

THE MANAGEMENT OF DUAL CAREER INTO SPORTS PERFORMANCE IN ROMANIA - THEORETICAL DIMENSIONS

MANAGEMENTUL DUBLEI CARIERE ÎN SPORTUL DE PERFORMANȚĂ DIN ROMÂNIA - DIMENSIUNI TEORETICE

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Abstract: The paper is a theoretical approach to support services provided by the education system of young people involved both in career education and / or training and in sports career, period framed under the concept of "dual career" and the implications of the management of dual career.

The bibliographic study used as a method of analysis of the literature shows that the legislative support of Romania, national strategies supported by the recommendations of the European Union institutions gives opportunities for study and development of sports, but can not be considered a real support without a adequate correlation of the two activities, school and sports activities, given that the specific requirements of each area come to be, often in contradictory, achieving the objectives. A balanced approach to dual career in professional sports and sports can generate academic performance ensuring a coherent transition from professional sports career to career and labor market integration. Focusing on the development of sport to the detriment of vocational training, bringing the athletes after retirement from the performance in the face of unmanageable dramas.

Key words: dual career, sport performance, sport, education system, student / student

Rezumat: Lucrarea este o abordare teoretică a serviciilor de sprijin furnizate de sistemul de învățământ tinerilor implicați atât în cariera educațională și/sau de formare profesională cât și în cariera sportivă, perioadă încadrată sub conceptul de "dublă carieră", precum și a implicațiilor managementului dublei cariere.

Studiul bibliografic, utilizat ca metodă de analiză a literaturii de specialitate, arată că suportul legislativ din România, strategiile naționale susținute de recomandările instituțiilor Uniunii Europene conferă oportunități pentru studiu și dezvoltare sportivă, însă nu pot fi considerate de un real sprijin fără o corelare adecvată a celor două activități, școlare și sportive, având în vedere că prin cerințele specifice fiecărui domeniu ajung să fie, de multe ori, în contradictoriu în realizarea obiectivelor. O abordare echilibrată a dublei cariere în sportul de performanță poate genera performanțe academice și sportive asigurând o tranziție coerentă de la cariera sportivă la cariera profesională și integrarea pe piața muncii. Concentrarea pe dezvoltarea sportivă în detrimentul formării profesionale, aduce sportivii, după retragerea din activitatea de performanță, în fața unor drame greu de gestionat.

Cuvinte cheie: dublă carieră, sport de performanță, sportiv, sistem de învățământ, elev/student

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INTRODUCTION

Sport, a phenomenon of the modern world, generates important values for life contributing to personal development and fulfillment. "The practice of sport regularly is associated with many positive results, including increased fitness, increased vitality, high self-esteem and reduction of health" (Bouchard, Blair, & Haskell, 2007; Pelletier, Vallerand & Sarrin, 2007 apud Pelletier, Rocchi, Vallerand, Deci, Ryan, 2013, p. 1). The European Union recognizes and supports the role of sport in education, 2004 was proclaimed as the year of education through sport.

The sports performance activity put athletes in front of challenge to combine sport activity performance with the educational or vocational training, having to manage a "dual career". In performance sports, "dual career" means that "a certain period of time an individual correlates the sport with the school study, leading to a great achievement in sport and acquisition of academic education" (Uebel, 2006 apud Abejkalns, Geske, 2013, p. 50). Some authors understand the period of "dual career" as "a process of coordinated actions which an athlete develops academic and sports skills contributing to the psychosocial and psychological development" (Stambulova, 2010 apud Abejkalns, Geske, 2013, p. 50).

The duration of career in sport performance is one determined, it is important that athletes and those involved in sport to be aware of this to pay attention to education and training as an integral part of the concept of "dual career" by easing the transition from sports career to a professional one. The meaning of "dual career" is highlighted by the EU recommendations of various laws, thereby showing an active concern for the labor market integration of professional athletes until the end of their sports career. "The European Commission underlines the importance of taking into account the time, the need to ensure of young sportsmen training for a dual career "and dispose at the local training centers highly professional, able to protect the moral, educational and professional interests of these young people " (Cartea albă a sportului, 2007, p. 6).

