



Activity N°18: Behind the scenes

Key words: *Event / Sport / Encounter*

Production
Role Play
European encounter
Romania

Target groups:

- Journalism students
- Professional journalists
- Other media professionals
- Media literacy trainers

Duration: 3 to 4 hours



Context: Through this activity, the Olympic Games or a national or international championship offer excellent opportunities to raise journalists' awareness about the inclusion of diversity and non-discrimination in their practices. Through the organisation of a workshop, a seminar or a "speed-dating"¹ session, participants are given an opportunity to encounter other professional or cultural practices, promoting discussion of diversity and non-discrimination issues.

Objectives:

- **To raise awareness about the inclusion of diversity in sports journalism practices**
- **To facilitate meetings between journalists**
- **To encourage comparisons between different journalistic cultures and professional practices**

Equipment:

- A sufficient number of tables and chairs
- Projection equipment (video projector, screen, etc)
- Something that makes a noise to indicate when partners are to be changed (a whistle, bell, music, or similar)

Media Resources:

- Examples of good professional practices illustrating the inclusion of diversity and non-discrimination in their journalistic work.
- A list of key questions on the theme of diversity and non-discrimination to facilitate discussions during the speed-dating.

¹ Speed-dating entails a series of timed encounters for discussions. Pairs of participants sit together at tables. After a set number of minutes (e.g. 10 minutes), one of the two moves to the next table. The event depends on rapid changes of partners.

Observations: This activity takes place behind the scenes of a selected sporting event (Olympic Games, a national championship, etc). The logistics need to be organised as if it were a social event: venue, communication, organisation, etc. It is important to choose the time that seems most appropriate for this event, in order to have the maximum number of participants. Provide for some informal time (coffee break, another meeting, etc) to enable the journalists / other media professionals / media literacy trainers to continue their discussions.

Organisation:

Class configuration	Time in minutes	Sequence of activities
GR	15'	Welcome participants and introduce the meeting by explaining how it will be organised and what it will seek to achieve.
GR	15'	Illustrate the themes to be covered by sharing some examples of good practice (give the floor to invited journalists, experts, etc).
GR	10'	Start the "speed-dating" activity by giving details of its organisation and the instructions (spatial arrangement, timing, order of partners, etc). Display suggested key questions to steer the speed-dating.
PRS	1h	In pairs, participants introduce themselves and share their thoughts about their professional situations and practices (related to diversity and non-discrimination issues). They are invited to make use of the key questions. At regular intervals (to be determined, for example every 10 minutes) they change partners.
GR	1h	The whole group gets together, and participants talk about the key aspects of their discussions. They also evaluate the organisation of the meeting. This may also offer an opportunity to discuss possible further developments of this type of meeting.

Variants: The "speed-dating" format could easily be replaced by other patterns of discussion or by meetings such as thematic working groups or "show and tell" sessions (presentations of their work in small groups or on stands).

Suggested follow-up activities:

This is the final activity in the **Journalism's our job** Unit and the **Sport** Unit.

