

ID TALKS!

This ID Talks series will look into the concept of social sport - what it means, why it is important and how it promotes inclusion, social cohesion and skills development.



ID Talks:

SOCIAL SPORT
SPORT IN THE CITY
SPORT THROUGH CIRCUS
SPORT FOR INTEGRATION
SPORT FOR LGBTIQ+ INCLUSION

Download this and other SALTO Inclusion & Diversity booklets for free at www.SALTO-YOUTH.net/Inclusion/. This document does not necessarily reflect the official views of the European Commission, the SALTO Inclusion & Diversity Resource Centre or the organisation co-operating with them.



EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS



Erasmus+

ABOUT SALTO

...‘Support and **A**dvanced **L**earning and **T**raining **O**pportunities within the Erasmus+: Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes’. The European Commission has created a network of seven SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres to enhance the implementation of the EU Erasmus+: Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes, which provide young people with valuable non-formal learning experiences.

SALTO’s aim is to support the implementation of the European Erasmus+: Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps Programmes with regard to priorities such as Social Inclusion, Diversity, Participation, and Solidarity. SALTO also supports co-operation with regions such as EuroMed, South-East Europe, or Eastern Europe and The Caucasus and coordinates all training and co-operation activities, as well as information tools for National Agencies.

In these European priority areas, SALTO-YOUTH provides resources, information, and training for National Agencies and European youth workers. Most of these resources are offered and disseminated at www.SALTO-YOUTH.net. Find online the [European Training Calendar](#), the [Toolbox for Training and Youth Work](#), the database of youth field trainers active at the European level ([Trainers Online for Youth or TOY](#)), links to online resources, and much more.

SALTO-YOUTH actively co-operates with other actors in the European youth field, among them the National Agencies of the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes, the Council of Europe, the European Youth Forum, European youth workers and trainers, and training organisers.

THE SALTO-YOUTH INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY RESOURCE CENTRE WWW.SALTO-YOUTH.NET/INCLUSION/

The SALTO-YOUTH Inclusion and Diversity Resource Centre (based in Belgium Flanders) works together with the European Commission to support the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the Erasmus+: Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes. Through that, it works to contribute to social cohesion in society at large. SALTO Inclusion and Diversity also supports the National Agencies and youth workers in their inclusion work by providing training, developing youth work methods, disseminating information via the newsletter, etc. By offering opportunities for training, exchange, and reflection on inclusion practice and diversity management, SALTO Inclusion & Diversity works towards the visibility, accessibility, and transparency of its inclusion & diversity work and resources, and towards making ‘inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities’ and ‘positive diversity management’ a widely supported priority.

For more information and resources, have a look at the Inclusion & Diversity pages at www.SALTO-YOUTH.net/Inclusion/



DISCLAIMER

This magazine contains pictures as a result of the Graphic Recording which is an integral part of all the ID Talks events. There are four types of styles throughout the whole magazine.

- **General Cover Picture.** It is used for promotional reasons throughout the social media channels and the dissemination materials and it depicts the logo of SALTO Inclusion & Diversity, the title, and the graphic elements of each version of the ID Talks events. It is displayed as a cover picture of each ID Talks version.
- **Portrait of Speaker.** It depicts each speaker and a few graphic recording elements such as written parts of their "speech" and/or any other graphics according to the style of each ID Talks version. It is displayed on top of the speaker's description page.
- **Main Graphic Recording Card.** It is used for promotional reasons throughout the social media channels and the dissemination materials and it depicts the logo of SALTO Inclusion & Diversity, the title, and the graphic elements of each version of the ID Talks events, including the specific name of the event, the portrait of the speaker, written quotes of their "speech" and/or any other graphics. It is displayed on top of the first page of each article.
- **Graphic Recording Elements.** Throughout each article, the graphic recording elements complement the text with essential parts of each speaker's "talk".



I & D Talks

“Social Sport”

What is it all about?

“ID Talks” is a series of 5 online workshops on 5 major topics to promote inclusion & diversity (ID) and quality youth work. It features youth workers, professionals and volunteers, from all over the world to share insights, research findings, food for thought, good practices or inspirational stories. They will guide participants through the pressing matters and challenges affecting Inclusion & Diversity and inspire them to make their programmes and organisations more inclusive, embrace human differences, look ahead and picture how the future of youth work and Inclusion & Diversity might be.

