SheCOACH
Gender Equality in Coaching
7th Newsletter

October 2026

Sharing Results, Connecting People, Supporting Change

SheCOACH has reached another important milestone by completing its **second round of national Info Days** in **Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Spain**.

Held between **September and October 2026**, the four events brought together **173 participants** to explore the project's results and discuss practical ways to promote gender equality in coaching and coaching education.

Building on the research, training and pilot activities, partners shared the SheCOACH **e-learning platform,** the Framework for Gender Mainstreaming and the project's Policy Recommendations.

This edition highlights the **national info - events**, our **European online workshops** and the latest **interviews** available on the website.

We also look ahead to **national policy workshops, awareness-raising activities** and the **international closing conference** in **Milan** in December 2026.

CONNECT WITH US



MEET the team

Cyprus

Greece

Greece

Italy

Spain

Spain

Malta

Austria

Romania

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- Four countries, different professional perspectives and a shared commitment to more inclusive coaching.
- The second round of SheCOACH Info Days connected coaches, sport educators, federations and sport club representatives, researchers and students.
- Through presentations, practical examples and open discussions, participants explored how to use the project's resources in their own professional settings.

Info Days Successfully Completed!

4 countries – Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Spain

4 national events sharing the results of SheCOACH

173 participants across the four events

97.2% would recommend SheCOACH to friends and colleagues

From resources to practice
Exploring tools, sharing experiences and promoting gender equality in sport.

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INFO DAYS ACROSS EUROPE

CYPRUS

The Cyprus Basketball Federation welcomed **57 participants** to the Info Day in Larnaca on 26 September 2026.

Held after a training seminar for referees and table officials, the event connected SheCOACH with professionals already active in basketball. Participants discovered the project's online training resources and explored the Framework for Gender Mainstreaming.

The discussions offered an opportunity to exchange ideas and consider how gender equality can be supported across different roles within sports organisations.

GREECE

On 21 September 2026, Symplexis and the Greek Basketball Coaches Association brought together **45 participants** for an online Info Day.

Alongside the presentation of SheCOACH results, guest speaker Endurance Mindset Expert, **Alex Panayotou** shared personal experiences and reflections on resilience, attitude and professional development.



Participants particularly appreciated the practical examples, engaging contributions, and opportunities for discussion, which connected the project's resources to the challenges and experiences of professionals working in sport.

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INFO DAYS ACROSS EUROPE

ITALY



L'ORMA organised the Italian Info Day on 12 September 2026 at Football City in Milan, with **26 registered participants from sport and education**.

Personal experiences of the gender gap and contributions from the Italian pilot activities encouraged an open exchange of perspectives. Participants explored the e-learning platform and discussed how the project's tools could support their organisations.

The event also created space for informal networking, helping participants build connections across different sports and professional backgrounds.

SPAIN

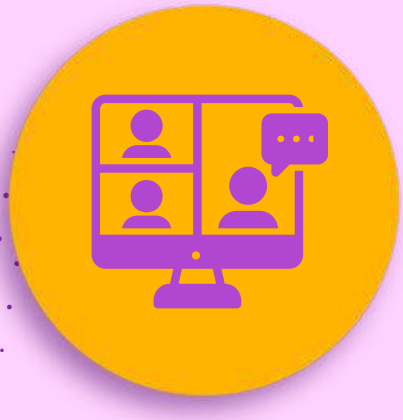
The University of Murcia and the Basketball Federation of Castilla-La Mancha organised an online Info Day on 1 October 2026, reaching **45 participants**.

Physical education teachers represented 60% of the audience, extending SheCOACH's reach into schools. Guest speaker Isabel Parrilla shared her experience as a woman coaching men's basketball teams, offering a practical perspective on challenging gender stereotypes.

Participants gave the event an average satisfaction score of 4.84 out of 5, reflecting strong appreciation of its content and organisation.

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ON GENDER EQUALITY IN COACHING



SheCOACH Online EU-Level Workshops by ICCE - SCE & ENSE (October 2026)

More than **50 participants** joined the two SheCOACH European online workshops, organised by the **European Network of Sport Education (ENSE)** and **Sport Coaching Europe,** the continental body for Europe of the **International Council for Coaching Excellence (SCE - ICCE).**

Building on the SheCOACH results, the workshops brought the project's work to a wider European audience and provided a European space to discuss gender equality in coaching education and sport.

The project's e-learning platform, Framework for Gender Mainstreaming and Policy Recommendations offer complementary ways to support this work: developing knowledge, reviewing organisational practices and informing future decisions.

Connecting these resources with a European audience is an important step towards encouraging their wider use. It also supports SheCOACH's ambition to keep gender equality on the agenda beyond the project's implementation period.

