

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

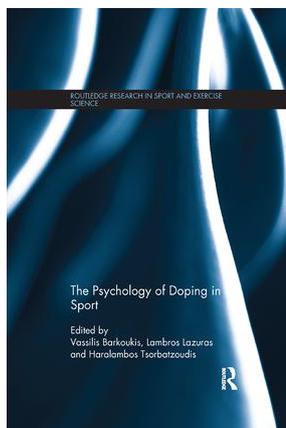
Book reviews

The psychology of doping in sport

(Psihologia doppingului în sport)

*Editors: Vassilis Barkoukis, Lambros Lazuras,
Haralambos Tsorbatzoudis*

Publishing House: Routledge, 2016
280 pages; Price: £29.99



Under the coordination of three editors, 28 authors from 15 universities situated on three continents – Europe, Australia and North America – joined their efforts and competences to provide us with a special book. A necessary and welcomed book if we think that the explosion of doping use in the past decades poses a threat to athletes' health and hurts the image of sport.

Fighting against doping has proved to be a more difficult mission than it was estimated in 1999, when the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) was founded, so

that in the last 10 years the Agency has initiated a shift in the prevention paradigm, by encouraging efforts made to understand the psychological mechanisms of doping. The new orientation is expected to allow us to better understand and counteract the reasons why athletes decide to engage in prohibited performance enhancing methods and substances.

Taking into consideration the increasing interest in the psychological study of doping use and the fact that no book has addressed this topic so far, it is obvious that the work we are speaking about arrives in an empty territory and fills an important gap in understanding a painful but hot issue of contemporary sport. The book contains both a review of existing research and theoretical guidance and new directions for future research in the psychology of doping use, so that according to the editors' promise in the preface, the readers of the 16 chapters (be they researchers, sport managers, coaches, psychologists, physicians, students, etc.) will get full insight into a wide range of topics, including: decision making and action initiation, ethical and moral aspects, the role of nutritional supplements, theoretical foundation for preventive interventions against doping use, etc.

In the end, just a remark and a question. *The remark:* the team of authors is an international and transcontinental one, but the most important of them – the editors, are Greek, two of them working at the University of Thessaloniki. *The question:* how long do we still have to wait before we can read a sports science book written and/or coordinated by Romanians and launched by an important international publisher? Can anyone answer this?

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