Project No: 302925

Project Acronym: LegacieSocialCapGR

Project Full Name: An Evaluation of the Legacies of Sporting Mega Events on Social Capital in Greece

Marie Curie Actions

Periodic Report

Period covered: from 01/09/2013 to 31/08/2015
Period number: 1st
Start date of project: 01/09/2013

Project coordinator name:
Prof. Athanassios Papadaskalopoulos

Date of preparation: 13/08/2015
Date of submission (SESAM): 14/08/2015

Project coordinator organisation name:
PANTEION UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES
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| **Name, title and organisation of the scientist in charge of the project's coordinator:** | Prof. Athanassios Papadaskalopoulos
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DECLARATION BY THE SCIENTIST IN CHARGE

I, Prof. Athanassios Papadaskalopoulou, as scientist in charge of the project (302925, LegacieSocialCapGR), hereby confirm that:

- The attached periodic report represents an accurate description of the work carried out in this project for this reporting period;

- The project:
  (o) has fully achieved its objectives and technical goals for the period;
  ( ) has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the period with relatively minor deviations;
  ( ) has failed to achieve critical objectives and/or is not at all on schedule.

- The project Website (if applicable) is up to date.

- To my best knowledge, the financial statements which are being submitted as part of this report are in line with the actual work carried out and are consistent with the report on the resources used for the project and if applicable with the certificate on financial statement.

- The beneficiary, in particular non-profit public bodies, secondary and higher education establishments, research organisations and SMEs, have declared to have verified their legal status. Any changes have been reported under section 6 (Project Management) in accordance with Article II.2.f of the Grant Agreement.
1. PUBLISHABLE SUMMARY

This section normally should not exceed 2 pages.

It shall be of suitable quality to enable direct publication by the REA or the Commission. You may extract this wholly or partially from the website of the project, if suitable, but please ensure that this is set out and formatted so that it can be printed as a stand-alone paper document.

Please include:
- a summary description of the project objectives,
- a description of the work performed since the beginning of the project,
- a description of the main results achieved so far,
- the expected final results and their potential impact and use (including the socio-economic impact and the wider societal implications of the project so far).

You should update this publishable summary at the end of each reporting period.

Please include also, as appropriate, diagrams or photographs illustrating and promoting the work of the project, the project logo and relevant contact details.

Please ensure that all publishable reports submitted to the REA for publication are of a suitable quality to permit direct publication without any additional editing. By submitting the publishable reports to the REA, you are also certifying that they include no confidential material.

The address of the project public website should also be indicated, if applicable.

The internet address should be active.

Publishable summary:

The project had three key Research Objectives (ROs):

i) RO1. What are the impacts of sporting mega events on social capital? (Positive or negative)? Do they generate short-term or long-term legacies of social capital?

ii) RO2. How sporting mega events affect the social capital of specific groups? a. Volunteers: How certain activities linked with mega events and social capital (e.g. volunteering) affect individuals? b. Immigrants: To what extent sporting mega events have an impact on the social capital of marginal populations such as immigrants?

iii) RO3 refers to knowledge dissemination as an integral part of the research work carried out in the project.

For achieving each Research Objective, a respective set of Work Packages/ Tasks was planned and completed (RO1: Tasks 1.1-1.5; RO2: Tasks 2.1-2.4; RO3: Tasks 3.1-3.3).

So far, all the assigned tasks have been completed, while the analysis of the survey results is ongoing for producing journal publications as planned.

The expected final results will bring to light new evidence with regards to social capital and sport, and particularly in relation to sporting mega events such as the "Athens Marathon. The Authentic". Such knowledge is primarily important for Greece in times of crisis as it can mobilize top-down national and local governments and/or bottom-up voluntary associations and other groups to develop new or improve the existing sport initiatives for community building and engagement through sport. Moreover, the worldwide literature on sport and social capital will be further enriched with new knowledge in an area that largely lacks evidence.

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD

Please provide an overview of the project objectives for the reporting period in question, as included in Annex I of the Grant Agreement. These objectives are required so that this report is a stand-alone document.

