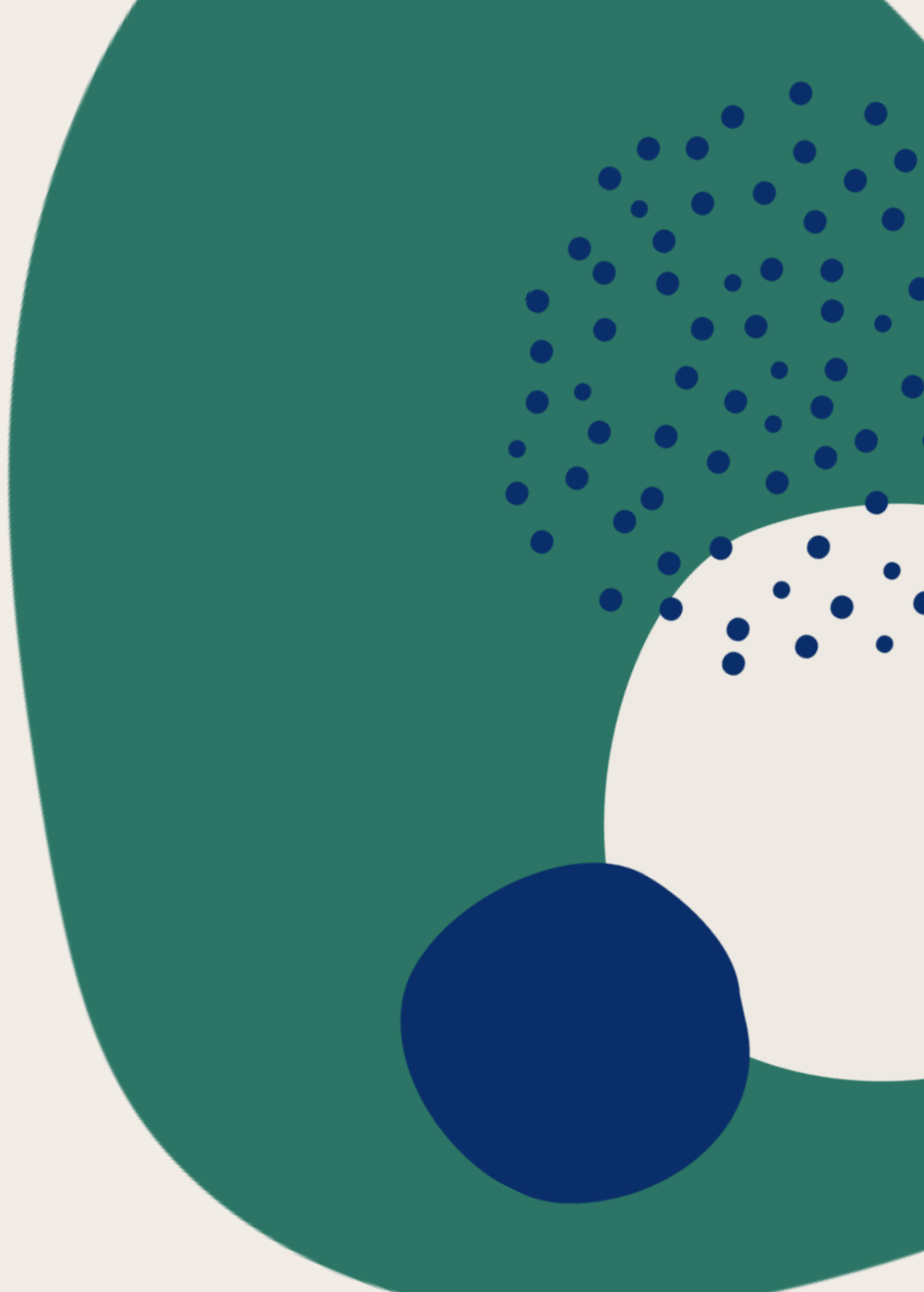


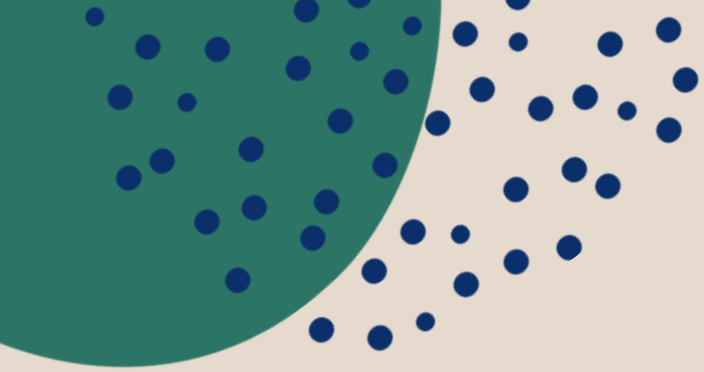
The Belgian Red Courts





Football for prevention of radicalisation





*“We blijven de **kracht van sport** inzetten voor meer **inclusie in de samenleving**: ook in de toekomst laten we mensen **via sport competenties verwerven** die kunnen helpen bij **sociale inclusie, gemeenschapsvorming, empowerment, educatie, tewerkstelling,**”*

(p.180)



What is radicalisation?



