



news

International Workers and Amateurs in Sports Confederation

Edition 1/22

OLYMPIC &  
PARALYMPIC  
HEROS in CSIT

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CONGRESS  
in ROME

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**D**ear friends,  
 2021 was another year full of challenges for everyone in the world, for CSIT and for the whole sports movement.

After 2020, our CSIT Congress had to be held online also in 2021. We made every effort to the very end to hold it in person face to face along with the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of our World Sports Games 2021. Unfortunately, not all delegations were able to travel, especially the non-European ones. Despite great efforts by the CSIT Technical Commissioners, the CSIT staff and the organiser of the 2021 World Sports Games in Cervia, Italy, in the end the CSIT mega-event even had to be cancelled.

This decision was taken together with the members of the Executive Committee as it would have been very difficult for non-Europeans to participate in our Games. Furthermore, according to national health protocols, the WSG would have had to restrict itself to the championships. The organisation of the opening and closing ceremonies and social events would not have been allowed.

As we saw at the Tokyo Olympics, this would have prevented social interaction at our Games as well. But social interaction and gatherings are an essential part of our CSIT grand event. Without these attributes, our spirit cannot be lived. No opening ceremony and no closing ceremony are unimaginable at our Games. This is not what we wanted.

The CSIT and I personally regret this decision very much. We had the highest interest in the spirit of the sport and in holding the event for our many members and we tried everything. But the current circumstances do not allow us to organise an event that meets the CSIT standards.

After the cancellation of the CSIT World Sports Games there will be a re-launch in 2022 with a series of CSIT Single Championships to be held in different countries.

I would like to thank the CSIT Member Associations who are bidding with their countries to host these championships: We need to start as soon as possible because athletes and sports experts are eager to be active again at international level: Every championship organised in 2022 will be an opportunity to celebrate the spirit of sport!

Our main goal for 2022 is to get the sport going again. However, our attention is also focused on the next edition of the CSIT World Sport Games 2023, which will be held in the Municipality of Rome.

The year 2022 will also be the year in which CSIT will usher in a new era of CSIT activities on environmental sustainability. Thanks to the cooperation with GAISF and the IOC movement, we have the resources, competence and tools to open a new chapter: there will be a CSIT working group composed of numerous experts proposed by our CSIT national member associations.

The aim of the working group is to explore and discuss all the resources provided by GAISF and IOC and to design our CSIT roadmap. Our aim is to introduce a whole range of activities at the 2023 World Sport Games that will make our major event Green Games.

Dear Friends. Let us look positively into the new year 2022. I firmly believe that it will be the year of our new beginning. Stay healthy, that is the most important thing in these tense times. I wish you all the best and much success in the new year 2022.

Together we will be stronger!

Your President  
**Bruno Molea**

# Important **DECISIONS** IN ROME

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer



THE CSIT CONGRESS WITH IMPORTANT DECISIONS FOR THE COMING YEARS TOOK PLACE ONLINE BECAUSE OF CORONA. CSIT PRESIDENT BRUNO MOLEA WAS ABLE TO WELCOME 33 VOTING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CSIT MEMBER ORGANISATIONS AT HIS WELCOMING SPEECH TO THE ONLINE CONGRESS OF THE CSIT THIS MEANT THAT THE CONGRESS HAD A QUORUM AND SOME IMPORTANT AND NECESSARY DECISIONS COULD BE MADE FOR THE COMING YEARS.





After the postponement and eventual cancellation of the CSIT World Sport Games 2021 in Cervia (Italy) due to the Corona pandemic, the Congress focused on the already fixed WSG 2023 in Rome and possible candidates for further Games, which at CSIT are generally held every two years in odd years.

The video presentation of the CSIT World Sports Games 2023 in Rome by Angelo Diario, President of the Sports Commission Rome, was very promising and showed Rome as a perfect venue for major sporting events with a lot of experience and ideal sports venues as well as the necessary framework conditions for CSIT World Sports Games.

Limerick in Ireland presented itself as a possible candidate for the WSG 2025, submitting its official bid at the Congress in Rome and presenting the University of Limerick as the venue.

## CSIT AS AN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM

In recent years, the CSIT has developed into a major global platform with many opportunities for various summer sports federations. In the future, the CSIT World Games will also serve as a platform for disability sports, which is a major concern of CSIT President Bruno Molea.

Due to the CSIT's meanwhile very large network, new sports organisations and trend movements are also constantly applying for membership in the CSIT. In recent years, Mamanet, for example, has become a permanent fixture in the CSIT programme and at the WSG.

At the Congress in Rome, a new organisation, the Hungarian movement FITKID, presented itself as a new partner. FITKID is an important movement that provides a platform



for physical activity for children, which is becoming increasingly important as young people drift more and more into the electronic world and physical activity becomes more and more secondary.

## AWARDING AND DECORATION

Two Congress highlights were the honours for meritorious activities for and with CSIT and the Panathlon WSG Award 2021. The new Sport Director Harald van Hest (NCS) was long-term chairman of the TC Swimming and was personally awarded with the "Golden Plaque of Merit of the CSIT" in Rome by President Bruno Molea. Markku Kosonen (TUL) received the "Golden Plaque of Merit" for his services in Chess and Ole Juhl (DAI), already holder of the Golden Plaque of Merit, received the "Honorary Medal" for Tennis. Another Congress highlight was the "Panathlon WSG Award

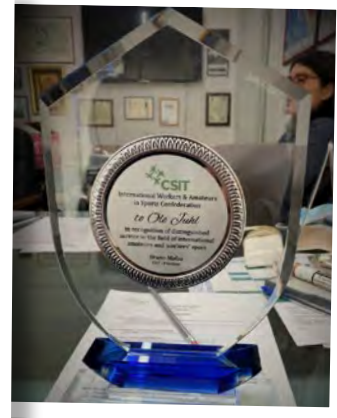
2021" in the name of its President Pierre Zappelli to Abraham Sagi (HAPOEL). Congratulations!

## CHANGES TO THE CSIT STATUTES

Recent global developments in a variety of areas have also necessitated changes to the CSIT Statutes at the Congress. As a world organization, the CSIT sees itself as obliged to make an important contribution to the peaceful and correct development of and at major sporting events. Firmly anchored in the statutes were the fundamental topics of Human Rights (United Nations) and the United Nations "UN – Sustainable Development Goals". Additionally the CSIT supports the new "Olympism 365 – Strategy" of the IOC, strengthening the role of sport as an important enabler for the UN – Sustainable Development Goals.

## GREEN GAMES ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Another very important topic at the CSIT Congress was the increasingly important issue of environmental sustainability at international sporting events, which GAISF expert Rohit Ramesh (General Association of International Sports Federations) explained in detail in a very informative presentation. It was a launch with an international character. The timing to open as well as to develop the CSIT and its activities in this sustainable direction was not chosen at random, it is reality! Globally there is strong focus on this essential topic. Many national governments and in particular the IOC and GAISF are rightly expecting our contribution, which will have an impact on several generations of human beings. Sustainability is an increasingly important topic within CSIT and will play



*above: Plaque of Merit for Harold van Hest and Markku Kosonen (receipt from Vice President Anu Rajajärvi)*

*right: Meeting of the Sports Directors Michel, Bouchoms and the new van Hest with President Molea*





## Executive Committee Meeting in Vienna 2021



a correspondingly large role in the upcoming CSIT World Sports Games. Read also the story on page 10.

## WORKING GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

CSIT informed during the Congress all participants that in addition to the newly created legal conditions (change of CSIT's statutes) CSIT needs to start the initiative of Environmental Sustainability also at practice level. The best way to do so is with a working group consisting of specialists in this field. All CSIT members unions are invited to submit candidatures of their national specialists, who are able and willing to contribute at the international level. The process is running. If requested, CSIT General Secretary Wolfgang Burghardt ([office@csit.tv](mailto:office@csit.tv)) can provide further information and is looking forward to receiving candidatures including a letter of motivation & CV.

## CSIT SINGLE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

The CSIT Sports Directors also gave an overview of the CSIT Single Championships 2022, which are of immense importance due to the

cancellation of the WSG 2021 and will be supported by CSIT accordingly. Find more details and date in the article on page 9.

## COORDINATOR PARASPORTS

The gradual anchoring of parasports activities in a large international sport for all confederation like the CSIT has been a major concern of CSIT President Bruno Molea for some time. However, CSIT is currently looking for a coordinator, a specialist who will receive extensive support from the CSIT Sports Directors and the respective Sports Technical Commissions to develop activities in this segment under the CSIT umbrella. Also here, the General Secretary can provide further information and is looking forward to receiving national candidatures. ([office@csit.tv](mailto:office@csit.tv)).


## CSIT EXCOM IN VIENNA

Three months before the CSIT Congress, the ExCom Meeting took place in Vienna at the beginning of July. The Board had the opportunity to meet representatives of the

Vienna city government and to talk to Christian Meidlinger, Vice President of the Vienna City Parliament. The discussion also focused on the current situation and the development of the CSIT. Big thanks go to host ASKÖ and its President Hermann Krist as well as Vice President Christian Hinterberger and their team for the perfect organization. Austria is always a top host.

## EU-FUNDED PROJECTS OF THE CSIT

Congress participants were also given an overview of CSIT's past, current and planned EU-funded projects. BRIDGES and YouAca 1.0 as well as 2.0 were very successful projects in the past years, which were even awarded as showcase projects by the EU Commission.

In the coming years, further projects are to follow with YouLead, Play.Inc and others (more details on page 16 and following), in which the CSIT will be involved with its interested member organizations. CSIT cordially invites its members to express their interest in participating at projects and to apply for participation. 

WITH EVEN MORE FOCUS ON THE FUTURE FOR ALL OF US! IN SPORTING TERMS, 2021 WAS A VERY SAD YEAR FOR CSIT AND THE ENTIRE SPORTING COMMUNITY WORLDWIDE. THE BIGGEST SETBACK FOR CSIT WAS THE POSTPONEMENT AND EVENTUAL CANCELLATION OF THE WORLD SPORTS GAMES IN CERVIA, ITALY. HOWEVER, 2021 WAS ALSO THE YEAR WHEN CSIT WORKED HARD TO STRENGTHEN ITS TECHNICAL COMMITTEES.

# Cooperate to celebrate our **SUCCESS**

by Henk Bouchoms, CSIT Sports Director



**L**arge sporting events such as the CSIT World Sports Games with several thousand participants can only grow and gain in importance if they are supported by Technical Committees that work hard on the quality of the championships and have the entrepreneurial spirit to further develop the championships in categories, disciplines or new sports. The starting point is to develop attractive and appealing championships that can count on a large participation of our affiliated organisations and other federations.

## POWER FOR THE CSIT SPORTS DIRECTORS

In addition, CSIT currently has not only one, but three Sports Directors with Henk Bouchoms, Georges Michel and Harold van Hest. Together they have more than 60 years of experience through their work within the Technical Commissions Karate, Judo and Swimming. They know CSIT from the inside over a long period and can represent the interests of the Technical Commissions very well within the ExCom.

### GOOD AMBITIONS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED WITH THE COMMITMENT OF EVERYONE WITHIN CSIT

The CSIT ExCom started a development to restructure the regulations and drastically change the selection and appointment of experts within the Technical Committees already a few years ago. The changes have been implemented and the first appointments according to the new method are a fact.



Their task can easily be summarized in guiding and managing the Technical Commissions and translate the policy and ambitions of the ExCom into practical applications within the Technical Commissions. An important interaction that requires the full attention of the Sports Directors.

#### OPEN POSITIONS

- Football
- Gymnastics
- Judo
- Swimming
- Wrestling
- Parasport

### CHARACTERISTIC DEVELOPMENTS IN 2021

Already in 2019 initiatives have been taken to restart the Technical Commission Gymnastics. Meanwhile, the developments for Gymnastics are so promising that in 2022 a championship will be organised in 13 different disciplines. The expected number of participants is estimated at more than 1500. CSIT is still looking for the best experts for various disciplines. If we succeed in this in 2022, the TC Gymnastics will immediately be the largest TC with a chairman and 13 secretaries. The new Technical Commissioner Chairman is Giampaolo Ciavolella, named by the CSIT ExCom 2021 during their meeting in Vienna.