Please include a summary of the recommendations from the previous reviews (if any) and indicate how these
Project objectives for the period:

The project had three key Research Objectives (ROs):

i) RO1. What are the impacts of sporting mega events on social capital? (Positive or negative)? Do they generate short-term or long-term legacies of social capital?

ii) RO2. How sporting mega events affect the social capital of specific groups?
   a. Volunteers: How certain activities linked with mega events and social capital (e.g. volunteering) affect individuals? b. Immigrants: To what extent sporting mega events have an impact on the social capital of marginal populations such as immigrants?

iii) RO3 refers to knowledge dissemination as an integral part of the research work carried out in the project.

For achieving each Research Objective, a respective set of Work Packages/Tasks was planned and completed. Below these tasks are described in more detail, while in the attached document, the relevant timeline is also listed.

For achieving RO1:
Task 1.1 Review literature I
Task 1.2 Engineer an appropriate measurement tool
Task 1.3 Research design (defining sample size etc.)
Task 1.4 Data collection
Task 1.5 Data analysis & report

For achieving RO2:
Task 2.1 Review literature II
Task 2.2 Research design (sampling procedure for regions/sport events/populations)
Task 2.3 Data collection
Task 2.4 Data analysis & report

For achieving RO3:
Task 3.1 Produce academic publications
Task 3.2 Present in conferences and seminars etc.
Task 3.3 Organize workshop(s)
Project ends: Preparing and submitting final report

Summary of Recommendations from the Mid-Term Report:
The Scientific Committee had agreed that interviews with immigrants should be avoided due to the tense political situation in Greece (RO2b). It was agreed that relevant data to the RO2b would only be collected in the survey that was conducted in the "Athens Marathon-The Authentic"

3. WORK PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

Please provide a concise overview of the progress of the work in line with the structure of Annex I of the Grant Agreement - except project management, which will be reported in section 6.

- A summary of progress towards objectives and details for each task;
- A summary of the progress of the researcher training activities/transfer of knowledge activities/integration activities (as it applies for the MC action);
- Highlight clearly significant results;
- If applicable, explain the reasons for deviations from Annex I and their impact on other tasks as well as on available resources and planning;
- If applicable, explain the reasons for failing to achieve critical objectives and/or not being on schedule and explain the impact on other tasks as well as on available resources and planning (the explanations should be
coherent with the declaration by the scientist in charge);
- A statement on the use of resources, in particular highlighting and explaining deviations between actual and planned researcher-months in Annex 1 (Description of Work)
- If applicable, propose corrective actions.

**Work progress and achievements during the period:**

Summary of progress towards objectives and details for each task:

The project, as also mentioned in previous section, had three key Research Objectives (ROs). Below the progress made for each objective is described in detail:

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVE 1 (RO1):** What are the impacts of sporting mega events on social capital? (Positive or negative)? Do they generate short-term or long-term legacies of social capital?

For achieving RO1 the following tasks were completed successfully:

- Task 1.1 Review literature I
  What was discovered in the course of the project was that there was a lacuna in the literature of a comprehensive review of all existing studies on the question above. Thus, a comprehensive “Systematic Review” has been conducted and is now complete. It reviews the worldwide literature in terms of the concepts and assumptions underlying the nature of ‘social capital’ adopted for the sporting context research. It provides a more precise understanding of its distinctive meanings but also advances knowledge by producing a synthesis of evidence that addresses the impact of sport on development of social capital.

- Task 1.2 Engineer an appropriate measurement tool
  Taking a critical approach, based on the systematic review the fellow also identified some emerged issues from current research and highlighted several potential areas that need measurement. On such grounds appropriate questions were composed for a research questionnaire.

- Task 1.3 Research design (defining sample size etc.)
  While composing the research design we examined all the available relevant tools, especially in the context of Greece. A national survey had been conducted in 2003 by a Greek research Centre called “KEPE” (Centre for Programming and Financial Research) and used a large part of their questionnaires and resources.

- Task 1.4 Data collection
  Data were collected in a large-scale online survey conducted in “Athens Marathon. The Authentic”.

- Task 1.5 Data analysis & report
  Data was analyzed using the appropriate statistical packages and the relevant reports were generated.

