



**UNIVERSITY OF PELOPONNESE  
FACULTY OF HUMAN MOVEMENT AND  
QUALITY OF LIFE SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS ORGANIZATION  
AND MANAGEMENT**

MASTER'S THESIS

“OLYMPIC STUDIES, OLYMPIC EDUCATION, ORGANIZATION  
AND MANAGEMENT OF OLYMPIC EVENTS”

**Title of the thesis**

“Sporting Activities as a tool for Social Re-Inclusion and Integration. The  
projects of: a) The Greek Homeless Football Team and b) The Pan-  
African Football Tournament”

George Aronis

**Supervisor:** Konstantinos Mountakis  
Professor

Sparta, 04, 2011





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## **Abstract**

The Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football tournament have been designed, introduced and developed as a tool of Social inclusion and integration of different individuals and groups in Greece.

With this research we examined, presented and analyzed the different sociological theories and definitions, as introduced and developed over the last decades, in order to approach and present the current and most widely accepted terminology for the sociological process of inclusion, exclusion and integration.

From our research it was found that the sporting project of the Greek homeless football team clearly contributes to the re-socialization and re-inclusion of the participants and that the sporting project of the Pan African tournament, even though it does not contribute to the integration of the participants involved, it functions like a social event where the participants form new social networks and have the opportunity to participate more to the African Union. Also, the significant contribution of the African Union is unique since it functions like the receiving society through which the participants mostly seek to integrate to the Greek society.

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## **PART 1**

### **CHAPTER 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

Sport is viewed as a major social and political institution of society similar to the family, education, the mass media and the economy. Sport is similar to these other social institutions in that each involves social and political organizations and culture. Especially since, each institution has a unique impact on the lives every member of our society.

There is a considerable interaction between sport and the other social institutions. This occurs when sport organizations intersect with those of the wider society and exchange values, beliefs and norms. This happens when people move from one social institution to another, while carrying on their experiences and lives.

The interaction between sporting activities with other social institutions is also verified in the scientific field, since the social science is the main provider of different sociological theories that have influenced many sporting projects. In fact, the two sporting projects that we will present, the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football championship, are organized and developed in order to ease the process of social re-inclusion and integration of totally different populations.

Both sporting projects have been organized and developed by different organizational authorities but with specific social occasions. Both of them seek to find different ways in order to provide through sporting activities the opportunity to strengthen the relationships among the participants, to encourage the formation of new social networks and to use sporting activities as a way to adapt a healthy life style.

The first sporting project, the Greek homeless football team, was formed during the Greek campaign “Goal against Poverty” which was organized by the Galera magazine in 2006 in order to sensitize the public opinion for many current forms of social exclusions. Homeless people, drug abusers and immigrants were the main vulnerable groups that were in the centre of the attention of the organizers.

The main mission of the campaign was to highlight the problems that these vulnerable groups face, to inform the public opinion about the significant contribution of many nongovernment institutions that are responsible for their relief and to boost the social re-inclusion process of these groups. Within this framework, it was decided to start the campaign, to organize sporting activities and to participate, for the first time, in the Homeless Football World Cup in Copenhagen in 2007 within the requirements and regulations that the Homeless World Cup Association sets.

(<http://www.blogal.gr/homelessworldcup/?p=34>)

On the other hand, the Pan African football Championship was first organized in 2007 by The Union of African Communities of Greece, it consolidates different African football teams and the members of the whole sporting project are immigrants who came to Greece for a better life. Hence the main aim of this sporting activity is to strengthen the relationships of the African communities and the participants involved in Greece and to use sports as social event.

Within this framework of constant interaction between sport with other sociological institutions we conducted our research in order to better present, examine and analyze the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football championship.

## **1.2 Aim of the Study**

The aim of this research is to present, examine and analyze every possible aspect of the influence that the sporting projects of the Greek homeless football team and the Pan-African championship in Greece have on individuals' lives. However, in order to better present and analyze our findings, a brief presentation of the sociological theory of the concepts social exclusion, inclusion and integration is necessary especially since our purpose is to investigate whether the two sporting projects influence the social inclusion and integration of the involved population.

## **1.3 Specific Objectives.**

1. The first specific objective of the research is, after presenting a variety of different approaches of the sociological concepts of social inclusion, integration and exclusion, to reach to the usage of a simplified notion.
2. The second objective of the research is to investigate the age of the participants of the Greek homeless football team, any past participation in sporting activities, the level of knowledge for the specific sporting activity and the time of participation.
3. The third objective of the research is to investigate the influence that the Greek homeless football project has on participants' lives.
4. The fourth objective of the research is to investigate the age of the participants of the Pan African football championship, any past participation in sporting activities, the level of knowledge for the specific sporting activity and the time of participation.
5. The fifth objective of the research is to investigate the influence that the Pan African football championship has on participants' lives.

6. The sixth specific objective is to attempt to compare the specific influence that each sporting project has on individuals.
7. The seventh specific objective of the research is to indicate any possible common attributes and differences of the organizational authorities that are responsible for the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football championship.
8. Finally, our eighth specific objective is to try and indicate any possible contribution of the welfare state regarding the organization and development of the two specific sporting projects, the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football championship.

#### **1.4 Importance of the research**

Our research has a significant attribute that makes the whole attempt challenging and unique. These two sporting projects are examined in a thorough way regarding the influence they have on the involved participants within the sociological framework of the concepts of social re-inclusion and integration..

#### **1.5 Restriction of our research**

The research has an important restriction. The specific characteristics of the Greek social, political and economic environment that these two different sporting projects have been introduced organized and developed. Hence, the specific attributes of Greece's social, political and economic environment provokes specific effects to these sporting projects and any attempt of generalizing the results of our research is totally invalid since it does not take into consideration the unique influence that every society has on its members.

## **PART 2**

### **CHAPTER 2<sup>nd</sup>**

#### **2.1 The Theory of Social Inclusion, Integration and Exclusion**

Any attempt for discussing the concepts of social inclusion, integration and exclusion inevitably raises contentious issues and strong feelings, because people with different opinions and points of views find different meanings. In addition, the political usage of these concepts, by different governments, policies and interests, have caused great controversies among sociologists.

However, it is important to present and, even, examine different aspects of these concepts, since all the sporting activities that we will examine are based on the significance and influence that these concepts have on different vulnerable individuals and groups.

##### *2.1.1 Social Inclusion and Social Integration*

The theory for the definition of the concept of social inclusion has been in the core of interest of different scholars for many decades. Different scientists have indicated that every individual is affiliated with the society through the process of socialization.

The process of socialization of every individual takes place with different ways and is always depended on different social factors. Each factor that forms and influence the process plays a significant role to the overall procedure. Factors such as family's environment, school, labor and other social institutions have a unique contribution in the whole process of social inclusion. (Schnapper, 2008, p.26)

In addition, even though the first and most important steps for the socialization of every individual take place during the early age, the socialization as a whole process does not stop. In fact, the procedure continues during the whole life of every

individual, and especially in cases of rapid political and social changes, such as the emergence of a different political system, the enforcement of dictatorships, immigration, enlistment and long term unemployment, the need for re-socialization emerges.(Stamiris, 1990, p.178)

However, it is important to mention that the process of social inclusion of every individual varies and is highly depended on the social and political environment. Thence, we use the concept of social insertion when we mainly refer to specific policies of social inclusion, especially when we have to deal with obstacles which encumber the whole process. (Schnapper, 2008, p.27)

On the other hand, the concept of social integration is quite vague because it has been used as a sociological and political term at the same time. In fact, when the French government decided to appoint a new undersecretary of social integration during the early 1990's, the sociological term had already been used by E. Durkheim. Also, the exclusive political usage of the concept for the social integration of immigrants in the United States caused great controversy among sociologists. (Schnapper, 2008, p.39)

Within this framework, the process of social integration is highly connected with the specific social and political attributes of a national society. In fact, a society integrates its members according to the values and the predominant ideologies, which are the foundation stones of every society. (Schnapper, 2008, p.28)

To be more specific, all aspects that refer to our private sector such as family, religion, social relationships and every cultural dimension, and all aspects that refer to social and cultural activities of an individual, are aspects of social integration. (Schnapper, 2008, p.31)

In addition, the most powerful channels for a smooth integration of individuals or groups into a society is through the educational system, when we refer to young immigrants or second generation of immigrant population, and through the free access to the labor market, especially since labor procedures encourage the development of various of social ties between individuals and groups. (Schnapper, 2008, p, 32, 204)

Consequently, the process of social integration refers to the integration of all individuals regardless any cultural, religious and economic differences. In fact, every democratic society should be able to integrate all of its members and should be able to provide them with the right of equal participation in every aspect of social and political activities.(Schnapper, 2008, p.196)

The phenomenon of social exclusion emerges when all these vulnerable groups are excluded from any attempt of distribution of the state wealth and are, at the same time, also excluded from any possibility of equal participation in any aspect of their social and political environment. (Tsiakalos, 1999, p.58)

Hence, it is important to specify that a distinction between aspects of the public and private sector of an individual's life is necessary, that the process of social inclusion comes before the process of social integration, that social inclusion does not necessarily lead to social integration, and that the process of social integration is highly complex and concerns the entire society and not only immigrant's population.

### *2.1.2 The concept of Social Exclusion*

The opposite of social inclusion and integration is the concept of social exclusion and the main idea of the condition refers to the social, political, cultural and economic inequalities. Yet, the history of the concept of social exclusion has a great interest and has caused a great controversy among scientists regarding its definition and the policies involved for the treatment of this social phenomenon.

The concept is originated in France in the 1970's in order to describe the condition of certain groups on the margins of society who were cut off both from regular sources of employment and the income safety nets of the welfare state. During the 1980's the social democrat Peter Glotz introduced the concept of the "Society of 2/3" as a result of the uncontrolled inequalities that neo-liberalism produced (Litras, 2004, p.49) and the concept of social exclusion gradually gained wide currency in the social policy of European Union and particularly in the Maastricht Treaty of 1996. (Pierson, 2002, p.4)

However, due to the fact that the term of social exclusion means different things to different people and societies, and has been used by governments for numerous of different policies and interests, it is difficult to formulate a reliable and widely accepted definition.

Despina Papadopoulou in her article "*Social Exclusion: Introduction to the concept and Process*" indicates the difficulty for the existence of a widely accepted definition and indicates four factors that classify the concept: a) the concept as a multidimensional aspect of social life, b) the concept as a mean for political administration, c) the concept as a wide term with not specific limits and definition and d) the concept as a dynamic social process not necessarily connected with poverty. (Panteion University Conference, 1999, p.47)

In addition, the author also indicates three dynamic aspects that form and influence different aspects of the concept of social exclusion: a) the re-production of social inequalities, b) the degradation of the importance of human rights and c) the relaxation and gradual decomposition of social relations. (Panteion University Conference, 1999, p.53)

Another scholar, Basilis Kounelis (Tsigkanou, 2002, p.207), categorizes the forms of social exclusion between endogenous and exogenous. The endogenous exclusion comes from internal social modifications and concerns exclusively the members of a specific society and the exogenous is the result of international emigrating population and refers to immigrants who live in a foreign country without being totally included.

The author also indicates that the emergence and development of social exclusion has as preconditions the democratic malfunction, the moral decline of a society, the disintegration of the social contract and welfare state, the discrimination and relegation of important aspects of human rights and the domination of every kind of inequalities among members of a society. (Tsigkanou, 2002, p. 205)

Another approach is provided by Alexandra Koronaiou (Panteion University International Conference, 2000, p.527) who also indicates the difficulties for the existence of a widely accepted definition, and claims that the economic factor is not a necessary condition for social exclusion, since the concept includes immigrants, victims of racism, mentally and physically challenged people, elderly, drug and alcohol abusers and helpless children. Under these dimensions, the concept of social exclusion is a complex phenomenon which combines sociological and psychological attributes.

Mary Romero and Eric Margolis (2005, p.34-35) present us a very interesting approach of social exclusion. According to their opinion, social exclusion is “a more comprehensive formulation which refers to the dynamic process of being shut out, fully or partially from any of social, economic, political or cultural systems which determine the social integration of a person in society”. They also indicate that social exclusion is an inherent characteristic of the unequal postindustrial capitalism and

conclude that the exclusion is a structural result of the globalized capitalism, both within and between nations and states.

Within this variety of different approaches, the scholar that actually provides us with a broad, well established but not widely accepted definition of social exclusion is John Pierson (2002, p.7) who defines the concept as:

“A process that deprives individuals and families, groups and neighborhoods of the resources required for participation in the social, economic and political activity of society as a whole. This process is primarily a consequence of poverty and low income, but other factors such as discrimination, low education attainment and depleted living environment also underpin it. Through this process people are cut off for a significant period in their lives from institutions and services, social networks and developmental opportunities that the great majority of a society enjoys”.

Finally, we should mention that the variety of the social and political dimensions of the concept provides us with numerous of different approaches, different political and social aspects and a wide controversy regarding the needed governmental and non-governmental policies for the treatment of this social phenomenon.

## **2.2 Sporting Activities, Socialization and Social Inclusion**

In contemporary society the majority of individuals and groups are directly or indirectly involved with sport elements in their social lives. Some people are actively engaged in sporting activities as participants, while others are involved as spectators or even consumers via the mass media.

The introduction and spread of sporting activities throughout the world as a universal life style and its direct and indirect influence on the lives of most children and adults cannot be questioned. Numerous of local, regional, national and international sporting activities and events have become an important aspect of our social live.

The usage of sporting activities from governmental and nongovernmental organizations, for totally different purposes, has been the cynosure of many different scientists for many decades. In fact, sporting activities, as a social institution, is highly connected with the culture, the predominant values and the social and political conditions of every society. (Augerinos, 1989, p.21)

However, the most important purpose for the organization and development of different sporting activities, from numerous of different authorities, is the significant impact that sport has in many different aspects of the social life of the participants. Giannis Stamiris (1990, p.180) claims that sporting activities contribute to the socialization of the individuals involved, since sporting activities, in every level of competition, organization and participation, demonstrate an active attitude for life, participation in the creation of new social relationships and cooperation among individuals and groups.

