serie A and CIP, was presented in Rome by the Minister of Education, Valeria Fedeli and, among others, by the Undersecretary Gabriele Toccafondi.</p>
		Italy	<p>The new program presented by the Ministry of Education which will allow, on an experimental basis, to combine high-level competitive activity with school commitments. The program, included in the law "Buona Scuola", concerns 415 student-athletes from 182 schools, including high schools, technical or professional institutes.</p>
		Italy	<p>A clear and peremptory directive. The European Parliament "underlines the decisive importance, for young athletes, of double sports and professional training; therefore calls on the Commission and the Member States, together with all relevant stakeholders, to develop guidelines to ensure that young athletes can complete, in addition to their sports training, even regular school and / or professional studies, taking into account existing best practices in individual Member States. sportiva, anche regolari studi scolastici e/o professionali, tenendo conto delle migliori prassi esistenti nei singoli Stati membri.</p>
		Italy	<p>The presentation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry for Sport, MIUR and CONI, which will give life, from the 2018-19 academic year to the first university sports groups. An ambitious but very concrete project: three million euros to invest, two notices to be announced in the next month to know who, among universities and students, will want to join. "A historic day" rejoices Minister Lotti.</p>
		Italy	<p>The Undersecretary Toccafondi is satisfied "With this project we want to offer the possibility for student-athletes to pursue a career as a professional and, at the same time, we want to reduce the high rate of school drop-out that affects students who practice high sports level</p>

		Italy	<p>A specific regulation was approved (by the collegiate bodies), in compliance, among other things, with the provisions of the European Charter for Sport and the specific European guidelines, thanks to which athletes, coaches and referees of national and international interest may be admitted to the "Double Career" program</p>
		Italy	<p>The Ministry of Education (MIUR), in collaboration with CONI, runs an experimental program on high-level student-athletes, often experienced with distrust by the school world. In this school year 2017-2018 there are 1309 students (+ 191% compared to 2016/2017), enrolled in 356 schools in 18 Italian regions.</p>
		Germany	<p>„He criticized the sacrosanct support of athletes by the military in sport politics as ineffective and unjust.” „The Sporthilfe has recently received money from the state to support athletes who do not want to or cannot wear uniforms.“ „The German Armed Forces themselves developed career prospects to retain top athletes in the squad.”</p>
		Lithuania	<p>“The next project will be conducted with the University of Austria and will be dedicated to the dual career of athletes. Today, athletes who have completed a professional career do not have the necessary skills to enter the labor market, so the new project will be designed to create a training program that allows athletes to acquire the necessary competencies,” explains R. Kveselaitis.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>The best way to go - called a dual career, when an athlete is still preparing for a new phase of life rather than hoping to live out of the rent, to be maintained by the state. We should pay much more attention to this. As is the case in Germany and some other countries.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>We have to strive for the state to take care of the athlete from the beginning of his career, when he reaches a certain result, to the end. This means that the athlete will have the opportunity to learn and then integrate into the sports market, - explained the director of the KKSD. - We have been to Germany and have collected material from a German university. We handed over the material to Mykolas Romeris University.</p> <p>The essence of this complex but serious system is that the state that invested in the athlete is then able to recover some of the money invested through the athlete's product. It is an expensive thing but effective for the state.</p> <p>Because the rent is not charged. But we would like the athlete to be part of the state cell. There is a time when it is invested in, it is a time when it returns to the state - not only the result, but also the product created. And the product you create is when you get a reward and pay taxes when you do the job.</p>