Another positive development is the addition of the sport Hand to Hand combat (H2HC) to the TC Karate. This is only a temporary inclusion of H2HC within the TC Karate. As soon as H2HC has laid the foundations in which they can propagate the sport, it will get its own Technical Commission structure.

### CSIT SINGLE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

As a result of the cancellation of the CSIT World Sports Games 2021, the member unions have been approached to take on the organisation of single championships in 2022. We are pleased that the member unions see the necessity and actively support CSIT in this endeavour. The first invitations have already been sent out. More invitations will follow soon.

The championships will only be organised if at least four member unions participate. Due to the late sending of the invitations, indicated deadlines must be respected. On basis of the registrations at the first set deadline it will be decided whether a single championship can be organised.

#### PLANNED CSIT SINGLE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

- **Mamanet:** Cervia / AICS Italy, 08-12 June 2022
- **Basketball:** Cervia / AICS Italy, 08-12 June 2022
- **Gymnastics:** Cesenatico / AICS & FISAC Italy, 06-18 June 2022
- **Table Tennis:** AICS Italy, June 2022
- **Tennis:** Pajulahti / TUL Finland, 24-29 July 2022
- **Chess:** Pajulahti / TUL Finland, 24-27 July 2022
- **Wrestling and Beach Wrestling:** Pajulahti / TUL Finland, 24-27 July 2022
- **Swimming:** Oulu / TUL Finland, 24-28 August 2022
- **Beach Soccer:** Cervia / AICS Italy, September 2022
- **Petanque:** FAST Algeria, September 2022



### CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES 2023

The championships organised in 2022 can be seen as a warming up for the CSIT World Sports Games 2023 in Rome, Italy. The experiences and lessons learned from these championships will help to further improve the championships and the Games! For the Games 2023 the expectations are high. Fair Play will be more visible within CSIT Championships as well as from its partners. Furthermore, we are working hard to promote senior sports and parasports. Here too, the support of the affiliated unions is indispensable. 

# CSIT goes SUSTAINABLE & GREEN

SUSTAINABILITY AND ECOLOGICALLY GREEN ARE BUZZWORDS THAT HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT IN RECENT YEARS AND ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT. THE WORLD OF SPORT MUST BECOME GREEN AGAIN, SPORTS FACILITIES MUST BE BUILT AND DESIGNED IN A SUSTAINABLE MANNER AND THE ENVIRONMENT MUST NOT BE FURTHER POLLUTED DURING MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS.

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

**E**xperts worldwide agree on this. The implementation of “sustainable & green” is being worked on intensively and discussed with experts at various forums and events and ways of implementation are being worked on. CSIT Secretary General Wolfgang Burghardt was invited as guest at “SPORTOPIA” – a forum for sustainability in sport.

In mid-September, the “SPORTOPIA” forum took place in “green” Styria in the heart of Austria. The largest forum for innovation and sustainability in sport in Austria and a

unique exchange place for experiences, ideas and intelligent solutions for sports organisations and companies. Internationally, Austria is already a pioneer in innovation and sustainability, such as environmental protection and sport, technologies, but also in the field of human rights. During the event, CSIT Secretary General Wolfgang Burghardt had many interesting discussions with the experts present on these important and indispensable topics and was able to take away some aspects and valuable inputs for CSIT.

## SPORTS FACILITY OF THE FUTURE

Sports officials, active athletes, political decision-makers, companies with innovative products in the field of sports, planners, builders and operators of sports facilities as well as interested experts from the fields of sports, digitalisation and sustainability took part. The sports facility of the future” was discussed. The process of digitalisation is bringing about massive technological, social and ecological changes. The area of sport is not unaffected by

this either. With this transformation, a new era is dawning that can point the way to sustainable development. “SPORTOPIA” put this topic up for discussion in the area of sport and developed solutions and scenarios for the sports facility of the future.

CSIT has also been consistently pursuing the path of “sustainable & green” for years and pays meticulous attention to compliance with these new values in sport when holding its CSIT World Sports Games and also Single Championships. The CSIT WSG 2021 in Cervia (Italy) were planned as a green event, but like many other major events, unfortunately fell victim to Corona and could not be held. The topics will of course be taken along for the next WSG 2023 in Rome (Italy). Many innovative ideas in terms of the environment are being considered and will be implemented. The WSG as an international major event are ideal for new ways and innovations. GAISF President Rafaele Chiulli and an expert on sustainability and green events will give a presentation on this topic at the CSIT Congress on 15 October 2021 ONLINE and will be available for discussion with the CSIT Member Unions. 



# CSIT at the EPSI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer and Valeria Gherardini, CSIT Head of International Projecting

**80 PEOPLE FROM A WIDE RANGE OF BACKGROUNDS ATTENDED THE EPSI CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS.**


**E**PSI – European Platform for Sport Innovation is a Brussels-based platform that aims to create new partnerships in sport and to find and propose new ideas for Sport for All in Europe. Among other things, the aim is to unite elite sport and Sport for All. The focus is on the development of instruments and measures that can compare professional sport with the Sport for All movement, but also differentiate between them.

Below the 80 persons were partners and members of EPSI as well as stakeholders from the fields of economy, ministries, universities, authorities, different regions as well as non-profit and profit organisations,

all of them dealing with sport and especially with innovations in sport from different perspectives.

For CSIT, President Bruno Molea and Valeria Gherardini, the coordinator for international projecting and EU projects within CSIT, participated in the General Assembly and the panel discussion. CSIT, as a partner of EPSI, took the opportunity to present itself as a Sport for All organisation with facts and figures, as well as goals and results of the investments in digitalisation and data collection over the last years.

After one and a half years of on-line meetings, the General Assembly was once again a physical meeting with many one-to-one meetings for Valeria Gherardini and Bruno Molea.

After a long time, it was again an opportunity to network on site with interesting interlocutors and associations. CSIT expects to consolidate the already started cooperations with EPSI and also to start new ones, as well as to continue lobbying on a European level! 

### Some links of reference

- EPSI on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/epsieu/>
- EPSI webpage:  
<https://epsi.eu/about-epsi/>





# Bruno Molea

## elected to the

# GAISF COUNCIL

MID OF NOVEMBER CSIT PRESIDENT BRUNO MOLEA WAS ELECTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GAISF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS GROUP AND WILL BE ONE OF THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE GAISF COUNCIL. FOR CSIT IT IS A GREAT HONOUR TO BE REPRESENTED IN THIS IMPORTANT ORGANISATION AND AT THE SAME TIME A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE AND ALLOWED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF IMPORTANT TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT.

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

**G**AISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations) is the umbrella organisation for all (Olympic and non-Olympic) international sports federations as well as organisers of multi-sports

games and sport-related international associations. CSIT will be represented by its President Bruno Molea on the GAISF Council, one of the most important bodies in international sports. The CSIT president stood for election in an online meeting and

won with 56 against 44 percent of the votes against Robbert de Kock, President of the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WSFGI). For CSIT, this admission to the GAISF Board is a milestone in its more than 100-year history.



*CSIT President Bruno Molea was elected as chairman of the GAISF Associate Members Group*


## “IT MEANS A LOT TO ME PERSONALLY AND TO CSIT”

In a first statement, Bruno Molea expressed his delight: “I am very happy that GAISF has placed this trust in me and that CSIT has been given the opportunity to participate in this important board and to discuss and implement important topics in sport. The CSIT has been a member of GAISF since 1973 and is recognized by IOC since 1986. It means a lot to us and to me personally and I would like to take this opportunity and express my gratitude. Thank you very much, the elections are over and we have to work now!”

## COOPERATION, ACTIVENESS AND COMPETITIVENESS

Already in his introduction speech, Bruno Molea stressed the importance of intensive cooperation: “There are three key words for my candidacy: cooperation, activeness and competitiveness. I think that as CSIT we need to change our strategy as an associate member of GAISF, considering two levels of change: an internal and an external level. I see that we need to work much more with GAISF to get to know each other better and share experiences and competences. This would be a benefit for both our organisations. A programme

of meetings and exchanges should give us the opportunity to become partners in projects.

The second consideration of my application was a close cooperation, which is related to the representation of the associate members towards GAISF and the IOC movement. “We need to better identify and share the common needs of our group as associate members, seek recognition from GAISF and the IOC movement, and lobby as a coalition on behalf of associate members. I think we need to be active and fast after the pandemic, because we need to create all the opportunities to be competitive in our sector, in good relations with the international federations.” 

## GAISF ELECTS IVO FERRIANI AS NEW PRESIDENT



The GAISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations) General Assembly has elected Ivo Ferriani, representing AIOWF (Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations), as its new President. CSIT President Bruno Molea, who has been a member of the GAISF Council since mid-November, is looking forward to a good upcoming cooperation with the new President. At the same time, CSIT thanks the outgoing President Raffaele Chiulli for the good co-operation so far and wishes him all the best in his functions. Ivo Ferriani takes office as President with immediate effect and will serve a two-year mandate in accordance with the GAISF Statutes and the rotation principle of stakeholders. “I am very honoured. The COVID-19 pandemic has really shown that sport is a force for good. I am therefore proud to have the opportunity to work with the global sport community to promote the power of sport and achieve our common goal of a better world through sport.”

# CSIT Training Course for SENIORS 55+

by Palle Thomsen, CSIT Vice President

THE CSIT 'PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR SENIORS 55+ WORKING GROUP' ORGANISED A TRADITIONAL THREE-DAY TRAINING COURSE FOR COACHES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE IN SCHIELLEITEN, AUSTRIA, FROM 24 TO 26 SEPTEMBER 2021. THE AIM OF THE COURSE WAS TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES AND LEARN SPECIFIC SPORTS, PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES AND NEW THINGS IN THE FIELD OF 'SPORTS FOR ELDERLY'.

**T**he practical organisation was perfectly carried out by Uschi Mortinger (Pensioners' Association Austria) in the beautiful Schielleiten Castle in Styria, in the heart of Austria. Fourteen participants from four European sports organisations of the CSIT member organisations Austria (ASKÖ),

Denmark (DAI), France (FSGT) and Italy (AICS) attended the training.

After their arrival, the participants were picked up by bus from Vienna airport and brought safely to Styria. The historic Schielleiten Castle with its state-of-the-art sports facilities was once again a perfect venue for the physical activities. CSIT Vice President Palle Thomsen, who is

also responsible for Sport for All and Sport for Elderly People at CSIT, welcomed all participants of the fifth training course.

Already on the first day, the programme included balance exercises, games with balls, coordination and





cooperation with an Austrian expert and juggling sessions. The official opening of the training course was on Saturday by CSIT Secretary General Wolfgang Burghardt, who also spoke about the history of CSIT, the CSIT World Sports Games and the future of CSIT.

There were also sessions with experts on Fitball, Slingtraining and Tabata as well as regenerative walks through the beautiful gardens of the castle to get to know the many great outdoor sports facilities and the indoor sports rooms. In the conference room, the participants were also presented with the newly published book "Designed to move" by Paolo Tumedei (AICS).

At the end, as always, there was a very satisfactory balance sheet about the physical activities carried out, the future projects planned and

the possibilities to further promote senior sport at international, national and local level. Before leaving, the participants took part in a sightseeing tour in Vienna and returned home with great impressions – also of the Austrian capital.

The seniors are already looking forward to organising the learned physical activities for seniors 55+ at the CSIT World Sports Games 2023 in Rome and to pass them on to a large number of participants from different international member associations.







## EU co-funded projects of CSIT

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer und Oliver Pangl, CSIT Administrative Secretary

SINCE 2017, CSIT HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY AND INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN EU CO-FINANCED PROJECTS. WITH THE HELP OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS AND THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE EU COMMISSION, CSIT'S CORE TOPICS SUCH AS YOUNG LEADERS, INTEGRATION, INCLUSION AND, MOST RECENTLY, PARA-SPORT ARE BEING WORKED ON AND IMPLEMENTED IN VARIOUS PROJECTS WITH SOME CSIT MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN THEIR COUNTRIES.