The aim of research is to know the concerns of the factors involved in the performance sport - athletes, coaches, family, institutions, etc. - relating to the sport and professional training.

The primary objective of the study is to analyze the specialty literature on dual career in professional sports, a critical approach of studies on the subject of research. As a secondary objective we proposed to know the regulations and legislation in different countries to support sport and professional training.

The methodology used in compiling this study is the method of documenting the literature review and the legislation governing support services provided by the education system to support school and sports performance.

Modalities of support in management of dual career sports performance

Youth development strategies have emerged in Romania at the end of 2001 by developing a Plan of Action for Youth (PNAT-R) which consider targets for improvement in the economic, social, cultural education. EU vision on youth is geared towards investing in youth, increase capacity and develop its potential, with particular attention to young people with fewer opportunities (National Strategy for youth policy for the period 2015-2020). In this context, a significant contribution to the development of strategic objectives, sport and sporting activities carried out in the way institutional or leisure. The main areas of intervention, the specific objectives and action directions of the National Strategy for youth policy for the period 2015 - 2020, aims as well the "health, sport and recreation" as a way of "achieving education through sport and physical activity for the formation of a style healthy lifestyle development as active and responsible citizens " (pt. 2.2 of National Strategy for youth policy for the period 2015-2020,

<http://lege5.ro/Gratuit/guzdiojrgg/strategia-nationala-in-domeniul-politicii-de-tineret-pentru-perioada-2015-2020-din-14012015>).

Romania's education system lacks an enabling framework regarding dual career management. "Compared to traditional students, athletes students are facing additional challenges and energy in achieving a good academic performance and sporting" (Shuman, 2009; Gaston-Gayles, 2005; Gatmen, 2012 apud Corrado et.al., 2012, p. 54). The participation of students and student athletes in training programs and formal competitions presupposes recording of a higher number of absences that may be motivated by existing legislation, by level of performance (Ordinul Ministrul Educației și Cercetării nr. 5159/05.12.1998, LEN 1/2011), but recovery of courses is made most often without their additional teaching. Registration of athletes in higher education without entrance examination, or fee on funded places, is correlated with performances at major international competitions, relative to a certain period of time (HG 1004/2002). Special sessions for baccalaureate exams in the case of high school graduates selected for the national teams preparing for the Olympics and international sports competitions, is an educational opportunity to support dual career (Ordin 4799/2010, art. 1, alin. (4)). Students have the opportunity in the sessions of the prolonged or open exams, depending on the level of performance (Ordinul Ministrul Educației și Cercetării nr. 5159/05.12.1998, respectiv Legea 69/2000 cu modificările ulterioare (art. 159), also applied in the case of exemptions frequency to classes (a rate of 25% for athletes and 50% for athletes of high performance facilities), similar to those in Greece, country where the athlete students are granted exemption from attendance at courses between 20% and 50% for major sporting commitments (Pavlidis, Gargalianos, 2014). The existence of these regulations create the possibility of neglect in school activities and sports one over the other and can not be considered a real support without bridging the two areas. Often, teachers are willing to help elite athletes, although not all are sympathetic regarding the concept of "dual career" (Pavlidis, Gargalianos, 2014).

The legislative framework support for athletes and students ensures for elite athletes and for those of performance, an differentiated assistance, restricting access that are not selected athletes of the national team and Olympic to certain benefits, although they are involved in a demanding regimen of life. Athletes, based selection for elite sport are found often in a situation where, although "investing a huge part of their time in the sport, get outside the world of elite sport without any inheritance sports and a limited education " (PMP consultants & The Institute of Sport and Leisure Policy Loughborough University, 2004; Lavalley & Robinson, 2007 apud Pavlidis, Gargalianos, 2014, p. 44). In particular, there are institutions of higher education providing additional support under partnerships between universities and sports clubs.