		Lithuania	<p>Now we imagine that if we already pay the rent, the state does not care more about the athlete. It becomes like a semi-retired person. But the state must care for the athlete, and it must help it integrate. Then, after the athlete's career, they can benefit one another.”</p> <p>In September this year, LTOK will organize special career training for athletes. They will introduce a new unique program for athletes - Athlete365 Business Accelerator. The training will aim to reveal the strengths of the athletes, to recognize the skills available, and to share the experience of how to apply them in other areas. In practice, athletes will be taught how to establish and maintain a relationship, how to prepare their CV and how to prepare and behave during a job interview.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>From the very beginning of my work on CCS, I have been trying to talk about the dual career of an athlete. This is the most important thing the state has to ensure. That's why I am skeptical about rentals. Because it is important for the state and the athlete that the athlete has the opportunity to do something after a career. The state must help him throughout his professional sports.</p> <p>This is the case in many European Union countries. And we, as chairman of the EU Council, have raised this issue as a priority. After that we even went to Germany where we were interested in German experience. They presented in depth a program of one of the universities to involve athletes in the study process. With this program, we introduced our universities by the informal Lithuanian Sports Science Council. We have given it to Mykolas Romeris University, which has expressed its willingness to try to implement this program. The essence of the program is that a high-skilled athlete takes care of his/her stage of learning to integrate into the labor market when he/she finishes his / her career, choosing which area he/she would like to work in. Investing in people there is even higher than rent. Why are they done? Therefore, after that, the person would return the investment to the state when creating the product. Our system guarantees income, but does not motivate to pursue a new career after leaving the big sport. This is a very important issue.</p>
		Lithuania	<p>During the discussion it was informed that the Seimas Youth and Sports Affairs Commission with the Lithuanian Sports University on June 12th organizes a round table discussion on the development of two-way career for athletes in Lithuania.</p>
G	Support of family	Slovenia	<p>due to the financial fraud his family is not in the existential distress, but that huge financial damage has been done to him.</p>
		Slovenia	<p>Maybe that's my mindset, my upbringing. We always talked to our parents about how to work and what to do with money. However, it is true that I haven't been playing only for a year,</p>

			and I hope that I will never finish like someone else. I know a lot of players who quickly lost everything after their careers.
		Italy	I risked interrupting my studies - said Satalino - because I saw the school as a difficulty compared to football commitments. My parents encouraged me to continue and today I am happy to join this project to find ways to improve and reconcile school and sport
		Italy	His father Greg is proud of his daughter, who "resisted the pressure of sport gents and publicity".
		Italy	One day talking about sports, my daughter said that maybe this year she should leave volleyball. My husband supported her by saying that in this way she would have more time to study, but I think sport and extra-curricular activities are important. I (mum) think that leaving volleyball can have the opposite effect, I believe that dedicating only time to studying is not right because doing anything else can make time for books more effective.
		Italy	In the world of adults are all involved in this exodus (drop-out)- has been reported by Francesca Vitali, national president of the Italian sports psychology Association and professor at the University of Verona in a specific seminar - Families often have too many expectations in their sons' sports results.
		Italy	Why call parents into question? Because they often emphasize the abilities of their sons, they tend to interfere in the conduct of the sporting activity, they nurture in their sons the illusion of easy successes favouring in reality, in this way, their drop-out at the first disappointment.
		Germany	„If you are not one of the big earners among athletes, you are usually dependent on private support, subsidies and sponsoring when it comes to financing your everyday sporting activities.”
		Germany	Maybe we should focus on the tremendous amount of work, on talent and wishes more than on our words as know-it-all parents. Maybe we should analyse all the hypotheses before imposing our final decision on the child. Maybe we should give to the child some space and thought freedom and maybe we will be surprised to see he knows best what is best for him. And maybe it's high time we let go of biases such as "what the hell are you going to do with sports in Romania" and to encourage and support performance, vocation, dedication and talent. Of course, if he is endowed with all of them, the child will make it in

			life, regardless of our biases. There are enough examples in this respect.
		Germany	„It is difficult for athletes and parents to be farsighted when sport demands a focus earlier and earlier.“
		Germany	„Three years ago she left her environment in Westphalia, where she trained her father, and moved to the Olympic base in Potsdam.“
		Spain	Friends call you one weekend: hey, we're having a barbecue, you want to join us? No, I have to train. It wears you out, the routine, and not being able to do things. You get into a loop you can't get out of because you can't stop training for two days. The most you can rest is a day, day and a half
		Spain	"Young people are dropping out of top-level sport largely because of pressure from their parents, who are asking them to focus on their studies. Partly because the model is inflexible. I've often come across teachers who have refused to make it easy for a student to attend a championship. Or that they have done it as if they were sparing his life, when it should be something standardised, known and accepted by the faculty before the start of the course. It can't be something that each teacher decides," considers Hernando.
		Spain	In addition to the commitment of the youngsters, making both careers compatible almost always requires a great deal of commitment from their families. "This is bearable because the parents contribute a lot financially, emotionally and with their time so that the boy or girl can move forward," says Josep Solá, professor at the Ramon Llull University
		Spain	"My family, unfortunately, is already cured in terror. It's not the first time this has happened to me in three years. In my case I'm in the Blume residence, in Madrid, and if I don't run I have to go back home to Galicia. I don't prioritise sport before my studies, but I don't understand that with the sacrifice I make, things like this happen," he says.