In order to achieve the goals set and defined by the EU, CSIT uses the phenomenon of sport, which is known to unite peoples and have a unifying effect across all borders. Sport is the core theme of CSIT, in which the organisation has expertise and holds its CSIT World Sports Games every two years with several thousand participants. Sport is known to have a very positive impact on various dynamics within social groups. CSIT makes use of these strengths and successfully incorporates its experience into EU projects.

The first major EU co-financed project of the CSIT and at the same time the basic project of the now very well-founded cooperation with the European Commission was BRIDGES. After a six-month extension due to Corona, it ended in the

summer of 2021 after 24 months and was highly praised by the EU and even used as a showcase project on the topic of integration.

## BRIDGES

The aim of BRIDGES was to create cohesive and inclusive local communities in the four participating EU countries of Italy, Spain, Greece and Croatia that promote exchange between migrants and locals.

Over the course of two and a half years, the project formed inclusive communities of migrants and locals across Europe. BRIDGES finally came to an end in June 2021 with a final conference held entirely online due to EU-wide Covid19 restrictions.

As the organiser of the final event, CSIT took advantage of video conferencing in the best possible way – including interpreters in all languages represented in the project. In this way, participants who did not speak English were also able to take part in the final conference.

The event, led by the CSIT headquarters in Vienna, gathered all the participating organisations of the two and a half years project to



present the extensive projects and results. Each partner documented a key aspect of creating inclusive communities between migrants and local people under a specific heading, e.g. solidarity, commitment and flexibility. Almost 100 participants from all over Europe attended the conference and witnessed the premiere of the final video summarising a selection of actions and experiences of all partner organisations in BRIDGES. The video also showed the great commitment of all partner countries.

Besides the final video, the BRIDGES final handbook (can be found in the [www.csit.tv](http://www.csit.tv) download area) was the second major outcome of the project. It introduces the project, provides an overview of the process and gives relevant tips and tricks for building inclusive communities.

Remembering the praising feedback from the EU Commissioners, we can say that BRIDGES was a big success and we would like to thank and congratulate all partners once again!



### BRIDGES FACTS

- 5 participating nations
- 47 integration events
- 79 participating nationalities
- Over 3,500 active participants in the projects



## YOUAca 2.0 & YOULead

YOUAca 2.0 and YOULead, like CSIT's previous YOUAca projects, are co-funded by the European Commission and aim to improve the skills of young people in grassroots sport. YOULead is the third edition of the YOUAca non-formal education programme, which is strongly desired and supported by CSIT President Bruno Molea and the entire CSIT ExCom. It is coordinated by Anu



Rajajarvi, CSIT Executive Committee member and CSIT Vice President in charge of youth policy within CSIT.

YOUAca 2.0 came to an end in June 2021 after one and a half years. As with BRIDGES, the final conference was held online and was thus accessible to a wider audience. With the YOUAca guidelines and the YOUAca 2.0 booklet, two important documents were published in October 2021 as a result of the projects.

YOULead involves around 30 young people from the CSIT partner organisations ASKÖ (Austria), AICS (Italy), KALEV (Estonia), HLA (Croatia), TUL (Finland) and UCEC (Spain). After an initial online meeting, the participants had the opportunity to meet in person in Rome from 12 to 15 October. The two-day programme included an intergenerational dialogue with senior CSIT staff and experiencing new forms of beach sports – with an educational background to learn about organising and managing a youth camp.

The sports activities were led by Sport in Tour, an association of the host organisation AiCS, which organises a summer sports camp on the beach every year. As the meeting was held in the framework of the CSIT

Congress, it was also an opportunity to meet some CSIT representatives. The three CSIT sports directors Henk Bouchoms, Georges Michel and Herold Van Hest were available to the young people for an exchange of ideas in the framework of the inter-generational dialogue.

## PLAYINC

The aim of PLAYInc, which was launched at the beginning of 2021, is to create an international platform that offers concepts for sports games and exercises that enable inclusive play of children with motor and cognitive disabilities together with healthy children.

In mid-September, the first “physical” meeting of the new EU project PLAYInc took place in Tarragona. After the Corona-related travel restrictions and the previous online meetings, the Tarragona meeting was the first opportunity to see each other live and exchange ideas. Face-to-face meetings allowed the group to deepen their work and combine free time with intensive networking. The Tarragona meeting was organised by CSIT's Spanish affiliate UCEC.

Representatives from 13 organisations took part – all coaches and experts in the integration of disabled and non-disabled children through sport. It was a perfect opportunity to share



left: xxx .....



Special guests will be the retired national football players Max Tonetto and Simone Perrotta, who were part of the 2006 Italian World Cup team. The theoretical part will be followed by a visit to Mundialido. The meeting will end with an outlook on future tasks.

## ENGAGE YOU4SPORT

Building on the great work of AiCS in the field of migration, including the implementation of sports and cultural activities as well as national campaigns, the CSIT member took the lead in the next inclusive project. The aim of EngageYOU4Sport is to promote migrant engagement in local grassroots sports organisations while developing leadership skills in sport. This two-year project in cooperation with the University of Padua is already in full swing and will involve around 6,000 participants. Read a detailed story on page 20.

## SPORT FOR A BETTER WORLD

Sports For a Better World is a networking and innovation project for a global strategy that proposes policy and strategic measures to promote physical activity in Europe. As with other projects, there were initial difficulties due to the pandemic. However, the project has picked up again in autumn 2021 and is well on track.

The next steps are to develop the curriculum for the courses. Each partner has been assigned a chapter related to the organisation of sports events. CSIT, as the organiser of its CSIT World Sports Games, covers the chapter "Strategic Planning of Sports Events" and can draw on its

many years of experience with major international sports events.


The course materials are then to be compiled on the basis of the curriculum. In addition to classic PowerPoint slides, multimedia content can also be used. The final output will be a 16-hour learning course for grassroots sports managers. It will be published for free use on the project leader's platform.

## BECOME PARTNER FOR EU PROJECTS

Why become a CSIT partner in EU co-funded projects?

If you are a sports organisation based in one of the EU Member States and interested in working in international projects with partners from all over Europe, do not hesitate to contact us!

EU co-funded projects are the best opportunity to...

- internationalise good practices tested at local, regional and national level
- exchange and test new and innovative sports and best practices at international level
- provide opportunities for international non-formal education to employees and collaborators
- provide young people with educational opportunities at an international level to improve their employability 

best practices and experiences. The group of coaches, coordinated by Around Sport and AiCS, worked on analysing the surveys that each partner had addressed to the target group of coaches and families to identify needs related to sport practice.

The project partners of the one-year project finalised their concepts according to the guidelines and key aspects formulated at a meeting in Tarragona. After an evaluation phase, these materials will subsequently be uploaded to a newly established website and made available to the public.

## MUNDIALEU

MundialeU is about gathering know-how to design and run inclusive sports events for migrants and locals. It also aims to lay the foundation for a major European sporting event with the goal of social cohesion.

After a difficult start due to the Corona pandemic, the project, which was due to end in December 2021, has been extended to 2022. The new year will start with the first live event in Ostia Antica near Rome, Italy, from 5 to 7 February. After an initial get-to-know-you session, Mundialido, a national football tournament for migrants and refugees, will be presented and discussed.

### CONTACTS

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**International Project Office**  
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# ENGAGE<sup>You4</sup> SPORT

by Valeria Gherardini, CSIT Head of International Projecting

TAKING CARE OF FOOTBALLERS AND RUNNERS WITH A MIGRATION BACKGROUND ARE NOTHING NEW FOR THE AICS. IN RECENT YEARS, THE ITALIAN ASSOCIATION HAS WORKED IN MANY PROJECTS AND COMMUNITIES, PROVIDING SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF MIGRATION

**T**he latest project is called “EngageYou4Sport” and is again co-financed by the European Commission. A logical progression: if you can feel part of a group as a sports person, then you can become a leader. This is also the added value of the EngageYou4Sport project. Main goal is again integration and social inclusion of refugees. This time as leaders in sport.

The project will be implemented in 10 cities in 5 regions (Tuscany, Campania, Lazio, Veneto and Emilia Romagna) and is based on the assumption that an active role in the community is promoted through the development of leadership skills in

sport. A training programme with courses and on-site training sessions will be conducted for 100 refugees and 50 Italians to actively engage them in many possible leadership positions as coaches, referees, officials and planners of sport events.

During the on-site training, the refugees become active through the engagement of other refugees (50) to plan and organise sports events in each of the 10 cities. In order to achieve the goal of social cohesion and provide mentoring for sports leaders, a special training programme for managers and coaches (40) of sports organisations at the local level will also be implemented to develop intercultural skills.

Through this dual engagement strategy, the project aims to achieve

full engagement of refugees and host communities. The skills developed by the participants and the sporting events are evaluated and impact on the refugees’ capacity as leaders in sport. Through the activities and dissemination at national and European level, the project will reach about 6,000 people.

**SPORT AS A  
PROFESSIONAL  
FUTURE AND  
A GREAT  
OPPORTUNITY**

In October 2021, a first training of 18 local sports managers already took place in Rome. With basic sports training and subsequently a six-month internship with grassroots sports. 200 young people took and are taking part in the training, 150 of them refugees and asylum seekers.

The participants met their national trainers Alessandra Vannucci and Fatty Ansumana, project manager Valeria Gherardini and project





supervisor Veronica Avantaggiato, who are guiding them towards the development of a common methodology for the management of the project's territorial actions.

The AiCS committees involved in the project, under the guidance of the project staff and the national trainers, have already involved the institutions of the national and local reception system to create the conditions for territorial cooperation.

The methodology for the project has been developed by AICS over the last five years in collaboration with the University of Padua (Dialogic Science), for the management of the different activities in the field of migration. This intercultural methodology aims to promote and manage interactions between migrants and host communities. The project aims to promote for participants the adoption of an active role in the community through sport. From sport users to active leaders in sport organisations.



# The big projects of AiCS 2021

by Patrizia Cupo, AiCS

AFTER THE INITIAL SHOCK OF THE PANDEMIC CRISIS, AiCS 2021 BEGAN TO REFOCUS ON ITS INTRINSIC VALUES AND DEVELOPED SOME PROJECTS IN THE FIELDS OF CHILDREN'S EDUCATION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ISSUE OF GREEN POLITICS IN SPORT. FOCUSING ON SPORT AND CULTURE AS INSTRUMENTS OF SOCIAL COHESION FOR THE HARMONIOUS GROWTH OF COMMUNITIES, WITH A FOCUS ON YOUNG PEOPLE.

To this end, several actions were launched at once: One was "We are Sport – Sport Siamo Noi" and "Team Sport – Sport di Squadra", which were promoted by the Italian Ministry of Education and co-financed by the main Italian sports institutions. Another was "Sprek.o.", carried out in partnership with Cittadinanzattiva to teach young people respect for the environment. And finally, the research project "Jump the gap", which aims to analyse the

relationship between women and sport by identifying young people as the real players in order to change the stigmas and stereotypes that lead adult women to drop out of sport.

All the projects managed by the AiCS Project Office in collaboration with the other offices of the AiCS Board, led by AiCS and CSIT President Bruno Molea, had the same objective, depending on the area of activity: to promote social well-being and community cohesion.

## SPORT FOR ALL

The projects "Sport siamo noi" and "Sport di squadra" push the sporting activity of children between 6 and 14 years old and of young university students.

"Sport siamo noi", funded by "Sport e Salute" (an Italian public company responsible for the development of grassroots sport in the country), targets children living in small Italian communities with less







than 10,000 inhabitants. It aims to support physical activity in the suburbs by promoting the social inclusion of children at risk of exclusion.

“Sport di squadra”, funded by the Department of Sport under the Presidency of the Italian Council of Ministers, aims instead to introduce qualified sporting activities in schools, aimed not only at children between 6 and 14 years old, but also at university students under an educational agreement. Again, the aim is high: to promote sport as a public education policy at the level of compulsory education and to use sport as a tool to promote socialisation and psychophysical well-being after long months of isolation and sedentary life.

## RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

In addition to the projects to promote sport, the AiCS is equally concerned with projects to promote environmental awareness. In 2021, the massive anti-waste education campaign “Sprek.o”, which aimed to teach young people to respect the environment, came to an end: As part of this project, the AiCS organised several “Ritiuhlon” all over Italy: waste collection competitions with prizes, mainly aimed at primary school children in the country. These were not simple “clean-ups” along riverbanks, in forests or public parks, but real opportunities to promote educational debates about the serious damage that wrong behaviour can cause: Throwing away a cigarette or a sweet wrapper has disastrous effects on the environment we live in. Picking them up from the ground educates the little ones much more than any school lesson about the climate or nature: it makes them – as the motto of AiCS Ambiente says – real “musketeers of the environment”.

Through its sports and environmental awareness projects, AiCS has been able to directly involve thousands of children and young people across Italy, despite the disastrous year of closures and fears.

## JUMP THE GAP

But the projects were not limited to practical activities. AiCS used the lockdown period to deepen studies and trainings, especially on the issue of the gender gap. Bridging the Gender Gap through Sport. For this reason, the “Jump the gap” study, co-funded by Sport e Salute, was launched in spring 2021, carried out by AiCS together with three other sport promotion organisations and the University of Padua.

The study, carried out on almost 5,000 people – girls and boys aged 3 to 11 – looked at the reasons for dropping out of sport among women, who are often victims of stereotypes that portray them as solely responsible for the household and family. In addition, the research enabled the development of a set of guidelines and useful measures to combat stereotypes and promote grassroots sport for women.

Once again, a positive result was found among young people: Among them, the common stereotypes about women do not exist. Therefore, education for equality must start with young people to overcome sexism and gender inequality once and for all.





# 1962 to 2022 60 years AICS

by Patrizia Cupo, AICS

## BETWEEN YOUTH AND TRAINING POLICY – APPRECIATION OF A GREAT PAST WITH A VIEW TO A GREAT FUTURE

**2**022 is a very special and big year of celebration for the Italian association AICS. The CSIT member celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Six decades in which the association's commitment has changed in terms of areas of activity, but not in terms of purpose. AICS knows perfectly how to turn its activities into attractive events in which health is at the forefront. Always striving for equal opportunities, dialogue, cooperation and helpfulness. Where the rules of the game allow everyone to play, regardless of their possibilities and abilities.

AICS stands for progress, continuous development and commitment to a pleasant civic life? Throughout the six decades, there is a common thread that connects the different eras and different areas: Such is the image of AiCS designed by the nine 17-year-old students of the "Guggenheim" Lyceum in Venice. They won the ideas competition to design the 2022 AiCS calendar and, together with more than 200 young people from all

over Italy, tried to give an image to the 60 years of AICS.

The events to celebrate the history and, at the same time, the future of the AiCS start right here: with the youth policy, which aims not only to involve the youngest in the life of the association, but also to educate them through national and international projects and make them the future managers of grassroots social and sporting promotion in Italy.

Considering the great progress made and aware that the future of sports promotion is based on skills, high specialisation and the training of future managers, AICS is preparing to celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a big charity event that will take place over two days.

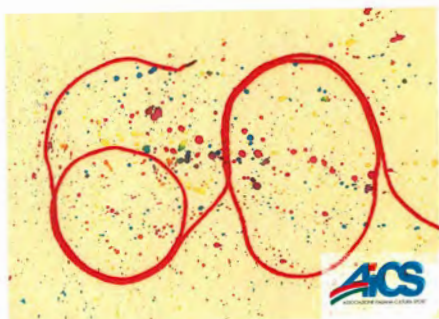
### BIG ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN ROME

On 26 and 27 May 2022, the association, which was founded in Rome in 1962, will offer its stakeholders and key partners an evening charity gala in the capital. The convivial event, the brainchild of AICS and CSIT President

Bruno Molea, will raise money for an association dedicated to caring for the families of children with cancer.

The event will be further enhanced by many guests of honour and awards for athletes and personalities who have made the association great. Rome will also host a screening of a short film by two young directors Marco Rosson and Federico Riccardo Rossi, the authors of the award-winning documentary on the life of boxer Giovanni Parisi, who died too soon.

On the second day of the jubilee festival, a charity padel tournament will be held in aid of Children's Cancer Support: Journalists, VIPs from the entertainment industry as well as managers and friends of the AiCS will show that grassroots sport is even more capable of inspiring than professional sport. The tournament will take place in one of Rome's major sports centres and will be an opportunity to gather managers, volunteers and active players for two days of celebration and discussion. The aim is to lay the foundations for the future of the AICS. Not only for a new season, but more importantly for the start of the new era after Covid-19.



# NEW MEANS NEW WAYS NEW IDEAS

by Patrizia Cupo, AiCS

**AICS SPORT NEVER ENDS – BUT COVID HAD A MASSIVE IMPACT, LED TO A RETHINK AND BROUGHT ABOUT SO MANY INNOVATIVE NEW THINGS**



**T**he Covid 19 pandemic has had a huge negative impact on all sectors worldwide. Not only in sport, but also in business. AiCS has also been affected in all areas from the north to the south of the Italian peninsula. Despite great fear of the collapse of all activities, the AiCS was able to stem the losses and maintain a high level of promoted activities and create new ones.

In the beginning, digital offerings were used. Later, when it was possible again, they slowly returned to normal. With Covid-appropriate sporting events and the necessary distance, control and hygiene. And not only that: the AiCS set up a wide variety of services strictly oriented to the needs that arose during the pandemic. The recovery after the Covid-19 crisis is also a great opportunity to rethink the promotion of sports activity and social communication.

## COVID-19 CRISIS TEAM

When the first phase of the pandemic was about managing the general shutdown of many events and projects and counteracting the massive social and economic impact, the AiCS Governing Board set up the "Covid-19 Crisis Team". A team of managers, experts and advisors

from the Bureau helped spread tools and knowledge to limit impending damage. Not only training sessions, but also online activities and even online courses for sports teachers were offered and handled.

## EXPANSION OF DIGITAL SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

The AiCS also developed two communication and information systems that could further ensure networking and social relations in each area. Digital communication was massively expanded, which also changed the AiCS digitally in the long term.

First, the TgAiCS was founded. A collection of useful information for athletes and cultural workers, which later developed into a real television talk show. TgAiCS has now become the show "SportivaMente", representing the AiCS as an entity that knows how to support sport and is able to draw the attention of institutional actors and partners to the AiCS. The show displays both useful information and the "beautiful stories" of sport and social promotion that the AiCS collects throughout Italy.

The second step was to install a chat system that allows quick communication system between areas and at the same time connects all

140 AiCS committees in Italy. Emails, newsletters and official communications with small "memos" or "alerts" are sent directly to the mobile phones of the AiCS managers.

## COVID MANAGEMENT SPORT NEVER STOPS

To ensure that sporting activities continue to be guaranteed, the AiCS Crisis Staff has established the function of Covid Manager. According to the principle: the pandemic is not over yet. The manager oversees Covid security measures in the organisation of sporting events and establishes all security protocols required by national sport and health institutions.

To meet the need for Covid managers at every sporting event in 2020 and 2021, the crisis team has conducted training to build a team of regional Covid managers. Today, AiCS has a network of 20 regional covid managers who are constantly informed and updated through a dedicated forum. With the result that the number of sporting events is steadily increasing.

These AiCS strategies have made sport more local, more mass-friendly and more accessible, thus meeting the first imperative of promoting sport: making sport a right for all.





# Slowly returning to normal life

by Desislava Yagodin, BWL

2021 HAS BEEN A TUMULTUOUS YEAR FOR THE WHOLE WORLD, AND SPORTSMEN AND SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS LIKE BULGARIAN WORKERS' FEDERATION "SPORT AND HEALTH" HAVE BEEN AMONG THOSE WHO WERE HIT THE HARDEST BY THE OUTBREAK OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Organizing sports events was an incredibly hard task, in Bulgaria and most people didn't really have the possibility to engage in sports activities. Despite all hardships and obstacles, we as BWL are proud to say that our efforts have led to a positive development.

When we said goodbye to the horrible 2020, we were hoping that in 2021 things will slowly get back to normal, and we were carefully planning our future activities. Unfortunately, the first months of 2021 didn't bring the desired improvement, and we were forced to cancel the first sports event

that we should have carried out, namely the Ski Fest for Banks and Partners that was supposed to be held during the month of March.

With the passage of time, the situation slowly got a bit better, and from June 23 to June 27, 2021, we were able to hold the Seventeenth Workers' Sports Festival with International Participation. The festival was held in Sts. Constantine and Helena Resort and gathered almost 800 participants from 42 organizations, representing 7 countries: Bulgaria, Israel, Mexico, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. Competitions in 17 kinds of sports were held: mini football, volleyball, mameset, bowling, basketball (streetball), swimming, tennis, table tennis, chess, bridge, darts, petanque, sports backgammon, kettlebell lifting, beach volleyball, tug of war and beach tennis.

Our next large-scale event, the Seventeenth Field-day of Teachers, was held from August 31 to September 5, 2021, in Albena resort. More than 360 teachers

from 20 municipal coordination councils participated and competed in 11 kinds of sports: mini football, beach volleyball, table tennis, chess, bridge, swimming, basketball (streetball), darts, petanque, sports backgammon and tug of war.

The last huge event that BWF "Sport and Health" managed to organize in 2021 was the Seventeenth National Field-event of the Workers in the Water Supply and Drainage System Sector in the Republic of Bulgaria, which was held from September 7 to September 11, 2021, at Duni Royal Resort complex. 800 persons from 27 water supply and drainage system companies took part and competed in six kinds of sports: mini football, darts, beach volleyball, table tennis, chess and tug of war.

While the situation got slightly better in the second part of the year, because of the negative impact of the spreading of the coronavirus in the last few months, we had to cancel three of the sports events that we have planned: the Third Field-Day of Industrial Workers and the Twelfth Games of United Bulgarian Bank in September, as well as the Eighteenth State Workers' Mini Football in a







Hall Tournament in November. We are still hoping that we will be able to organize the National Workers' Orienteering Championship in December.

As the health of our participants is our number one priority, we have strictly followed all rules and recommendations of the Bulgarian authorities. The Bulgarian Ministry of Health and Ministry of Youth and Sports regularly updated us about the current rules and guidelines, and we did our best to make sure that all participants met all requirements for safe sports practice. We take great pride in the fact that all participants in our events finished the competitions and returned home in good health.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the sports events organized by our federation, and especially the foreign participants. We appreciate it very much that despite the hard situation, they have traveled to Bulgaria and took part in

them again next year!

Of course, Bulgaria was not the only country that suffered from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our federation tried its' best to ensure that we will participate in the CSIT World Sports Games, and we have managed to organize a group of 43 sportsmen (tennis, swimming, mini football and beach volleyball players) to participate in the CSIT World Sports Games 2021. Unfortunately, the Games had to be canceled in order to protect the health of the participants.

The only international sports event that our federation took part in was the Jubilee 30<sup>th</sup> Sport for All Summer Festival, organized by our friends from Association Sport for All Serbia in Budva (Montenegro) during September 2021. We participated with a


a competition that will hopefully remain an unforgettable experience for them. We are very much looking forward to meeting all of

volleyball and tennis teams, and we are grateful for the perfect organization of this fantastic festival!

We are already working hard to prepare our activities for 2022, the main ones of which are the International Workers' Sports Festival in June, the Ski Fest for Banks and Partners in March, the Field-day of Teachers, the National Field-event of the Workers in the Water Supply and Drainage System Sector, the Field-Day of Industrial Workers and the United Bulgarian Bank Games in September, the National Workers' Orienteering Championship in November and the State Workers' Mini Football Tournament in November – December.



In conclusion, we can say that although 2021 was a better year than 2020, we are still a long way away from returning to what we consider normal way of life. Nevertheless, we are very optimistic about the future and we strongly believe that in 2022 we will be able to continue to improve the overall situation in Bulgaria, as well as the world in general. We are very much looking forward to 2022, and we hope that you will visit our beautiful country

in June 2022 and join us during the Eighteenth Workers' Sports Festival with International Participation! 