The significance of sporting activities and their multidimensional influence on peoples' lives is clearly indicated by other scientists who describe sport as: a) a form of social involvement consisted of behavioral, cognitive and affective involvement, b) as a lucid physical activity, c) as social activity and d) as a cultural product. (McPherson, Curtis, Loy, 1989, p.10)

The beneficial influence of sporting activities in the social life of individuals and groups is also described by Ioannou Miliou (1980, p.110) who indicates that sport

and games have a unique significance in the socialization of individuals, since sport and games depict essential aspects of a society. In fact, athletics fulfils a wide function of different social procedures and activities that contribute to the development of individual's personality, socialization and inclusion to the society.

Other scientists performed specific studies regarding the influence that sporting activities have on the lives of the participants with interesting findings. A group of boys that adapted swimming as a sport for five years became more socially extroverted, athletes that participated in university sporting activities were more socialized, independent and less stressful than those who did not. (Zervas, 2003, p.85)

The influence that sporting activities have on peoples' lives is also testified by the declaration of the European council. The campaign of the European project "Sport for All" clearly states that athletics is an important factor for the socialization of every individual involved, should be highly connected to every social and educational project and every government should watch after the effective cooperation of different authorities in order to promote and supervise the project "Sport for All". (Nikitaras, 2003, p.75)

The European declaration further continues by indicating the significance of sporting activities to the socialization and social inclusion of individuals and groups, since team sport activities contribute to the development of moral and social conscience, promote social equality and peace, and deaden class differences. (Nikitaras, 2003, p.84-86-87)

### **2.3 The Homeless World Cup and the Greek Campaign**

The Homeless World Cup is an initiative of the international network of street papers. Mel Young, the co-founder of the Scotland street newspaper "Big Issue", and Harold

Smith, editor of Austrian street newspaper “Megaphon”, proposed the organization of the Homeless World Cup during the International Network of street paper’s meeting in Cape Town in 2002.(<http://www.blogal.gr/homelessworldcup/?p=44>)

Few months after their proposal, the inaugural Homeless Word Cup kicked off in Graz in Austria in 2003 uniting eighteen nations. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/content/general-background/about-the-homeless-world-cup>) Since then, the international institution of the Homeless World Cup managed to embrace eighty national teams, to include men and women football activities and to create a movement in order to “end homelessness and change the value base of the world in the process”. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/pioneering-new-solutions>)

The last Homeless World Cup took part in Rio in Brazil from 19 – 26 of September 2010. The rules were adjusted to the needs and level of the participants in order to encourage the participation of all teams and players.(<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/rio-2010>) In Rio’s homeless World cup forty teams took part in the man’s division and twelve in the women’s one. The host team, Brazil, managed to win the World cup in men’s and women’s division by winning Chile and Mexico in the final. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/rio-2010/tournament/groups/trophy>) The Greek team participated only in men’s division and was knocked out during the secondary round taking the fourth place in its Group. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/rio-2010/tournament/groups/secondary>)

The requirements for participating in the Homeless World cup are specific: a) have been homeless at some point after 01.09.2009, in accordance with the national definition of homelessness, b) make their living income as street paper vendors, c) asylum seekers currently without positive asylum status or who were previously

asylum seekers but obtained residency status. Only 2 members of a team may have non national passports, and all other players must have a national passport of the nation they are representing, d) currently in drug or alcohol rehabilitation and also have been homeless at some point in the past two years and e) to be at least sixteen years old, male or female, that have not taken part in previous Homeless World Cup tournaments. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/football/street-soccer-rules>)

Within this framework, the Homeless World Cup is a unique opportunity for every homeless to participate and it also functions as an international movement that seeks to change the attitudes of governments, media, public and key influencers in order to create better solutions to homelessness around the world. (<http://www.homelessworldcup.org/content/general-background/about-the-homeless-world-cup>)

### *2.3.1 The Origin of The Greek Campaign*

“Goal against Poverty” was the official motto of the Greek campaign organized by the Galera magazine in 2006 by the magazine Galera, in order to sensitize the public opinion for many current forms of social exclusions. Homeless people, drug abusers and immigrants were the main vulnerable groups that were in the centre of the attention of the organizers.

The main mission of the campaign was to highlight the problems that these vulnerable groups face, to inform the public opinion about the significant contribution of many nongovernment institutions that are responsible for their relief and to boost the social inclusion process of these groups. Within this framework, it was decided to start the campaign, to organize sporting activities and to participate, for the first time,

in the Homeless Football World Cup in Copenhagen in 2007.  
(<http://www.blogal.gr/homelessworldcup/?p=34>)

The Greek initiative started by the magazine Galera and gradually managed to ensure the support of many nongovernmental and a few governmental organizations. The majority of the organizations involved are non profit and nongovernmental institutions that contribute with many ways for the continuation of the campaign and are directly involved with the rehabilitation of these vulnerable groups.

The direct involvement of many different nongovernmental organizations such as, the Arsis (Social Association for Youth Care), the Praxis, the Klimaka, the Voluntary Services of Athens, the Karita Hellas, the Doctors of the World (Medecins Du Monde), the Pliades, the 18 and up, the Odysseys and the Association for Under Age Care, provide a firm ground for the continuation of the Greek movement.  
(<http://www.blogal.gr/homelessworldcup/?p=34>)

On the other hand, the main governmental contributor was the municipality of Athens, and especially the Receiving Centre of Homeless people, which provides the soccer field and embraced the first organizational attempts.  
(<http://www.blogal.gr/homelessworldcup/?p=34>)

The strictly limited participation of central governmental authorities can be explained by the fact that the Greek governments have not conducted organized researches in order to indicate, approach and analyze the vulnerable population.

In fact, the Greek State does not have a clear picture regarding the special characteristics and needs of each vulnerable group, the Welfare State services are highly inefficient since they do not have the correct data (Katsoulis, 2002, p.261-262) and the general authorities and services of the Welfare state are inefficient, especially

since they started restraining within the framework of the globalized financial competitiveness. (Litras & Souliotis, 2004, p.111)

The importance of nongovernmental organizations in the struggle against social exclusion is also mentioned by Panagiotis Zannis (Panteion University Conference, 1999, p.78). In his article, he defines them as the “third sector” and he claims that within an active society the role of nongovernmental organizations is essential since they can interfere and discourage any attempt of further financial, social and even political marginalization of these vulnerable groups, especially when the welfare state is too restrained and inflexible to react.

Finally, we should mention that all the Greek individuals that participate in the Homeless football activity do not fulfill the conditions that the United Nations sets regarding Human Settlements. The United Nations’ Habitat Agenda provides us with the following definition that actually sets the framework within the campaign “Goal against Poverty” evolves: (Atkinson, Cantillon, Marlier, Nolan, 2002, p.139)

“Adequate shelter means more than a roof over one’s head. It also means adequate privacy; adequate space; physical accessibility; adequate security; security of tenure; structural stability and durability, adequate lighting, heating, and ventilation; adequate basic infrastructure, such as water-supply, sanitation and waste-management facilities; suitable environmental quality and health-related factors; and adequate and accessible locations with regard to work and basic facilities; all of which should be available at an affordable cost”.

### 2.3.2 *The Greek Team and Vulnerable Groups*

The Greek Homeless football activities are organized under the supervision and responsibility of the nonprofit and nongovernmental organization Diogenis. The

whole project is being financed by the Hellenic Post Bank, the Hellenic Organization of communication and the members of the Greek team are insured by Interamerican Insurance Company. (Interview with Chris Alefantis, 2010, Appendix)

The Greek team is consisted of individuals that come from three different vulnerable groups: a) refugees, b) individuals in drug rehabilitation programs and c) homeless, as the criteria of the Homeless World Cup indicate. The Greek team is consisted of thirty five active members that practice for two hours every Sunday at Rouf Soccer field in Athens. (Interview with Sergios Milios, 2010, Appendix)

The participation and the interest that the members have for the project are the most important requirements for the final selection of the team that is going to represent Greece in the Homeless World Cup. The weekly training program and the football drills are always adjusted to the level of the participants and the main aim of the activity is to encourage the participation of individuals with different social and cultural background. (Interview with Sergios Milios, 2010, Appendix)

The incongruity of the members of the team is inevitable since the whole project, worldwide, seeks to unite different people and groups, with different social background but with common problems. Hence, the vulnerable groups that constitute the Greek team could be presented and examined as the following:

A) The Group of Refugees

The social phenomenon of immigration could be best presented as a current attribute of a global phenomenon known as international immigration. The concept of international immigration refers to any kind of translocation of individuals or groups from one state to another for several of different reasons. (Markakis, Parsanolou, Paulou, 2001, p.31)

Hence, whenever we refer to immigration, we refer to a powerful social procedure that is highly connected to the origin of any attempt for the creation of organized societies. Greece has been the receiving country for many immigrants and refugees for the last decades, without having the needed receiving centers, procedures or even legislation. (Markakis, Parsanolou, Paulou, 2001, p.32-34)

The main difference between immigrant populations, which move from one state to another for economic reasons, and refugees is that refugees merely allege the political and social situation of their origin. The dispensation of political asylum for humanitarian reasons is a current duty of any democratic regime, especially when the refugees come from countries that are in war, are themselves war victims or they lived under a non democratic regime, such as dictatorship, that constrained their human rights. (Markakis, Parsanolou, Paulou, 2001, p.441-442)

Moreover, another important attribute that differentiates economic immigrants from refugees is the fact that refugees are never deported to their country of origin. This rule is also known as “non - refoulement” since the life of the refugee may be exposed to dangers. Hence, refugees are also provided with specific receiving procedures, such as the provision of temporary accommodation centers, medicine and hospital care, precedence to labor market and the right for the reunion with their families. (Kasimati, 2003, p.107-108)

*B) The Group in Drug Rehabilitation*

The group of individuals that are in drug rehabilitation programs is the most important since it has totally different attributes from the other two. In fact, the individuals that are in drug rehabilitation program experience the consequences of social exclusion long before the start their rehabilitation process.

These individuals, most of the times, are victims of different stereotypes such as, the drug abusers are criminals, have HIV, are dangerous and cannot be cured. Often, they are socially excluded even after their rehabilitation, since they experienced aggressiveness, limited job opportunities and isolation from their social surrounding. (Katsoulis, 2002, p.335-341) Also, the mass media have a crucial responsibility for the creation of such stereotypes especially in Greece. (Katsoulis, 2002, 117)

We could easily argue that the group of drug abusers needs special treatment since during the rehabilitation process individuals seem to show less sensitivity and interest in other peoples' needs, they need time to adjust to the new social environment, they react impulsively and they need time in order to feel comfortable and psychologically balanced. (Cutland, 1985, p.118-120)

The coexistence and cooperation of this highly sensitive group with others is also depended on the treatment of each individual, since there are many therapies with a variety of different stages and timetables, on the interpersonal problems that every individual faces, during and after the rehabilitation (Lauer, 1998, p.116-124) and on withdrawal syndromes that vary from addict to addict. (Poplin, 1978, p.128)

However, we should mention that regardless the special attributes of this vulnerable group, within the European Union there is a tendency to dissociate drug users from dealers, in order users to receive immediate medicine support (Europaiko Kentro Parakolouthisis Narkotikon kai Toxikomaniias, 2008, p.25), in Greece there is an significant increase of public and private rehabilitation centers (Lampropoulou, 2001, p.35) and the policies needed for the treatment of this social problem should include specialized governmental and nongovernmental organizations. (Kasimati, 2000, p.103)

*C) The Group of Homeless*

The current problem of the Homelessness is a global phenomenon highly connected with many aspects of our globalized system and especially with the creation of world markets. The emergence and domination of the world markets benefit a few individuals, groups and nations since work and income opportunities remain scarce for a vast majority of people and international companies and global media are not interested in reducing poverty. (Gordon & Townsend, 2000, p.27)

The concept of poverty, that is the most important element for the global emergence of Homelessness in urban areas, is a relative notion because it is defined in relation to the general level of prosperity in a country or a region at a given point of time. Moreover, this concept is also a graduated notion because it concerns many different circumstances such as the distinction between subsistence insecurity, insufficiency of resources and the inframarginal, namely individuals who are entirely outside the social system such as the homeless. (Atkinson, Cantillon, Marlier, Nolan, 2002, p.78-79)

Consequently, poverty is a multidimensional concept since it encompasses cumulative deprivation in relation to income, housing, education, health care and it mainly concerns the process of non participation of individuals and groups in various important areas of life. (Atkinson, et al., 2002, p.79)

Despite the multidimensional attributes of the concept and the problems for its definition, the United Nations provides us with a definition that refers to an overall and absolute poverty. The overall poverty concerns the lack of income,, lack of access to education and other basic services and the absolute poverty is characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs and the exclusion to social services. (Gordon & Townsend, 2000, p.166)

Our current globalized environment is also referred as the main reason for the emergent and development of the phenomenon of long term unemployment that leads to psychological harm, loss of work motivation, disruption of family relations and finally social exclusion. (Atkinson, et al., 2002, p.137-140)

These individuals and groups are also vulnerable to stigmatization that leads to the lost of self respect, lost of personal dignity and a sense of shame, fault and failure. (Lavalette & Pratt, 1998, p.203)Homeless people have historically been marginalized and socially excluded on the basic of their deviant social status. (Abrams, Hogg, Marques, 2005, p.162)

In addition, globalization is also referred to as a key factor promoting the retrenchment of welfare states especially since the growth of global competition for goods and services and the increased mobility of capital create pressures on social services that welfare state traditionally provided. Hence, social protection imposes costs on domestic producers, through taxes and employer contributions, unemployment rates are increasing and various forms of inequality emerge. (Kleinman, 2002, p.59-61)

The retrenchment of welfare states concerns and influences many different vulnerable groups, is highly connected with the domination of the consumer society (Mpaouman, 2004, p.167), with the phenomenon of the increased rate of global wealth for specific groups and the emergence of a global governance. (Geormas. 2006, p.27-43)Within these dimensions, the Greek welfare state is very limited, the unemployed cannot received the support they need (Petmetzidou & Papatheodorou, 2004, p.423) and the central authorities should be replaced with the peripheries and municipalities since the local authorities have a better view of the needs and attributes of many vulnerable groups. (Stathopoulos, 1996, p.219)

#### **2.4 The Pan African Football Tournament in Athens**

The Pan African football tournament is organized by The Union of African Communities of Greece, is consisted by different African football teams and the participants of the whole project are immigrants who came to Greece for a better life. Hence the main aim of the sporting activity is to strengthen the relationships of the African communities in Greece and to ease the integration of the population involved in Greece society.

