

# ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL BASIS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN FOOTBALL IN TERMS OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

*Preliminary communication*

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## **Abstract**

*At the end of XX and beginning of XXI century the public life in the country follows the tumultuous changes that are result of the transition from one to another socioeconomic system. As an integral part of the society also the education is going through some changes. In the year of 2000 were adopted and approved a number of changes to the Law on the Public Education that led to radical changes in the educational system. Since in the autumn of 2015 in Republic of Bulgaria there is a new law that regulates the functioning of the education system - Law on preschool and school education. The law place on a new footing the overall education in the country. In this study will track these changes and try to present the possibilities for realization of training in football within the school subject of Physical Education and Sport. The legal provision in the school education is made of documents structured in two levels through which the education of the school subject Physical Education and Sport, particularly football, can be regulated. Football study as a school content, which is included in the school programs for the Bulgarian school, exists in one or another way since 1951.*

**Keywords:** *educational system reforms, public education law, physical education and sport*

## **INTRODUCTION**

The education system of every society is the main factor for its development. The function of a certain education system depends on the requirements of the society. The socioeconomic changes through the stages of social developments lead to reforms in the education system. Those reforms can be examined in two levels – structural and functional.

The structural reforms are mainly related to the quantity of the education levels and degrees. According to the functional reforms there can be seen changes in the legal base, which regulate on one side the function of the system and on the other side the actual training which is the base of every education system.

Today, in the socio-historical development of our society there can be seen many reforms and changes in the education system. According to the physical training in our society the questions are connected to the study content, the number and place of the different forms of organization of the week's schedule, assessment and etc.

## **METHODS**

Therefore, as a result of the mentioned changes in the education system, our aim is to understand the significance of football as being a part of the physical education related to the education system in Republic of Bulgaria.

In order to achieve our aim, the following problems are set:

1. To classify the main legal documents, which regulates the Physical Education as a part of the education system in Republic of Bulgaria.
2. To specify the place of the Physical Education in the present country's education system.

3. To study the importance of football as a school subject "Physical Education and Sport" through the years.

*Object* of research are the legal documents, which regulates the study of physical training and sport.

*Subject* of research is the football content in the school subject "Physical Education and Sport".

Main methods of research are analyses and general conclusions of the literature and sources of research.

## **RESULTS**

The training of students, who are part of the education system, is regulated by series of legal documents. The legal act, also called the document that contains general rules of behavior, which are mainly focused on unidentified group of people, has more than one operations and is issued and passed by a competent government body (Official Gazette (Държавен вестник), 2007). Those documents can be put into two levels, shown in Table 1

On first place are the documents made by our National Assembly and published by the Official Gazette, and then there are the documents which are approved by order of the Minister of Education.

Today, the study of Physical Education in the country is part of the compulsory education of students of all levels and degrees, as being a part of the study subject Physical Education and Sport. More information about the number of classes, according to Ordinance № 4 of the study plan (Official Gazette (Държавен вестник), 2015), which is shown in Table 2. Considering the study hours, the third hour of Physical Education has to be included, which is compulsory for all classes, however, cannot be found in the week's study schedule.

Table 1. Classification of the legal documents, regulating the study of Physical Education and Sport in the school in Republic of Bulgaria.

Legal documents approved by the National Assembly	Law on Public Education Law on preschool and school education Law Degree of Education, General Education Minimum and Curriculum Law on Vocational Education and Teaching
Legal documents approved by the Minister of Education	Ordinance № 2 of the educational content Ordinance №5 for basic educational preparation Ordinance №6 distribution of teaching time to reach the minimum general education classes, stages and levels of education Ordinance № 4 on the school plan Physical Education and Sport National Curriculum Advice on physical education (sports) Advice and working documentation for an extra hour Physical Education and Sport

In order to achieve the aim of our research, we will investigate the change in the study programs of Physical Education and Sport in the country. The study program is a legal document, which introduces the study content of each particular subject. According to Borisov (Борисов), (2014) the main characteristic of the study schedules from the 2000 is the “standardization”, which is the tendency that is followed by the study schedules approved in the country in 2015 with the pass of the preschool and school education Act. In order to achieve the aim of the research, the literature was researched to identify the documents that regulate the Bulgarian education system from 1886 to the present days.