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVE 2 (RO2).** How sporting mega events affect the social capital of specific groups?

a. Volunteers: How certain activities linked with mega events and social capital (e.g. volunteering) affect individuals? b. Immigrants: To what extent sporting mega events have an impact on the social capital of marginal populations such as immigrants?

- Task 2.1 Review literature II
  The Systematic Review had a great scope covering many sub-sections. For RO2 clearly dedicated sections of the literature were developed that dealt more specifically with social capital, mega sport events and certain populations such as volunteers and immigrants.

- Task 2.2 Research design (defining sample size etc.)
  Research design was same as for RO1 but we made sure that the questionnaire and sampling methods were also appropriate for collecting data with regards to the particular research objective(s).

- Task 2.3 Data collection
  Data were collected in a large-scale online survey conducted in “Athens Marathon. The Authentic”.

- Task 2.4 Data analysis & report
  Data was analyzed using the appropriate statistical packages and the relevant reports were generated.

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVE 3 (RO3):** This objective refers to knowledge dissemination as an integral part of the research work carried out in the project. Knowledge dissemination is taken very seriously, thus a series of activities has taken place. The goal was not only to disseminate the specific results of the survey but also to spread the message about the value of sport in society. Moreover, an aim for the dissemination activities was for the fellow to act as a Marie Curie Ambassador and reach wider audiences in order to increase the awareness about the value of the MSCA fellowship for career
The progression of the excellent scientists in Europe.

Task 3.1 Produce academic publications
Several papers have already been drafted and will be submitted to esteemed academic journals. Those articles are the fully developed articles presented in conferences and seminars (see Task 3.2)

Task 3.2 Present in conferences and seminars etc.
Conference presentations


Invited talks/lectures


12. Invited Speaker, Study Abroad Programme, Sport Management, Undergraduate, Texas Austin University, Athens, 15-17 December 2014

13. Keynote Speaker, Round Table Discussion on “Olympic networks worldwide”, Syracuse University, USA, 29 October – 5 November 2014

14. Invited Panel Member of the Debate Discussion on the topic “Quo Vadis - the Olympic Idea” at the 3rd International Symposium for Olympic Research, University of Mainz, Germany, 6-9 September 2014
15. The fellow was honoured to be invited by the European Commission as a Marie Curie Ambassador and present my project at the Marie Curie Fellows’ Master Class on Transferable Skills that took place at the European Association for International Education 2014 Conference (EAIE), Prague, Czech Republic, 16-19 September 2014

16. Invited Professor, Baku European Games Organising Committee, Graduate Excellence Programme, Baku, Azerbaijan, 14-25 July 2014


18. Invited Lecture, Olympism 4 Humanity Global Symposium, International Olympic Academy, Olympia, Greece, 29 June-2 July 2014

19. Invited Professor, International Masters in Olympic Studies, Cologne, Germany, 12-16 March 2014


21. Invited Lecture, Men’s National Greek Volleyball Team, Dual Career Education Programme, ‘Melina Merkouri’ Indoors Court, Renti, Piraeus, Greece, 31 December 2013

Task 3.3 Organize workshop(s)
The fellow organized a one-day Workshop with the title “The Role of Sport in the Greek Society and Economy”. It was a joint partnership of the Regional Development Institute (my Host Institute) and the School of International Relations, Communication and Culture as my aim was to create interdisciplinary synergies within the Panteion University. There I presented my preliminary results from the Marie Curie Project. There were also panel debates and the Invited Professors were from diverse academic backgrounds such as history, economics, management, journalism etc. The Workshop took place on the 15th of May 2014 and was attended by a large audience in the central auditorium of the Panteion University.

A summary of the progress of the researcher training activities/transfer of knowledge activities/integration activities (as it applies for the MC action)

Throughout the duration of the project the fellow was actively engaged with training / transfer of knowledge activities. More specifically, the Systematic Review that was conducted was one such activity of knowledge exchange with the world-renowned Centre for Olympic Studies & Research at Loughborough University, UK. An expert panel was formed with leading researchers in the field who regularly met online with the fellow to discuss and analyze the findings of the Systematic Review on the different areas of social capital and sport.

