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Answer given by Mr Micallef
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.1.2026)

The Fédération des Associations des Capitales et Villes Européennes du Sport AISBL (ACES) is a non-profit association based in Brussels which since 2001 has been assigning every year awards such as the ‘World Capital, European/American/Asian/Africa/Oceanian Capital, Region, City, Island, Community and Town of Sport’. This process is entirely run by ACES and the Commission does not fund nor is involved in the selection at any stage.

The Association is one of the partners of the ‘European Week of Sport’ (EWoS), an initiative organised by the Commission and promoting sport and physical activity since 2015. The European Capitals of Sport and other cities or regions have actively participated in promoting the EWoS and its messages through events. Organising events and participating in the EWoS does not involve funding and is done on a voluntary basis.

As of 2025, the Commission has been awarding the #BeActive EU Sport Awards to projects promoting physical activity, inclusion, volunteering, sport across generations and peace. The Commission's awards differ significantly from ACES ones in several ways. While the Commission offers prizes, ACES provides labels/recognitions.

Since 2014, ACES has been a partner of seven projects under the Erasmus+ Sport Actions, implementing projects promoting – among others - sport, social inclusion and integrity.