

Title: Motivation Towards Dual Career of European Student-Athletes

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Aims: The study investigates the motivations of European student-athletes for undertaking a dual career in sport and education living in countries providing different educational services for elite athletes. These included countries where the state acted as a sponsor/facilitator of the dual career, national sporting federations/institutes who helped to facilitate the dual career those who had no formal structure.

Method: Student-athletes who took part in the study had to be enrolled in a university course and competing in organised sport for at least 10 years at national or international competition levels. Student-athletes answered questionnaires (SAMSAQ-EU). The questionnaire included a number of questions around the motives of athlete to carry out a dual career (e.g., I will be able to use what is taught in my courses in different aspects of my life outside of school).

Results and Practical Implications: Results demonstrated that European student-athletes showed high motivations for both sport and education. Student-athletes who had the highest levels of motivation for their dual-career were from those who are supported by their National Federations. This suggests that communication between governing bodies and universities may lead to higher levels of academic success. The study summarises that policies combining education and training could represent a valuable model for the



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development of dual career policies in other European countries who currently do not support student-athletes.

TASS have produced this lay summary. The full article is available (permissions may apply):
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17461391.2014.940557?casa_token=s-NQbVVLBIkAAAAA:PZqJY1wTBT08yLDCu4gc8f3sYoYn8A0q9wgZ6PWFGv8sofrefURL4wCBy3YxbaT8C0WaGqr-6r1qEQ