- no scientific discipline provides a complete and universally valid explanation for radicalisation (Neumann, 2016)
- Koehler (2016, p.56) argues that “the term radicalisation itself remains a source of great confusion and no widespread consensus exists about what it actually means and which components are necessary to define it”.
- Framed as a phenomenon closely linked to Muslims (Muslim danger, Fadil, 2019)
- Impression that every form of radicalisation necessarily ends or is very likely to end in a violent act
- Climate, Veganism, Euroscepticism
- **It’s a process- with drivers on the micro, meso and macro level**



What is radicalisation?

- structural disadvantage and a feeling of powerlessness
- radicalisation is a process that has drivers on micro (individual), meso (social surround/ group/ community) and macro (societal) level
- Neumann (2016) warns that any attempt to identify people susceptible to radicalisation on the basis of physiological or psychological determinants is doomed to failure and leads to **stigmatisation**
- Especially against young people: Possibly triggers the radicalisation process



How can football solve this?



“

**FOOTBALL IS JOY, IT'S HAPPINESS
AND IT SHOULDN'T BE A PLACE
WHERE YOU FEEL UNSAFE
BECAUSE OF THE OPINION FROM
SOME UNEDUCATED PEOPLE.**

ROMELU LUKAKU

ROMELU LUKAKU ON THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

VIA CNN



How can football solve this?



Bijna 3 op de 4 jonge Belgische sporters ervaren minstens 1 keer een vorm van grensoverschrijdend gedrag

Bijna 3 op de 4 jonge Belgische sporters maken minstens 1 keer een vorm van grensoverschrijdend gedrag mee in de sport voordat ze 18 jaar zijn. Dat blijkt uit nieuw onderzoek van de UAntwerpen dat onderdeel is van een groot Europees onderzoek. Opvallend ook: er zijn meer mannen slachtoffer van grensoverschrijdend gedrag dan vrouwen.

Getuigenissen Racisme

'In de kleinere dorpen kom je het vaker tegen': 20 procent meer meldingen van racisme en discriminatie op voetbalveld



Willy Kabera: 'Als Romelu Lukaku in het nieuws komt na een incident, weet je: hij kan tegen een stootje. Ik intussen ook. Dat is niet hetzelfde voor een kind van zeven jaar.' Beeld Thomas Sweertvaegher

In twee jaar tijd is het aantal meldingen van discriminatie in ons voetbal met ruim 20 procent toegenomen: van 372 in het seizoen 2021-2022 naar 452 vorig seizoen. In 85 procent van de gevallen draait het rond racistische opmerkingen. Afgelopen weekend nog kreeg KRC Genk-spits Tolu Arokodare verwensingen te horen na een gemiste strafschop. Drie slachtoffers getuigen: 'Altijd slikken, slikken, slikken, het was even genoeg geweest.'



Football has the potential to (...) if...

Different 'if's' with regard to:

- Context
- Coaching
- Content



Football has the potential to (...) if...

Different 'if's' with regard to:

- Context
- Coaching
- Content



Football has the potential to (...) if...

We assume that football has the potential to teach young people relevant skills to prevent them from drifting into radical scenes if it's done:

- Target-oriented
- Systematically
- Theory-based

Football has the potential to (...) if...

'sport for fitness'

INPUT

FREQUENTIE	<i>3x/week</i>
INTENSITEIT	<i>70% MHR</i>
TIJD	<i>30'/sessie</i>
TYPE	<i>cardio</i>

EFFECT

'sport for development'

INPUT

FREQUENTIE	?
INTENSITEIT	?
TIJD	?
TYPE	?
ANDERE FACTOREN	?

EFFECT

- What?
- How?
- Why?
- Under which circumstances?

Before start of the programme

First four sessions of the programme

Following eight sessions of the programme

After completion of the programme

Development of a consistent narrative and communication about the programme¹

A heterogeneous, multicultural group of young people registers for participation in the programme. Ideally also mixed gender.

