



## Save the Dream promotes sport values at 14th ISSP World Congress for Sport Psychology

*'Sport Psychology a vital tool to engage hearts and minds of young people' say athletes at Save the Dream Symposium*



**14 July 2017; Doha, Qatar:** Save the Dream – the global non-profit movement established by the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS) and the Qatar Olympic Committee – hosted a special symposium today at the 14th ISSP World Congress for Sport Psychology to bring together academics, leading international athletes and practitioners to highlight the positive role that sports psychology can play in promoting sport values to young people around the world.

As part of Save the Dream's overall mission promoting and protecting the values of sport in young people, the symposium aimed to raise awareness about using sport psychology to engage and inspire young people around the world through sport and featured inspirational stories from leading athletes and ambassadors.

Featuring **Josefa IDEM** (Olympic Gold Medallist in kayak, participated in a record 8 Olympic Games between 1984 to 2012), **Honey Thaljieh** (first-ever Palestinian female football captain), **Alhambra Nieves** (the first woman to be chosen as the best Rugby referee in the world in 2016) and **Arturo Casado**, Spanish middle-distance runner and former European 1500m champion, the high level athlete panel identified several examples of ongoing sport-related programmes that successfully utilize psychological tools to help positively shape and enhance communities and society.



One programme identified by the panel included the PsyTool project, which is currently being run by the European Union in collaboration with Save the Dream and other key stakeholders.

Speaking on the panel, **Save the Dream Ambassador, Honey Thaljeh**, said:

“Sport has a unique ability to shape and transform the lives of young people around the world and, by collaborating with the sports psychology community, sports and CSR programmes around the world can engage more young people and inspire lasting change in society through sport.

“Through innovative social projects like PsyTools and by carrying out projects in the field, organisations like the European Union, FIFA and Save the Dream are making a real difference and proactively shaping the hearts and minds of many young people around the world through the power of sport values.”

Speaking about today’s Save the Dream symposium at the 14th ISSP World Congress for Sport Psychology, **Massimiliano Montanari, Save the Dream Executive Director**, added:

“As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting and protecting the values of sport to young people around the world, Save the Dream and our growing movement of athletes, ambassadors, global partners and chapters are committed to actively identifying innovative ways to deliver our projects and initiatives.

“Today’s symposium provided an important opportunity for athletes to highlight with academics and practitioners how sport psychology can instill ethics in young athletes and we are delighted that Save the Dream has been acknowledged for the proactive work it is doing in the field.

“By utilizing sport psychology, Save the Dream projects – like the PsyTools initiative, which is being delivered with the support of the European Union – is actively working to reach out and engage the hearts and minds of young people around the world through sport values. At Save the Dream, we look forward to continuing our work and identifying new ways to inspire a new generation of young people through sport.”

Further information about Save the Dream and you can support, please visit <http://www.savethedream.org/>

**ENDS**

**NOTE TO EDITORS**

**Photos?**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

*About Save the Dream*

Save the Dream is a global nonprofit movement of organisations, people and athletes who believe in the power of sport to build more fair and inclusive societies and are therefore committed to promote and protect its core values for the good of youth and future generations.



Established in 2012 as a programme by the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), in partnership with the Qatar Olympic Committee and Ooredoo, technology partner, Save the Dream implements and promotes activities to empower youth through safe access to sport and to its educational and social values.

Save the Dream actively engages with young people through a range of digital and social media platforms. For more information and to contact Save the Dream, like, follow or tweet:

**Twitter:** @savethedream

**Instagram:** save\_the\_dream

**Facebook:** savethedream4sport

**Website:** <http://www.savethedream.org/>

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