

Keynote Speakers' Bio

Mark Doidge
University of Brighton

Dr Mark Doidge is currently a Principal Research Fellow and a trustee for the British Sociological Association (BSA), where is also convenor of the Sport Studies Group. He is also Director of the Anti-Discrimination Division of Football Supporters Europe (FSE).

He is an expert in the sociology of European football fan cultures and the author of *Collective Action and Football Fandom* (2018, PalgraveMacmillan, with Cleland, Millward and Widdop). Dr Doidge is also co-author of *The Short Guide to Sociology* (2020, Policy Press, with Saini), and co-editor of *Sociologists' Tales* (2015, Policy Press, with Twamley and Scott) and *Transforming Sport* (2018, Routledge, with Carter and Burdsey).

His research predominantly focuses on the political and social role of football fans. This includes the positive affect fans can have in challenging discrimination in football and helping local communities and refugees.



Kari Fasting
Norwegian School of Sport Sciences

Kari Fasting is a Professor Emerita at the Department of Social and Cultural Studies at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences in Oslo, Norway. She was the first female professor in sport science in the Nordic Countries (1987) and the first elected chair (rector) at the Norwegian school of sports sciences.

She is past president and honorary member of the International Sociology of Sport Association, and one of the founding members of Women Sport International (WSI), and recently of Safe Sport International (SSI). Her research has been concerned with various aspects related to “equality and diversity” in sport, with a focus on sport and exercise in the lives of girls and women.

For the past 30 years, her research has been centred on sexual harassment and abuse in sport. She has also worked as an expert consultant for major organisations in this area, including the International Olympic Committee, the Norwegian Olympic, Paralympic and Confederation of Sports (NIF), the Czech Olympic Committee, UNICEF, the European Union, and the Council of Europe. For the time being she is involved in the “All IN: Towards gender balance in sport” project and the I-Protect project (The development of a European online Platform for the Protection of Children in Sport).

Raúl Sánchez-García
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

He is a lecturer in the Department of Social Sciences of Physical Activity, Sport and Leisure at the Faculty CAFYDE (INEF) of the Polytechnic University of Madrid. He has been President of the Sociology of Sport Research Committee of the Spanish Federation of Sociology (FES) between 2015 and 2019.

His main areas of research are related to socio-historical analysis and ethnographic studies of sport and leisure phenomena, with special interest in martial arts/combat sports, sport subcultures and informal sport practices in urban space.

In 2020 he was awarded the Norbert Elias Prize by the Board of Trustees of the Norbert Elias Foundation for his work *The Historical Sociology of Japanese Martial Arts* (Routledge, 2019).



Ramón Spaaij
University of Amsterdam

Ramón's research focuses on questions of social cohesion, conflict, and social change. He has two established fields of research that address these questions: the sociology of sport and the sociology of terrorism. His work has contributed to contemporary academic and public debates on diversity, social inclusion, community development and violence by bringing sport into view as an analytical lens through which to study and better understand these complex social issues. Additionally, Ramón conducts internationally recognised research on violent extremism and lone wolf terrorism.

Ramón is a regular media contributor. He has contributed to a wide range of media including The New York Times, The Huffington Post, Financial Times, The Guardian, The Boston Globe, The Irish Times, The Globe and Mail, El País, The Australian, BBC, ABC, SBS, and many others. He has acted as an advisor to documentaries on fan culture and football hooliganism.

Belinda Weaton
University of Waikato

She is a cultural sociologist teaching on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Te Huataki Waiora School of Health, focused on sport and social justice, sport, leisure and wellbeing, sport and the media, and qualitative research methodologies. She joined the University of Waikato in February 2015 bringing almost 20 years' experience teaching in Universities in England (London and Brighton) across sport and leisure studies, sports journalism, cultural studies, and sociology.

Her research includes a range of qualitative methods (ethnography, media analysis and consumption, interviews), and spans inter-disciplinary areas including sociology of sport and leisure, policy, youth studies, cultural and media studies, gender studies. Feminist sensibilities and issues of power and inequity underpin your research and teaching.