The Pan African project was first organized in 2007 by The Union of African Communities, ten different African teams participated and the municipality of Ilion provided the field of soccer. Within the same organizational framework, the second tournament held in 2008 and twelve African teams participated, the third tournament held in 2009 and twelve African teams participated and in 2010 the tournament was sponsored by the forum of African diplomats and Panionios football club with the participation of fifteen different African teams. The football team of Sierra Leone was the winner of 2010's championship since it managed to win the team of Cameroon in the final.

The Pan African football project is organized by the African Union that has a significant contribution to its members. In fact, the immigration from African countries to Greece has many common attributes with the immigration of Greek population to the Unites States and the rest of Europe during the twentieth century. (Zimmerman, 2005, p.337)

Greece was mainly transformed from a labor sending country to a labor receiving one due to Greece's European integration, to Greece's economic and monetary union with the European Union, the collapse of communist countries (Zimmerman, 2005, p.338) and the need of large populations from the third world to find a better future. (Kasimati, 2000, p.28)

The African population of Greece is mainly consisted of immigrants and refugees who either chose Greece as their destination for a better future or who came to Greece in order to move afterwards to another European country. Yet, there is no specific number for the African population in Greece since the Greek State never held an official public record regarding immigrant populations. (Kasimati, 2000, p.40)

The African population, which chose Greece as their destination for a better life, were gradually consolidated to “immigrant labor force” (Amitsis & Lazaridi, 1999, p.173) , are mainly working to part time jobs and the welfare services should encourage and ease their social integration through immigration control policies and not to protect the political and economic interests of groups and individuals. (Kassimati, 2003, p.196-206)

Within this framework, it is clear that in the case of the Pan African football tournament we mainly refer to individuals and groups that were socialized and included to their country of origin and their main need is to be integrated to their new social, political and economic environment.

## **PART 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **3.1 Methodology**

We chose to use questionnaires for both of the sporting projects because conducting a research with questionnaires is not time consuming, it provides an easy way to categorize the information gathered and, the most important, there is no personal contact and influence between the researcher and the participants. Moreover, for the Greek homeless team, we decided to interview the two main organizers because we needed information regarding the governmental and nongovernmental authorities that support the whole sporting project.

##### *3.1.1 The Greek Homeless football team*

The project of the Homeless World Cup and the Greek campaign, as presented above, has as specific objectives to use sporting activities as a tool for supporting in every social aspect the population involved. In fact, the whole project, worldwide, seeks to use football as a tool for the re-inclusion of totally different groups and individuals that were either socially included before their marginalization or they need to integrate to a new social and political environment. The Greek team is consisted only of men and takes part only in the men division of the homeless world cup.

In order to answer the specific objectives of our research we decided to interview the two main organizers of the sporting project, the coach and the coordinator, in order to have a clear picture regarding the organizational bodies involved, the contribution or not of any governmental authority, any useful information regarding the organizational part of the weekly training program and any possible information regarding the level of knowledge of the participants.

For the participants involved we chose to use questionnaires mainly for the two main reasons that we explained. First, because the usage of questionnaires assures an easy way to categorize the information gathered and second because interviewing the whole team is time consuming and the interviewer may influence the interviewee.

Also, we chose the Greek language of our questionnaires because we were informed that the group of refugees comes from different countries with different native languages, understands better the Greek language than any other European one, especially since they use it during their everyday life. We were also informed that the Greek participants could provide any possible help to any of their teammates if there was such a need.

Hence, we visited the Greek team in the soccer venue of Rouf in Athens, where they practiced every Sunday afternoon, we interviewed the two main organizers and we distributed our questionnaires and distanced ourselves from the area. After one hour we returned and gathered our material, we counted them and indicated that twenty seven out of thirty five participants had accepted to take part in our research by filling in the questionnaires.

### *3.1.2 The Pan African football tournament*

For the Pan African football tournament we conducted our research by choosing the method of questionnaires exactly for the same reasons with the homeless football team. Because they provide an easy way of categorizing the gathered information, it is not time consuming. Moreover, fifteen male teams took part in the Pan African championship in 2010, with twenty players for each team, and the method of questionnaires gave us the capability to choose as a representative sample 20% of the participants, from almost three hundred and thirty players. In fact, we visited the Union of African communities in the center of Athens and distributed our

questionnaires to the representatives of the African teams, we chose to include all African teams by selecting randomly and without any requirement four members of each team, and we distributed our questionnaires and gathered sixty after a few days later.

For the Pan African tournament, we chose to use our questionnaires in English because of the variety of different native languages of the participants involved and because the Union of African communities suggested to use the English language because the majority of the participants would understand it better than the Greek one. Moreover, the absence of any Greek participant did not give us the opportunity to expect any kind of assistance like the one we had in the case of the Greek homeless team.

### **3.2 Analysis of the data of the Greek team**

We will analyze and present the findings of the Greek homeless football team separated into two parts. First, we will present the data regarding the age of the participants, any kind of past participation in sporting activities, their level of knowledge of the specific sporting activity and their time of participation. And in the second parts we will present the influence that the sporting activity has on participants' lives.

#### *3.2.1 Age, past participation, level of knowledge and time of participation*

In order to better approach, present and examine our findings regarding the average age, the level of knowledge for the specific sporting activity and the time of participation of the participants of the Greek homeless football team we should specify that specific sporting projects started in 2007 and the maximum of participation is three years.

Within this framework of scientific interest, the homeless Greek football team has many interesting findings since from the collected data the Greek team is consisted of individuals from with a wide variety of age, since 15,4% from 18 to 20 years old, 38,5% of the individuals are from 21 to 25 years old, 15,4% are individuals from 26 to 30 and 15,4% 31 to 35 and above 35. (Chart 1)

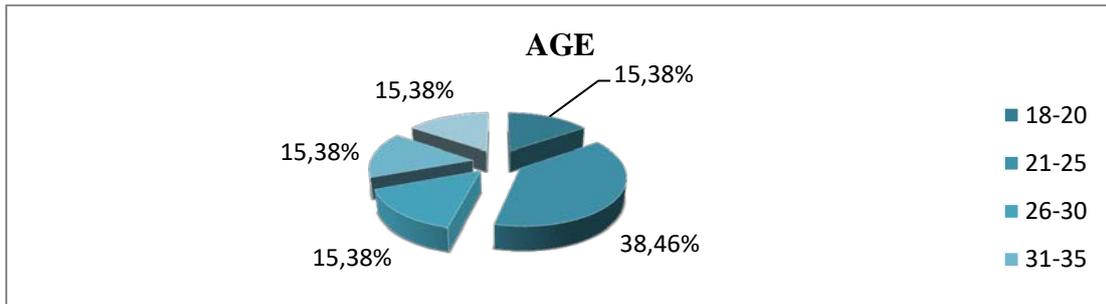


Chart 1: Age of the Greek homeless team

First, all the participants stated that that the campaign “Goal against Poverty” is useful and 92, 3 % of them participated in sporting activities in the past. Furthermore, their current participation in the project varies from 0 to 6 months for the 40% of the participants, 7 to 12 months for the 16 %, 13 to 24 months for the 16 % and 25 to 36 months for the 28 % (Chart 2 – 3) and the knowledge of the participants is also quite impressive since 34, 8% mediocre, 30, 4% good, 30, 4% very good and only 4, 3% very bad. (Chart 4)

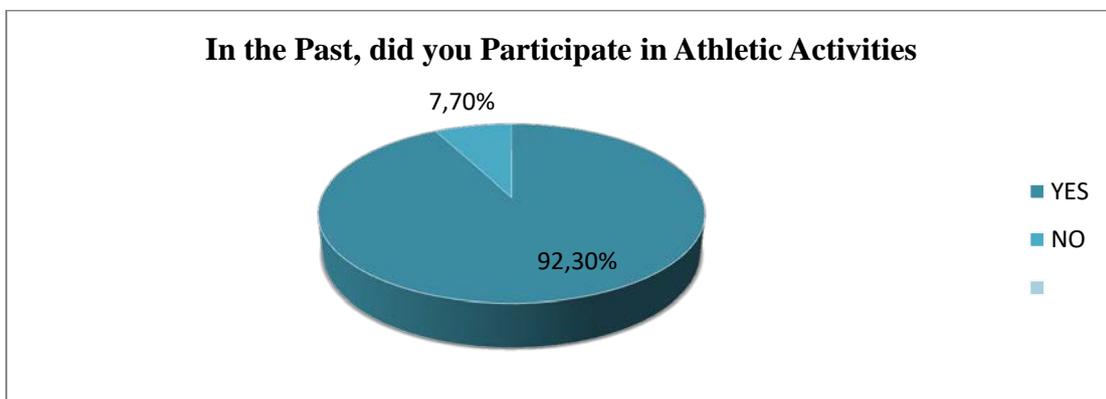


Chart 2: Past Participation of the Specific Athletic Activity

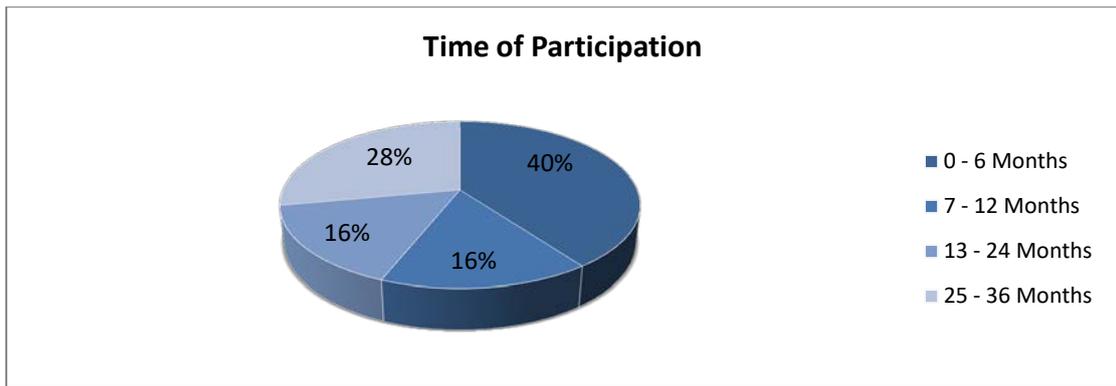


Chart 3: Time of Participation

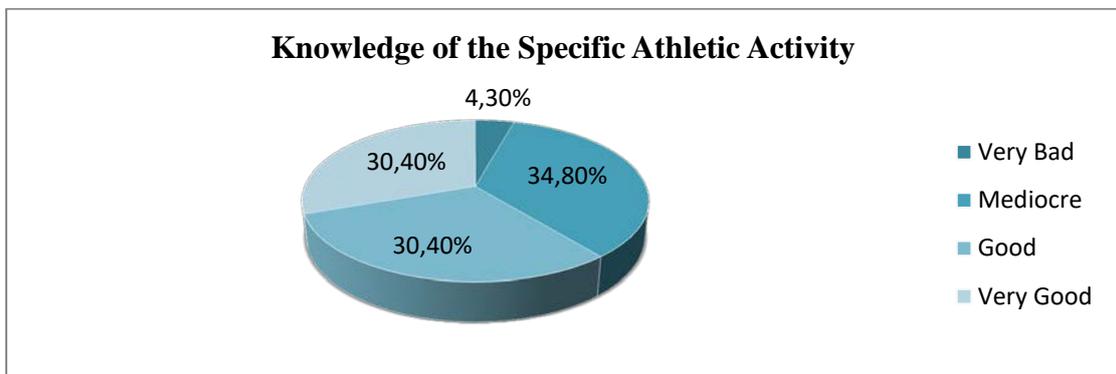


Chart 4: Knowledge of the Specific Activity

### 3.2.2 *The Influence of the Sporting Activity*

The second part of our research seeks to examine the influence that the specific sporting activity has on the lives of the individuals involved. Hence, we are interested in investigating the reason for participating, the beliefs that each participant has regarding his involvement, the feelings that the Greek homeless sporting project causes to the participants, any possible future expectations of the involved individuals, the way the participants understand specific sport values, whether they relate these values with specific social concepts and finally how these population involved evaluates the sporting projects.