Each workshop begins with an input from a guest speaker. Afterwards, participants have the opportunity to engage in the discussion, ask questions and share about their own realities and experiences.

For whom?

- Youth workers, youth leaders, professionals and volunteers involved in ID in the EU youth programmes, as well as all those interested in youth work and inclusion & diversity topics.

Why should you join?

- Get food for thought and learn from inspirational ID stories.
- Learn about ID topics from the youth work sector and beyond.
- Get information, inspiration, methods to help the youth sector address ID.
- Put some more quality in your (international) youth work.
- Identify and learn how to tackle existing and future challenges within ID.

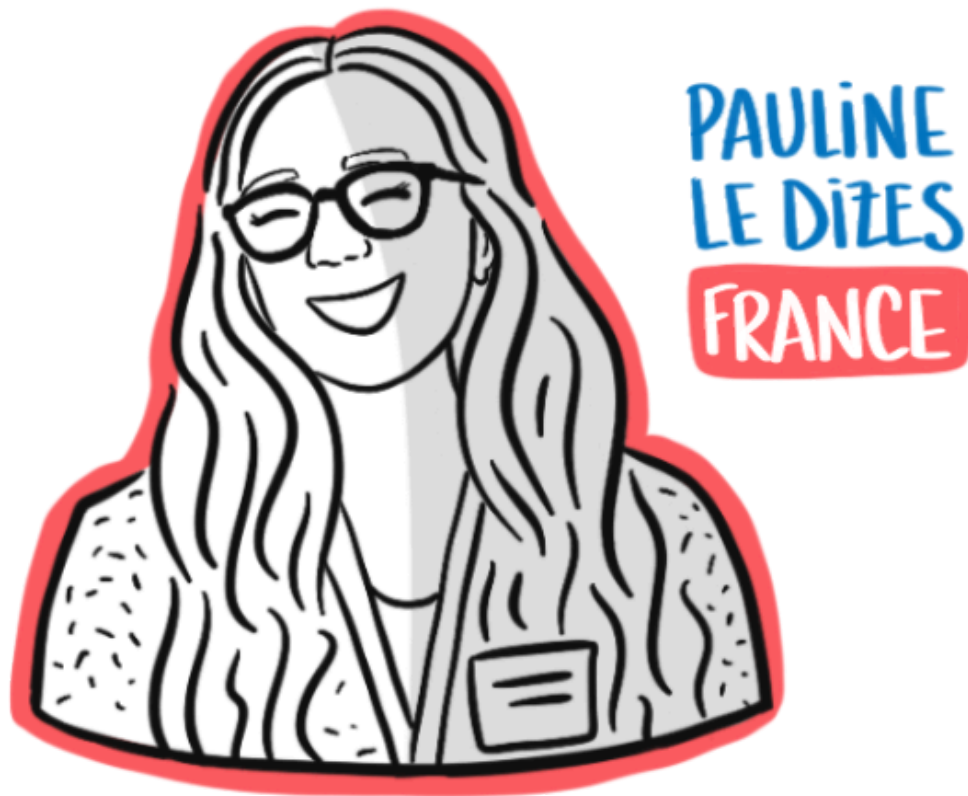


Event Dates:

- 9 September (13h CET) > **ID Talks Social Sport** - What is social sport? What are its most important elements and what can it achieve? How can social sport boost inclusion? How does it link to youth work, to developing identities and communities and to active participation? What are the youth and sport strands of the Erasmus+ programme and what is the YouSports National Agency cooperation in brief? In this opening talk, we will be setting the scene for the "social sport" season of ID Talks, creating a common understanding of important notions and frameworks. Guest speaker: **Oscar Coppieters**, City Pirates, Belgium.
- 23 September (13h CET) > **ID Talks Sport in the City** - How to reach out to young people and bring them on board? What methods could be used to engage youth in skills and project development? How does sport help young people unlock their potential? Why is it important to have meaningful collaboration with the business sector? And what opportunities can national policies on social sport provide? Join us to discover the stories of Sport dans la Ville about social sport in disadvantaged urban areas. Guest speakers: **Pauline Le Dizes & Mohamed-Aziz Arafa**, Sportdanslaville, France.
- 7 October (13h CET) > **ID Talks Sport through Circus** - What is social circus and how can it become a safe space for people with fewer opportunities, especially in conflict areas and devastated communities? What is the public perception of social circus and how can you go beyond circus clichés or negative stereotypes? What impact does it have on young people and the wider community? In this talk, the Palestinian Circus School will share about their social programme that uses social circus to engage marginalised groups, such as women and people with disabilities. Guest speaker: **Mohammad Rabah**, The Palestinian circus school, Palestine.
- 21 October (13h CET) > **ID Talks Sport for Integration** - Why is sport a good tool for integration across cultures, countries and continents? How can sport serve as a universal language for communication? What is the added value of using Erasmus+ and working on this topic internationally? What are the main challenges and key outcomes? In this talk, we will learn about the projects of V4Sport Foundation and how they use sport to engage the most vulnerable groups, such as young Ukrainian refugees, in the local community in Poland. Guest speaker: **Jakub Kalinowski**, V4Sport Foundation, Poland.
- 4 November (13h CET) > **ID Talks Sport for LGBTIQ+ Inclusion** - How can social sport help in creating safer spaces? How can sport be used to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (SOGI)? What are the benefits for LGBTIQ+ people, as well as the wider community? What are the possible challenges? This talk will highlight tools and activities by LEAP Sports Scotland where social sport is used for greater inclusion of queer people. Guest speaker: **Hugh Torrance**, LEAP Sports, Scotland