National Education Act (LEN) 1/2011 (art. 139), regulates the forms of university programs: full time, part time and distance learning. Offer study programs from higher education institutions is wide, diversified and can cover athletes for training options, but most universities organize study programs with frequency requirements which are not adapted sports training programs and national and international competition schedules. The study programs organized in the form of part-time education or distance can be an affordable means of dual career development, but have limited range. The conditions provided by sports clubs to conduct training programs and competitive participation, financial support in the form of allowances sports awards for sports scores, and health insurance services etc. (HG 1447/2007, HG 888/2013), are insufficient resources for the proper development of the complex process of "dual career".

In support of personal development and training plans are developed at European level such as Comenius, Leonardo da Vinci, Erasmus, Grundtvig - "(6) *Sport and physical activity can be supported through the Lifelong Learning program. Promoting participation in educational opportunities through sport is thus a priority topic for school partnerships supported by the*

Comenius program, for structured actions in education and training supported by the Leonardo da Vinci program, for thematic networks and mobility in higher education, supported by the Erasmus program, as well as multilateral projects in the field of adult training supported by the Grundtvig program " (Cartea albă a sportului, 2007, p. 6.). Access of athletes in these projects is not flexible because of the improper competition schedules with programs organized by schools.

The implications of dual career management

Withdrawal from sports career is an inevitable part in an athlete's life, whether it be a voluntary decision or event-driven. Physical education and sports law (art. 64 of Law 69/2000) It requires athletes for medals in the Olympics, world championships and / or European - Olympic events - be rewarded with annuity at retirement from the performance activity. The number of athletes recorded notable performances in competitions mentioned (above) is relatively low compared to the number of athletes participating in national and international competitions, but who do not obtain such results. Part of elite athletes become coaches, officials in the federations, clubs, athletes but there remains the problem of others. What happens to them at the end of sports career?

In Romania the initiatives to support dual career in sport are not sufficiently advertised mainly on the stage after retirement from competitive activity, labor market integration. Romanian Olympic and Sports Committee COSR Strategy - 2013-2016 Olympic cycle - refers to "continuation of the program of retraining for athletes to withdraw their sports career, in collaboration with ADECCO" (International human resources company, with a subsidiary in Romania specializing in the provision of human resources). A similar initiative was undertaken by the Association of amateur footballers and Nonamateur in collaboration with a Portuguese partner embodied in a "academy online", a platform for distance education for players retired from football, through which athletes can specialize, perfecting in related fields of sports marketing, sports management, covering 10 courses modules (POSDRU 2007 – 2013 “E-learning pentru partenerii sociali”, <http://www.afan.ro/e-learning-pentru-partenerii-sociali/>). Graduation rate of these courses was 50% <http://www.agerpres.ro/sport/2013/08/21/academie-online-pentru-jucatorii-retrasi-din-cariera-sportiva-15-52-14/>.

Association amateur footballers and Nonamateur in Romania, in partnership with National Trade Union Block and the National Authority for Sport and Youth, conducted during 2009 - 2011, a national co-financed draft from the European Social Fund "Social security and training for athletes." The project objectives aimed at identifying interest in athletes for training, understanding the benefits of the social security system and establish an office for information and advice for athletes. The research report of the referred project, among other conclusions, and the openness and responsiveness athletes on professional development, without neglecting management problems "dual career" - "The receptivity of special athletes on new information, is closely linked with higher levels of education of this population compared with most, it creates prerequisites treating some of the problems they are facing. They are mostly derived from the difficulty of combining sports performance with a professional career " (<http://www.sport-info.ro/wp-content/uploads/Raport-intreg.pdf> stated in the project "Securitatea socială și formarea profesională pentru sportivi", 2010, p. 61).