Also within the host institute, the fellow participated in several training activities, particularly with regards to quantitative research design and statistical tests. The fellow interacted on a regular basis with faculty staff and doctoral researchers of the Regional Development Institute as well as from other Centres and Institutes of the Panteion University. As part of such productive exchange, the fellow submitted an Erasmus + grant application creating synergies between colleagues from the host institute (Panteion University) and the fellow’s academic institution in the UK (Canterbury Christ Church University) (results still pending). Additionally, the fellow was involved in several transfer of knowledge activities with existing partners of the Panteion University in other European programmes, e.g. the EU-funded Hotel Obscura programme. More particularly, the fellow developed close working relationship with the Greek NGO “Ohi Paizoume” in finding innovative ways to
promote social and cultural capital through sport.

Highlight clearly significant results

• The fellow was invited as a Marie Curie Ambassador to present at the Marie Curie Fellows’ Master Class on Transferable Skills that took place at the European Association for International Education 2014 Conference (EAIE), Prague, Czech Republic, 16-19 September 2014

• The fellow was shortlisted and ranked as a Marie Curie Prize Finalist under the Italian Presidency in the category “Nurturing Young Talents”

• The fellow presented in a total 21 occasions in 7 different countries during her two-year fellowship.

• The fellow conducted the first ever online survey on social capital in a sporting event in Greece with a return of over 2,500 respondents in most categories of the questionnaire.

A statement on the use of resources, in particular highlighting and explaining deviations between actual and planned researcher-months in Annex 1 (Description of Work)

The fellow proceeded as initially planned with regards to the use of the resources and the implementation/delivery of the work packages and relevant assigned tasks for achieving the Research Objectives of the project.

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Comments:

5. DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Use this section to summarise all dissemination activities executed during the reporting period as well as activities planned for next period.

Dissemination activities:

- Produce academic publications
Several papers have already been drafted and will be submitted to esteemed academic journals. Those articles are the fully developed articles presented in conferences and seminars (see Task 3.2)
- Present in conferences and seminars etc.
Conference presentations


Invited talks/ lectures


12. Invited Speaker, Study Abroad Programme, Sport Management, Undergraduate, Texas Austin University, Athens, 15-17 December 2014

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- Organized workshop(s)

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6. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Please use this section to summarise management activities during the period:

- Project planning and status - from management point of view;
- Problems which have occurred and how they were solved or envisaged solutions;
- Changes to the legal status of any of the beneficiaries, in particular, SME status;
- Impact of possible deviations from the planned milestones and deliverables, if any;
- Development of the project website (if applicable);
- Gender issues; Ethical issues;
- Justification of subcontracting (if applicable);
- Justification of real costs (management costs);
- Other

For 2007 and 2008 calls a detailed description of costs related to management and overhead is requested

**Project management:**

As also stated in the Mid-Term report, the project planning has not been particularly challenging as the steps outlined by the REA and the deliverables/ milestones planned in the project proposal have been all tangible and clear. The Fellow had attended a series of Project Management courses in preparation of the delivery of this programme and this has further helped her to develop a clear schedule of work. Progress reports are submitted every month to the Scientist in Charge and the LEAR.

Again during the reported period the problems that emerged were not linked with the project per se but with the political and financial instability of Greece. The effect of capital controls and the ambiguous financial situation caused several delays in the Fellow’s payments from the University after April 2015. However, the LEAR and the Research Office (ELKE) of the Panteion University made every possible effort to resolve any pending issues. So far it seems that the major problems have been resolved and all payments have been scheduled.

However, it should be noted that a key problem that emerged during this period relates to the availability of the Fellow’s funds outside Greece. At the start of the project the Fellow was asked to be registered as a Tax Resident of Greece – even she is a permanent UK resident. Due to this status and because of the capital controls enforced on the Greek banks, the Fellow is now not allowed to transfer any funds abroad. This is most inconvenient as for her relocation and living back in the UK she needs to have access to these funds. This issue is yet to be resolved.

No further outstanding project management issues are to be reported.
The content of this report has been approved by the researcher and the scientist in charge assigned to this project. The electronic submission of this report shall replace their signatures.

This declaration was visaed (signed) electronically by Athanasios PAPADASKALOPOULOS (ECAS user name npapadam) on 14/08/2015