

# The challenges

Sport environments are valued for empowering youth, promoting inclusivity and team spirit, yet they are also infamously known as a microcosm of sexual harassment and assault, idealising toxic masculinities, and for their inherent culture of violence.

Studies also highlight sports institutions' incapacity to protect potential victims and to provide equitable conditions to inequality groups based on age, disability, gender, gender-identity, ethnicity, nationality, race and sexual orientation, as well as those at the intersection of these inequalities.

# The game plan

SUPPORTER will support the design and implementation of inclusive and innovative gender equality plans in eight sports institutions:

- Univerzitet u Banjoj Luci (UNIBL), Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Univerza v Ljubljani (UL), Slovenia
- Univerzita Karlova (CU), Czechia
- Natsionalna Sportna Akademiya Vassil Levski (NSA), Bulgaria
- Lietuvos Sporto Universitetas (LSU), Lithuania
- Universitatea de Vest din Timisoara (UVT), Romania
- Georgian State Teaching University of Physical Education and Sport (GSTUPES), Georgia
- Universitatea de Stat de Educație Fizică și Sport (USEFS), Moldova

# The goals

Through the development of these gender equality plans, SUPPORTER strives to reach the wider sports ecosystem in the Central and Eastern Europe region and in the long run contribute to advancing gender equality in the European Research Area.



## On the ground, SUPPORTER will

- Document systemic challenges faced by sports higher education institutions in Central Eastern Europe in advancing gender equality and eradicating gender-based violence.
- Develop activities adapted to the Central and Eastern European context and tailored to each partner institution.
- Strengthen the sports institutions' organisational capacity to address gender equality with an intersectional approach.
- Foster an inclusive institutional culture by developing mutual-learning processes.
- Strengthen networking and exchange among sports institutions and with communities of practice.
- Foster gender-related institutional, sustainable, transformative change in the sports institutions with a specific attention to gender-based violence.

SUPPORTER seeks to advance inclusive gender equality in eight partner sports institutions across Central and Eastern Europe and beyond. With tailored training and mentoring mechanisms provided by expert partners, partner institutions will design intersectional, innovative, inclusive and impactful Gender Equality Plans, adapted to their situation.



# At a glance



## Contact us

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<https://supporter-project.eu>

SUPPORTER is an EU-funded project aiming to support eight sports higher education institutions from Central and Eastern Europe in developing their own intersectional, innovative, inclusive and impactful Gender Equality Plans which explicitly address gender-based violence and sexual harassment.

## Our partners



Duration: April 2023 – September 2025



8 Sport Education Institutions



8 Innovative Gender Equality Plans



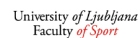
3 Expert Partners



Mutual learning through training and mentoring-monitoring scheme



Report on gender+ equality and gender based-violence policies and practices in the field of sport education



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Views and opinions expressed are however those of the SUPPORTER consortium only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



**Equipping Sports Higher Education Institutions with Intersectional, Innovative, and Inclusive Gender Equality Plans**



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