Withdrawal from competition, the final of sports career is a stage which may be accompanied by difficulties "at occupational level such as lack of a professional career, lack of professional qualifications, choosing careers less appropriate, as well as a decrease in financial income" (Cecic Erpic, 1998; Wylleman et.al., 1993; Werthner & Orlic, 1986, apud Hatamleh, 2013, p. 341), the loss of sporting identity and self-esteem (McKnight et.al., 2009). Gabriela Szabo, vice president of the Romanian Athletics Federation in 2012, speaks in an article of the "Freedom" about the problems they have athletes after abandon the competitive activity. "Employment opportunities are reduced an athlete and the challenges of growing older. Draconian

life and training regimen repeated often prevents athletes to focus on in-depth theoretical studies. It comes as many athletes after they had glorious sportive career, not to find a job and employers to strike skepticism about their skills." <http://www.libertatea.ro/detalii/articol/gabriela-szabo-program-de-reconversie-profesionala-a-sportivilor-adecco-cosr-425638.html>. Socio-professional integration retired from competitive athletes is influenced by socio-political and economic. If during the communist period Romanian citizens were employed in occupations and athletes enjoyed certain advantages in filling a job during the "post-revolutionary" system is different, the athletes begin to face problems entering the labor market after the withdrawal from sports career.

Dramas of athletes who have completed their sports career for various reasons, willingly or not, and that followed a less desirable route, are presented in the media. Mircea Tutovan the former glory of the Romanian volleyball, "nicknamed the '70s" gunner of Europe "due to strong service and devastating attacks, Honoured Master of Sports, winner alongside Dinamo nine championships, a cup of cups and a bucket of Champions", the core component of the national team, where he played over 300 matches and scored two third places at the European Championship " <http://www.agerpres.ro/sport/2014/03/06/mircea-tutovan-tunarul-care-a-pus-umarul-la-cucerirea-ultimul-trofeu-important-pentru-voleiul-romanesc-11-03-30/>) He came to live modestly and anonymous. Although he had an impressive record "was over 20 years one of the best volleyball players of Romania and of the world, Mircea Tutovan does not lead a life of former great champion, but he lives modestly in Zalau, in a rented apartment, from a military pension and allowance merit. Cumulative revenues barely reach 3,000 lei. "Money is not really so few, but is not a month that I have trouble with my wife and go at least half the drugs" (says Tutovan in an interview). http://adevarul.ro/locale/zalau/jaf-boc-s-a-dat-banii-fostului-mare-campion-mircea-tutovan-1_50bd44ad7c42d5a663c98cc7/index.html (2010). "Between 1972 and 1980 he was declared the player with the best service in the world, even by the International Volleyball Federation. He was the first player in Europe who performed from the jump service." [http://old.sibianulonline.ro/articol/ziar/sibiu/glorie-ci-deccdere/5953/0/print/\(2005\)/](http://old.sibianulonline.ro/articol/ziar/sibiu/glorie-ci-deccdere/5953/0/print/(2005)/). Mihai Slabu is another example falling in the model athlete facing drama champions failed to overcome the transition period. Forced to abandon sports career due to an injury, faced with family problems, get to live in a the locker room inside an research and design institute in Bucharest, where he works. "Mihai Slabu won nine titles of champion of Romania, a European Champions Cup (1981), a 3rd place CCE (1982), a Balkan Cup, all with Dinamo and the Romanian national team - a Balkan Cup. He played for Dinamo, Dacia Pitesti, IRUC Bucharest, Bucharest IMEB, played over 250 games at the junior, youth and seniors national teams. " [http://www.prosport.ro/alte-sporturi/poveste-cutremuratoare-campionul-de-langa-ghena-6090431.\(2010\)/](http://www.prosport.ro/alte-sporturi/poveste-cutremuratoare-campionul-de-langa-ghena-6090431.(2010)/). Elisabeta Badea, an athlete with notable results, encountered problems after completion of competitive activity. "... .. Elisabeta Badea, world champion in bowling, struggling to survive. Desperate not find a job, working daily in the wealthy homes to have something to put on the table. Only three years the state will recognize the merits by an allowance of 2,000 lei per month. " [http://www.realitatea.net/de-la-campiona-la-menajera-povestea-impresionanta-a-unei-sportive-video_939374.html\(2012\)/](http://www.realitatea.net/de-la-campiona-la-menajera-povestea-impresionanta-a-unei-sportive-video_939374.html(2012)/). In December 2012 the campaign "We care about Romanian athletes" bowling world champion Elisabeta Badea received a "gift" for Christmas. "The content of a packet received from the Ministry, basically summarizing the respect that the athletes wearing Romanian state officials who retired. Two tubes of toothpaste, soap three, four fruits and a cake " ([http://www.prosport.ro/sport-life/sport-life/au-scris-istorie-pentru-romania-iar-oficialii-statului-au-demonstrat-din-nou-ce-respect-le-poarta-foto-incredibil-cadoul-de-craciun-primit-de-o-campiona-mondiala-am-avut-un-soc-10409157\(2012\)](http://www.prosport.ro/sport-life/sport-life/au-scris-istorie-pentru-romania-iar-oficialii-statului-au-demonstrat-din-nou-ce-respect-le-poarta-foto-incredibil-cadoul-de-craciun-primit-de-o-campiona-mondiala-am-avut-un-soc-10409157(2012))).