The members of the Greek team participate in the sporting activities for several reasons. 17 of them for fun, 10 for health reasons, 9 to improve their social

relationships, 4 in order to find a job, 3 in order to be re-included to the society and 3 because the participation helps them to survive. At this point we should specify that the replies of the participants came from a variety of different choices with a maximum of two choices in order to better describe their incentive for their involvement. The participation for socialization and re-inclusion to the society was the third and fifth reason. (Table 1 & Chart 5)

**Table 1**  
**Reason For Participation**

	No		Yes	
	Count	%	Count	%
Improve Social Relationships	18	66,7%	9	33,3%
For Health Reasons	17	63,0%	10	37,0%
For Fun	10	37,0%	17	63,0%
It's the only way to be re-included to the society	24	88,9%	3	11,1%
In order to Find a Job	23	85,2%	4	14,8%
It Helps me To Survive	24	88,9%	3	11,1%
It's my obligation to it	27	100,0%		

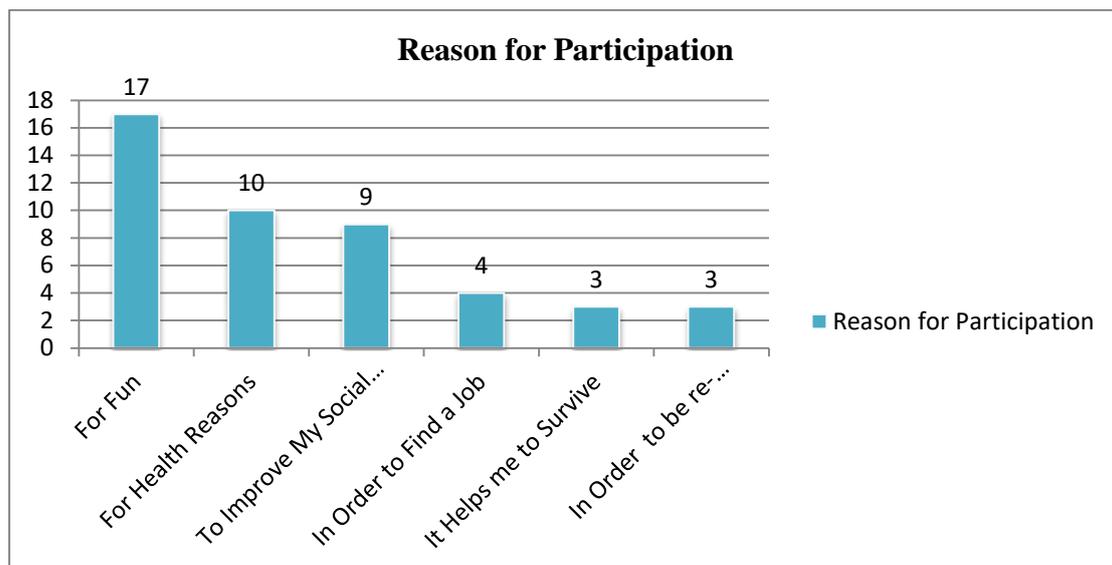


Chart 5: Reason for Participation

Our next intention was to indicate the influence of the sporting activity on specific social aspects of participants' lives. Hence, in order to better indicate any possible effect we offered a variety of choices and each participant had a maximum of two replies. The replies were the following: 11 participants believes that the project helped them to meet interesting people, 8 to be re-include in the society, 7 to improve

their interpersonal relationships, 7 to find a job, 5 overcome psychological problems, 5 to overcome my financial problems, 3 to be rehabilitated from drugs, 2 to be once again accepted by my family and 1 to find a reason for living. (Table 2 & Chart 6)

**Table 2**  
**The Participation in the Football Team Helped me**

	No		Yes	
	Count	%	Count	%
To Be Rehabilitated from addictive substances	24	88,9%	3	11,1%
To Improve my Interpersonal Relationships	19	73,1%	7	26,9%
To Find a Job	20	74,1%	7	25,9%
To Be Re-Included	19	70,4%	8	29,6%
To Meet Interesting People	16	59,3%	11	40,7%
To Overcome Psychological Problems	22	81,5%	5	18,5%
To Be Once Again Accepted By My Family	25	92,6%	2	7,4%
To Find a Reason for Living	26	96,3%	1	3,7%
To Face My Medical Problem	27	100,0%		
To Overcome Financial Problems	22	81,5%	5	18,5%

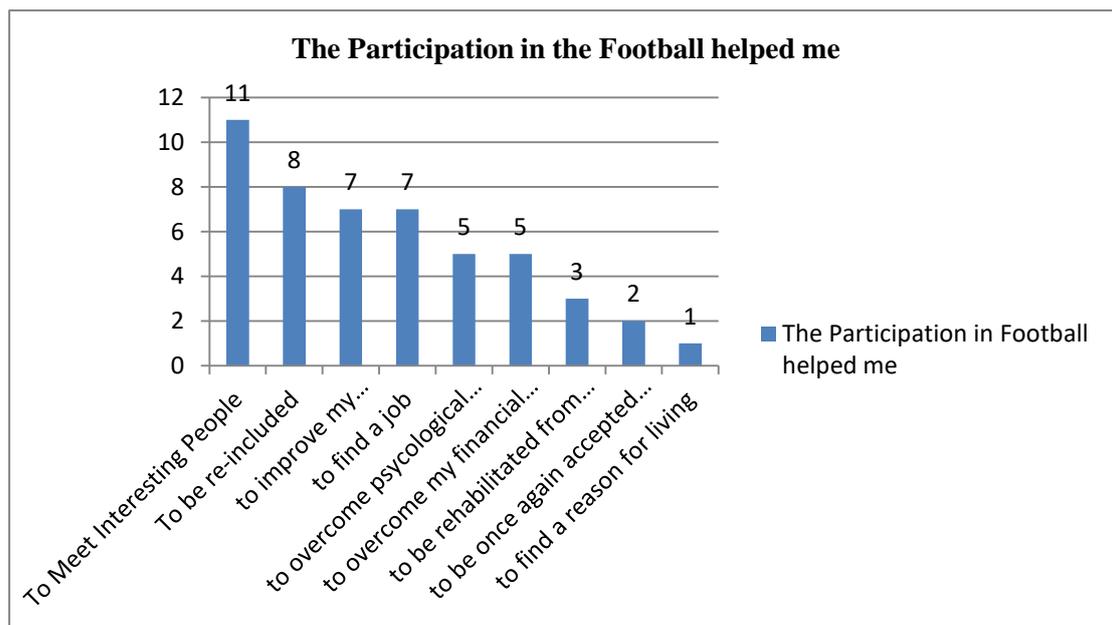


Chart 6: The Participation in the Football Team Helped me

Another aspect that we are highly interested in is the way the participants feel regarding their involvement in the specific project. In fact, the feelings of these totally different groups, with different social and cultural background, are also a significant indicator for the influence of the sporting activity on the participants.

At this stage, we also offered a variety of choices and each participant had a maximum of two replies. The results were the following: 11 participants of the Greek team feel like a member of a big family, 10 feel useful, 9 stronger, 8 members of a team with common goals and responsibilities, 6 happy, 4 member of a team without specific goals and responsibilities, 4 not alone and only 1 feel responsible of my teammates. (Table 3 & Chart 7) The feelings of the participants, as presented, are highly related to the previous diagram.

**Table 3**  
**My Participation In The Sporting Activity Makes Me Feel**

	No		Yes	
	Count	%	Count	%
To Be a Member of a Team with Common Goals and Responsibilities	19	70,4%	8	29,6%
To Be a Member of a Team without Specific Goals and Responsibilities	23	85,2%	4	14,8%
Be Responsible for my Team Players	26	96,3%	1	3,7%
Not Alone	23	85,2%	4	14,8%
Stronger	18	66,7%	9	33,3%
A Member of a Large Family	16	59,3%	11	40,7%
Usefull	17	63,0%	10	37,0%
Happy	21	77,8%	6	22,2%

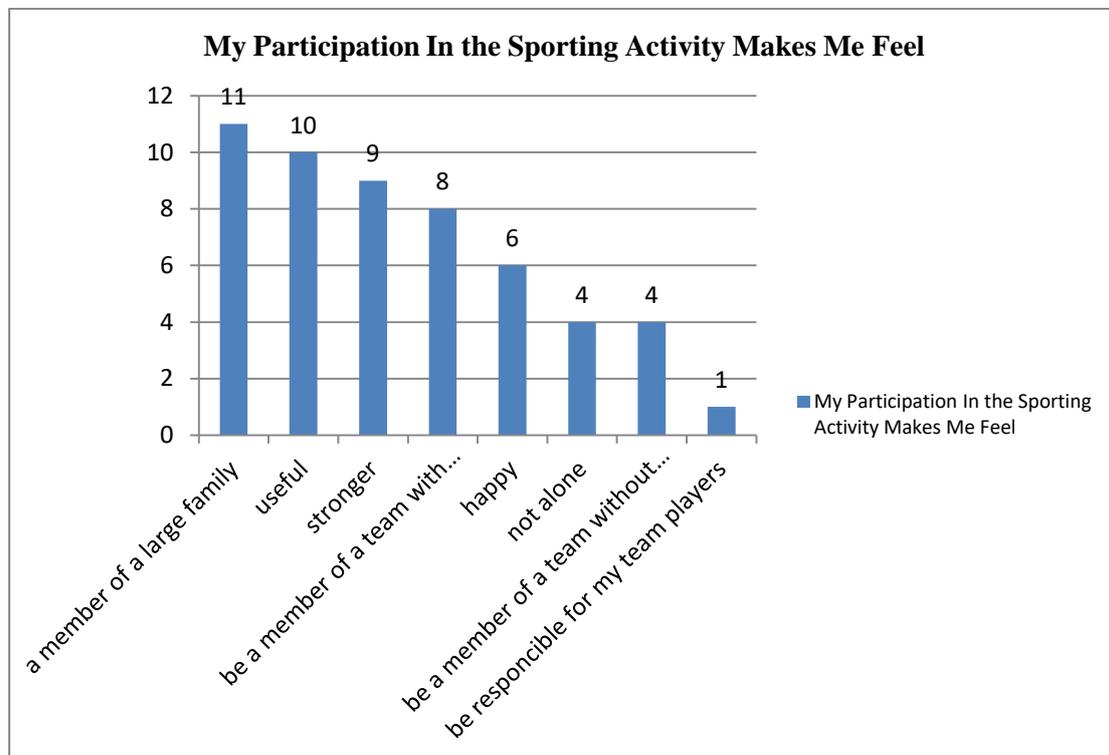


Chart 7: My7 Participation in the Sporting Activity Makes me Feel

The participants were also asked what they have learned through their participation in the sporting project. Their main replies were: 9 participants stated that they have learned the significance of collaboration with others, 8 the significance of participation, 7 respect of diversity, 7 fair play, 5 the significance of life, 5 never give up the effort and 4 the meaning of equality. Their complete answers are depicted to the chart. (Chart 8)

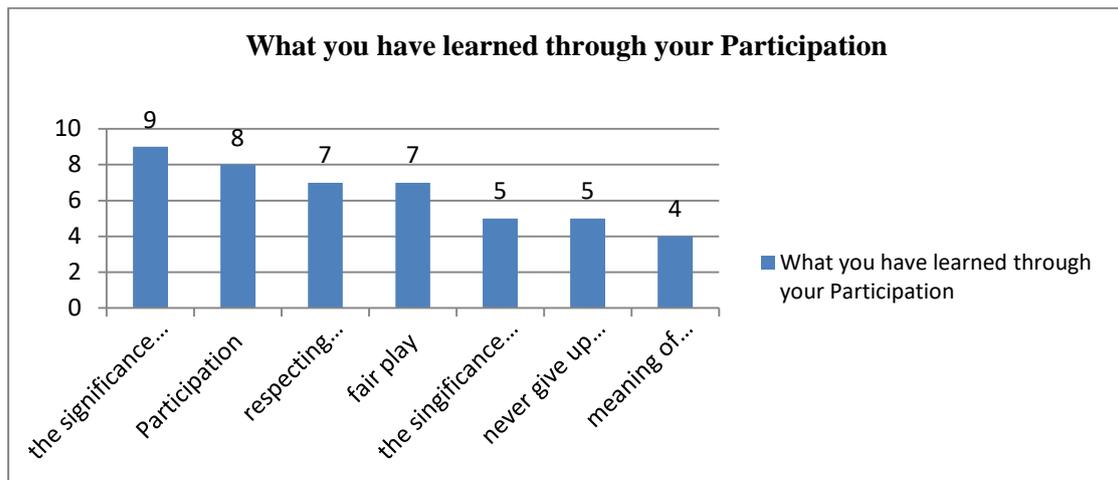


Chart 8: What you have learned through your Participation

Furthermore, they were asked to grade, according to their importance, the sport values of participation, fair play, equality, respect of diversity, never give up the effort, the significance of life and the importance of collaboration with others. According to their opinion, the participation, the significance of life, never give up the effort, fair play and the equality are the most important. Their complete replies are depicted to the above table. (Table 4)

Table 4  
Grade the Following Sport Values (Descriptive Statistics)

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Participation	12	1,00	7,00	4,6667	2,38683
Fair play	16	1,00	7,00	3,1250	2,39096
Equality	19	1,00	7,00	3,0526	1,50826
Respect of diversity	17	1,00	5,00	2,8824	1,21873
Never give up the effort	17	1,00	7,00	3,7059	1,75943
The significance of Life	14	1,00	6,00	4,4286	1,55486

The significance of collaboration with other people	19	1,00	7,00	2,9474	2,27239
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Another important indicator emerged when the participants had to relate the above mentioned values with the concepts of family, work, social relationships and friendship. The participants related these values mainly with friendship and social relationships and less with work and family. (Table 5)

This relation of specific sport values with procedures that actually refer to the socialization of an individual is also a strong factor of socialization and re-inclusion, since the participants believe that the sport values are mainly related to the social aspects of friendship and social relationships.

**Table 5**  
**Relate the Above Mentioned Values With the Following Concepts**

	YES		NO		
	Count	%	Count	%	
Family	14	82,4%	3		17,6%
Work	13	86,7%	2		13,3%
Social Relationships	20	95,2%	1		4,8%
Friendship	20	90,9%	2		9,1%

Finally, the participants mainly expect that their involvement will provide them: a better life, to become a better person, an ordinary life and professional and financial rehabilitation.

Also, 81, 5% believes that the Greek project is, at least, good organized. Their complete replies are depicted to the following tables. (Table 6-7)

**Table 6**

	No		Yes	
	Count	%	Count	%
A Better Life	10	38,5%	16	61,5%
The Possibility to live once again with my family	25	96,2%	1	3,8%
To Be a Better Person	16	61,5%	10	38,5%
Professional and Financial Rehabilitation	20	76,9%	6	23,1%
A House of my own	23	88,5%	3	11,5%
An Ordinary Life	18	69,2%	8	30,8%
Nothing of the Above	25	96,2%	1	3,8%

Table 7  
Evaluate the certain sporting activity from organization prospect

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	<b>Very Bad</b>	2	7,4	7,4	7,4
	<b>Mediocre</b>	3	11,1	11,1	18,5
	<b>Good</b>	7	25,9	25,9	44,4
	<b>Very Good</b>	15	55,6	55,6	100,0
	<b>Total</b>	27	100,0	100,0	

### 3.3 Analysis of the data of the Pan African football Championship

Following the same methodology of presenting the data of the Greek team, we will also present the data of the Pan African tournament into two different parts. First, we will present the data regarding the age of the participants, any kind of past participation in sporting activities, their level of knowledge of the specific athletic activity and their time of participation. And in the second part we will present the influence that the sporting activity has on participants' lives.

#### 3.3.1 Age, past participation, level of knowledge and time of participation

Even though our interest in the Pan African tournament and the participants involved is totally different from the Greek homeless football team, since the Pan African project is consisted of immigrants and the specific attributes and difficulties that this population faces is completely different, the investigation of their average age, past participation in sporting activities, level of knowledge and time of participation is the same.

