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**Abstract Submission**

**Title of Abstract** LEADING SPORTS INNOVATION LABORATORY FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS

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**Abstract** It is the fact that sport is known to be a dynamic and fast-growing sector with an underestimated macroeconomic impact. In addition, the fact that the share of gross value added (GVA) related to sport in total GVA in the EU varies from 1.76% to 3% in the broad sports sector, while total employment in the EU generated by sporting activities is 7.3 million and this is equivalent to 3.5% of total employment in the EU. These data confirm that sport is an important economic sector in the EU and plays a significant role in national economies. This analysis and significant data was preceded by the valuable work of experts in sports science and sports innovation across the EU, while in the Western Balkans it was significantly neglected. Hence, any gathering within PSI labs to generate innovation in the subject area, especially because sport can play an important role in a number of major societal challenges, such as physical inactivity, sustainable development and educational gaps. From this reason, the goal of this study was to briefly describe an established methodology and criteria for the "Leading Sports Innovation Laboratory for the Western Balkans". This research has been done in line with the SHIINE COST Action's objectives (CA18236).

**Study Topic** Sport Management and Law

**Type of Presentation**

Poster