



## *THE PROJECT*

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The vision of the three-year STEADY project is to increase sports participation of Displaced Youth with Disabilities (DYD) by promoting volunteering and equal access of migrants & minorities to organized and grassroots sport.

STEADY is a project that focuses on changing the paradigm, bringing migrants and refugees with disabilities from the margins to become integral members of the sporting community.

The project STEADY has received funding from the European Union's Erasmus+ Sport programme under grant agreement no 2018-3286/001-001.

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## STEADY Context

The STEADY project is planning to successfully mainstream DYD into regular sports activities through targeted individual programs to build capacity both on young refugees with disabilities experiencing sports and, secondly, on how volunteer, paid coaches and sport officials address the needs of DYD who want to participate in sports. The main subject area that STEADY develops is to combat violence and tackle racism, discrimination and intolerance and to encourage social inclusion and equal opportunities in sport.

The project

- Develops a wide Network of Promoting Equal Opportunities of Young Migrants and Minorities with disabilities in Sport.
- Involves Refugees with disabilities to a greater extent in the promotion of “sport for all” in cooperation with sports organisations, especially in order to reach a younger population and reduce intolerance and discrimination.
- Involves social sector and national human rights institutions to a greater extent in combating discrimination in sport, promote their co-operation in running awareness-raising activities, and authorize these bodies to participate in legal actions brought to improve access to sport for all
- Showcases best practices from across Europe at international, state, and local level
- Presents how Paralympic committees, & NGOs can use sport as a tool to cultivate tolerance and social inclusion sharing expertise between relevant stakeholders at international, national and local level.

The project also promotes the power of sport in refugees’ communities around Europe and worldwide. Through STEADY project, partners and interested stakeholders will increase knowledge about the range of factors that affect refugees with disabilities participating in physical activity and sport can be used to develop inclusive sports programmes.

The Partnership consists of nine (9) sport organisations and NGOs from eight (8) different countries:

- **Hellenic Paralympic Committee (HPC) - EL**
- **Paralympic Committee of Serbia (NPC Serbia) - RS**
- **Equal Society - EL**
- **AttivaMente -IT**
- **Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC) - AT**
- **Play and Train - ES**
- **Centro Social de Soutelo (CSS) - PT**
- **Footura - BG**
- **Agitos foundation – International**

The partners bring varying degrees of related expertise and experience to the project with some organisations’ engagement with DYD - Hellenic Paralympic Committee and Agitos foundation– dating back to 2016.

### STEADY’s Objectives:

- Promotion of voluntary activities in sport, together with social inclusion, equal opportunities and awareness of the importance of health-enhancing physical activity, through increased participation in, and equal access to sport for all and
- Tackling cross-border threats to the integrity of sport, in that case, violence and all kinds of intolerance and discrimination.

This newsletter represents selected highlights of the work done during the first 6 months of the project, through a sample of the latest project outputs and related news stories by project partners.