From the collected data, the participants of Pan African tournament have the following age: 27,59% between 18 – 20, 29,31% between 20 – 25, 31,01% is between 25 – 30 years old, , 10, 34% between 30 – 35 and only 1, 72 are more than 35 years old. (Table 8 & Chart 9)

**Table 8**  
**Age**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-20	16	26,2	27,6	27,6
	20-25	17	27,9	29,3	56,9
	25-30	18	29,5	31,0	87,9
	30-35	6	9,8	10,3	98,3
	35+	1	1,6	1,7	100,0
	Total	58	95,1	100,0	
Missing	System	3	4,9		
Total		61	100,0		

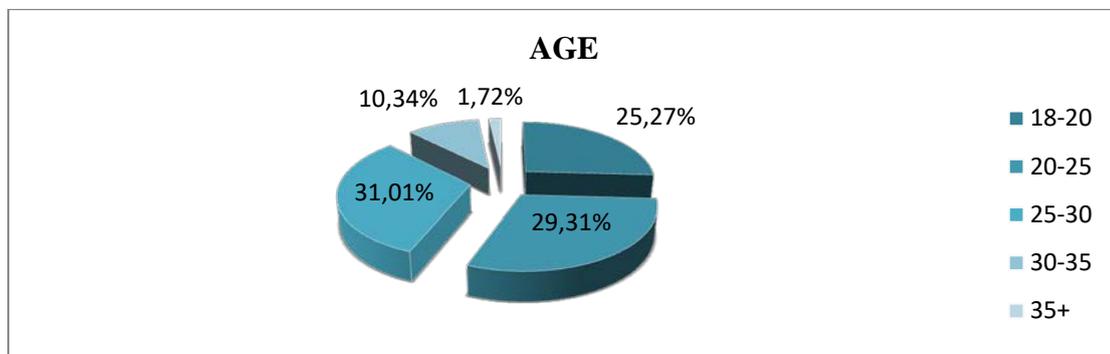


Chart 9: Age of the Participants of the Pan African Football Tournament

The data shows that 51, 67% of the participants took part in sporting activities in the past and 48, 33% did not. (Table 9 & Chart 10) Furthermore, 49, 06% stated that his level of knowledge of this specific sporting activity is very good, 32, 08% good, 11, 32% mediocre, 5, 66% bad and 1, 89 very bad. (Table 10 & Chart 10)

**Table 9**  
**Past Participation in Sports**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	yes	31	50,8	51,7	51,7
	no	29	47,5	48,3	100,0
	Total	60	98,4	100,0	
Missing	System	1	1,6		
Total		61	100,0		

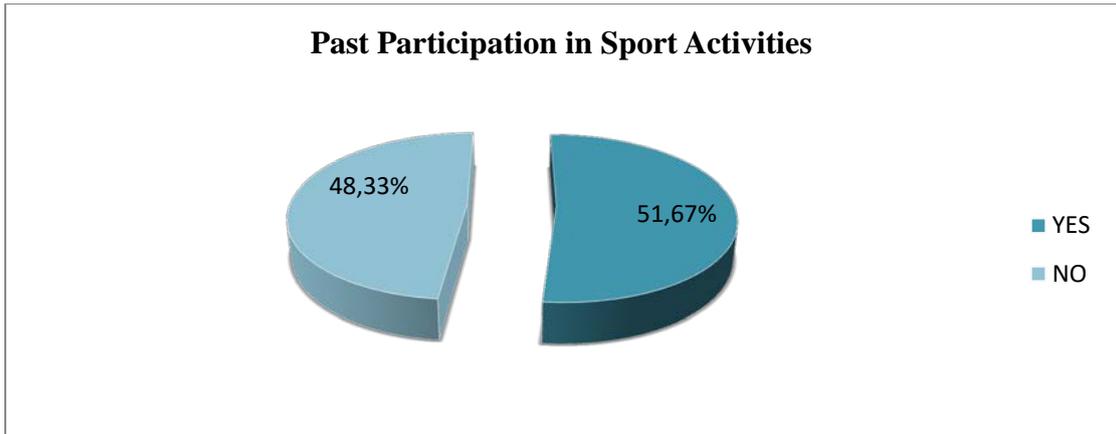


Chart 10: Past participation in sport activities

**Table 10**  
**Level of Knowledge of the Sporting Activity**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very bad	1	1,6	1,9	1,9
	bad	3	4,9	5,7	7,5
	mediocrely	6	9,8	11,3	18,9
	good	17	27,9	32,1	50,9
	very good	26	42,6	49,1	100,0
	Total	53	86,9	100,0	
Missing	System	8	13,1		
Total		61	100,0		

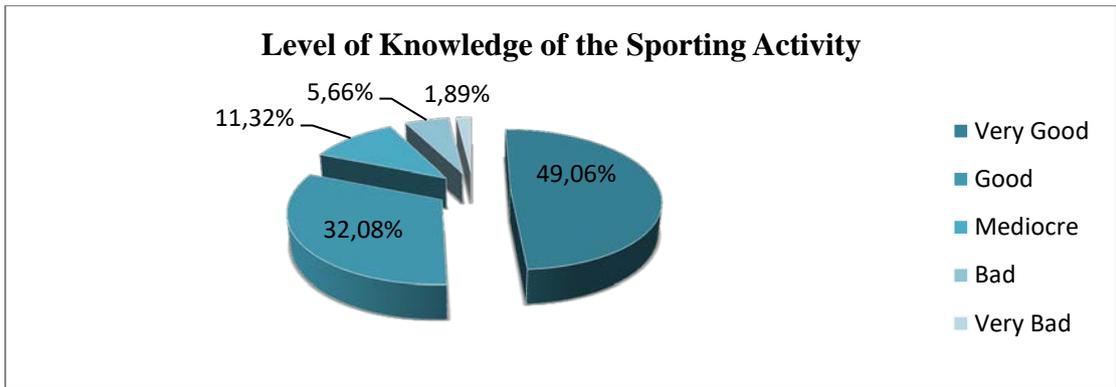


Chart 11: Level of knowledge of the specific sporting activity

Also, 33, 90% of the participants take part in this Sport (football) for 2 – 3 years, 33, 90% 1 – 2 years, 22, 03% for 6 – 12 months and 10, 17% for 0 – 6 months. (Table 11 & Chart 12)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	0-6 months	6	9,8	10,2	10,2
	6-12 months	13	21,3	22,0	32,2
	1-2 years	20	32,8	33,9	66,1
	2-3 years	20	32,8	33,9	100,0
	Total	59	96,7	100,0	
Missing	System	2	3,3		
Total		61	100,0		

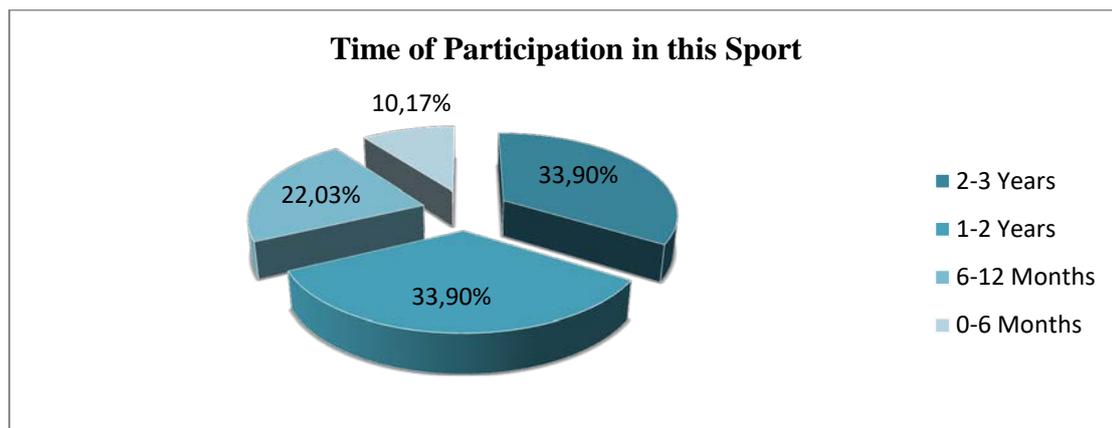


Chart 12: Time of participation in this sport

### 3.3.2 The Influence of the Sporting Activity

The second part of our research seeks to examine the influence that the sporting activity has on participants. Hence, we are focused on the sporting activity the reasons of participation, the belief that the participants have regarding their involvement, their opinion for the African community of Athens and their expectations for any possible future benefits regarding their participation.

The main reasons for participating in the Pan African tournament are the following: 31, 4% participates for social reasons, 22, 9% takes part as a way to participate in the African community of Athens, 16, 2% in order to participate in the Greek football championship, 11, 4% in order to find a job, 9,5% for health reasons and only 8,6 % as a way to participate to the Greek society. (Chart 13)

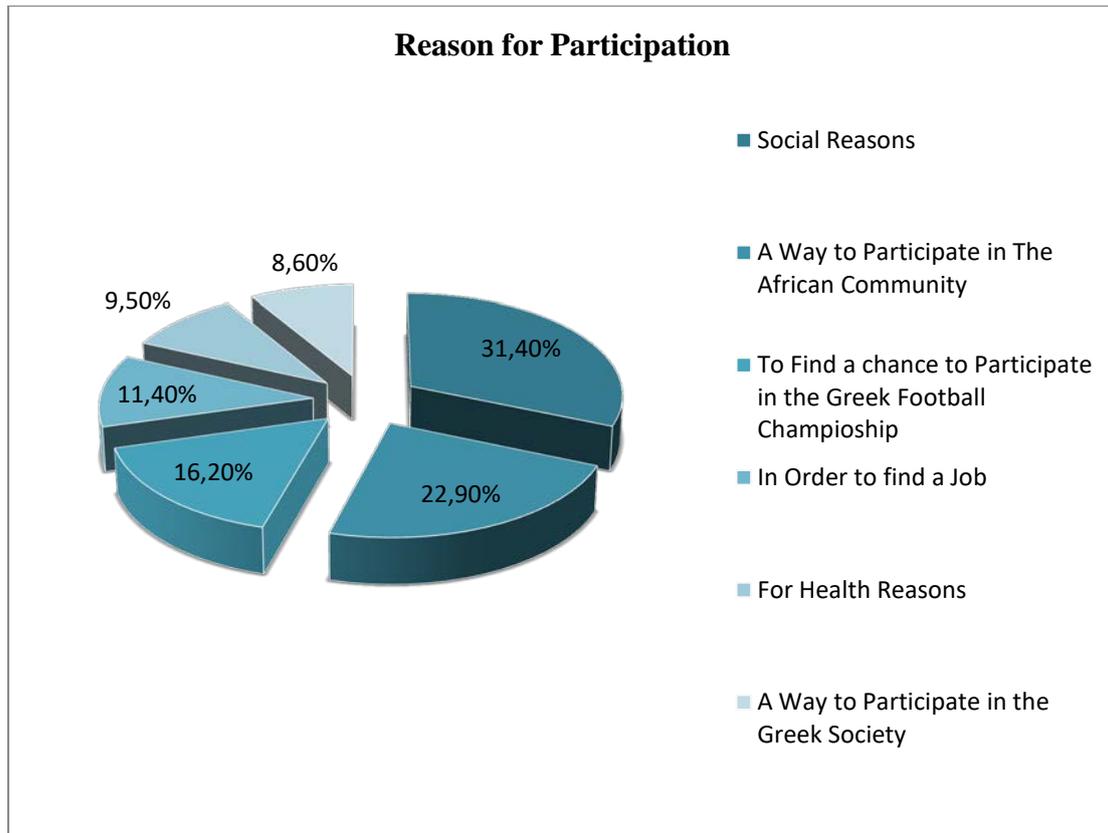


Chart 13: Reason for participation

Moreover, the participants believe that their involvement in their football team helps them to: 37, 3 % integrate in the local society, 25,5 % make friends, 14, 7% find jobs, 10,8% to change my life 7,8% to obtain friends and 3,9% other. (Chart 14)

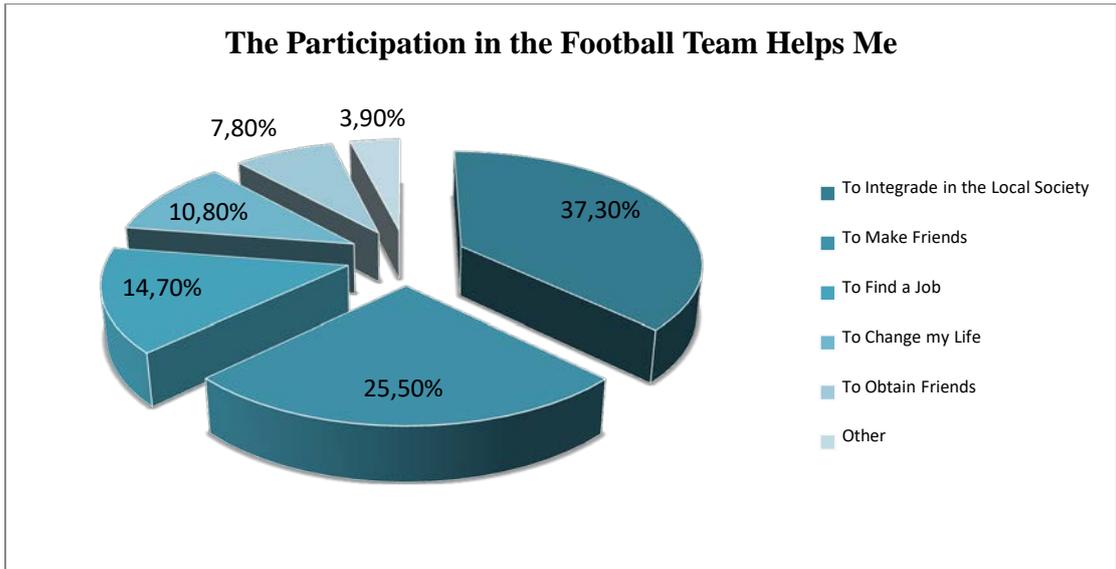


Chart 14: The Participation in the football team helps me

The participants have certain beliefs regarding their involvement and the help that it provides to them. In fact, the participation to the Pan African championship also helps them to: 36,8 % be with their compatriots, 20, 8% not to feel alone, 18, 9% be with friends, 9,4% make something I love, 4,7% be happy and stronger and 4,7% other. (Chart 15)

