

# SLOVENIA

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Gold in Education and Elite Sport

*Univerza v Ljubljani*



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## Few facts about Slovenian sport and education

- regardless of the relatively low share of GDP earmarked for competitive sport
- Slovenia is among the top rated countries in number of Olympic medals per capita
- very effective DC system for high schools – sport gymnasiums, sport classes in regular gymnasiums, national sport schools (e.g. football – boarding school; ski jumping)
- a vast majority of young people (82.3%) start studying at the tertiary level right after finishing high school (Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, 2013)
- it can be assumed that a considerable number of athletes combine sports and educational careers
- non-existing DC system for university students



## Key learning points

- DC issues were put into the center of interest of different institutions – NOC, schools, ministry, university...
- 1st large sample DC study in Slovenia
- WP1 and WP2 – expectations regarding samples were exceeded
- development of instruments that can be used in practical work with athletes



- GEES study encouraged discussions regarding DC practices in Slovenia – first ever symposium on DC on national level – organized by Ministry of Education, Science and Sport & Olympic Committee of Slovenia

- DCSP in Slovenia work in high schools – no DCSP for university students



- GEES serves as a platform to rethink the model



## Double career support providers – coordinators (in SLO)

- non-existing support for DCSP from the ministry
- connecting DCSP – give them to opportunity to discuss their aspects on their work
- to organize non-formal group meeting – share information, discuss challenges, intervision
- provide the tools for DCSP!!



## Conclusions: Synthesis of 20 years of research on career development in Slovenia

- extremely large dropout rate of talented athletes during junior-senior transition – transition to university
- lack of systematic solutions for university student-athletes
- transition from structured environment of high school to the university
- to raise awareness of coaches about the importance of DC for athlete's personal development
- translation of tools for DCSP
- life-long learning & professional development for DCSP



**Thanks for your attention!**

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