**A FEW REGIONAL CLUBS MANAGED TO HOLD SMALL-SCALE SPORTS TOURNAMENTS, WITH MORE THAN 1300 PARTICIPANTS IN TOTAL.:**

- **“Ruse”** organized four workers' tournaments: badminton in February, table tennis in April, mini football in June and beach tennis in August. The club also organized the Ruse – Basarbovo Cave Monastery “St. Dimitar Basarbowski” bike ride in May and the International Beach Tennis Tournament in September.
- **“Shumen”** organized the Winter Workers’ Mini Football Tournament in February, the Sports Festival in honor of the Labor Day in May (competitions in mini football, volleyball and darts) and the Summer Workers’ Games in August (competitions in mini football and darts).
- **“Stara Zagora”** organized the Sixth Workers’ Sports Games in May (competitions in mini football, petanque, darts, tennis, tug of war and sports backgammon) and the “Lightning Open” darts tournament in July – August.
- **“Gotse Delchev”** organized two workers’ table tennis tournaments – one in May and one in August.
- **“Kardzhali”** organized the Regional Sports Games in May, with competitions in darts, shooting with air rifle, tug of war and lever passing.
- **“Sofia”** organized the First Open Blitz Chess Tournament in June.
- **“Hamlet Yovchev”** organized the Sixth Tennis Tournament for Amateurs “Velingrad and friends” in August.
- **“Smolyan”** organized workers’ table tennis tournament in October.
- **“Varna 2016”** organized the Workers’ Mini Football Tournament for the Cup of Varna Municipality in October.



# HANDS OFF CHILDREN



by Carlo Carnevale, ACSI

## ひきこもり

SPORT AGAINST THE “HIKIKOMORI” SYNDROME, WHICH AFFECTS PREDOMINANTLY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LOCK THEMSELVES UP AT HOME

**T**he Italian CSIT member ACSI, the Italian Pietro Mennea Foundation and the “Hands off Children” Committee, the largest

Italian paediatric pharmacovigilance unit, have activated an observatory to draw the attention of the media and institutions to the risk of abuse of antidepressants among young people. With great support from a wide variety of sectors.

Sport can also help decisively. Sport is a right that is deeply rooted in the social and health dynamics of our present time. Sport intervenes in the field of youth problems with an educational message. Sport promotes sociability and exchange and is communicative. All of this creates a pathway for social reintegration, self-esteem and the promotion of important values. On the other hand, the preventive effect of sport also reduces the financial overload on the health system.

The “hikikomori” syndrome, also exacerbated by the pandemic, increasingly leads to digital overdose in the compulsive identification with “boastful” and “redeeming” psychogurus. But it could also lead to alcoholism, drug addiction, abuse of antidepressants and hypochondria. Therefore, it is high time to effect and


influence political decisions, to open discussion rounds with institutions and local authorities and to obtain psychophysical protection for young people.

The media keeps emphasizing the numbers of vaccinations, but on the other hand ignores the emotional and social pathos of adolescent depression, which is now at the top of the most prevalent diseases. Authoritative voices document this alarming international growth trend.

Emblematic of this is the study published in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology by Jean Twenge, professor of psychology at San Diego State University. The study involved over 200,000 young people aged 12 to 17 and nearly 400,000 young people aged 18 to 25.

The percentage of people reporting depressive symptoms increased by 52% among adolescents and 63% among young people aged 18 to 25. Also noteworthy is the 71% increase in young adults who experienced severe stress. And finally, the dramatic increase of 43% of young people who reported compulsively thinking about suicide.

In this alarming phase of the pandemic, ACSI, the Pietro Mennea Foundation and the National Com-

mittee “Hands Off Children” have successfully launched an awareness campaign, documented by “ACSI Magazine”. 

### HIKIKOMORI

The phenomenon “hikikomori” comes from the Japanese – hiku “to pull back” and komoru “to withdraw” – and is spreading more and more, not only in Italy. It is an “isolating oneself”, a forced enclosure. The pandemic lockdown has exacerbated the discomfort of young people. We are talking about a psychological distress of the most vulnerable figures, the young people who banish themselves in their living space by burning the bridges to social relations.





# FAWSI

by Majid Javadian, FAWSI



## “SIMORGH” (PHOENIX) 31 MOUNTAIN PEAKS IN 31 PROVINCES

It was a very ambitious project that a group of 300 mountaineers in Iran planned and successfully realised. The “Simorgh” (Phoenix) project will also undoubtedly be remembered forever as a magnificent and indescribable sporting event



in the records of mountaineering in Iran.

In 2021, different mountaineering groups set a great example for workers’ sports with this project and climbed a total of 31 peaks in each of the 31 provinces in Iran and hoisted the workers’ flag at the highest point. Among them was the highest mountain in Iran, the 5671-metre Damavand, a potentially active stratovolcano, which is also the highest mountain in the Middle East and also the second highest volcano in Asia.

“Simorgh” was organised by the Mountaineers’ Association in cooperation with the respective provincial authorities in charge, who accompanied the project and contributed to its organisation and implementation. The idea arose from the fact that in Iran, too, sporting activity was

massively impaired due to the Corona pandemic and, in some cases, indoor sports were banned altogether.

The Federation for Amateur and Workers’ Sports of Iran (FAWSI) decided without further ado to activate the mountaineering association in the provinces of Iran and thus set an example in the sense of movement and physical activity. To achieve the ambitious goal, FAWSI agreed with its federation to launch this project during the sports week.

## FAWSI ONLINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected all activities around the world, and sport is no exception. Not even in Iran. The Federation of Amateur and Workers Sports of Iran (FAWSI) therefore decided to activate and expand activities that can be organised online. The FAWSI technical committee has created a platform for those disciplines that have the potential to be organised online.

Sport brings joy, motivation and energy and makes people creative. This could also be seen in the fact that hundreds of sportsmen, both men and women, took the opportunity and participated in the organisation of ONLINE sports activities and tried to implement sports such as chess, bowling, yoga, rural sports and local indigenous games, skipping rope, karate, cardio, beach volleyball, wushu or judo (men



only). The pandemic has also led to a change in FAWSI's sports policy in Iran and it has worked.

### THIRD PLACE FOR FAWSI AT THE WORLD COMPANY SPORTS GAMES 2021

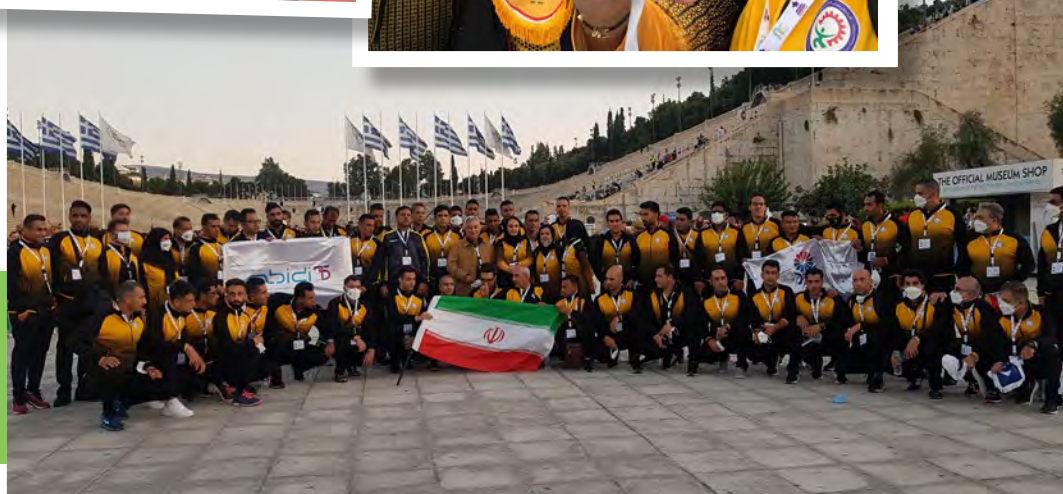
A sports delegation from the Federation of Amateur and Workers Sports of Iran FAWSI participated in October in Athens in the third World Company Sports Games. The Team came third with a total of 68 medals:

23 gold, 22 silver and 23 bronze. 18 medals, 7 in gold, 5 in silver and 6 in bronze, were won by FAWSI's female division. Congratulations!

### THIRD FIFCO WORLD CUP (FOOTBALL 5 PLAYERS)

In the third edition of the Corporate World Cup (Football 5X5) in Dubai, where 16 teams from 14 countries participated, Mese Sarcheshmeh Copper Company won the world title and with it the World Cup by defeating

Saudi Arabia 3-0 in the final. Ireland finished in third place. FAWSI became a full member of (FIFCO) in 2018. In 2019 in Monaco, the title went to Arman Gohar Sirjan.







# 120 years of KALEV

by Aleksander Tammert, KALEV and Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

THE ESTONIAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION KALEV CELEBRATED ITS 120<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN 2021 BY ORGANISING THE 6<sup>th</sup> ESTONIAN GYMNASTICS FESTIVAL “KINGITUS”

**K**INGITUS (Kingdom) combined culture and physical culture and was an expression of continuity and development. Due to the cramped conditions and the Corona pandemic, the preparation of the festival was very difficult. Thanks to the creativity, ideas of the athletes and persistence, the festival became a big open air event – training and performance in the open air as open air gymnastics.

Due to Corona restrictions, there were unfortunately “only” 2280 participants, but from all age groups, from babies to seniors. The organisation and training of KINGITUS was flexible. All training, reviews and creative team meetings took place online. The gymnastics groups arrived in person only for the festival

week in Tallinn, where they trained together for four days for the big moment.

The festival and the main performance were then broadcast LIVE by Estonian television. The very emotional performance lasted almost two hours, brought very welcome change to Corona’s daily routine and made the participants, the spectators on site and the people in front of the TV sets very happy.

The opening speeches were given by the Estonian Minister of Culture, Anneli Ott, and the Deputy Mayor of Tallinn for Culture and Sport, Vadim Belobrovstev, who warmly welcomed the audience and in their speeches highlighted and appreciated the participants’ efforts.







# With the **discus** to the **OLYMPICS**

by Aleksander Tammert, KALEV

ALEKSANDER TAMMERT AND GERD KANTER HELPED THE SMALL ESTONIAN NATION TO GREAT OLYMPIC HONOURS WITH THEIR GREAT SPORTING SUCCESSES IN THE DISCUS THROW. THE TWO ESTONIAN SHOWCASE ATHLETES FROM KALEV WON THREE OLYMPIC MEDALS FOR THEIR COUNTRY – ONE GOLD AND TWO BRONZE – AT THREE OLYMPIC GAMES IN A ROW FROM 2004 TO 2012, IMMORTALISING THEMSELVES AND ESTONIA IN THE BEST LIST OF ETERNAL OLYMPIC HEROES. ALEKSANDER WON BRONZE IN ATHENS IN 2004, GERD GOLD IN BEIJING IN 2008 AND BRONZE IN LONDON IN 2012.

It is an incredible achievement for a small country like Estonia, which has a long tradition in throwing games. Already the Estonian national epic “Kalevi-poeg” tells the story of the youngest son of an old Estonian king, who

always wanted to outdo his older brothers and in the end defeated them by throwing a stone further than all the others, using the technique of discus throwing: flat and low.

## NEVER GIVE UP AND DREAM BIG!

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the Estonian fable was to be repeated in the great circle of Olympic heroes. The discus throwers were to lead the small nation of Estonia and the CSIT member federation KALEV to great international fame. The whole of Estonia is still proud of the “Kalevans” today, who stood on the podium in the discus throw at three consecutive Olympic Games and were allowed to put on the coveted Olympic laurel wreath. A success that small nations like Estonia rarely get to celebrate.

## ROLE MODEL, TEACHER AND INSPIRER

After the end of their great sporting careers, when they returned to



normal life, Aleksander and Gerd remained faithful to the sport. Aleksander is the chairman of the KALEVI Society and very involved in CSIT, Gerd is the chairman of the Estonian Olympic Committee Sports Committee. Sport has given them the ability and the will to promote it among young people, serving as role models, teachers and inspirers. Both are still young, full of strength and full of drive. Let us hope that their sporting journey will continue for a long time to come.



# When dreams come true The hard way to becoming a **CSIT** **OLYMPIC** or **PARALYMPIC HERO**

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

**NUMEROUS OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC PARTICIPANTS HAVE THEIR ROOTS IN CSIT MEMBER FEDERATIONS – AN EXCERPT FROM A LONG AND SUCCESSFUL STORY**

**M**ore than 200 million individual members worldwide, more than 50 member federations in more than 40 countries around the world. 35 partner organizations, officially recognized by the IOC and member of GAISF. The CSIT has grown into a huge global player in amateur sports since its foundation more than 100 years ago in Belgium.