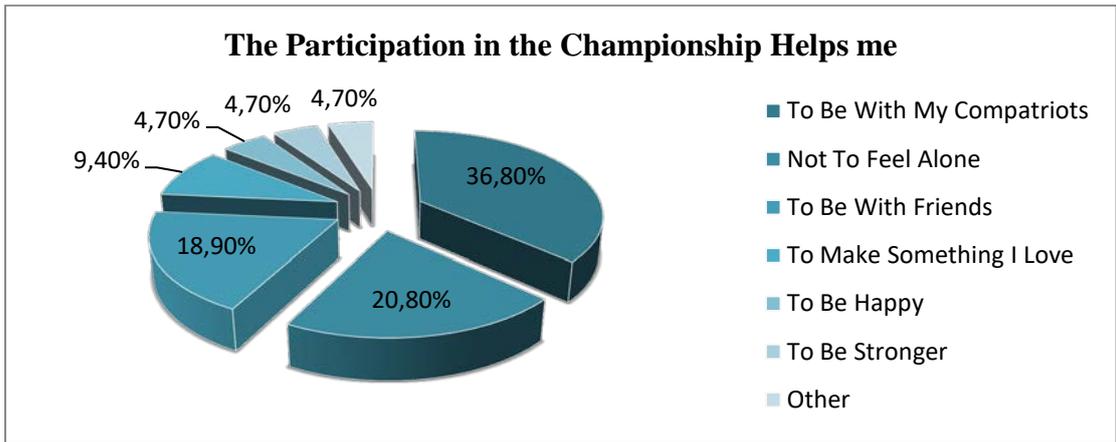


Chart 15: The Participation in the Championship helps me

The participants mainly believe that the local African community in Athens helps them to: 28, 4% to integrate to the Greek community, 16, 8 % to find a job, 15, 8% not to feel alone, 14, 7% to find a better future in a Greek football team, 8, 4% be

member of a big family, 6, 3% other, 5, 3 be happy and 4, 2 stronger.. At this stage, the importance of the local immigrant community as a tool for integration to the new society is the most important indicator. (Chart 16)

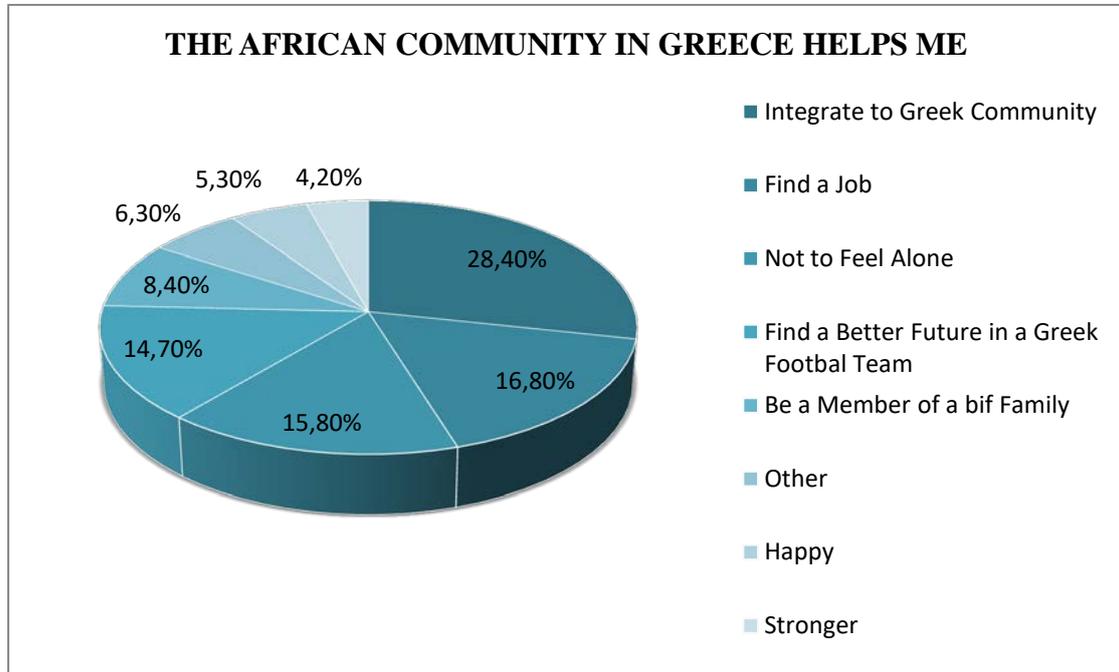


Chart 16: The African Community in Greece

In fact, the participants of the Pan African tournament have the following expectations regarding their involvement: 40,4% expects professional and economic situation, 35, 1% a better life, 11, 7% be a better person, 5,3 % a house of mine, 4, 3% an ordinary life and 3,2% other. (Chart 17)

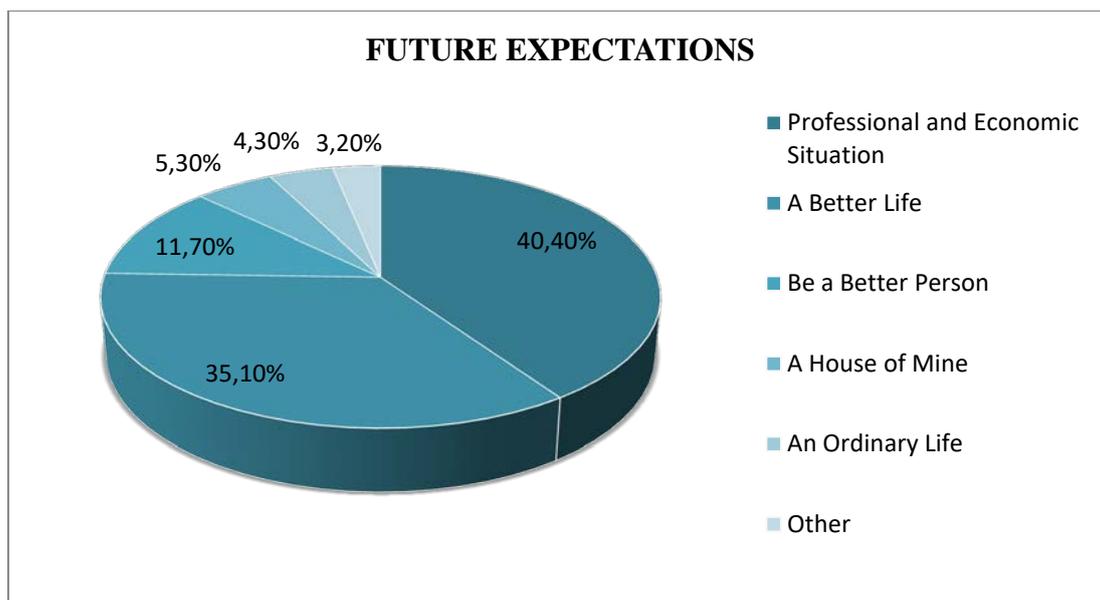


Chart 17: Future Expectations

The participants were asked to state what they have learned through this sporting activity. Their first three choices were the importance of collaboration with other persons, the significance of equality and the participation. Their complete replies are depicted to the following table. (Table 12)

**Table 12**  
What you have learned through from this sporting activity

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid The Participation	19	22,9	22,9	22,9
The Significance of Equality	20	24,1	24,1	47,0
I Do Not Abandon The Effort	12	14,5	14,5	61,4
The Importance Of Collaboration With Other Persons	29	34,9	34,9	96,4
Other	3	3,6	3,6	100,0
Total	83	100,0	100,0	

The participants were also asked to relate the above mentioned values with the social concepts of family, friendship, social relationships and work. The participants

mainly related these values with the social concept of social relationships (forty one answers) and friendship (thirty two answers). Their complete replies are depicted to the following table. (Table 13)

**Table 13**  
Relate the Above Mentioned Values with the Following Concepts

		Statistics			
		Family	Work	Social Relationships	Friendship
N	Valid	29	28	41	33
	Missing	32	33	20	28

Finally, the participants evaluate the African championship from an organizational point of view as 45, 45% very good, 36, 36% good, 16, 36 mediocre and only 1, 82 bad. (Chart 18)

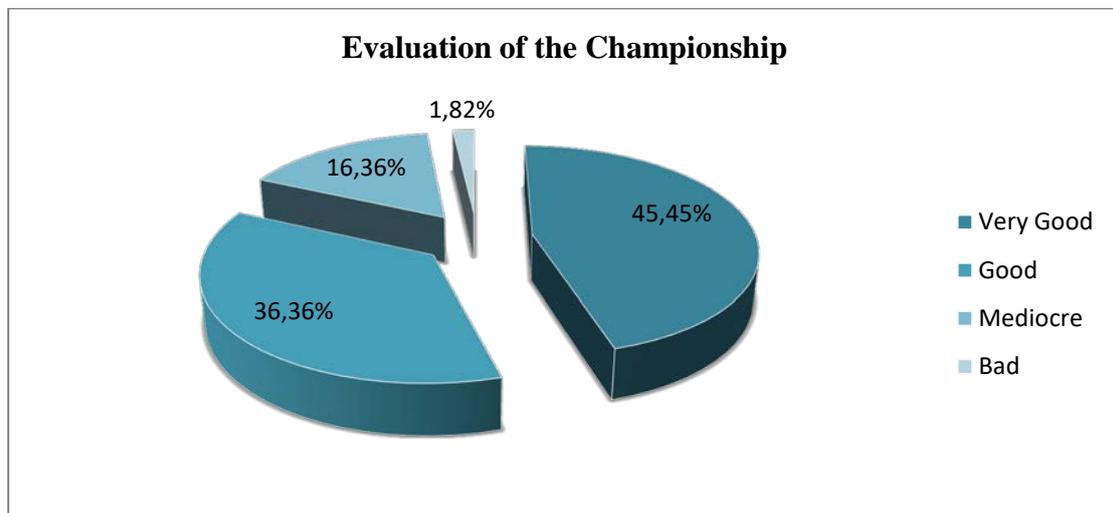


Chart 18: Evaluation of the Pan African Championship

## **PART 4**

### **CHAPTER 4<sup>th</sup>**

#### **4.1 Discussion**

In this chapter we will analyze and discuss the theoretical concepts of social inclusion, integration and exclusion in order to form a simplified notion, we will discuss and analyze all the findings regarding the personal attributes and the influence that each sporting project has on participants' lives. We will also try to compare the influence each sporting project has on participants' lives, any common organizational attribute or difference and any possible contribution of the welfare state.

#### **4.2 Social Inclusion, Integration and Exclusion**

After having presented a wide variety of different opinions and approaches, it is more that clear that these sociological concepts are highly controversial mainly because they mean different things to different people. Moreover, their usage from different governments with different interests and policies contributed more to the controversy. Within this framework, our main purpose is neither further to confuse the reader by analyzing different definitions nor to take part to this worldwide controversy. Thus, we believe that the best way to approach these concepts is by providing a simplified notion in order to use these concepts for our findings.

Hence, when we use the concept of social exclusion we do not only refer to the economic factor, since the concept includes immigrants, victims of racism, mentally and physically challenged people, elderly, drug and alcohol abusers and helpless children. Under these dimensions, the concept of social exclusion is a complex phenomenon which combines sociological and psychological attributes. In addition, we also agree that the concept of social exclusion is an inherent characteristic of the unequal postindustrial capitalism and that the exclusion is a

structural result of the globalized capitalism, both within and between nations and states. In other words, it is an unfortunate consequence that our global competitive economic environment creates since the role and the services of the welfare states start becoming more and more limited in order to ease the development and the profits of multinational corporations.

On the other hand, the concept of social inclusion has a clear meaning. It actually refers to factors such as family's environment, school, social networks, labor access and other social institutions that have a unique contribution to the whole process. Also, in cases of rapid political and social changes, such as the emergence of a different political system, the enforcement of dictatorships, immigration, enlistment and long term unemployment, the need for re-socialization emerges. Useful examples could be individuals that suffer from a long time unemployment or individuals that are cut from their families and friends because of their drug addiction, poverty or because they immigrated to another country. All the above mentioned circumstances lead to the marginalization of these individuals and all the above mentioned factors are essential for their social re-inclusion.

Furthermore, when we refer to the process of social integration we prefer to use Schnapper's approach that the process of social integration refers to the integration of all individuals regardless any cultural, religious and economic differences, and that the most powerful channels for the smooth integration of individuals or groups into a society is through the educational system, when we refer to young immigrants or second generation of immigrant population, and through the free access to the labor market, especially since labor procedures encourage the development of various of social ties between individuals and groups.

### **4.3 Age, Past Participation, level of Knowledge and Time of Participation**

The first indicator, that the project “Goal against Poverty” is obsolete useful is an indicator that certifies the success of the organizational authorities and at this stage it is necessary to remember the significance of these nongovernmental organizations, as described in the second part, and their specialized contribution. The third sector, as Panagiotis Zantias, mentions.

Furthermore, from the collected data it is more than clear that the age of the participants varies. Yet, the majority, 69, 3%, is between 18 – 30 years old. This indicator clearly shows that the participants of the Greek homeless team have a prosperous future regarding their involvement with sports and that, regarding the Greek project “Goal against Poverty”, the problem of homelessness, drug abuse and refugees mainly concerns people less than thirty years old. Thus, the organizational authorities should focus mainly on these populations.

The majority that stated that they participated in sporting activities in the past is an indicator that this population has strong relationships with sports. In fact, regardless the social and cultural background of the participants involved, the popularity of sporting activities and the spread of numerous of sporting activities is a factor that influences the global society. Individuals from all over the world receive the same influence regarding the spread of sporting activities and all the people practice a sporting activity sooner or later either during the school years or after.

Moreover, when the majority, 95,6 %, believes that their knowledge of this specific sporting activity is from mediocre to very good is an indicator that certifies the success of the training schedule of the organizational authorities and the correct training schedule of the sporting project.

The fact that only 28% of the participants are involved from 25 – 36 months, the maximum period since the project started in 2007, indicates that there is a constant rotation of the population involved. This indicator is also related with the social phenomenon of the social problems and the constant immigration in Greece the last years and the financial crisis that our global community experiences especially for the homeless population involved.