As the project enters its final phase, European exchange and national follow-up activities will help bring its results closer to the people and organisations that can put them into practice.

Discover the SheCOACH resources at www.shecoach.eu.

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SheCOACH at the ENSE Forum 2026

At the **ENSE Forum 2026**, held on **24 September** at **FH Kufstein in Austria**, the panel **"Coming off the Sidelines: Advancing Women in Sport Professions"** explored the barriers women face in building and advancing their careers in sport.

The discussion featured Magda Georgiou, board member of the Greek Basketball Coaches Association (GBCA/SEPK) and project manager for the GBCA SheCOACH project., alongside **Lisa Steffny** of ESV Olympia Köln and Equaletics e.V. The panel was moderated by **Lisa Kalina** of the **European Network of Sport Education** (ENSE), who is also a SheCOACH project manager.

Two **key barriers to women's progression in coaching** were highlighted: caregiving responsibilities, which often coincide with mid-career, and informal, male-dominated recruitment networks that limit access to elite-level positions.



Magda Georgiou emphasised the importance of mentoring, visible role models and professional networks, citing FIBA Europe's Mentoring Program for Female Coaches, which has supported 26 coaches from 16 countries since 2021.

She also called on clubs to offer young girls the same opportunities as boys to gain early coaching experience. Her message was clear: **"If we really want women to come off the sidelines, we need to stop asking them to prove they belong, and start giving them what we've always given men without a second thought: real opportunities, real trust, and room to grow."**

SheCOACH supports this effort by bringing together sports federations, coach educators, clubs, and coaches' associations to address gender inequality in basketball coaching.

Read the full press release on our website!

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NEW INTERVIEWS

Now Available Online

Our **"Perspectives & Voices"** section continues to expand, highlighting experiences that advance the conversation on gender equality in coaching.

Discover the latest interviews with:

Aleksandrina Vacheva

Katerina Hatzidaki

Anna Roulia

Lisa Thomaidis

Sofia Kampitsi

Ioanna Giannakakou

Priftis Dimitris

Athina Papayianni

Mavrotas George

Anthia Papadouri

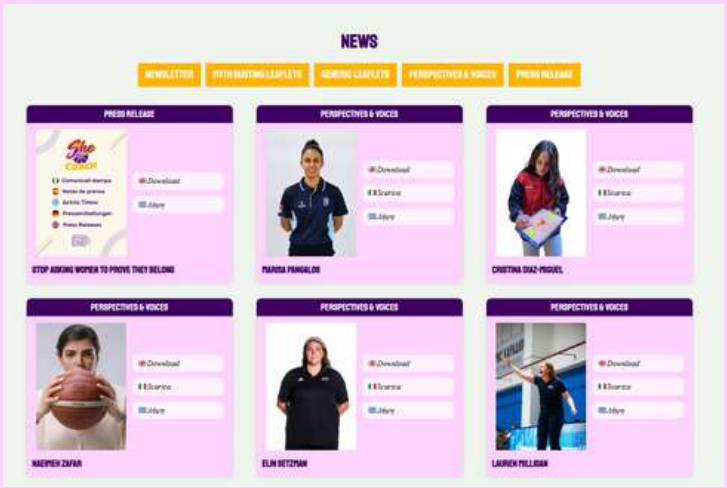
Lauren Milligan

Elin Setzman

Naeimeh Zafar

Cristina Diaz-Miguel

Marisa Pangalos





You can explore all the interviews in the "Perspectives and Voices" news section on the SheCOACH website.

WWW.SHECOACH.EU

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NEXT STEPS
FOR SHECOACH

NATIONAL POLICY WORKSHOPS

Online policy workshops in Cyprus, Greece, Italy, and Spain will bring together relevant stakeholders to discuss the SheCOACH recommendations and explore how to integrate gender equality into coaching education policies and organisational practices.

These exchanges will support dialogue with decision-makers and encourage the continued use of the project's results.

AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES

Upcoming activities for sports clubs, academies and schools will introduce SheCOACH resources to local sporting and educational communities. The focus will be on raising awareness of gender stereotypes, promoting equal opportunities and encouraging more inclusive coaching environments.

POLICY WORK SHOPS

CLOSING CONFERENCE

2–4 DECEMBER 2026 | MILAN, ITALY

The Final Transnational Project Meeting and **International Closing Conference in Milan** will mark the closing stage of SheCOACH.

Partners and stakeholders will come together to share the project's results, reflect on lessons learned and discuss opportunities to continue supporting gender equality in coaching.

Interested in taking part? Follow SheCOACH online or contact your national partner for further information!