Sport in the City

How to reach out to young people and bring them on board? What methods could be used to engage youth in skills and project development?



GUEST SPEAKERS: PAULINE LE DIZES & MOHAMED-AZIZ ARAFA

My name is Pauline, and I have worked for Sport dans la Ville for 4,5 years. I am currently the Public & European Partnerships Manager, based in Lyon, France. Throughout my work, I collaborate with public authorities to build strategic partnerships that drive meaningful change, and I share my expertise on European funding. Before my work at the non-profit, I worked for a year at the French national agency for Erasmus+. I have been actively involved in children's holiday camps, and the time I spend with young people continues to be a great source of energy and motivation. My work focuses on building partnerships that support youth development, education, sport, and social inclusion.



Article

Pauline Le Dizes & Mohamed-Aziz Arafa



From Opening Sports Grounds to Unlocking Potential: The Sport dans la Ville Approach

Introduction

When people hear about Sport dans la Ville, they often assume that we are primarily a sports organisation. In reality, our work has never been only about sport.

Our first action is to build or renovate a sports facility, but what we are really building is much more than a football pitch or a basketball court. We are creating a place where young people feel safe, recognized and valued. Today, Sport dans la Ville supports around 15,000 young people every year through sport, education, employment and entrepreneurship programmes.

Using sport as a tool for education and development

At Sport dans la Ville, we use sport as a tool to create relationships, build confidence and open doors. The football pitch or basketball court is often the first point of contact, but never the final destination.

Through regular sports practice, young people learn perseverance, teamwork, leadership, communication and self-confidence. These competencies are often described as transferable skills because they can be applied in education, training and employment environments.

Sport creates situations in which young people can experience progress, overcome challenges and recognise their own strengths. This is particularly important for participants who may have experienced academic difficulties or who struggle to see their own potential.



Building bridges between young people and companies

A recurring challenge faced by many young people is limited access to professional networks and role models.

For this reason, Sport dans la Ville works extensively with companies and professionals to create meaningful encounters between young people and the world of work.



These encounters take different forms, including mentoring relationships, company visits, workshops, internships, and networking opportunities. However, the objective goes beyond professional discovery.

The organisation encourages professionals to share their own journeys, including the obstacles and uncertainties they encountered along the way. This creates more authentic exchanges and allows young people to see professional success as something attainable rather than distant.

Mentoring plays a particularly significant role in this process. Through regular interactions with professionals, young people gain guidance, encouragement, and access to networks that they would not otherwise encounter. These relationships support both employability and personal development.

JOB DANS LA VILLE

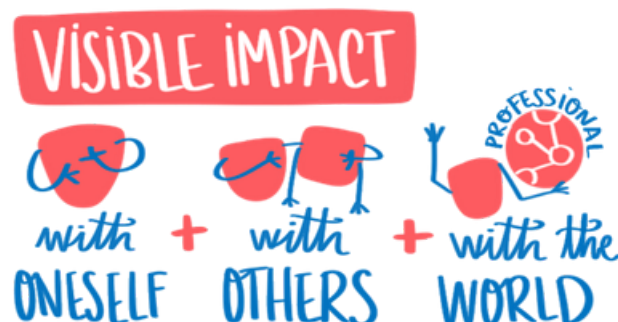
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME WITH:

- INTERNSHIPS
- MENTORING SESSIONS
- NETWORKING
- COMPANY VISITS
- SKILLS/INTEREST EXPLORATION

Passe Décisive: Re-engaging Young People Facing Multiple Barriers

Passe Décisive is a specific pathway designed for young people facing multiple barriers to employment and training. Many participants enter the programme after experiencing school dropout, social isolation, unemployment or a significant loss of confidence.

