



Press release

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## Team from Poland wins Fair Play Trophy at European Street Football Festival Belgrade 2011

**16 May 2011** – After two exciting football-packed days the 2011 European Street Football Festival has come to an end. The Polish delegation is heading home with the biggest honour: the four boys and four girls from the Masurian Association of Sports Initiatives (MSIS), an organisation in Mragowo that uses football to foster dialogue and tolerance, were voted the fairest team of the festival by their peers. They collected the Fair Play Trophy to the jubilant cheers of over 200 participants.

“This is our first time taking part in the European Street Football Festival and we’re absolutely thrilled to have won the Fair Play Award,” said Arek Mierkowski, MSIS delegation leader. “We hope that our commitment to fair play will inspire and give hope to others well beyond the tournament itself.”

The Festival Cup and the Belgrade Cup, awarded to the winners of the two final games, were both raised aloft by teams from Bosnia and Herzegovina at the end of the day, with Football Friends Goražde from Bosnia and Herzegovina winning the Festival Cup.

“We’re really happy to be able to bring the Festival Cup to Goražde,” said Amina, one of the four girls on the team. “It’s been an amazing time. We’ve met people from all over Europe and made lots of new friends.”

Football Friends Banja Luka emerged victorious from the second group to win the Belgrade Cup.

“This is my first time ever winning a trophy in a football tournament, and it’s a great feeling!” said 16-year-old David Segić.

The European Street Football Festival was organised by streetfootballworld and Football Friends (Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro), with support from the European Commission Directorate General for Enlargement and UEFA.

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**Provided by**

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**streetfootballworld: it takes a team to win a game**

Through the love of football, streetfootballworld brings individuals and organisations together behind a common goal: empowering young people to rise above their circumstances. The streetfootballworld network unites over 80 organisations that use football to tackle social challenges like HIV/AIDS, crime and homelessness. streetfootballworld drives an international coalition of private and public sector bodies to strengthen network members through capacity development programmes, opportunities to share expertise, partnerships, and advocacy work—because stronger network members mean better opportunities for the young people who need them most. streetfootballworld, its partners and the streetfootballworld network aim to reach out to 2,000,000 young people worldwide every year by 2015.

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