



Press Release

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Topic: The University of the Peloponnese at the International Conference on “FIT FOR LIFE: Empowering Youth through Physical Education, Sports and Traditional Sports” in Goa, India

The International Conference on “FIT FOR LIFE: Empowering Youth through Physical Education, Sports and Traditional Sports” was held from 18 to 20 February, at Goa University, Taleigao, India. The Conference was organized by the National Sports University (NSU) of India, in collaboration with Goa University and Don Bosco College, Panjim, with the support of ICSSPE – the International Council for Sports Science and Physical Education and with the Chief Guest being the Minister of Art, Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs of India, Shri Govind Gaude.

The University of the Peloponnese was represented at the International Conference by the Vice-Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, International Relations and Outreach, Professor Efthalia Chatzigianni, following a personal invitation from the Vice-Chancellor of the National Sports University, India, Professor Usha S. Nair.

This global event brought together researchers, professionals, policymakers, and World University Games volunteers from at least 20 countries, through interesting discussions, keynote speeches, workshops and sessions. This conference served as a platform for knowledge exchange and the promotion of collaborations.

In this context, Vice-Rector Professor Efthalia Chatzigianni, on the topic: “Governance and Ethics in the Development of Sports: Applying its Principles - Good Governance and the Impact of Stakeholders in Sports”, focused on the process of good governance of sports, as a necessary condition for addressing global challenges, referring mainly to the free movement of citizens and the citizenship of athletes, the legality of the procedures followed and the transparency, the integrity of sports competitions and the necessity for global social dialogue in the field of sports.

Dr. Efthalia Chatzigianni also signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with the National Sports University (NSU). This MoU, initiated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Peloponnese, at a time when Indian Higher Academic Institutions are taking significant steps towards development and outreach, lays the foundation for various educational programs that can be implemented within the framework of a scientific collaboration between the two Institutions.

The Vice-Rector of the University of the Peloponnese and the Vice Chancellor of NSU, referring to the importance of this collaboration, emphasized, among other things, in interviews they gave to local media, that “This memorandum represents an important step

forward for both Academic Institutions. By working together, the two universities can offer our students more opportunities and shared resources that will enrich their learning experience in Programs that promote knowledge and innovation in research and teaching. The agreement is designed to be flexible, to ensure that the collaboration will continue to meet the evolving needs of both Institutions, students and staff, and the local community of the two countries”.

Guests also had the opportunity to enjoy guided tours of the historical landmarks of Goa, and got acquainted with the rich cultural heritage of India.

It must be noted that, the University of the Peloponnese, within the framework of achieving its strategic goal of internationalization, opens new avenues of collaboration with internationally recognized institutions at a global level.