The programme provides intensive and personalised support with the objective of helping young people reconnect with themselves, with others and with their future aspirations.

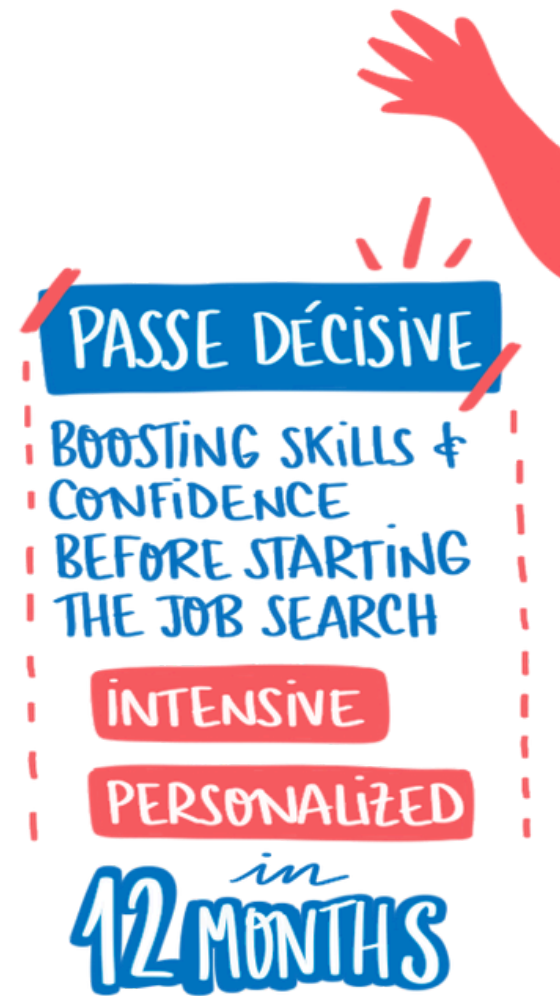


A key feature of Passe Décisive is its use of sport as a tool for re-engagement. Sports activities are used to rebuild routines, encourage commitment, strengthen resilience, and help participants recognise their own progress.

Rather than focusing immediately on employment, the programme first works on confidence, motivation and personal development. This approach recognises that sustainable professional integration often begins with personal transformation.

A typical week in the Passe Décisive programme includes two sports sessions, mobility workshops, company visits and opportunities to meet professionals, individual coaching sessions, thematic workshops covering digital skills, health, financial literacy, self-awareness, job search techniques, and professional immersion opportunities such as job shadowing and work placements.

What makes Passe Décisive unique is its combination of individual support, sport-based education, professional exposure, and life skills development.



An individual story : Mohamed-Aziz ARAFA

Like many young people involved in Sport dans la Ville, he initially joined through sport. Over time, he developed confidence, leadership skills and ambitions that extended well beyond the sports field. His experience demonstrates how access to positive environments, supportive adults and meaningful opportunities can influence a young person's trajectory.



Conclusion

The experience of Sport dans la Ville suggests that sport can play a significant role in youth engagement and social inclusion when it is embedded within a long-term educational strategy.

Beyond physical activity, sport can provide opportunities to build trust, develop transferable skills, strengthen self-confidence and create connections with the wider community. Most importantly, it can offer young people a framework within which they are recognised not for their difficulties, but for their potential.

For youth workers and organisations seeking to engage young people facing multiple barriers, the central lesson may be less about sport itself and more about the broader principle underpinning the approach: creating accessible spaces, building trusting relationships, and supporting young people to progressively discover new opportunities and possibilities for their future.

SPORT IS NOT THE GOAL → JUST THE MEANS TO SOMETHING BIGGER

References:

- [Sport dans la Ville website](#) (in English)
- [Study on the social impact of sport](#) (in French)



EDITORIAL INFORMATION

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On behalf of the SALTO Inclusion & Diversity!