Every two years, the CSIT World Sports Games are held with a variety of summer sports. With several thousand participants, the CSIT WSG are among the largest amateur sporting events worldwide. The Games are also the base and heaven for many current and former Olympic and Paralympic athletes who have made it to Olympic and Paralympic medal honours.

This is just an excerpt from a long and very successful list.

ones. Judo, he says, is a life training for children who find and are taught ethical values and moral and physical training in this discipline.

Born and raised in the Piemonte region, he graduated from the Italian Army and has been part of the sports group since 2013. Fabio had already won the bronze medal in the category up to 60 kilograms at the 2013 Mediterranean Games in Mersin and at the 2013 European Youth Championships in Bucharest. In February 2019, he celebrated another great international success at the Grand Slam in Paris back with the bronze medal and also participated in the Tokyo Olympics.

## AICS OLYMPIANS

### **Fabio Basile – Judo – Gold – Rio de Janeiro 2016**

Fabio Basile, 27, gold medalist in Judo at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, grew up in the Akiyama High School in Settimo Torinese (Piemont). The high school is affiliated with the Associazione Italiana Cultura Sport (AICS) and is directed by Pierangelo Toniolo. Fabio continued training in Settimo even after his great successes and has a life motto: "Judoka forever!" He sees sports education in AICS as growth in moral terms, not just physical

## AICS PARALYMPIANS

### **Monica Boggioni – Swimming – Double-Bronze –Tokyo 2020**

Monica Boggioni, 23, suffering from spastic diplegia of the lower and upper limbs, grew up with AICS Pavia Nuoto. In 2021 she won bronze twice at the Tokyo Paralympics, in the 200m freestyle S5 and 100m freestyle S5. Monica started swimming to overcome the physical limits imposed by her disability. She got to know AICS through the inclusive project organized by AICS Pavia Nuoto to promote sports for young people with





disabilities. In the pandemic, she was the AICS testimonial of the fundraising campaign “Sport to grow” and promotes sport as a means of inclusion by meeting students in schools in northern Italy. She has a degree in biotechnology.

**Carolina Costa – Judo – Bronze – Tokyo 2020**

Carolina Costa, 27, visually impaired, is an athlete of ASD Judo Franco Costa of AICS Messina and daughter of Franco Costa, Sicilian judo champion and president of the Italian Kendo Federation, who died in 2006, and Katarzyna Juszczak, former Olympic wrestler. She won the bronze medal in judo at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. Carolina started her career as an U23 judoka promising with very good results, such as a second place at the Italian Championships.

In 2016, at the age of 22, she was diagnosed with keratoconus, a degenerative disease that can lead to progressive blindness at a

young age. As Costa’s performance declines, it became necessary to switch to Paralympic sports, where she achieved excellent international results as a Paralympic athlete with a bronze at the World Championships and a gold at the European Championships.

**ASKÖ OLYMPIANS**

Alongside Sportunion and ASVÖ, ASKÖ Austria is one of the three major sports umbrella organizations in Austria and is represented in almost all sectors. The list of international sporting successes of its members is as prominent as it is long. There is hardly any major international sporting event in which ASKÖ athletes do not place in the top ranks. At the Olympic Games in Tokyo 2020, ASKÖ was once again able to celebrate medals. This time even in a trilogy with Gold, Silver and Bronze by Anna Kiesenhofer on the bike road, as well as Michaela Polleres and Shamil Borchashvili in Judo.

ASKÖ can also hope for medals at the Olympic Games in Beijing 2022. Many ASKÖ athletes are also among the favourites for precious metal in many disciplines at the Winter Games.

**Anna Kiesenhofer – Cycling Road Race – Gold – Tokyo 2020**

Anna Kiesenhofer, 30, teaches mathematics at the university in Switzerland and rides a bike for Team Cookina ARBÖ ASKÖ Graz. With her gold medal as an absolute outsider in the cycling road race, the likeable athlete surprisingly and also sensationally wrote Austrian and Olympic sports history. Kiesenhofer took the lead of the field right at the beginning of the race and celebrated a start-finish victory, winning the 136 km Olympic road-race in Tokyo in an outstanding manner and completely unnoticed by the competition. The rest is history. Anna thus won Austria’s first gold cycling medal since 1896 and the first gold medal for an Austrian athlete since the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens by triathlete Kate Allen.





**Michaela Polleres – Judo – Silver – Tokyo 2020**

Michaela Polleres, 24, the world number eight sensationally won silver in the judo weight class up to 70 kg at the Tokyo Olympics after reaching the final. With spectacular throws and quite a lot of emotion. The 24-year-old two-time world champion came to judo at the age of eight and also to her home club ASKÖ Judo Wimpassing Sparkasse, where she also currently trains with the national coach and her home coach in the judoka national team. "Arriving in Schwechat after Olympic silver was just mega! I knew that my family will be at the airport. But that so many are there, that flashed me," said Polleres at the very emotional reception at the Vienna Airport.



**Shamil Borchashvili – Judo – Bronze – Tokyo 2020**

Shamil Borchashvili, 26, from the ASKÖ Club LZ Multi-kraft Wels, has won Bronze at the Tokyo Olympics – the first medal in Judo for Austria since the 2008 Games in Beijing. The 26-year-old burst into tears after the victory, completely emotional because he had worked so hard towards this goal.

Shamil and his brothers Wachid and Kimran have their training base in the Olympic Center Upper Austria, where he also came into contact with the sport of Judo.

The story is a little fairy tale. A refugee fairy tale, because the Borchashvili family fled from Chechnya to Austria in March 2004 and was taken in at the first stop in a refugee camp near Vienna. In 2020, the family bought a house in Upper Austria with Shamil's five sisters and two brothers. In 2006, the Center for Far Eastern Martial Arts (Budokan

Wels) was opened near their home, which came to his attention through a flyer. Spontaneously, he and his two brothers attended the "Judo course for beginners". The rest is Olympic history.

**Anna Gasser – Snowboard – Gold – PyeongChang 2018**

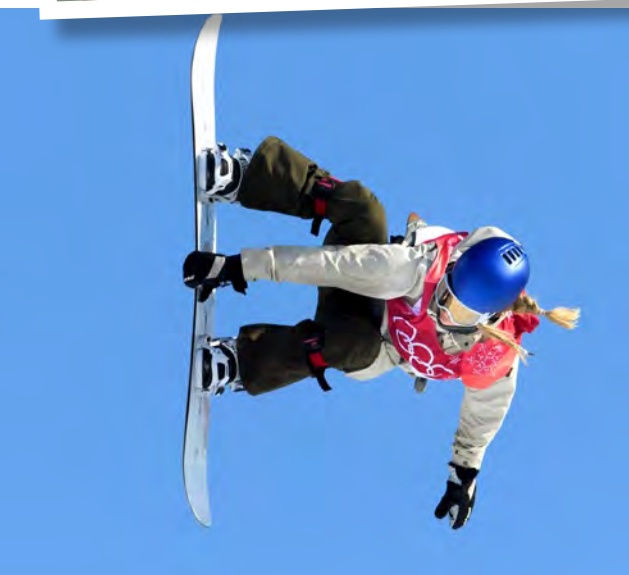
Anna Gasser, 30, has fulfilled her big dream at the Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang 2018 in the snowboarders' big air event and won the longed-for gold medal. In the slopestyle competition, which was severely affected by wind, the big favourite had previously only finished in 15<sup>th</sup> place and was bitterly disappointed. The gold medal was a conciliatory conclusion to her Olympic Games.

The Carinthian is one of Austria's most successful snowboarders, a three-time winner of the X-Games and, in addition to her Olympic GOLD, also World Champion in Big Air. However, she did not start her sporting career on the snowboard, but in gymnastics. It was not until the 2010/11 season that she switched to snowboarding and started her impressive career. In 2013, she became the first woman to achieve a Cab Double Cork 900, a double backflip with two and a half screws.

**HAPOEL OLYMPIANS**

**Linoy Ashram – Rhythmic Gymnastics – Gold – Tokyo 2020**

Linoy Ashram, 22, is a member of the HAPOEL Rishon-Lezion Club. She finished first in Tokyo 2020 and won the gold medal. It was only the third Olympic gold medal in Israel's history, the first by an Israeli woman and the fourth medal for Israel in Tokyo. Also due to her gold medal Israel finished fourth overall in the group all-around qualification.





Linoy prevailed against very strong competition and ended more than two decades of Russian dominance in the sport with her victory. "I've dreamed of this my whole life," Ashram said after her victory. "It's an incredible feeling to stand on the podium in this place and at this time and take first place," said the 22-year-old gymnast, who was chosen to carry the Israeli flag at the closing ceremony in Tokyo. Mrs. Kineret Tzedek, president of the Israel Gymnastics Federation, is sports director in HAPOEL.



## OLYMPIC MEDALISTS HAPOEL ISRAEL

- Barcelona 1922  
**Yael Arad** – Judo – Silver  
**Oren Smadja** – Judo – Silver
- Atlanta 1996  
**Gal Friedman** – Sailing – Bronze
- Sydney 2000  
**Michael Koganov** – Rowing – Bronze
- Athens 2004  
**Gal Friedman** – Sailing – Bronze  
**Arik Zeevi** – Judo – Bronze
- Beijing 2008  
**Choher Tsubari** – Windsurfing – Bronze
- Rio de Janeiro 2016  
**Yarden Gerbi** – Judo – Bronze  
**Uri Sasson** – Judo – Bronze
- Tokio 2020  
**Linoy Ashram** – Rhythmic Gymnastic – Gold

## KALEV OLYMPIANS

### **Gerd Kanter** – Diskus Throw – Gold – Beijing 2008 and Bronze – London 2012

The Estonian Gerd Kanter, 42, always dreamed of a great sports career as a youngster. Not as a discus thrower, however, but as a basketball player. His great sports idol was NBA superstar Michael Jordan. In retrospect, perhaps fortunately, Gerd was not admitted to sports school to specialise in basketball. It was like a twist of fate. For the big boy tried his hand at the discus from then on. His basketball dream did not come true, but his goals in the new sport remained lofty – to win an Olympic gold medal. Twelve years later, that dream came true! Gerd won Gold in Beijing 2008 and Bronze in London 2012.

### **Aleksander Tammert** – Diskus Throw – Bronze – Athens 2004

Aleksander Tammert, 48. Even as a young man he dreamed of a life as a top athlete and of making it on the international big sports stage one day. His appetite for great sporting success grew with every meal. At the age of 23, Aleksander took part in the Olympic Games for the first time in Atlanta in 1996. It was the foundation stone for a great sports career with many successes and four more participations under the sign of the five Olympic rings. In the end, Aleksander was allowed to participate in the Olympics five times for KALEV. Five Olympic rings – five participations – an impressive success for eternity! Aleksander won the bronze medal in Diskus Throw at the Olympics in Athens 2004. 🌟





# Mamanet Austria 2021

A YEAR UNDER THE ASPECT OF

# CORONA

by Christina Gschweidl, Mamanet Austria

FIVE YEARS AGO IN SEPTEMBER 2016, MAMANET WAS OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED IN AUSTRIA AND DIRECTLY FUNDED AS A PROJECT BY THE MINISTRY OF SPORT.

**M**amanet Austria means more than 7,500 women, 25 weekly courses, online trainings and workshops, Coach the Coach trainings (hybrid), new jobs and perspectives, gender, integration, inclusion, many happy women – and member of CSIT. This is Mamanet Austria, despite Corona.

The 2020/2021 season was very challenging due to the Corona crisis. Most clubs/teams have started their training. Even a new Mamanet sports club was founded in Tyrol. However, due to Corona and the November 2021 lockout, all courses had to be stopped. Sports halls were closed and personal contacts were banned. The Mamanet Austria League could also no longer be held, nor could fun tournaments.

Mamanet Austria then drew up a detailed corona prevention concept and sent anonymous online questionnaires to all club managers and players.