Table 2. Allocation of study hours for Physical Education and Sport according to classes

Grade	Number of teaching weeks per year	Number of teaching hours per week	Total number of classes for the school year
I			
II	32	2	64
III	32		80
IV		2,5	
V	34		85
VI			
VII			
VIII			
IX	36	2	72
X			
XI			
XII	31		62

It is not well known the fact that “the appearance and development of the football game in Bulgaria is related to the school Physical Education” (Abusetta (Абусетта), 1989). The role in popularization and development of the game in the country is due to Jorge de Rejibus, who is one of the Swiss teachers, who came in Bulgaria in 1893 to establish the basis for physical education. Before that, the football was known as “kick a ball”. The native place of the country’s football can be said to be the schoolyard of the male secondary school in Varna called “Ferdinand I”, where Jorge de Rejibus was teaching for two years (Abusetta (Абусетта), 1989).

Before the Swiss teachers to come in 1879 in Eastern Rumelia, and from 1880 in Principality Bulgaria “the physical training has been introduced in the schools as a regular school subject” (Geshev, Georgiev, & Petrova (Гешев, Георгиев & Петрова), 1965). At the beginning, in the “Timing rules”, which is the first version of the contemporary school programs, in Eastern Rumelia were provided a 5 hours per week for gymnastics.

The first program for Physical Education was developed by the Swiss teachers in years 1886-1887 (Nikolova (Николова), 2012). According to the study of Petrova (Петрова), 1983) the football was then offered for the very first time as a “school game”, where in part 3 in journal called “School review”, the Swiss teachers Alioz Bilter and Jack Fardel have published the rules for organizing and development of the football in schools.

In 1900, due to the work of organization figures from “Younak” and the warrant of the Minister of Public Education Nikola Mushanov, there have been developed new school programs (Geshev, et al., 1965).

The analyses of school programs focused on Physical Education by (Nikolova (Николова), 2012), provide the opportunity for the first time to officially place the football as school content in the school programs in the national secondary schools from 1914. Since 1929, the Physical Education passed through fundamental changes with the introduction of project programs during the same year, which is based on the “natural methods” (Petrova (Петрова), 1983). The study material is divided into 12 groups, where Football is treated as school content. It takes place in group X, where can be found also the basketball, cricket, tennis, baseball and etc.

Reviewing the available literature and school programs, it can be assumed that football training is more stressed in the school programs from 1951 till 2002 in one or another way as a form of education than the other trainings. It is interesting that football is included in almost all reviewed school programs. Moreover, it is interesting to find that there is a tendency of football training, especially in the middle and older school age.

We suppose that this can be as a result of the prior century understanding of the game difficulties. Maybe, considering the above mentioned understandings and analyses, the authors of all reviewed documents, except those from 2002, explicitly point that school football content is provided to be assimilated only by the boys. On Figure 1. are shown the results and they are systematically introduced on the basis of reviewing and analyzing the existing school programs.

According to the teaching of football in the present education system there are opportunities for additional education despite the compulsory two classes a week, in accordance with the rest of school schedule give an opportunity for no more than 20-25 classes per year. There are opportunities for teaching in the third (additional) class of physical education, which is called “module training”. Here, it is possible to organize one class per week. If the teacher uses the so called “sectional activities”, it will give the opportunity for one more activities.

Those classes lessen the students who are interested in football game to improve the already studied the lessons items and then to exercise them in different matches.

## CONCLUSIONS

Analyzing the literature sources and documents, gave us the opportunity to study the changes and the basis of the football game as a school content and the ability to stress the main legal documents that regulate the education of Physical Education and Sport in the education system.

The analyses of the legal documents, which regulate the education of Physical Education and Sport in the Bulgarian school, give us the opportunity to make the following conclusions:

- The school subject Physical Education and Sport is compulsory for all students in Republic of Bulgaria.
- The legal provision in the school education is made of documents structured in two levels through which the education of the school subject Physical Education and Sport, particularly the football, can be regulated.
- Football study as a school content which is included in the school programs for the Bulgarian school exists in one or another way since 1951. In the present study programs football education as a part of the main core of "Sport games" starts from the third grade.

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