Monitoring the Quality of Physical Education: EuPEO, an ongoing Erasmus+ funded project from the European Physical Education Association

Scheuer, C, Holzweg, M., Repond, R.-M., Costa, J., & Onofre, M.

30th FIEP World Congress, 14th FIEP European Congress, 2nd Congrés FIEP Catalunya

The role of schools in health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA)

HIPE for HEPA

Barcelona, June 27th-29th 2019
Overview

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Introduction

About EUPEA

• Founded in 1991 in Brussels
• Declaration of Madrid 1991, amended in Brussels 2011

“No Education without Physical Education”

• The umbrella organization of the national Physical Education Associations in Europe
• Members in more than 30 countries in Europe
• Focus on promotion of and advocacy for Physical Education

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Antecedents of the EuPEO

As Quality Physical Education (QPE) is a widely discussed topic, there are several inspiring sources about indicators for QPE:

- Narrative literature review on categories of QPE indicators
- Statements from significant institutions and organizations
- The deliberations from the EUPEA/UNESCO Seminar on QPE
- Former EUPEA experience in European PE surveys
In general, a lot of factors can have an impact on QPE. The following categories generally structure the different factors (Scheuer & Holzweg, 2014):

- Quality aspects in relation with input or human resources can be summarized under the category **Structure**;
- Quality aspects linked to the context and to the process are overlapping and can be brought together under the category **Process**.
- Quality aspects focused on outcomes or output and on objectives could be outlined as **Product**.

EUPEA/UNESCO Seminar on Quality Physical Education. Report – Paris, April 4\textsuperscript{th} 2014

1. Quality of Physical Education (QPE) must be conceived as a \textit{multi-systemic phenomena} implying the consideration of the following levels: \textit{structure, process and product}

2. At the \textbf{structure level} QPE must be represented by:
   a. The use of \textit{systematic School PE advocacy} for the society in general, policymakers (government, parliament, political parties), head teachers or school principals (each school, principals’ associations), parents (individually, parents’ associations)
   b. The formal clarification of the PE conceptual orientation including together the ideas of the \textit{inclusive learning skills and learning to learn}, within a \textit{positive ambiance}, in order to \textit{promote physical literacy and a healthy lifestyle based on physical activity and sport life-long}
   c. The physical and emotional \textit{secureness of the school and its surroundings}
   d. The existence of \textit{motivated and qualified/competent PE teachers} (attending specific training in a PE teaching master degree),
   e. \textit{PETE that follows clear rules} for ITT qualification (including the practicum and probationary training) and that promote the integration between CPD (Life-long learning programs) and the structured careers development


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3. At the **process level** QPE needs to be characterized by:
   a. The presence of **formal curricula** proposals, offering **content diversity** (including expressive activities), matching the **local cultural interesting**, based on teachers’ collegiality in decision-making
   b. PE lessons oriented to improve: a **positive learning environment**, the **students’ understanding**, the **challenge for all students** and the **learners’ autonomy and responsibility**
   c. The PE delivered school must be **autonomously and regularly evaluated** involving as participants the teachers and the students, focused on the appreciation of the learning outcomes, and the teachers evaluation

4. At the **product level** QPE will be represented by:
   a. The existence of **formal and systematic PE learning assessment**, including **physical fitness** and **values**, mainly developed in a formative way, focused on PE **competencies**, grading the learning gains, assuring its **meaningfulness**
Main Antecedent

What do we know about the European PE reality?

Physical education and school sport in Europe:
From individual reality to collective desirability


Conclusion

- Situation in Europe with regard to QPE on the different levels of structure, process and outcome of PE is very diverse.
- In many European countries a lack of quality of different QPE indicators remains prevalent.
- A European monitoring system to evaluate QPE on a regular basis is strongly needed.
- Contribution from the scientific community that is engaged in the field of PE.

Establishment of a regular observatory for QPE, put in place and run by the different stakeholders: PE researchers and PE practitioners.

EuPEO

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EuPEO – European Physical Education Observatory

Initial general aim of EuPEO
To develop an European monitoring system for PE, SS and PA, and its context of implementation (curricula, teacher training, logistics, learning outcomes, active school, active learning, etc.)

Initial specific aims of EuPEO
At the local, national, regional and European levels:
• to identify the conditions of the implementation and outcomes of Physical Education (PE) and School Sport (SS), and
• to obtain evidence to develop proposals and advocate for the improvement of QPE and QSS
EuPEO – European Physical Education Observatory

For this, we need:

- Indicators for Quality Physical Education (QPE)
- A systematic process of data collection, analysis and feedback recommendations
- The logistics (human resources and facilities) to assure this process

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Indicators for PE and SS quality

- Teachers (qualification, age, other characteristics)
- Facilities (accessibility, quality and maintenance)
- Timetables (total time allocated, weekly distribution of the curricular load, etc.)
- Curricular processes (constraints, problems and difficulties of implementation of the national PE curriculum, etc.)
- Assessment processes (parameters and criteria for students’ grading, evaluation protocols, constraints to the implementation of the reference standards for success, etc.)