Based on the feedback from the questionnaires, various measures were taken, such as constant contact with club representatives, coaches and players, switching to online training and education as well as various online actions such as a video challenge, creating and regularly sending out a newsletter, setting up the Mamanet YouTube channel, supporting the clubs on site (if possible) or even summer campaigns at the clubs.

## INCLUSION MAMANET TEAM TO THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES

A very special project was the sending of a so-called “inclusion team” to the CSIT World Sports Games 2021 – together with the ASKÖ – consisting of women with refugee experience, Austrian citizens and women with physical and mental disabilities. Extensive and elaborate preparations took place, but the World Games could not take place due to Corona.

Mamanet has become a fixture in Austrian sports structures. It is a showcase project in terms of gender, women’s and health promotion and serves as a model for integration and inclusion in organised sport – also internationally. Associations/organisations are now approaching Mamanet – no longer the other way round as in the beginning – and public interest is growing.

## I AM AWARE PREVENTION AGAINST BREAST CANCER

In September 2021, the so-called “I am aware tournament” took place in Vienna, which, following an international model, draws attention to the issue of breast cancer. An important and positive signal for the new start of Mamanet in Austria in the new season. New projects such as training

sessions in a women’s prison, trial trainings with and at new locations were started and existing cooperations were deepened. “We are happy that the women are coming again and new women can be reached. Mamanet is more important than ever,” says Mamanet Austria Secretary General Elisabeth Speiser-Havel. ✨

The starting signal for Mamanet in Austria was at the first international Mamanet conference at the end of October 2015 in Eilat, Israel, with Mamanet founder Ofra Abramovich, who wants to spread Mamanet all over the world. And Austria was one of the first countries. The main goal is to bring women and their children (back) to sport who consider themselves unathletic and/or who have difficulties accessing sport for various reasons.

For Mamanet Austria, fun, appreciation, freedom from violence and religious freedom are in the foreground, regardless of the women’s origin. The creation of perspectives in connection with jobs is an essential part of the concept. All in cooperation with sports umbrella organisations, selected professional associations, sports clubs and social institutions.



FOR THE FIRST TIME, AN INTERNATIONAL MAMANET TOURNAMENT WAS ORGANISED IN Kfar Saba-IsRAEL IN COOPERATION WITH THE Kfar Saba Volleyball Club under the motto "Games for a Common Future". The aim of the tournament was to promote and establish interpersonal contact and cooperation between countries and cultures in Israel and around the world.

# MAMANET International

## GAMES FOR A COMMON FUTURE

by Karin Eines, Mamanet Israel

The opening ceremony of the tournament was attended by the Mayor of Kfar Saba Municipality, Rafi Saar, Deputy Mayor Oren Cohen, Minister of Regional Cooperation, Ophir Akunis, Nepalese Ambassador to Israel, Dr Anjan Shakia, Founder and Chairperson of Mamanet Israel, Ofra Abramovich, Executive Director of Mamanet Israel, Karin Eines, and Chairman of Hapoel Kfar Saba Volleyball, Gerry Abramovich.

The three-day tournament featured 40 Mamanet teams from across the country and around the world, including teams from diplomatic staff, the Palestinian Authority, Shuafat and Leviot Hasharon – a sports organisation for the hearing impaired in Israel.

The teams were divided into groups on each day of the competition according to the strict Covid 19 restrictions and the matches took place without spectators. Many families and players who could not attend the tournament followed the matches and cheered on their teams through live social media broadcasts.

The atmosphere on the courts was inspiring, loving and testified to joy and good luck among the players. The professional team led by Ruthi Ozen, who served as the

professional coordinator along with Claudio Epstein and Sigal Amir, played an important role in the success of the event.

The Mamanet League is present in 17 countries around the world and has been active in the fields of sport, community and social affairs for more than a decade, building a bridge for shared discourse, coexistence and connection between communities of all cultures.

Mr. Oren Cohen, Deputy Mayor: "I am proud that for the first time in Kfar Saba and under difficult conditions we were able to host an international tournament in the city. My congratulations go to the organisers, the volleyball club and Mamanet, who held this event at the highest level and in compliance with all the strict requirements of the Ministry of Health. I hope the tournament will become a tradition."

Ofra Abramovich, founder of Mamanet: "On days like these, when the impossible becomes routine, we are all connected here with the same net: the net of hope, the net of peace, the net of security. A net that is a bridge."

Yamit Dahari, Chairman of Mamanet: "When we learned that a tournament was being launched, the news was immediately spread to thousands of players across the country and around the world. There were indeed concerns, but we soon realised that there is no end to creativity and passion in the Mamanet League. At such a difficult time, when we could not see any light at the end of the tunnel so far, we were happy to welcome all the players." 



# 110<sup>th</sup> International WOMEN'S DAY

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY OR WOMEN'S DAY FOR SHORT IS THE NAME OF A WORLD DAY CELEBRATED ANNUALLY ON MARCH 8. IT ORIGINATED AS AN INITIATIVE OF SOCIALIST ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PERIOD BEFORE THE FIRST WORLD WAR IN THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUAL RIGHTS, THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR WOMEN AS WELL AS THE EMANCIPATION OF WOMEN WORKERS AND IS DIRECTED AGAINST THE MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS ALL OVER THE WORLD. WOMEN'S DAY WAS FIRST OBSERVED ON MARCH 19, 1911, AND EVERY YEAR SINCE 1921.

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

International Women's Day is a day for women's rights. It is a special day for women because there is still a lot of catching up to do worldwide to ensure equal rights for women in many areas. The day is a symbol of equality between men and women. The United Nations (UN) chose March 8 as the "United Nations Day for Women's Rights and World Peace" in 1975, the International Year of Women, and held a celebration for the first time on March 8. The first UN World Conference on Women was then held in Mexico City in mid-1975, followed by the "UN Decade of Women" (1976-1985).


At the Second International Socialist Women's Conference in

Copenhagen on August 27, 1910, the German socialist Clara Zetkin (1857-1933) proposed the introduction of an international women's day, without, however, favoring a specific date. The idea came from the USA. On March 19, 1911, the first Women's Day was celebrated in Denmark, Germany, Austria-Hungary and Switzerland. In Vienna, 20,000 people demonstrated for women's rights.

On March 8, 1917, on the occasion of International Women's Day in St. Petersburg, workers' and soldiers' wives demonstrated, triggering the February Revolution. To commemorate the role of women in the revolution, March 8 was proposed as an international commemoration

day in Moscow in 1921. Numerous other political goals were then made the subject of discussion on Women's Days, such as reductions in working hours without wage cuts, a reduction in food prices, regular school meals and even legal abortion.

In sports, too, work must continue on equal rights for women. There are many areas where there is a great need to catch up. Starting from the education to the coach in most different kinds of sport, with the holding of seminars, with the execution and possibility for the practice of all kinds of sport and also in the value with trophies and price money.

There is still much to do!!! 



# Housiaux succeeds Hinterberger

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer



THE 26<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN FAIR PLAY MOVEMENT EFPM IN VIENNA ENDED WITH THE ELECTION OF BELGIAN PHILIPPE HOUSIAUX AS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FAIR PLAY MOVEMENT. HOUSIAUX SUCCEEDS AUSTRIAN ASKÖ AND CSIT EXCOM MEMBER CHRISTIAN HINTERBERGER, WHO HAD HELD THE POSITION MOST SUCCESSFULLY SINCE HIS ELECTION IN 2012 AND RESIGNED AFTER NINE YEARS. 42 EU AND NON-EU COUNTRIES ATTENDED THE EFPM CONGRESS, BIDDING FAREWELL TO THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT WITH STANDING OVATIONS AND WISHING THE NEW PRESIDENT THE BEST FOR HIS TENURE.

**P**hilipp Housiaux was a talented Belgian sprinter and long jumper in the 1970s who pursued the idea that good practices and adherence to the rules of Shakespeare's philosophy of fair play must be exported to all sectors of civil society so that they can be realized. This implies a real ethical turnaround as a necessary condition for all other sectors as well, including energy and digital technology.

Housiaux holds a doctorate in law and was himself an Olympian, holding the Belgian national records in the 100 m, 200 m and long jump. He has been president of Panathlon Wallonie-Bruxelles since 2003. His other high-ranking posts include co-president of the Royal Belgian Athletics Federation and vice-president of the Belgian

Olympic and Interfederal Committee. The new vice-president of EFPM is Baiba Veisa from Latvia together with Biserka Vrbek from Croatia.

The election was presided over by CNIFP President Ruggero Alcanterini, EFPM Honorary Member Manfred Lammer and ENGSO President Carlos Cardoso. The new EFPM Executive Committee is composed of Donuk Bilge (Turkey), Isayev Khazar (Azerbaijan), Robert Perc (Slovenia), Ioannis Psilopoulos (Greece), Karatina Raczova (Slovakia), Baiba Vesia (Latvia), Biserka Urbek (Croatia) and Hanna Wawrowska (Poland).

Founded in 1994, EFPM is Europe's recognized organization for the promotion of fair play and Olympic values. The movement works closely with sports organizations across the continent, including the European Olympic

Committee, the various National Olympic Committees in Europe and the various Fair Play Committees. ✨

## THE NEW EFPM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- **President:**  
**Philippe Housiaux** (BEL)
- **Vice Presidents:**  
**Baiba Veisa** (LAT) and  
**Biserka Vrbek** (CRO)
- **Gen. Secretary:**  
**Ioannis Psilopoulos** (GRE)
- **Treasurer:**  
**Katarina Raczova** (SLV)
- **E.C. Members:**  
**Bilge Donuk** (TUR),  
**Khazar Isayev** (AZE),  
**Hanna Wawrowska** (POL),  
**Robert Perc** (SLO)





PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL  
LUDIS IUNGIT

# 70 years PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

VILLA QUEIROLO IN RAPALLO, THE HEADQUARTERS OF PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL, WAS THE VENUE FOR THE BIG 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION, WHICH INVITED MORE THAN 120 GUESTS TO THE PARTY. ALL ACCEPTED THE INVITATION, WHICH WAS HELD WITH MANY HIGHLIGHTS.

**P**I Secretary General Simona Callo welcomed the guests of honour in Italian and English and gave a brief overview of the history of PI and the PI headquarters. Panathlon International, in fact, was born in Venice in 1951 and is committed, from that date, to spread the values of Fair Play, Culture and Ethics in sport around the world. With its 300 clubs and 9,000 members PI is presented in 27 nations.

After the greetings of the panathletic and non-panathletic authorities PI presented a copper sculpture

which is composed of pomegranate branches with five fruits, to symbolize the continents in which Panathlon International has been working for 70 years. The sculpture, realized for the occasion by the artist Settimo Tamanini (Mastro7) from Trento, is now placed inside the Headquarters as a reminder of the goal achieved.

The presentation was followed by the planting of a pomegranate tree and the affixing of a commemorative plaque in the garden of Villa Queirolo to strengthen the bond that will always unite Panathlon International with the City of Rapallo, which hosts the headquarters since 1988.

## COMING HOME AFTER A LONG PERIODE

The Fest was for the participants a coming home after a long break that kept them away from Rapallo for two years, but not from their panathletic commitments. A "Homecoming" for many panathletes who did not miss the opportunity to reach Rapallo and enjoy the warmth of the Olympic values that once again enveloped the City.

The Mayor of Rapallo, Carlo Bagnasco, underlined in his speech the very good relations that exist



between the administration of the city of Rapallo and Panathlon International. Antonio Micillo, CONI President in Liguria and former Panathlon Governor of the region, drew attention to the importance of the values and charter of Panathlon International.

Former PI President Enrico Prandi recalled the reference persons Jean Presset, Henrique Nicolini and Antonio Spallino, with whom he worked intensively during his term and who were inspirers for the history of the PI movement. He also mentioned some non-Italian board members of his tenure. Otto Bellwald from Switzerland, for example, and also Walter Perez Soto from Uruguay, who tragically died during a PI mission.

### EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY


In conclusion, Prandi urged everyone to follow the recommendations of the PI Congress in Stresa in 2010, which are still relevant: the importance of educating young people and the ethical responsibility of sports federations at national and international level. Giacomo Santini, former

President of PI, pointed out that there has always been a kind of “relay” and continuity among PI Presidents, which for 70 years has made it possible to present Panathlon International at the highest international gatherings.

