



## #11 #FootballPeople Weeks

**Leading organisation:** Fare (Football Against Racism in Europe) Network

**Country:** Austria

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### **Type of discrimination**

The organization primarily tackles racism and ethnic discrimination, but also features programs about women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and advocating for the disabled.

### **Target group**

The target group for the NGO is football players, coaches, supporters, parents, schools, activist groups, or anyone else dedicated to eliminating racism in football.

### **Problem/Solution**

The problem #FootballPeople addresses is the racial, gender, and LGBTQ+ discrimination in football, primarily in Europe. #FootballPeople is effective in addressing these forms of discrimination because it focuses on openly discussing these issues and finding ways to eliminate them by conducting conversations with players who have lived these experiences themselves. Because the program is open to all people, it brings people together instead of further dividing them, and makes everyone feel involved and heard.

### **Objective**

The objective of this program is to bring awareness to discrimination in (European) football, and allow players to voice their thoughts and opinions on the subject. The end goal is to encourage everyone to call out discrimination when it's seen so that it slowly is eliminated and creates a more fair and just game for everyone playing.

### **Activities**

In several countries worldwide, but the majority in Europe, events are hosted with the goal of promoting inclusivity through football. For example, events welcoming migrants and refugees are hosted, events that teach about women's rights and discrimination in sports, events celebrating the LGBTQ+ community, and events, panels, and more that feature football players of minority backgrounds discussing their experiences with racism, and how we can all come together in order to combat the discrimination within the game.

### **Results**

Creating an environment that teaches the uncomfortable truths about racism and other forms of discrimination within the game of football, while also celebrating the diversity within the sport.

### **Top tips**

To participate in these activities or create variations of your own, one can reach out to local schools, sports clubs, or if possible, famous football players in the region/country to participate in panels that discuss the importance of diversity and respect for all types of people to foster fun and equality in football. The experience can be a mix of fun (games, etc) and serious discussions (panels) to get the message across but still make the experience enjoyable.

### **More**

Website: <https://www.farenet.org>