Target group hears about the programme, feels appealed by the programme goals and is attracted by the incentives offered by the RBFA. A low threshold access to the programme is realised through paper free registration and no requirements regarding football level. Coaches with a low social distance to the target group can be identified, attracted and recruited. National players act as role models and support the narrative and communicate it on their platforms.

Mastery-oriented introductory football sessions

- Sense of safety
- Positive social climate
- Mentoring relationships with caring adults
- Trust
- Experience of achievement
- Perceived self-efficacy
- Increased self-esteem

Belgian Red Courts Coaches are respected and valued by the target group and are able to create a safe and secure atmosphere and deliver a mastery-oriented, fun-based football session.

Sport Plus, Experiential learning: Teaching of relevant personal and interpersonal skills through football based sessions which are fully integrated in reinforcing workshops/ activities

- Communication
- Teamworking
- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Empowerment
- Pluralised world views and visions
- Reduced prejudices and stereotypes
- Development of identity and self-concept

Football sessions are designed and delivered in a way to reinforce workshop/ external activities content. Workshops are implemented in sufficient quality by coaches. Participants join and are encouraged to ask questions and reflect about their own personal background during activities.

Award ceremony for all participants of the Belgian Red Courts programme including families and local stakeholders

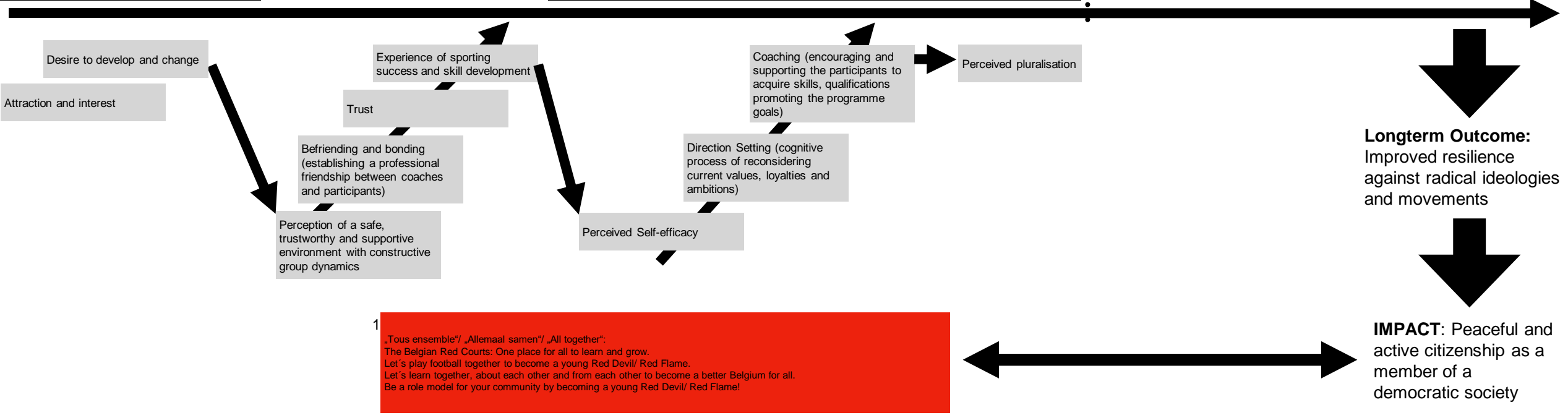
Sense of belonging to the Belgian Red Courts team and thus responsibility to hold high the values of the Belgian Red Courts. Ongoing personal relationship to the Belgian Red Courts Coaches and other participants

Belgian Football association awards participants (incentives and certificate) and an appreciative atmosphere is created during the ceremony. Families and local stakeholders join the ceremony.

Regional tournaments with other Belgian Red Courts teams using football3 rules.

Pluralised world views and visions

Participants of the group are able to deal with diversity in a respectful and appreciative way. They are able to enter into dialogue and to tolerate ambiguity. Peaceful, safe and friendly moments of encounter and exchange are realised.



Belgian Red Courts programme: Based on the theory of re-pluralisation

Other factors to consider

- Networking with local stakeholders
- Low social distance between trainers and target group
- Development of stable relationships with the target group
- Interdisciplinary teams
- High empathy and communication skills of coaches
- Reliability
- Regularity
- Low-threshold access to the programme
- Heterogeneous groups
- Mixed gender
- Sensitivity to diversity
- Safe space
- Opportunities for participation (co-ownership)

Belgian Red Courts programme: In theory practice is easy...

See you on the pitch...





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