# Project's NEWS



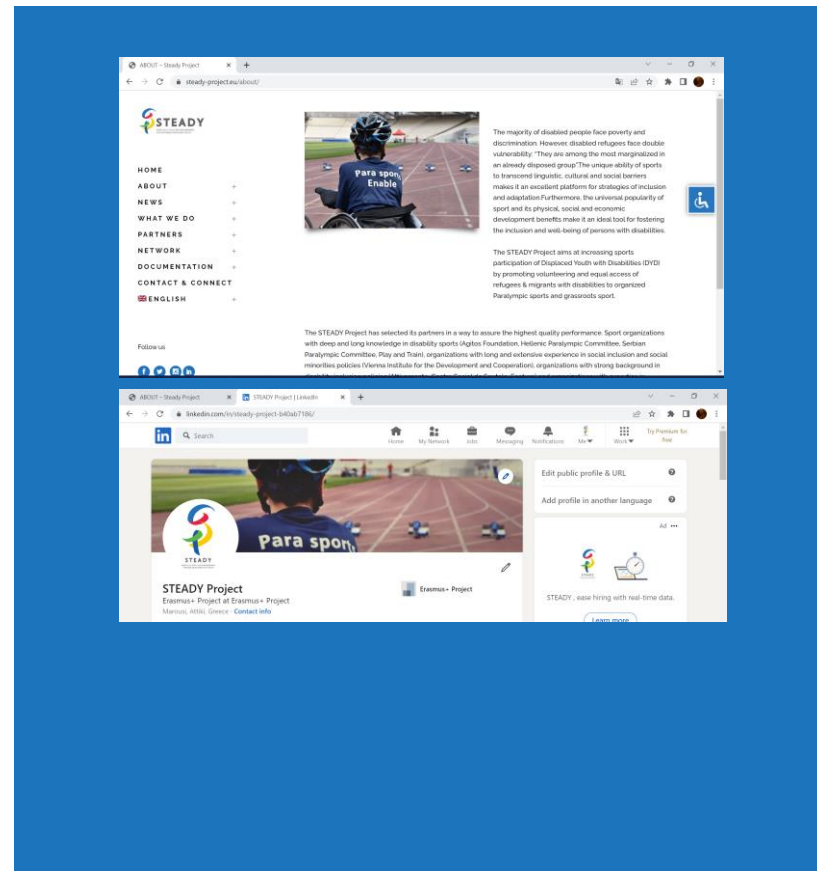
The STEADY project has held its project kick-off meeting on April 8, 2019, at the project partner's (Play and Train) facilities in Barcelona, Spain. A total of 16 participants attended the workshop, including 4 people from the host organization and 7 people from the remaining partners of the project.

The consortium presented the aims of the project and the activities that will be conducted during the project's life cycle and discussed about its status and the tasks ahead. The aim of the meeting was to facilitate the cooperation between the different project stakeholders in which partners gained a deeper knowledge of the background of each organization and better understood the project vision and the proposed means to achieve that vision.

Overall, the meeting was an enriching experience that increased the mutual understanding among the consortium, and also highlighted the challenges involved due to its heterogeneity.

## STEADY Project website and social media channels

The official STEADY project website was launched in May 2019 (steady-project.eu). The website was created by the Hellenic Paralympic Committee in cooperation with the Serbian Paralympic Committee and at the moment contains basic information on the project, its objectives, and its partners. The STEADY website will feature news, project's findings and updates, such as reports, policy briefs as well as opportunities for collaboration, e.g. events announcements, workshops and training sessions. Also, all the tools and guidelines that will be developed in the context of the STEADY project will be available on the website in downloadable format. The website is currently available in English, but its most important content will also be translated in Spanish, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Austrian, Bulgarian and Serbian. Along with the website the STEADY Project has also launched its social media channels on Facebook (STEADY-Project), Instagram (steadyproject), Twitter (steady\_project), and LinkedIn (STEADY Project). Since the development of networking and an expanded stakeholder list is one of the main goals of the project, special focus was given to the development of social media channels.



<https://www.steady-project.eu/>

## *Forthcoming STEADY Project Activities*

The project is coordinated by the Hellenic Paralympic Committee and its outputs and deliverables are divided into three main categories.

1. The first category includes development of networking and an expanded stakeholders' list that will promote the important role that sports can have towards the inclusion of refugees and immigrants with disabilities in European Society. Agitos Foundation, as an international organization, was decided to lead this activity.
2. The second category includes the development of a Handbook and a Manual that will describe good practices that can encourage and help organizations use sports as a mean of empowerment and inclusion of refugees and immigrants with disabilities in their local communities. Equal Society was decided to lead these outputs as well as the quality assurance plan and evaluation procedures of the project.
3. The third category includes participation of refugees with disabilities in para sports training programs and grassroots sport activities such as the European Week of Sports as well as the STEADY Action Week. All partners will be involved in this area. Attivamente will coordinate the dissemination plan as well as the baseline study of the STEADY Project where all partners will conduct research on national level about the reality of refugees and immigrants with disabilities in their countries.

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