

Monitoring the Quality of Physical Education: EuPEO, an ongoing Erasmus+ funded project from the European Physical Education Association

Claude Scheuer¹, Martin Holzweg¹, Rose-Marie Repond², Joao Costa³, Marcos Onofre⁴

¹ *European Physical Education Association (Glarus, Switzerland)*

² *Bern University of Applied Sciences (Bern, Switzerland)*

³ *Sociedade Portuguesa de Educação Física (Lisbon, Portugal)*

⁴ *Universidade de Lisboa (Lisbon, Portugal)*

Introduction and objectives

In the past years, the European Physical Education Association (EUPEA) investigated the quality of Physical Education (PE) and School Sport (SS) on several occasions from different perspectives (Onofre et al., 2012a, 2012b; Onofre et al., 2014; Scheuer & Holzweg, 2014). Hereby, EUPEA identified the diversity of PE and SS conditions within Europe and the importance of implementing a systematic monitoring for PE as a European observatory.

Methodology

The European Physical Education Observatory project (EuPEO; www.eupeo.eu) funded by the Erasmus+ Sport programme reunites partners from eight countries, including PE teacher associations and research partners, and aims to convert former monitoring experiences of PE into a comprehensive system by developing the EuPEO webpage, a manual for external monitoring (MEA), and a toolkit to facilitating internal self-monitoring (TIM) of quality PE and SS, focusing on the dimensions of (1) curriculum flexibility, (2) teacher education, (3) teacher workforce, (4) community partnerships, and (5) facilities, equipment and resources.

Results and discussion

In the construction and validation of these instruments, MEA is developed as an open access methodological e-book to guide the data collection process to feed the observatory database. TIM capacitates schools to monitor recommendations directly. First results of a pilot survey in the eight participating countries based on a country questionnaire, a school questionnaire and a pupils questionnaire will be presented (Holzweg et al., 2018).

Conclusions and perspectives

The data analyzed by EUPEA in recent years show that the situation in Europe with regard to the quality of PE on the different levels of structure, process and outcome of PE is quite diverse and a lack of quality of different indicators remains prevalent. This lets us conclude that a European monitoring system to evaluate the quality of PE and SS on a regular basis is necessary.

References

- Holzweg, M., Scheuer, C., Costa, J., & Onofre, M. (2018). *EuPEO Intellectual Output 2. Intermediate Report. European Preliminary Results - English version*. Switzerland: EUPEA.
- Onofre, M., Holzweg, M., Repond, R.-M., Schmid, S., & Scheuer, C. (2014). EUPEA/UNESCO Seminar on Quality Physical Education. Report – Paris, April 4th 2014. Retrieved from <https://www.eupea.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/150530-EUPEA-Report-on-QPE-Seminar-UNESCO.pdf>
- Onofre, M., Marques, A., Moreira, A. R., Holzweg, M., Repond, R.-M. & Scheuer, C. (2012a). Physical education and sport in Europe: From individual reality to collective desirability (part 1). *International Journal of Physical Education*, 49(2), 11–35.
- Onofre, M., Marques, A., Moreira, A. R., Holzweg, M., Repond, R.-M. & Scheuer, C. (2012b). Physical education and sport in Europe: From individual reality to collective desirability (part 2). *International Journal of Physical Education*, 49(3), 17–31.
- Scheuer, C., & Holzweg, M. (2014). Quality in physical education: an overview from the perspective of physical education teacher associations. In C. Scheuer, B. Antala, & M. Holzweg, *Physical Education: Quality in Management and Teaching* (pp. 62-71). Berlin, Germany: Logos.