



DISABLED BY MEDIAS

1. Exchange Partners

	Partner 1	Partner 2
Name and Surname	Ognyan GEORGIEV	Monica GARCIA SANCHIS
Job title	Managing sports editor	Reporter
Organisation / Media	<i>Bulgaria Today</i>	<i>El Levante</i>

2. Summary

They could be media stars but they must live in the shadow of the famous athletes. They are good professionals but they have an additional adjective that have failed to come off- they are blind and despite their efforts to be in the first page of the sport in their countries, Media and economic recognition is practically null for them. This report shows the story of several of these invisible champions in Bulgaria and Spain and the difficulties they have to face to dedicate their lives to sport or just to train once a week . It also illustrates how media could help this group to become more integrated into society, as it does with all minorities, and how this would help them to be more important for the society, the state and some private companies. The case of David Casinos is the perfect example for that. He is the most known Spanish Paralympic since he hired a communications agency and now he has become not only a star, but a prize for any sponsor and a social idol- he receives letters from fans who want to be like him. Private and public aid received by this group and the differences between both countries will be an essential issue too. In Bulgaria, only the state is providing money for blinds to practice sports and in Spain, private funding has become essential. Disabled by Medias is not only the title of the issue, it's exactly what it's happening with blind sportsmen right now. Vesselin, the coach of the National Goal ball team of Bulgaria explains that the first time they were shown on TV it was on the social section and not in sports. This is one of the situations explained above that media should not repeat again.

<http://www.bgdnes.bg/Article.asp?Id=3875603>

<http://www.disabledsportsbg.com/i18.php>

<http://svejo.net/2894066-%D1%81%D0%BF%D0%BE%D1%80%D1%82%D1%8A%D1%82-%D0%BE%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%B0%D1%80%D1%8F-%D0%BE%D1%87%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5-%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D1%81%D0%BB%D0%B5%D0%BF%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5>

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3. *Biographies of the authors*

Ognyan GEORGIEV – *Bulgaria*

Managing sports editor – *Bulgaria Today*

My experience in journalistic is 13 years. I worked in the two most popular daily newspapers in Bulgaria «Telegraph» (2005-2007) and "Bulgaria Today" (2011-Currently). I also worked in the weekly "168 hours" (2007-2011), which main target is to make investigations on social, public and political subjects. I finished French high school and then Bachelor degree of Archaeology at University of Sofia. I may speak English, French, Russian and basic Spanish and Serb-Croatian. In our country the topic about discrimination, racism, peoples with disability is not so popular. The bigger part of the newspapers readers aren't interested to read such articles. That's why there are a lot of very deep and touching personal stories, who never get attention from the government offices. I would like to help those peoples to raise their voice and to compare how in other countries in European Union the problems are solved and how they are treated.

Monica GARCIA SANCHIS - *Spain*

Reporter - *El Levante*

My name is Mónica, I'm 22, I'm Spanish and I'm about to be a Journalist. I've got a lot of passions in my life but with no doubt the most important one is discovering, experiencing and understanding. As I said, I'm almost finishing my degree and now it's time to get more professional background. As a journalist I've collaborated in a radio programme, worked as a responsible of the communication of a summer camp Company and as video editor and interviewer of Sunderland Football Camp and now I'm working for a local newspaper, Levante EMV. I've also been an activist in several NGOs and I've also helped with the communication of some of them. I love travelling and meeting people and cultures is my passion, I've done lots of courses about Human Rights and Cooperation and I speak Catalan, Spanish and English fluently, and also a bit of German and French.