(updated 7 July 2024)

SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SPORT DAY' INITIATIVE

realised and developed by the vision of a parent in collaboration with Don Antonio Mazzi and Giovanni Mazzi (Don Mazzi Youth Centres - Verona)

Let's help students get the UN General Assembly to proclaim

25th September

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SPORT DAY

for Education and Growth

(25 September - International Youth Sports Day for Training and Growth)

Under the patronage of: CONI| CIP - Italian Paralympic Committee| Sport and Health

Giovanni Malagò | Luca Pancalli | Marco Mezzaroma

FOREWORD

"... omissis ... ***there is no official recognition of youth sport as a tool for physical, mental, character and social growth in young and very young*** *... omissis ...* ***in 2021, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe issued a recommendation to amend and integrate these aspects addressed to youth sport in the European Charter of Sport*** *... omissis ..."* Franco-Turkish lawyer Zeynep B. Akcay (former Legal Officer at the Council of Europe).

To date, **200 anniversaries** are listed in the **'UN International Day Calendar'** (www.unric.org), among them:

6 April| International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (A/RES/67/296):

- promotes sustainable economic development and peace among peoples;

12 August| International Youth Day (A/RES/54/120);

- targets the 16/29 age group (Eurostat data European Union Statistical Office); 20 November | World Children's Day [A/RES/836 (IX)].
- targets the 0/5 age group; promotes international solidarity (www.onuitalia.it). **No day dedicated** specifically **to the Formation and Growth of the Very Young** (age group 3/16), the most delicate and important moment for building the future of a modern society.

The period of education and growth from zero (0) to sixteen (16) years of age characterises, positively negatively, the lives of the adults of the future.
The training of the very young must necessarily pass through guided physical experiences.
This is what the scientific evidence says.
So we decided to **strive** for **a world anniversary** specifically **dedicated to Youth Sport for the Formation and Growth of the Very Young (girls, boys, girls, boys aged 3 to 16)**.
To turn on a light and keep it permanently shining on the importance of an educational pathway suited to nurture, to the best of their potential, those who will be the protagonists of the future.
And to do so through the involvement of students from Italian schools and other participating foreign countries.
Consequently, involving, in an interested way, parents who in turn can build, together with teachers, spontaneous collaborations to foster students' resourcefulness and self-determination.
All this will easily lead, as a side effect, to harmonising relations between educators.
So that this day becomes, thanks to the students themselves**, the flag around which, every year, everywhere in the world, the stakeholders will rally**.

In any case, **it will be an unprecedented initiative, destined to go down in history.**

Together we will be able to reaffirm the central role of **Youth Sport** - Physical **Education** (Physical Play and Motor Activities) and **Basic Sport** (Initiation to Sports Disciplines) - in an educational pathway guaranteed by a renewed **Sport-School-Family Educational Chain that** is strong, coherent, effective, sustainable, without which every improvement project would be in vain.

An anniversary that will help to promote a change of mentality among parents, students and teachers, causing a new awareness to take root:
1) - **Educational Sport and Art are universal languages**, irreplaceable tools for education and growth;
2)- only a well-functioning **Educational Chain**, in which the School acts as the centre of gravity, can **raise the quality of education**.

Moreover, if **the students are the protagonists of the initiative, becoming adults can help ensure the durability of the change for** the very young who will follow.
Together we can create a **virtuous circle capable self-sustaining and regenerating itself**, like a **primary forest**.

On 25 September 2021, we launched the initiative.
Initiative to gather supporters by signing a Manifesto.
Hence the cornerstone document of our project, which received the approval of the people in charge of the sporting, territorial and educational institutions with which we have been dealing over time.

17 November 2021

Poster signed by Valentina Vezzali
To date Undersecretary for Sport - Presidency of the Council of Ministers



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A simple and easy-to-read tool to be submitted to students, parents, teachers, educators, sportsmen and women and institutions **to intercept the interest and the will to achieve the goal together** by focusing on the resourcefulness and self-determination of the very young.

We collect 100,000 signed posters. We will have 100,000 more reasons to achieve the result.

Since the proclamation**, 25 September will be celebrated in** candidate **schools, from all over the world**, and students will compare their proposals, which will be evaluated by an international jury. A stimulus for new long-distance collaborations between students and teachers.
In any case, this initiative will produce a pool of experiences that will be collected, with the collaboration of university students in the areas involved, to be remembered, recounted, studied and passed on *(dissertations - research projects).*

Why that date? ... 25 September is World Dream Day, a day on which the world celebrates dreams as goals to improve the lives of individuals and communities. initiative born in 2012, from an idea of a Columbia University professor, inspired by Walt Disney's phrase: 'think, believe, dream and dare'.

Remembering St Augustine:
"...verba docent, exempla trahunt..." | **...words teach, examples drag...**





Friday 13 October 2023. ***In Trento during 'The Sports Festival'.***
We will return each year with students from Sports High Schools and other schools to promote the initiative ***INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SPORT DAY.***
Valentina Vezzali *reads the Manifesto she signed on 17 November 2021 when she was Undersecretary for Sport (Presidency of the Council of Ministers), the same one shown in the group photo with* ***the students of 4S and 5S Liceo Scientifico Sportivo Alessandro Tassoni of Modena****.*

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"...*guardingoterlimts*..."



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