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**EuPEO recent history (3)**

**Project coordinator:**
Faculdade de Motricidade Humana/University of Lisbon (Portugal)

**Project partners:**
- European Physical Education Association (Switzerland)
- Sociedade Portuguesa de Educação Física (Portugal)
- Willibald Gebhardt Institute (Germany)
- Deutscher Sportlehrerverband (Germany)
- Federal Institute of sport/Bern University of applied sciences (Switzerland)
- Swiss National Physical Education Association (Switzerland)
- Faculty of Sport/University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- Faculty of Physical Culture/Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci (Czech Republic)
- Hungarian School Sport Federation (Hungary)
- Syndicat National de l’Education Physique (France)
- School of Education/University College Cork (Ireland)

**Associated partners**
- Koninklijke Vereniging voor Lichamelijke Opvoeding (Netherlands)
- Mulier Institute (Netherlands)
- University of Münster (Germany)

**Project period**
1st January 2018 - 31st December 2020

**Project Reference**
590560-EPP-1-2017-1-PT-SPO-SCP

**Co-funding**
383.893 €

www.eupeo.eu
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Operational aims of the EuPEO project

Develop the instruments, by identifying, collecting and integrating valid existing instruments (parameters, criteria, and procedures) to produce

- A **Manual for External Assessment (MEA)** will correspond to the rules for using the final platform at the national level, constituted by two questionnaires (to schools and pupils) and by a PE learning outcomes and Physical Aptitude assessment system.

- A **Toolkit for Internal Monitoring (TIM)** will be composed by a set of instructions concerning the QPE manual indicators to be used within each school as a monitoring procedure and to inform the improvement of those indicators.
Part One of the EuPEO project
Development/collaborating to build the instruments MEA and TIM by:

- European School’s Questionnaire (ESQ) (online, based on revised literature)
- Content analysis of existing National External Learning Assessment Systems (NELAS)
- European Pupil’s Questionnaire (EPQ) (online, based on the ESQ and NELAS analysis)
Part Two of the EuPEO project

Considering the results of part one (European report on ESQ, NELAS, EPQ):

- Collectively the partners will develop the MEA and TIM
- Some countries will test the instruments in pilot studies:
  - Manual of PE Monitoring and Evaluation in a pilot of selected EU-countries of the North, South, West and East on national, regional and local level in each of the selected countries
  - Toolkit for PE teachers in a pilot at different education and school levels in local communities in each of the same selected EU-countries
EuPEO – European Physical Education Observatory

Already delivered EuPEO project outputs:

The Framework for Quality PE, SS and PA based on the UNESCO QPE guidelines

- PE National Strategy
- Community Partnerships (Public and Private)
- Facilities, Equipment and Resources
- Teacher Workforce
- Teacher Education
- Curriculum Flexibility
Already delivered EuPEO project outputs:

Based on the Framework for Quality PE, SS and PA, 4 on-line questionnaires were developed

- **European School’s Questionnaire (ESQ)** (Mainly closed question to be answered by the PE School coordinator)
- **European Country’s Questionnaire (ECQ)** (Mainly closed question to be answered by the representative of the PE national/regional association)
- **National External Learning Assessment (NELAS)** (Open questions to be answered by the representative of the PE national/regional association)
- **European Pupils’ Questionnaire** (Mainly closed question to be answered by the Pupils of the last compulsory school year)

in 7 languages: English, French, German, Hungarian, Czech, Slovenian, Portuguese
Already delivered EuPEO project outputs:

EuPEO Intellectual Output 1:
Intermediate Report. National Preliminary Results

EuPEO Intellectual Output 2:
Intermediate Report. European Preliminary Results
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Upcoming EuPEO outputs

• EuPEO Intellectual Output 3: A Manual for External Assessment (MEA) final platform at the national level: three questionnaires (to schools and pupils) and a PE learning outcomes and Physical Aptitude assessment system, after testing and validation by a pilot.

• EuPEO Intellectual Output 4: Toolkit for Internal Monitoring (TIM) QPE manual indicators to be used within each school as a monitoring procedure, after testing and validation by a pilot.

• EuPEO Intellectual Output 5: Final Report
EuPEO Outlook

Transnational Project Meetings (TPM)

• TPM 2: Paris (France), March 21\textsuperscript{st}-24\textsuperscript{th} 2019, including a presentation of EuPEO at the UNESCO headquarter

• TPM 3: Ljubljana (Slovenia), September 2019

• TPM 4: Münster (Germany), March 2020

• TPM 5: Magglingen (Switzerland), July 2020

• Multiplier Sport Event / Presentation of EuPEO: Lisbon (Portugal), October 2020, connected to the 31\textsuperscript{st} EUPEA Forum (tbc)

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