#### **4.4 The Influence of the Greek homeless Sporting Activity**

The reason for participation provides us with three important indicators. First the entertainment the participants received from their involvement in the sporting project of the Greek homeless football team, since 17 participants stated that participate for fun. Second the participation for health reasons (10 preferences), which is quite understanding if we consider the fact that every individual mainly participates in sporting activities for health reasons and in order to adapt a healthy life style, and third indicator that the participation in order to improve their social relationships (9 preferences). The third indicator is the most important since clearly shows us that through fun and entertainment the participants understand that this sporting activity provides them with other important opportunities to form new social networks. The opportunity of participating while having fun and at the same time making new friends, with totally different social and cultural background, is a strong indicator for the re-socialization of these vulnerable groups that have experienced social exclusion under different circumstances.

The findings regarding the beliefs of the participants regarding the help they receive from their involvement with this project are also significant. When 11 participants believe that their participation helps them meet interesting people, 8 believe that their involvement help them to be re-included, 7 to improve their

interpersonal relationships then the majority of the participants understand the significant contribution of this Greek homeless sporting project to their lives. Actually, all the above mentioned factors define the process of socialization and of the social re-inclusion.

In addition, when 11 participants believe that through their involvement feel as members of a big family, 10 useful, 9 stronger, 8 members of a team with common goals and responsibilities and 6 happy, then is more than clear that the sporting project has a positive influence on the lives of the individuals and groups involved. The variety of different feelings is also related to the social differences that each group and individuals has especially if we consider the requirements for participating in the homeless world cup.

The participants also believe that through their participation they have learned values of the significance of collaboration with others (9 preferences), the participation (8 preferences), the respect of diversity (7 preferences), the fair play (5 preferences), the significance of life (7 preferences) and never give up the effort (7 preferences). These indicators provide us with a very interesting factor; that the participants mainly believe that this sporting project provides them with the opportunity to experience and appreciate the above mentioned values. When individuals and groups from totally different social and cultural background believe that they have learned the above mentioned highly important values then they believe that this project functions like a pedagogical vehicle.

When the participants were asked to grade a variety of different sport values they favored the values of participation, significance of life, never give up the effort, fair play and equality. Their preferences are a clear indicator that they believe that the project offers them with the capability of participating without any kind of

discrimination. This indicator is very important if we consider the fact that these groups have been marginalized in the past and seek to be re-socialized and re-included again.

Moreover, when they were asked to relate these values with specific social concepts they preferred to related them more with the concept of friendship and social relations and less with the concepts of work and family. This indicator actually certifies the positive influence that this sporting project has on the process of socialization and re-inclusion of this population.

Finally, the participants believe that their involvement will provide them a better life, to become a better person, an ordinary life and professional and financial rehabilitation. These indicators are highly related with the beliefs the participants have regarding the help that this project offers to them and clearly clarify that the participants take part in order to improve their social status.

Finally, when 81,5% states that the sporting project is at least good organized, this is a factor that certifies that the Greek sporting project is a very well organized project.

#### **4.5 Age, Past Participation, level of Knowledge and Time of Participation**

From the collected data is clear that the age of the participants varies. Yet, the majority, 87, 91 % is thirty years old and less. This indicator actually shows to us that the Pan African football championship has a great future from organizational aspect and that the participants will have more opportunities to practice their favorite sport and to improve their sporting skills.

The findings regarding the past participation in sporting activities indicate that only 51, 67% of the participants adapted a sport. This indicator clearly certifies the

success of the Union of the African communities in Greece that has the capability to provide useful opportunities regarding participation in sporting projects.

In addition, when the majority, 49,06% very good and 32,08 % good, believes that their knowledge for this specific activity is at least good this is an indicator that the sporting project and the teams that take part provide the proper framework for every participant to practice football and to improve his sporting skills.

Moreover, the majority, 33,90% 2 – 3 years and 33,90% 1 to 2 years, takes part in the Pan African championship from 1 to 3 years. These indicators show that a significant percentage started this sporting activity in Greece with the Pan African championship since 48,33% did not have past experience. Moreover, the high level of knowledge of the participants shows to us that the participants spend time for practice and is highly related to the majority that participates from 1 to 3 years.

#### **4.6 The Influence of the Pan African Project to the Participants**

The influence that the Pan African football championship has on participants' lives can be examined as a complex combination of different believes feelings, expectations and reasons for participation regarding every participant. In fact all the above mentioned factors are the ones that provide us with a clear picture regarding the influence that the sporting project has on participants' lives.

Hence, the participants mainly take part for social reasons (31, 4%), as a way to participate in the African community in Athens (22, 9%), 16, 2% in order to find a Greek football team, in order to find a job (11, 4%) and only 9, 5% for health reasons. This indicators show to us that the Pan African championship functions like a social event where people with similar cultural background participate and also that the Pan African championship functions like a mechanism for the creation of a better social networks since the participants want to be more active regarding within the African

Union. This indicator provides with the factor of the need for socialization which is mainly referred to the sociological concept of social inclusion and not to the concept of social integration.

Also, the participants who take part in order to find a Greek football team or a job believe that their participation will provide them with new job opportunities, whether a contract to a professional football team or a good job through their social networks. At this stage it is important to refer to the participants' high level of knowledge regarding the specific sporting activity and to any future expectations regarding a professional contract with a Greek football team that will provide them with the opportunity for an athlete career.

The participants also believe that their involvement in their football team helps them to integrate to the local society (37, 3%), to make friends (25, 5%), to find a job (14, 7%) and to change their lives (10, 8%). These indicators also clarify that the Pan African tournament functions like a social event where new social networks are created and the participants benefit from that by making new friends and participating more to their local society. The significant contribution of the African Union is an indicator that should be highly appreciated since the sporting project of the Pan African football championship offers great opportunities for participating in the local community and forming new friendships.

In addition, the participants also believe that their participation in the championship will help them to be with compatriots (36, 8%), not to feel alone (20, 8%), be with friend (18, 9%) and do something that they love (9, 4%). These indicators also clarify the social function of the Pan African football championship since all the findings clearly indicate that the Pan African championship helps this population to form better relationships, stronger social networks and provides them

with the necessary socialization. Also, the need for being with their compatriots also clarifies the influence that the Pan African football championship has, since it encourages the cohesion among its participants.

Yet, the most interesting findings come from the beliefs that the participants have regarding the African Community and therefore the African Union since the Union is the main organizational authority that consolidates and represent all the African communities in Greece. In fact, the participants believe that the African Union will help them to integrate to the Greek society (28, 4%), to find a job (15, 8%), not to feel alone (15, 8%) and to find a better future (14, 7%). These new findings are highly significant since they show to us that the African Union functions like a mechanism for the integration of this population to the Greek society.

Hence, the participants of the Pan African tournament seek first to feel accepted from their local immigrant community, which may provide them with new social networks, job opportunities and any possible support, and then to try to integrate to the new social, political and economic environment. Moreover, this new indicator is highly related to the total absence of the Greek welfare state services and the necessary procedures for the creation of public records regarding the participants and their needs.

The substitution of the official Greek Welfare State from the African Union is the outcome of the total absence of any official organized attempt to approach and support this immigrant population that has been accumulated to Greece during the last decade. The absence of the welfare state and the public administration is the main reason for the emergence and rapid development of many nongovernmental organizations and Unions which seek to organize their members and provide them with different services. The Pan African football championship is a sporting project

that the Pan African Union provides to its members and has a great success and acceptance.

The African participants have also very interesting expectations regarding their future involvement. 40, 4% expects professional and financial situation, 35, 1 % a better life and 11, 7% to be a better person. These indicators are highly related with the needs and beliefs the participants have regarding their participation in the championship and their opinion regarding the help that their Union provides.

Finally, the participants believe that through their participation they learned the values of the importance of collaboration with others, the significance of equality and the participation. They also relate the above mentioned values with the concepts of social relationships and friendship. These indicators also clarify the need to form new social networks, making new friends and feel accepted from their local community. These indicators are also mainly related to the sociological concept of social inclusion and less with the sociological concept of social integration. Also, these findings indicate the influence that the championship has on the participants, since they become more socialized and they feel accepted by their friends.

Finally when 45,5 % and 36, 4 % evaluates the Pan African football championship as very good and good, this is an indicator that the Pan African football championship has a great success.

From all the above mentioned indicators it is clear that the Pan African football championship functions like a social event where the participants have the opportunity to form new social networks, be with friends and perform their football skills in order to attract a Greek professional team. These indicators are mainly related to the concept of social inclusion and not to the social integration. The unique

contribution of the Pan African Union is highly important since it provides services that no other authority could have ever provided.

#### **4.7 Comparing the Influence of the two Sporting Projects**

Even though the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African football championship want to provide an opportunity for every participant to take part in a very well organized sporting project the findings clearly indicate differences regarding the influence that these sporting projects have on the participants' lives.

On the one hand, the findings of the Greek homeless football project clearly indicate that the sporting project contributes to the socialization and re-inclusion of the involved individuals and groups with different social and cultural background. The participants believe that the sporting project helps them to meet interesting people, to be re-included to the society, to improve their interpersonal relationships and to find a job. All the above mentioned indicators are highly related to the process of re-socialization and re-inclusion.

In addition, the participants mainly feel as members of a big family, useful, stronger and as members of a team with common goals and responsibilities which are the factors that describe the process of socialization and re-inclusion.

Furthermore, when they favor the values of participation, the significance of life, never give up the effort and fair play, they relate these values with the environment that the sporting project provides. Also, their preference to relate the above mentioned values with the concept of friendship and social relationships is another indicator of the positive influence that the homeless sporting activity has regarding the process of socialization and re-inclusion.

Finally, their future expectations for a better life or to become a better person and to have an ordinary life, is a clear indicator that these vulnerable individuals and

groups seek for a better future but not from an economic perspective. They seek to improve their social status by stopping being in the margins of the society.

On the other hand, the findings of the Pan African championship indicate that the sporting project functions like a social event where the participants mainly take part for social reasons and as a way to participate in the African community of Athens.

The participants believe that the championship and their football team will help them to be with their compatriots, not to feel alone, to be with friends, to make new friends, to find job opportunities, and generally to form new social networks. These indicators clearly show that the Pan African tournament function like a significant social event and is highly related to the need for participating in the African Union that provides a very well organized sporting project. Also, the participants believe that their Union will provide them with opportunities that Welfare State should have provided.

In addition, the participants believe that the African community will help them to integrate to the new social environment, will provide them with job opportunities and a better life. These indicators clarify the special influence and function of the African Union, since it functions like the receiving society, and is the most important difference between two projects and the influence that it has on participants' lives.

Finally, the participants of the Pan African championship have as main future expectations the professional and economic rehabilitation and a better life. These indicators are also influenced by the importance of the Pan African Union, the wide acceptance of the Pan African football championship and the high level of knowledge of the participants regarding the specific sporting activity.

In addition, the participants expect that through their involvement, new career opportunities may occur since the Pan African football championship offer great opportunities for new social networks and a better future for the involved population.

#### **4.8 Common Organizational Attributes and Differences**

The two sporting projects share many common attributes but they also have one significant difference. In fact, both of them are organized mainly by nongovernmental organizations. The homeless Greek football campaign is organized by the nongovernmental organization Diogenis and the Pan African Union is also a nongovernmental organization that seeks to provide assistance to its immigrant population.

Both of the sporting projects have a specific target group of participants since for the Greek homeless football project the framework of participation is set by the homeless world football cup and refers only to refugees, homeless and individuals in drug rehabilitation programs and the Pan African project refers to immigrant population that wants to take part in the Unions' sporting activities.

Also, both projects use football as their sporting activity. The homeless Greek football team practices every Sunday afternoon in the soccer of Rouf venue in Athens and the Pan African championship is being help since 2007 and every year the teams that take part multiply. Yet the most significant common attribute is the total absence of the welfare state.

However, the only but most significant organizational difference is the fact that the Greek homeless football project is supported by many specialized and well organized nongovernmental organizations that provide specific assistance to the vulnerable individuals and groups involved. The homeless football project also has specific sponsors that provide, at least, a firm ground for its continuation.

The significance of the “third sector”, as Panagiotis Zannis mentions (Panteion University Conference, 1999, p. 78), in the struggle against social exclusion emerges with the limitation of Welfare State services. The inflexible, inefficient and bureaucratic Welfare State is gradually substituted by many flexible and specialized nongovernmental institutions that have the capability to approach and understand the special needs of different vulnerable groups.

On the other hand, the Pan African championship has extremely limited support and sources. In fact, the African Union is charged with the responsibility for the organization and continuation of their sporting project. In addition, the Africa Union functions like the receiving society through which the immigrant population seeks to be integrated to the Greek society. The significance of the African community as a tool for the integration of the immigrant population and their professional and economic rehabilitation is also highly related to the absence and inefficiency of the Welfare State policies.

#### **4.9 Any Possible Contribution of the Welfare State?**

As already mentioned earlier, both projects have as the most significant common attribute the absence of any serious form of contribution of the public administration and the Welfare State.

The bureaucratic nature of the public administration and the Welfare State is the main reason for its inflexibility and inefficiency. Furthermore, the controversial policies that the Greek public administration had for many years, regarding immigrant populations, led to the point of not having official records regarding this population and any attempt of approaching and understanding the specific needs of these people failed.

Yet, it our firm belief that despite the global financial crisis and the current global financial competitiveness, the Welfare State should be reorganized and adjust its services and policies to the current needs in order to approach, understand and relief these groups.

The global financial crisis and the post industrial global environment, despite the inequalities that creates, should not lead to the further limitation of the Welfare State but to a new beginning. The current global social, political and economic inequalities demand the existence of a flexible and efficient Welfare State that will create an active relationship between vulnerable groups and official authorities.

In addition, when a political, social and economic environment creates inequalities it is the responsibility of the organized Welfare State to reassure the protection and inclusion of all vulnerable individuals and groups. After all, it is the duty of every democratic society to deter any attempt for further marginalization of vulnerable individuals and groups that have already experienced the consequences of social exclusion.

#### **4.10 Conclusion**

The sporting projects of the Greek homeless football team and the Pan African tournament have been organized, introduced and developed from different organizational bodies but with similar aims. Both of them seek to ease the re-inclusion and integration of the population involved.

Yet, none of these sporting projects would have ever existed if the sociological concepts of exclusion, inclusion and integration have not gained the worldwide acceptance from our scientific community and the official policies involved. The different interests of many different governments regarding these social concepts and

their different usage of different governmental and nongovernmental authorities finally led to the gradual legalization of these sociological concepts.

