

## Call for future SPIN Youth Leaders

If you are interested in making sport more inclusive, you are between 15 and 27 years and of a diverse background (refugee, migrant, ethnic minority), and based in one of the 8 project countries (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, The Netherlands), find out how you can get involved:



# SPIN Youth

## EMPOWER DIVERSE YOUTH

### Lead Organisation

Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC, Austria)

### Contact

Kurt Wachter, Project Coordinator  
Stefan Belabed, National Project Manager

### Implementing Partners

- Unione Italiana Sport Per tutti (UISP APS, Italy)
- Liikkukaa – Sport for All (Finland)
- Football Association of Ireland (FAI, Ireland)
- Camino (Germany)
- Igrajmo Zajedno Inicijativa (IZI, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Huis voor Beweging (The Netherlands)
- Sindicato dos Jogadores Profissionais de Futebol (SJPF, Portugal)

VIDC – fairplay Initiative  
Möllwaldplatz 5/9  
1040 Vienna, Austria  
Tel. +43 1 7133594 94  
wachter@vidc.org  
belabed@vidc.org

info@sportinclusion.net  
www.sportinclusion.net  
sport\_inclusion\_network  
SpinProject



 Bundesministerium  
Kunst, Kultur,  
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport



Co-funded by  
the European Union



## Background

Despite the many positive effects of sport, certain groups remain underrepresented. The project “Empower Diverse Youth – Build-up Youth Participation and Inclusion in Sport Organizations” (SPIN Youth) aims to increase the sport participation of young people from diverse backgrounds – in particular young refugees and migrants – and to create inclusive, non-discriminatory sport environments that actively promote diversity and equality.

## Objectives

1. Identify and address barriers to and enablers of sports participation of young people with diverse backgrounds, both in playing and non-playing positions.
2. Facilitate youth-led knowledge production and empower, support, and foster young people’s involvement in sport design, delivery, and decision-making processes.
3. Raise awareness, network, and increase capacities among sport organizations to engage and connect with young people with diverse backgrounds and to create inclusive sport environments.

## Activities

**Project duration: January 2024 – June 2026 (30 months)**

### Work Package 1 Project Management and Coordination Activities

- 1.1. Overall Coordination
- 1.2. Transnational Partner Meetings

### Work Package 2 Empowerment and Capacity Building of Young People with Diverse Backgrounds

#### 2.1. European Youth Training Academy

Two youth leaders per project country are invited to a training in Rome. Participants are guided on how to conduct action research and coordinate a youth panel.

#### 2.2. Follow-up Online Meetings

Following the Academy, youth leaders and project partners hold three online meetings to keep track of progress, discuss challenges and adjustments, and offer support.

### Work Package 3 Participation, Barriers, and Needs of Diverse Youth in Sports: Youth Panels and Youth-led Action Research

#### 3.1. Establishing Youth Panels

Youth leaders in each country motivate a diverse group of 5-7 young people to form a gender-mixed youth panel, which develops and implements ideas about improving the accessibility of sport for young people with diverse backgrounds.

#### 3.2. Implementing Action Research

Under guidance, youth leaders design and conduct research to advance sport inclusion of youth with diverse backgrounds. The results are presented to sport organizations.

#### 3.3. Report Paper: Analysis of Results of Action Research

The findings are summarized and published in a brief report. It informs other stakeholders willing to promote youth inclusion, diversity, and anti-discrimination.

### Work Package 4 Youth Co-creation of Sport Inclusion Activities

#### 4.1. Elaborating and Designing Youth-led Action Plans

Each youth panel selects topics from the action research to develop action plans, present them to key sport stakeholders, get feedback, and develop the actions further.

#### 4.2. Piloting Action Plans: Implementing Activities and Events

Youth panels pick activities to implement during the European Week of Sport 2025. These inclusive events (tournaments, public talks,...) are supported with campaign materials.

### Work Package 5 Raising Awareness and Dissemination

#### 5.1. External Communication and Dissemination

Our mix of communication tools includes SPIN’s website [www.sportinclusion.net](http://www.sportinclusion.net), social media channels, an Electronic Learning Platform, campaign material, and media work.

#### 5.2. Young Players as Inclusion Role Models

Young people look up to role models. We will build a network of young football players with diverse backgrounds to promote non-discrimination and gender-equality.

#### 5.3. Digital Toolbox for Youth Engagement in Sport

A digital toolbox will be implemented as a project-specific section on the SPIN website. A key element is the “Youth Inclusion Self-Assessment Tool” providing an easy way for sport organizations to check their own progress.

#### 5.4. European Networking Conference “Sport Inclusion and Empowerment of Young People with Diverse Backgrounds”

A two-day event in Lisbon during the project’s final phase will bring together youth panel members and other project participants with experts and stakeholders. Action plans will also be presented by the young people who developed them.