



Study on Volunteering in the EU

Case study on volunteering in sport

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Study on Volunteering in the EU

- Commissioned by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACE) and managed by DG Education and Culture
- Carried out by GHK Consulting
 - Employee-owned, multi-disciplinary international research and consultancy company
 - Working regularly with DG EAC, DG EMPL, DG JLS, DG REGIO, etc
 - Extensive experience in relation to pan-European evaluations and mapping studies
- Undertaken between March 2009 and November 2009
- Covering 27 Member States of the European Union



Rationale

- Although the importance of volunteering has been long acknowledged, there is a lack of systematic approach towards volunteering at EU level so far.
- No research has been carried out systematically in all 27 EU Member States at the same time.
- As sport constitutes the largest voluntary movement in Europe, it deserves greater attention on the EU level.



General objectives of the study:

- Reach a better understanding of national, regional and local realities of volunteering in the EU;
- Identify ways in which way the volunteering sector could contribute to the strategic objectives of the EU;
- Help determine the scope of possible future initiatives at European level aimed at promoting volunteering;
- Raise awareness of the possible benefits of supporting volunteering; and
- Serve as an information tool and a resource base.

Specific objectives of the study:

- To describe the volunteering landscape in all 27 Member States:
 - Facts (legal, economic, social, administrative, cultural)
 - Figures (exhaustive, up to date, comparable and evidence-based data)
 - Description of EU policies, programmes and actions that have had an impact on volunteering
 - Consideration of issues around job substitution, taxation, procurement, competition, etc.
- To identify common trends, differences, needs and challenges
- To provide a set of recommendations for policies and actions which could be more effectively implemented at the European level rather than at national or regional/local level.

Objectives of case study on volunteering in sport

- The importance of volunteering in sport is growing, also on the European Agenda.
- The study will include an in-depth case study on the role of volunteering in the sport sector, which aims at:
 - Reaching a better understanding of national, regional and local realities of volunteering in sport in the EU, as well as the opportunities and challenges these realities represent;
 - Identify how the volunteering sector could contribute to the strategic objectives of the EU and, on the other hand, help determine the scope of possible EU initiatives;
 - Raise awareness and develop an information tool.

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WORK PROGRAMME

Phase 1: Inception phase

Activity 1.1 – Kick-off meeting

Activity 1.2 - Elaboration of methodological tools and instruments

Activity 1.3 - Preparation of lists of information sources (literature) and contacts

Activity 1.4 – Inception report

Phase 2: Data collection phase

Activity 2.1 – Briefing the team

Activity 2.2 – Consultations with key stakeholders at European and international level

Activity 2.3 – An in-depth review of international literature

Activity 2.4 – Literature review at Member State level

Activity 2.5 – Interviews in the Member States

Activity 2.6 – Survey on volunteering in sport

Phase 3: Data analysis phase

Activity 3.1 – Organisation and analysis of data

Activity 3.2 – National reports on the state of volunteering in each MS and national fiches on sport

Activity 3.3 – Production of the draft case study on sport

Activity 3.4 – Quality assurance process of each national report and the case study on sport

Activity 3.5 – First interim meeting, delivery of interim report and second interim meeting

Phase 4: Presentation of findings, recommendations and conclusions

Activity 4.1 – Analysis of volunteering landscape in the EU; key facts and trends

Activity 4.2 – Analysis of main benefits of volunteering

Activity 4.3 – Analysis of the impact of EU policies and contribution of volunteering to EU policies

Activity 4.4 – Analysis of needs and challenges

Activity 4.5 - Final reporting and recommendations

Case study on volunteering in sport (1)

Main tasks:

A. Collecting information, for each Member State, on

- History of volunteering, tradition and evolution
- Concepts and definitions used
- Numbers of volunteers (gender, age, employment status, etc) and of volunteering organisations in sport - trends
- Types of volunteering activities (sport segments, disciplines, type of volunteer involvement)
- Types of organisations involved

Case study on volunteering in sport (2)

- Institutional and regulatory framework, including:
 - Public bodies responsible and other organisations to promote the sector
 - Policy context – strategy, programmes, initiatives to promote volunteering
 - Targets and monitoring of achievement of targets
 - Overall legal framework
 - Frameworks for volunteering organisations, volunteers and organisations participating in volunteering activities (e.g. private / public sector)
 - Specific issues: Arrangements in relation to competition / procurement, Grants and subsidies, Taxation (e.g. exemptions, incentives, obstacles), Insurances and protection
 - Specific concerns: Job / service substitution

Case study on volunteering in sport (3)

- The economic dimension of volunteering in sport
 - Funding
 - Economic value and role of volunteering (if possible, based on time inputs to volunteering, skills / competence levels required and average national wage levels)
 - Social, cultural and environmental impacts of volunteering in sport

B. Analysing the information collected, with the purpose to review, for each Member State:

- The main benefits of volunteering in sport
- The main challenges and opportunities

C. Preparing an EU comparative analysis

D. Formulating conclusions and recommendations

Case study on volunteering in sport (4)

Specific outputs:

- 27 National Fiches on volunteering in sport
- Case study on volunteering in sports ,analysing and drawing conclusions on:
 - Common trends and differences in volunteering among MS, taking into account specific organisational structures and arrangements of the sport sector.
 - Developments in the legal frameworks affecting volunteering in sport and statistical evidence to illustrate the importance of volunteering for the sector.
 - The challenges faced by volunteers and sport organisations, and responses to these challenges.
 - Effective means of promoting volunteering.
 - The impact of EU level action (e.g. around active citizenship, and employment, social and competition policies) on volunteers, sport organisations and their activities

Case study on volunteering in sport (5)

Specific methodology

- Desk based review (reports, studies, websites, etc)
 - National and international
- Interviews with:
 - International and European sport organisations
 - National ministries, sport organisations and committees
- An online survey in four languages among sports associations, organisations and committees



Information request (1)

- If you have EU, national, regional or local studies/reports/documents that concern volunteering in the sport sector (or general), please send/email them to us so that the data can be included in the study
 - Reports welcomed in ANY language (the research team covers all EU languages);
- We also welcome any contact details of representatives of Ministries and sport organisations, who could contribute to the study (e.g. through interviews and feedback)



Information request (2)

We are in particular looking for:

- Background information on volunteering in sport (e.g. history, evolution)
- Policies to promote volunteering in the sport sector
- Opportunities, challenges and threats to volunteering in the sport sector and responses to the challenges
- Legal and organisational frameworks for volunteering in the sport sector (e.g. taxation and reimbursements)
- Numbers of volunteers (e.g. total number, by various sub-sectors of sport, trends in the number)
- Economic value of volunteer work in sport
- Impact of volunteering on sport (e.g. operation of sport clubs, employment, individuals, direct beneficiaries, collective benefits, etc.)
- Impact of EU and international policies, activities and programmes on volunteering in the sport sector



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND HELP!