

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001668/24
to the Commission
Catherine Griset (PfE), Aleksandar Nikolic (PfE)
(10 September 2024)**

Subject: Development of a genuine sports policy in Europe

The American sports model is often hailed for its effectiveness, particularly in promoting young talent in schools and universities.

In Europe, and especially in France, we have the necessary resources to do just as well, if not better. The French model, for example, allows people of all ages to take part in sporting activities close to home, a unique advantage which should be strengthened.

1. What specific measures does the Commission plan to take to promote the development of sports infrastructure in European schools and universities, so as to create a sporting dynamic comparable to that in the United States?
2. How does it intend to encourage the development of young sporting talents in Europe, so that they are supported throughout their journey and can look forward to a promising future in sport?

Submitted: 10.9.2024

**Answer given by Ms Ivanova on behalf of the European Commission
(4 November 2024)**

In line with Article 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission aims to develop a European dimension in sport by supporting and supplementing Member States' actions.

The Commission promotes and supports a European Sport Model⁽¹⁾ based on the autonomy of sport, the openness of competitions, the value of sporting merit and a solidarity and interdependence between elite and grassroots sport.

The Commission encourages participation in sport and health-enhancing physical activity via the creation of adequate opportunities for sport and physical activity for all generations through communication initiatives and events such as the European Week of Sport⁽²⁾ and funding opportunities for European projects.

Through its SHARE 2.0 initiative⁽³⁾, the Commission enhanced stakeholders' capacity to identify and use EU funding opportunities — such as the cohesion funds and NextGenerationEU — to foster sport and physical activity.

Also, the integrity of athletes, mental health and well-being in sport and dual careers for athletes are supported through the Erasmus+ programme⁽⁴⁾.

The Council conclusions on sport innovation⁽⁵⁾ adopted in 2021 recognise that innovative sport infrastructures, and the processes for their construction and maintenance, can, among other things, provide better and safer conditions for sport and physical activity.

The Council conclusions on sustainable and accessible sports infrastructure⁽⁶⁾ adopted in 2022 address transition to more sustainable sport infrastructure in the broadest social, economic and environmental sense.

Finally, the Commission is committed to identifying and spreading good practices across Member States.

⁽¹⁾ <https://sport.ec.europa.eu/news/new-study-on-the-european-sport-model>

⁽²⁾ <https://sport.ec.europa.eu/european-week-of-sport>

⁽³⁾ <https://sport.ec.europa.eu/initiatives/share-20>

⁽⁴⁾ <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects>

⁽⁵⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/GA/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021XG0604%2801%29>

⁽⁶⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022XG1228%2801%29>