



HELLENIC FEDERATION OF SPORTS COACHES AND TRAINERS

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Erasmus+ Programme
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TO: Sport Ministries, General Secretariats of Sports, National Sport Federations, Coaches Associations – Federations- Unions – single sport Coaches Associations of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Northern Macedonia, Malta, Monte Negro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey.

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO PROJECT COACHFORCE21 INTERNATIONAL EVENT AND COACHES SEMINAR IN ATHENS, FEBRUARY 2020.

The Hellenic Federation of Sports Coaches and Trainers (POPA www.popa.gr) along with Leeds Beckett University, International Council for Coaching Excellence (ICCE www.icce.ws) and six partner organizations launched the CoachForce21 (www.coachforce.eu) project funded by the European Union's Erasmus+ Programme.

This project aims to strengthen the role, responsibilities, representation and influence of coaches in society and sport.

The need for this project arose from the fact that, according to a survey by the European Commission, Coaches are a very strong working group, because in the European Union there are about nine million Coaches, compared to the six million teachers and three million doctors. This, coupled with the strong presence of the International Council for Coaching Excellence (ICCE) and that of the European Coaching Council (ECC) - who promote the professional, educational and social interests of coaches - has demonstrated the need for the EU to recognize the professional group of Sports Coaches, because it realized the great influence they have on society not only by their number but also by engaging in all age groups.

Within the framework of the project, the Hellenic Federation of Sports Coaches and Trainers (POPA) - full and active members of the ICCE and a partner of CoachForce21 project – are organizing an event in February 2020 in Athens, one of a series of meetings that will take place in various European cities. The event will present an opportunity for participants of the project to present their activities and results.

The Athens event will be attended by CoachForce21 partners Leeds Beckett University (UK), ICCE, Czech Olympic Committee, Hungary Coaches Association, Trainerakademie of Cologne (Germany), the Polish Sports Institute, Portuguese Sports Coaches Confederation, Professional Finnish Coaches Association, and POPA.

Other important organizations are also invited to attend this important event, including: International Olympic Committee, European Commission, WADA, ASOIF (Association of Summer Olympics International Federations), National and International Sports Federations, Higher Education Institutions, European Coaches Associations, National Coaches Associations, Governmental Sports Organizations (Ministry of Sports, General Secretariat of Sports) and representatives of other related Erasmus + projects.

The international event will take place on Friday 14th February and will involve Coaches Associations, Federations, Unions, Single Sport Associations, Sport Ministries and General Secretariats of Sports from neighboring countries. Distinguished speakers from the coaching field will be invited to speak on the issues covered by CoachForce21. The title of this event will be: "The Future of Coaching - Coaching in the 21st Century".

Furthermore, a Coaches' Seminar will take place on Saturday 15th February on a subject of common interest to all coaches, with speakers from Trainerakademie (Cologne) and Greek institutions. Coaches from all Balkan countries and countries from the Middle East, and central and eastern Mediterranean will be invited to attend the Seminar.

Please see the programme of events attached.

Participation is free, and a limited number of international participants might benefit from free one-night accommodation. Please contact Karen Livingstone to register for the event at k.livingstone@icce.ws

Due to the high value of the program and parallel events and the rising importance of Sports Coaches in the society of our countries, your country's participation to the events will inform you about the goals, purposes and activities of ICCE, give you the opportunity to become member of this global Coaches organization and help to strengthen the Voice of the Coach in your countries and around the world.

We are at your disposal for any clarification.

For the Board of Hellenic Federation of Sports Coaches and Trainers

The President



Athanasios D. Villiotis



The Secretary General



Dimitrios K. Stefanidis