The beginning was done by the official authorities of the public administration that were responsible for all the necessary policies involved regarding the struggle against social exclusion. Yet, the gradual limitation of the public administration led to emergence and development of numerous of different specialized nongovernmental organizations that had the specialized knowledge and the necessary legal framework to develop their activities within our society.

These nongovernmental organizational bodies, well known as the third sector, are the official authorities for the two sporting projects that we presented. Without their existence probably none of the examined sporting activities would have ever existed and the population involved would have never experienced the influence that these projects have.

Hence, regardless the findings of the two projects, regardless their differences and their special attributes it is our firm belief that these two sporting activities should be developed, supported and even financed by our public administration. We believe that regardless any advantages or disadvantages these two sporting projects should be developed and supported not only financially but scientifically as well.

If the two sporting projects have such an interesting influence on their population involved, would not be necessary to be assisted by specialized personnel? And if these sporting projects have managed to consolidate such a population, would not be necessary to be further developed in order to include more?

Within this framework we conducted our research, we presented the theoretical background of the sociological theory involved and we presented,

examined and analyzed the findings regarding the two sporting projects and the participants involved.

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## Appendix I

### *Interviews*

Interview with Sergios Milis, Coach and Co-organizer of the Football Activities: (13 minutes and 10 seconds)

Question: What are your main responsibilities regarding the team?

Answer: I and one other person are responsible for the football activities as trainers and organizers.

Question: How many years are you involved with the project?

Answer: I am involved as a trainer and organizer since the beginning of the project in 2007.

Question: During this year how many individuals have participated in the football activities?

Answer: During this year they have participated almost fifty (50) individuals but only thirty five (35) have participated continuously this year.

Question: What is the social background of the participants? Do you have a clear picture?

Answer: The participants come from three different vulnerable groups: a) Homeless, b) Drug rehabilitated and c) Refugees that received political asylum or have applied for it.

Question: Since the participants come from three specific vulnerable groups, have you ever noticed any special attribute of each group during the football activities?

Answer: No, the individuals do not function like a close cast. The difficulty always concerns the first days, since everybody is very isolated and not very social, especial the individuals that are drug rehabilitated. Also during the first meetings of our team there is a reticence between Greek participants and

immigrants. Every year we have different participants and the attributes are almost the same.

Question: Since you have to handle different people, from different social and cultural background how do you conduct your football activities? What methodology or schedule do you use as organizer and trainer?

Answer: First, we do not separate our team regarding the differences of each group or individual. We function as a team and we inform our members that we always do that. After all, it is the nature of football, as a team sport, that includes all individuals as equal members of a team.

Question: Do you have any difficulties when you had to handle thirty five different participants, with different problems and social background? For example, have you faced difficulties when you have to form separate groups during a football exercise? And, have you noticed any significant reactions?

Answer: Every year and especially in the beginning of the football activities, we notice that individuals that come from the same vulnerable group have the tendency to cooperate better, communicate better and even to exchange more passes during the practice. But, within the sporting process this tendencies gradually fade out. Also, when we indicate that individuals start to function like close casts, we immediately separate them to different groups. During the practice, we always form mixed groups consisted of different participants.

Question: Have you ever noticed, besides the practice hours, different participants from different background that belong to different vulnerable groups, to form social relationships outside the field? Have you ever had two or three individuals who became close friends?

Answer: Yes, during the last three years we have cases where different participants with no common social attributes became close friends. Also, during each year and after a few months of practice we always notice that all these different groups and individuals become more social and function like a team.

Question: Now that you have decided which individuals, from the thirty five, will form this year Greek football team that will take part in Rio's Homeless World Cup according to their sport performance.

Answer: The selected participants have not been chosen according to their football skills.

Question: According to which standards have you made your final decision, if not sport skills?

Answer: We always form the final team regarding the following standards: a) according to their participation during the year inside and outside the field since we hold many other events, b) if we indicate participants that take part only for the final trip, we do not choose them and c) we also select participants that we feel that the trip and the experience of a World Cup would benefit them. In any case, the criterion of sport skills always comes second because we are not interested in winning.

Question: When a participant is taking part for two years in your sport project and is not selected for the first year that means that it is more possible to be chosen during the second year of practice?

Answer: First, I will have to inform you that every year the Team should ne consisted of different participants since it is not allowed for a player to take part twice in the Homeless World Cup, and second when a participant continues to take part in our activities for more than a year and he is not chosen during the his first

year, then, yes, he has more chances of being selected since he continues to fulfill the preconditions of the project.

Question: During these years, did you have specific governmental or governmental contributors and sponsors that offer a job for the participants or did you notice a participant finding a job through the sport activities?

Answer: No, the corporations that support financially our campaign have never offered a job opportunity to our participants. But many of them have found a job through their general participation in the activities of many nongovernmental organizations that have supported our activities.

Question: Is there a specific governmental or nongovernmental organization that has the responsibility to seek for job opportunities for the participants? For example, has the municipality of Athens, that supports these activities, offered jobs opportunities for the participants?

Answer: Neither the municipality of Athens, which provides us the venue for practice, nor other nongovernmental or governmental as far as I know.

Question: Since sport skills are not first priority for the selection of the final team that will represent Greece in the Homeless World Cup, do you have any indications or facts that the participants, at least, learn the fundamentals of football or they are getting improved by the training program?

Answer: Yes, they are getting improved regarding their physical condition and their football skills, but this has also to do with their general knowledge and relation with football.

Question: Is the training program and football drills adjusted to the individual's level?  
I am asking that because you have to handle not only participants with

different social and cultural background but with participants with totally different sport and physical skills.

Answer: In every case, our program is very simple because of the participants and because our activities are not supported by specialized personnel in every aspect of sports. It looks like the football that we played as children. But when it comes to the selected team that will take part in the Homeless World Cup, then the program and drills are more complicated and specialized because the world cup has specific football rules and regulations.

Question: Did you have any case of individuals that had a crisis during the practice, especially individuals that come from drugs rehabilitation program?

Answer: No.

Question: Did you have any incidents of arguments and fights among participants or groups during the practice? Especially since football is a team sport.

Answer: Yes, we had few arguments but only arguments nothing serious, like in every football activity.

Interview with Chris Alefantis, Coordinator of the Football Activities: (3 minutes and 14 seconds)

Question: What is your name and what are your main responsibilities regarding the football activities?

Answer: My name is Chris Alefantis and I am the coordinator of the program since the beginning of the program three years ago.

Question: Which authorities and organizations are involved?

Answer: The program is being organized is the nongovernmental organization “Diogenis” and the authorities that support us are: the municipality of Athens, and the center of homeless people of Athens, the Praxis, the Klimaka, the Arsis, the Volunteering Service, the Doctors of the World (Medecins Du Monde), the Pliades, 18 and up, the Odysseys, The association of youth care, I might forgetting some. They also support us financially the Hellenic Post Bank, the Hellenic Organization of Communication, Interamerican provides the participants with insurance policy, Nikos Sarganis also provides us with fields for practice, and I might forget some others.

Question: So, the majority of the contributors are nongovernmental organizations.

Answer: Yes, that was our intention since the beginning, to involve as more nongovernmental organizations and authorities as possible. But we also have a few governmental organizations.

Question: Does the Ministry of Sport contribute to your program?

Answer: Not at all. We also sent two official requests to the Greek Federation of football and we did not even receive an answer.

## Appendix II

### Questionnaires

#### Homeless Questionnaire

##### 1. Ηλικία

18-20	
20-25	
25-30	
30-35	
35+	

##### 2. Ποιο το επίπεδο γνώσης της συγκεκριμένης αθλητικής δραστηριότητας

ΠΟΛΥ ΚΑΚΟ	ΚΑΚΟ	ΜΕΤΡΙΟ	ΚΑΛΟ	ΠΟΛΥ ΚΑΛΟ

##### 3. Πόσο Καιρό συμμετέχετε στη συγκεκριμένη αθλητική δραστηριότητα

0-6 Μήνες	
6-12 Μήνες	
1-2 χρόνια	
2-3 χρόνια	

##### 4. Θεωρείς ότι το πρόγραμμα «ΓΚΟΛ ΕΝΑΝΤΙΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΦΤΩΧΕΙΑ» είναι αποτελεσματικό σε σχέση με το λόγο για τον οποίο δημιουργήθηκε

Ναι	
Όχι	

##### 5. Για ποιο λόγο εσύ συμμετέχεις σ' αυτό (Συμπληρώστε μέχρι 2)

Για να βελτιώσω τις κοινωνικές μου σχέσεις	
Για λόγους υγείας	
Για διασκέδαση	
Γιατί είναι ο μοναδικός τρόπος να επανενταχθώ	
Για να βρω δουλειά	
Γιατί με βοηθά να επιβιώσω	
Γιατί είμαι υποχρεωμένος να το κάνω	

6. Η συμμετοχή μου στην ομάδα ποδοσφαίρου με βοήθησε (Συμπληρώστε μέχρι 2 από τα πιο βασικά):

Να ανεξαρτητοποιηθώ από εξαρτησιογόνες ουσίες	
Να βελτιώσω τις διαπροσωπικές μου σχέσεις.	
Να βρω δουλειά.	
Να επανενταχθώ.	
Να συναντήσω ενδιαφέροντες ανθρώπους.	
Να ξεπεράσω τα ψυχολογικά μου προβλήματα.	
Να γίνω και πάλι αποδεχτός από την οικογένεια μου.	
Να βρω λόγο ύπαρξης.	
Να αντιμετωπίσω τη πάθηση που είχα	
Να βγω από την ανέχεια	
Άλλο.....	

7. Η συμμετοχή μου στη συγκεκριμένη αθλητική δραστηριότητα με κάνει να αισθάνομαι (Συμπληρώστε μέχρι 2 από τα πιο βασικά):

Μέλος μιας ομάδας με κοινούς στόχους και υποχρεώσεις	
Μέλος μιας ομάδας χωρίς συγκεκριμένους στόχους και δεσμεύσεις	
Υπεύθυνος για τους συναθλητές μου.	
Όχι μόνος.	
Ποιο δυνατός	
Μέλος μιας μεγάλης οικογένειας	
Χρήσιμος	
Ευτυχισμένος	
Άλλο.....	

8. Τι είναι αυτό που έχεις μάθει μέσα από τη συμμετοχή σου στη συγκεκριμένη αθλητική δραστηριότητα (Συμπληρώστε μέχρι 2 από τα πιο βασικά):

Συμμετοχικότητα	
Ευ αγωνίζεσθε	
Την έννοια της ισότητας.	
Σεβασμός στη διαφορετικότητα.	
Το να μην εγκαταλείπω ποτέ τη προσπάθεια	
Την ομορφιά της ζωής	
Τη σημασία της συνεργασίας με άλλους ανθρώπους	
Άλλο.....	

9. Τοποθετήστε τα παρακάτω σε σειρά προτεραιότητας με βάση το βαθμό σημαντικότητας για εσάς.

Συμμετοχικότητα	
Ευ αγωνίζεσθε	
Την έννοια της ισότητας.	
Σεβασμός στη διαφορετικότητα.	
Το να μην εγκαταλείπω ποτέ τη προσπάθεια	

Την ομορφιά της ζωής	
Τη σημασία της συνεργασίας με άλλους ανθρώπους	
Άλλο	

10. Σχετίζονται με τα παρακάτω οι αξίες του αθλητισμού που αναφέρονται στην παραπάνω ερώτηση

	<b>ΝΑΙ</b>	<b>ΟΧΙ</b>
Οικογένεια		
Εργασία		
Κοινωνικές σχέσεις		
Φιλία		

11. Στο μέλλον η ενασχόληση σου με τη συγκεκριμένη δραστηριότητα τι πιστεύεις ότι θα σου αποφέρει(Συμπληρώστε μέχρι 2 από τα ποιο βασικά):

Μια καλύτερη ζωή	
Τι δυνατότητα να ζω και πάλι με την οικογένεια μου	
Να γίνω καλύτερος άνθρωπος	
Επαγγελματική και Οικονομική αποκατάσταση	
Ένα σπίτι δικό μου	
Μια κανονική ζωή	
Τίποτα από τα παραπάνω	

12. Οργανωτικά πως θα χαρακτηρίζατε τη συγκεκριμένη δράση

ΠΟΛΥ ΚΑΚΗ	ΚΑΚΗ	ΜΕΤΡΙΑ	ΚΑΛΗ	ΠΟΛΥ ΚΑΛΗ

Pan African Questionnaire

1. Age

18-20	
20-25	
25-30	
30-35	
35+	

2. In the past did you participate in athletic actions

Yes	
No	

3. Which is the level of knowledge of particular athletic activity?

VERY BAD	BAD	MEDIOCRE	GOOD	VERY GOOD

4. Time of participation in this sport

0-6 Months	
6-12 Months	
1-2 Years	
2-3 Years	

5. Reasons of participation (Fill maximum two (2) of them)

For social reason	
For health reason	
For fun	
Way for participate in the African society	
Way for participate in the Greek society	
In order to find a job	
In order to find a chance to participate in Greek Championship	

6. My participation in the football team helps me (Fill maximum two (2) of them):

To integrate in the local society	
To obtain friends	
To find a job	
To make friends.	

To change my life
Other.....

7. My participation in this championship helps me (Fill maximum two (2) of them):

To be with my compatriots	
To be with my friends	
To make something I love	
Not to be alone.	
To be more stronger	
To be happy	
Other.....	

8. The African community in Greece helps me to (Fill maximum two (2) of them):

Find a Job	
To integrate in the Greek community	
To find a better future in a Greek team	
Not to feel alone.	
Feel more stronger	
Be a Member of a big family	
Be happy	
Other.....	

9. What have you learn from this action (Fill maximum two (2) of them):

The significance of participation	
The significance of equality.	
Never to abandon the effort	
The importance of collaboration with other persons	
Other.....	

10. Are the above mentioned values of sports related with the below social activities? (The values of sports above are related with the following social activities)

	YES	NO
Family		
Works		
Social Relationships		

Friendship		
------------	--	--

11. Your pastime with the Football activity what you believe that it will help you?  
(Fill maximum two (2) of them):

To have a better life	
To be a better person	
Professionally and economically rehabilitated	
To have a house of mine	
To have an ordinary life	
Other.....	

12. Evaluate the championship from an organization prospect

VERY BAD	BAD	MEDIOCRE	GOOD	VERY GOOD