

# ***A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO THE DUAL CAREER OF THE STUDENT-ATHLETE***

***María José Maciá-Andreu  
María T. Morales-Belando  
Lourdes Meroño  
Antonio Sánchez-Pato  
Juan Alfonso García-Roca***  
Editors

 *Dykinson, S.L.*

This book has been reviewed by our Editorial Board.  
For more information, see [www.dykinson.com/quienes\\_somos](http://www.dykinson.com/quienes_somos)

© The editors  
Madrid, 2023

Editorial DYKINSON, S.L. Meléndez Valdés, 61 - 28015 Madrid  
Telephone (+34) 91544 28 46 - (+34) 91544 28 69  
e-mail: [info@dykinson.com](mailto:info@dykinson.com)  
<http://www.dykinson.es>  
<http://www.dykinson.com>

ISBN: 978-84-1170-486-1  
DOI: 10.14679/2132

Preprint:  
*Besing Servicios Gráficos, S.L.*  
[besingsg@gmail.com](mailto:besingsg@gmail.com)

## **Preface**

---

Since the European Year of Education through Sport 2004 (EYES 2004), sport has been recognized as a major cultural, social, and economic phenomenon in the European Union, giving full recognition to the right of sportspersons (e.g., athletes, coaches, referees, sports managers, and volunteers) to combine their academic/work and sports careers (e.g., dual career). To make institutions and sports organisations aware of the need for cooperation to overcome the problems related to the combination of the education/work and competitive sports, to promote awareness on the need to develop dual career paths, and to encourage the exchanges of the best practices at local, regional, national, and European levels, the Annual Conference of the European Athlete as Student (EAS) represents a tremendous opportunity for the development of the European dual career discourse. In reporting some of the contributions presented at the 2022 EAS Conference (Cartagena, Spain, September 27-28), this book is the first foundational resource for all scholars and policy makers who are, or plan to be, proactive in dual career.

The first section is dedicated to Dual Career Policies and presents the development of the Portuguese Dual Career Guidelines and the positive exchanges with Brazil, which signifies that dual career could be a tremendous means for sport diplomacy worldwide. These contributions not only provide concrete knowledge on the development of new cooperation in dual career but could inspire also future actions for establishing international cooperation in and through sports.

In substantiating the emphasis on research of the EAS Conference, the second section encompasses novel contributions on dual career

of athletes taking into consideration the opportunities offered by the sport-technology, the different aspects of the athlete's environment, the bidirectional relationship between sport and education, and the challenges student-athletes with disability have to overcome at personal and environmental levels.

The third section testifies that the annual EAS conference represents a tremendous knowledge-hub and a means for dissemination of innovative EU-funded projects and initiatives at local, national and European levels. The three contributions prove that dual career could be a valuable tool for preventing sports corruption and match fixing, for aligning dual career and for-profit brand values for dual career paths at the workplace, and for offering new opportunities for small business owners, start-up founders and new entrepreneurs for the creation of new venture and small business management within a short period of time.

The fourth and last chapter is dedicated to the advancement of dual career at the academic level by providing two examples of novel support systems in two European countries, Spain and Poland, and the analysis of the potential benefits of using AI for tutoring student-athletes in higher education. These contributions could help envisioning further advancements in dual career at secondary and tertiary education.

It is our hope that the readers could consider this book as an opportunity to think outside their local and national dual career levels, and to be inspired to be innovative in their approaches to help sportspersons pursuing their talent.

Laura Capranica & Mojca Doupona

*European Athlete as Student (EAS) – Dual Career Network*