Prandi also brought the greetings of Vittorio Adorni, who could not attend due to indisposition. After a brief “digression” on the drafting of the “Charter of Parental Responsibilities in Sport”, he recalled how much each President brings his own professional and human experience to the role he takes on, but that there is always something to learn!

### PANATHLON IS A SCHOOL OF LIFE

The closing words were given by the current PI President Pierre Zappelli, who wanted to draw attention to the present and the future of PI. Panathlon International owes a lot to the Italian associations. Without them, PI would not have been able to develop and expand outside Italy, which also led to recognition by the IOC in 1982.

All Presidents, Zappelli continued, contributed to the internationalisation of PI and the opening towards other countries and cultures. Today, there are many relationships with international organisations and associations. PI is present in many countries in Europe and Latin America, but it is also important to work with the representations in Lausanne and Brussels to develop and expand activities in other countries. Panathlon must become more and more a movement without borders. This is a big task that all umbrella organisations and associations have to work on. 



# 125 years RKB

by Tilmann Ziegenhain, RKB

AFTER MONTHS OF LOCKDOWN, RKB WANTED TO OFFER ITS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SOMETHING AGAIN AND ORGANISED AN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP

**N**obody wanted a second online youth camp. So the German "Rad- und Kraftfahrerbund 'Solidarität' Deutschland 1896 e.V." looked for alternatives and found them. A hybrid children's and youth camp with different national groups that met separately in their respective home countries – with a detailed hygiene concept and the hope of zero corona cases. We dared! And it was an outstanding success!

With 85 participants aged between one and 80, we met at the height of the summer in the Black Forest, in the immediate vicinity of a beautiful reservoir, a bobsleigh run and a climbing forest. Different coloured wristbands were used to determine different time slots for meals, bus rides and the various programme points – and it worked. The dormitories were also divided into fixed groups. Wherever possible, outdoor activities were carried out. Wearing masks consistently inside the building also worked very well for this reason.

## DIGITAL DETOX IN THE FOREST

We had activated the interpreter function of Zoom and were thus even ready for an international programme that was conducted online for a few hours on almost all days. At the beginning, the internet connection was not sufficient to connect our six partner organisations from Turkey, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Algeria and Tunisia via Zoom. In the end, we managed to connect them all: For example, for a joint film evening, a photo show or a meeting where the groups could present themselves, their countries and current projects and exchange ideas.

In addition, there was night hiking, swimming fun, bobsleighbing for young and old, a climbing garden, games and handicrafts, and at the same time a youth programme with archery, raft building and a trip across the reservoir. The highlights of the youth camp were the day trip to Baden-Baden to the magnificent music museum, where we were able to try out all the instruments and make music together, as well as the volleyball and table tennis

tournament and our traditional barbecue evening.

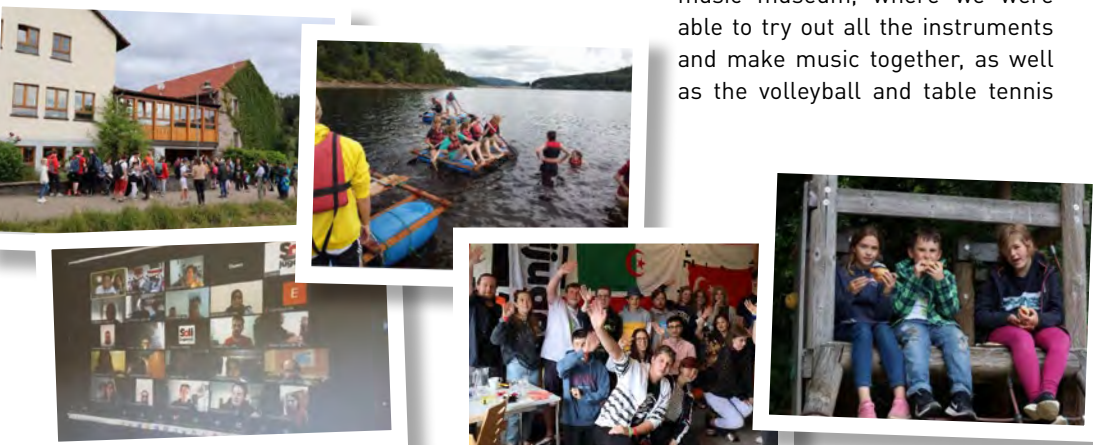
## FLEXIBILITY WAS THE KEYWORD OF THE YOUTH CAMP

Due to corona measures and weather conditions, we had to constantly adapt to changes in the programme and create alternatives. For this reason, we always need enthusiastic voluntary support so that our diverse work can be carried out and new visions can emerge. Who would have thought that leaving one's own comfort zone could be so exciting?

## A SOLITARY VIEW OF THE FUTURE

The pandemic will accompany us for a long time and does not seem to want to adapt to our expectations and hopes. Rather, we are the ones who, as an association with international contacts, have to adapt our attitude and develop creative concepts. It remains essential to orient ourselves to the wishes, interests and concerns of our members and to make our resources available to them. This is the only way to ensure that sustainable and international meetings can take place in the future, where members, volunteers and staff can learn with and from each other.

This is how youth work can succeed!





# NEW MEMBERS

## Membership

EVERY YEAR, SEVERAL FEDERATIONS AROUND THE WORLD APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CSIT. SPORTS THAT ARE KNOWN, THAT ARE PRACTISED BY MILLIONS OF ACTIVE PEOPLE IN MANY COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. BUT ALSO SPORTS THAT ARE LESS KNOWN, THAT ARE LOOKING FOR COMMUNITIES TO PRESENT THEMSELVES AND TO MAKE THEIR SPORT BETTER KNOWN AND TO FIND NEW MEMBERS FOR FASCINATING MOVEMENTS. ONE OF THESE SPORTS IS CHANBARA, ALSO CALLED "SPOCHAN".

### INFORMATION ABOUT CSIT MEMBERSHIPS

<https://www.csit.tv/en/about-us/how-to-become-csit-member>



## AISCLE All India Sports Council of Labour & Employee

- no website
- Email Office: [labansi271@gmail.com](mailto:labansi271@gmail.com)



## FIFB Federazione Italiana Footbike

- <https://fi-fb.it>
- Email Office: [segreteria@fi-fb.it](mailto:segreteria@fi-fb.it)



## MAMANET ITALY

- <http://www.mamanetitalia.it>
- Email Office: [cioroturco8080@libero.it](mailto:cioroturco8080@libero.it)



## IAAFL Italian International Amateur American Football League

- <https://www.iaafl.it>
- Email Office: [sabbioneda@iaafl.eu](mailto:sabbioneda@iaafl.eu)



## FESCI

- <http://www.sportschanbara.it>
- Email Office: [segreteria@sportschanbara.it](mailto:segreteria@sportschanbara.it)



## CHANBARA *Sword Fighting*

by Antonio Di Donato, FESCI

The Sports Chanbara, called by its nickname “Spochan”, was born when a pamphlet was published in 1971 by Tetsundo Tanabe, the originator and current president of the International Sports Chanbara Association. Chanbara literally means “sword fighting” and onomatopoeically recalls the sound produced by the contact between the blades of the swords used by samurai.

In the beginning Mr. Tanabe noticed that children were attracted by playing Chanbara with sticks and running about in the fields freely. He thought to develop new tools and rules and then SpoChan became a modern sport and a modern way of playing the Chanbara battles on a safe and fair basis in the gyms. The weapons are soft inflatable sticks, named air-soft swords. Now, the number of people playing Spochan has reached almost three hundred thousand worldwide.

“I believe that this sport essentially does not require referees. If players would recognize the results of the game, frankly admit to being hit and defeated and honestly admire each other, there is no need to be concerned with the results of the game....Selfawareness depends on the understanding of the importance of honesty. All the people in the world would like to promote mutual understanding as fast as possible. ...”.

There are various ways to play Sports Chanbara: Taisen is the way of fighting one versus one; Ransen puts a group of players against

another group that comprise a different number of players, such as a few players against one;

Kassen (team-match) is the fighting in which the two teams are composed of the same number of fighters such as thirty against thirty or fifty against fifty; this kind of fighting was called Ikusa, a common way of fighting in ancient times.

Abilities in spirit and physical strength of Spochan extend to the various aspects and we are sure that the fighting spirit can be developed naturally in a very relaxed atmosphere disregarding the differences in the ability level and physique. This discipline, also called “soft-air fencing” allow “swordsmen” from all over the world to confront each other in a really safe way, having fun through the practice of a modern sport, with an accentuated playful character and extremely fast actions and therefore also highly spectacular.

In Italy the Federazione Sports Chanbara Italia, that was established and recognised in 2002 by the International Sport Chanbara Association, provides for the diffusion of this discipline and the organisation of events and competitions at national level, the training of technicians and referees, as well as the selection of athletes for the national representative team for participation in international competitions (World and European Championships).

For further information please contact [segreteria@sportschanbara.it](mailto:segreteria@sportschanbara.it)



*Spochan Spirit: “The Harmony of the world, the dream of one million years of mankind; that is Sports.”*



## UHHCF (RUBKO)

- <https://rukbo.org.ua>
- Email Office: [frb@frb.org.ua](mailto:frb@frb.org.ua)



by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

## HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT *A modern and fun sport on the rise internationally*

The All-Ukrainian Hand-to-Hand Fighting Federation is a strong sports organisation founded on 23 December 1993. It has taken hand-to-hand combat to a new level and has some significant achievements in the all-Ukrainian and international sporting world.

Hand-to-hand combat is a unique and modern sport. The technical arsenal consists of punches, kicks, throws and chokes, as well as fighting with various weapons. Hand-to-hand has undergone a long process of development, evolving from a specialised sport in the training programme of the armed forces and police to a popular sport now practised by athletes of all ages.

### Big sports year 2022

The All-Ukrainian Federation Hand-to-Hand Combat is holding some major sporting events in 2022. Among the biggest are the Cup of Ukraine in adults, the Ukrainian Championship, the Cup of the President of Ukraine and the World Championship.

### Cup of Ukraine

The Cup of Ukraine for adults takes place from 3 to 7 March. Every year, more than 500 of the strongest fighters, winners of national and international tournaments, from all over Ukraine take part in this event. The athletes compete in the “semi-contact” section as well as in “full contact”, where punches, kicks and painful chokeholds are allowed. The athletes are mostly active soldiers and law enforcement officers. A month later, the Ukrainian championship is scheduled from 14 to 16 April.

### Rising popularity

The spectacular and popular events attract many fans, spectators and also media. In Ukraine, hand-to-hand combat is a sport that is developing dynamically in all important areas, both professional and popular. More than 300 fighters from all over Ukraine, the elite of the sport, will compete for the 2022 Cup. Based on the results of these competitions, the national team will be selected to participate in international tournaments.

### 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “President’s Cup”

From 1 to 5 May, the All-Ukrainian Federation Hand-to-Hand Combat, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of State Protection and with the support of the President of Ukraine, is organising an all-Ukrainian hand-to-hand combat tournament for the President’s Cup. Armed Forces of Ukraine, other military formations and law enforcement and rescue services, established in accordance with the current laws of Ukraine, compete.

In 2022, the “President’s Cup” will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The organisation is planned with the utmost care. Thousands of spectators and guests of honour are expected at the ‘Palace of Sports’, the largest sports hall in Ukraine, to support the athletes and enjoy the event. More than 100 athletes from different law enforcement and military structures of Ukraine will compete with each other for victory.

### World Championships in Kiev

Due to Ukraine’s great success in the international sports world and its great competence, the All-Ukrainian Federation of Hand-to-Hand Fighting has been entrusted with hosting the World Championships. Athletes from 30 countries are expected in Kiev from 6 to 10 October 2022. Preparations for this prestigious international tournament are already in full swing in order to be able to hold the World Championships at the highest possible organisational level.

### Tournaments for children and young people

Every year, hundreds of young fighters also gather on the tatami at these competitions, enthusiastically striving for victory. Every year, the number of participants continues to grow and the area in which the tournaments take place expands.

Hand-to-hand combat is a sport that unites!





# AUSTRIAN SPORTS RESORTS

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part of Bundessporteinrichtungen Gesellschaft mbH



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