The balanced approach of "dual career" is a model of the competitor who successfully developed this period. Athletes who perform and work, can be considered an example of good

practice for success in life after retirement from sports career. "Paul Ciobănel - former rugby player of the golden generation, diagnosed with bone cancer at the age of 37, has coped with all the challenges of life, and today can be proud of a career in sports and impeccably professional, which continued to be built even after amputation of his left leg. ... After a few months of the war with the disease, returned to its sports activities, since it coincides with the struggle of peer Romanian rugby team (which included) with the major European powers. ".... Today, Paul Ciobănel is 74 years and for more than 35 years wearing a prosthesis, which incidentally or not, earned him the position of director at the factory where these devices are manufactured" <http://www.reinsert.eu/campionii-nu-au-teama-dizabilitatii-exemple-de-buna-practica-din-romania/2013/>.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions analysis literature review that highlight the relevant aspects of the management of dual career in professional sports and high performance:

- one of the most important topics in sports remains the problem of quality education and training for athletes and elite aspect emphasized by the European Union which, through its institutions, supporting and promoting European objectives of sport related functions its social and educational aspects, stressing the importance of developing a "dual career" success (Declarația Consiliului European privind Sportul, 2008);
- the concept of "dual career" appeared out of the need to help athletes in planning time management between sport, education, acquisition finance and social life;
- in Romania, the legal framework, partnerships between educational institutions and sports organizations ensures relatively limited support of athletes on study opportunities and are not adapted to the needs of athletes and sports in the development of academic activity; not mentioned empirical studies to document the actual situation, the real (formal and/or informal) on ways to support the athletes during the "dual career";
- the support services ensured athletes students during educational development and training are developed according to the level of performance, without adapting to competition schedules and can not be considered as reasons to support academic activities and sports;
- withdrawal from the quarry of the performance for elite athletes who achieve top performance means providing a life annuity, while athletes did not support the future (without adequate training);
- the success of athletes concerned with training and personal development together with sports training, confirms the importance of education and training to ensure continuity of life after retirement from sports career;
- the situation of athletes retired from performance activity, has been a topic of news signaling the difficulties faced in the transition from sports career to another occupation. Looking (and) only media presentations that bring into question generally elite athletes rather than athletes, might conclude that drama transition from professional sports to the labor market is a phenomenon that poses problems among athletes in national level (and beyond);
- According to experts (Belous et.al. 2011), discusses the significance that the concept of "dual career" is not familiar or fully understood by athletes students, teachers or coaches, which studies customized advertisement at national level, that leads policies, strategies and awareness of the importance of promoting "dual career" in professional sports and support the development of this complex process, and the existence of an appropriate legislative framework.

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