

## WELCOME TO HALT4KIDS

HALT4Kids is a EU funded project (2023-25), focused on developing awareness about harassment and abuse in sports among child athletes (specifically of ages 5-12 years). The project also aims to educate the coaches, athletes/former athletes, physical education students, physical education teachers and other stakeholders of sports who work with young athletes and to support them to recognize and avoid harassment and abuse among child athletes.

In this edition of the Newsletter (June 2025), you can learn about the various events and developments from the partner organizations and around the world in the field of promotion of safe sports, especially for children and young adults.

Particularly you can find more information about the launch of the Digital Story Board and Online Game exclusively designed, developed and launched by the Halt4Kids project consortium.

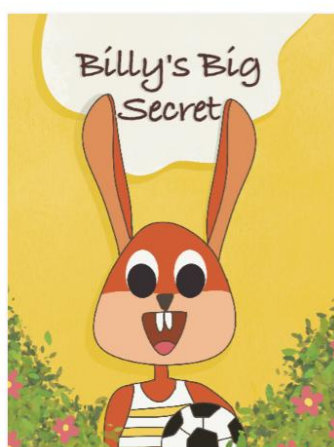
### KEY PROJECT UPDATES

#### Digital Story Board (Billy's Big Secret) & Mobile/Online Game (Peaceful Pines)

We are excited to announce the launch of Peaceful Pines, an interactive serious game developed under the H4K Project. This innovative tool is designed to educate and empower child athletes aged 9-12, promoting safer sports environments through awareness and informed decision-making.

##### About Digital Story Board - Billy's Big Secret

The digital story board focuses on increasing the knowledge of child athletes for harassment and abuse in sport, by creating scenarios for child athletes aged 5 to 8, along with short readable and audible text.



In his office, the coach makes a strange request. He asks Billy to take off his shirt. To see how strong, he has become after so much practice and hard work. But Billy feels very strange about such a request.

[Read Text](#)

Screams NOOOOOOOO..... and runs fast outside feeling confused and upset.

[Read Text](#)

The characters in the digital story are presented as animals and the title is “Billy's Big Secret”. It presents cases of harassment and abuse in sports in child athletes to promote awareness in athletes and also mobilize and sensitize the public about this, as well as to support the whistleblowing of harassment and abuse in sports in these ages.

You can access the digital story book on the Halt4Kids website here: <https://halt4kids.phed.auth.gr/digital-story/> or by scanning the QR code below:



#### About Mobile/Online Game (Peaceful Pines)

The game aligns with the H4K Project’s mission to enable knowledge sharing and develop best practices in child athlete safeguarding. By fostering awareness and practical skills, the game, titled as ‘Peaceful Pines’, equips young athletes (of ages 9-12) to build confidence and resilience while encouraging sports stakeholders to create safe, inclusive spaces.



The game takes young players on a journey where they learn to:

- Identify Trusted Adults: Recognize who they can turn to for support.
- Recognize Safe and Unsafe Situations: Understand how to assess their surroundings.
- Learn Boundaries and Consent: Build confidence in setting personal limits.
- Report Inappropriate Behavior: Take actionable steps when encountering unsafe situations.

Through these missions, players navigate real-life scenarios, making decisions that help them understand harassment, abuse, and how to protect themselves in a supportive and engaging way.

You can start exploring the game **Peaceful Pines** now and join us in making sports safer for everyone. Together, we can empower the next generation of athletes with the tools they need to thrive.

You can access the online game from our website: [https://halt4kids.phed.auth.gr/peaceful\\_pines/](https://halt4kids.phed.auth.gr/peaceful_pines/), or download the app on [Android here](#), [iOS here](#) or by scanning the QR codes below:



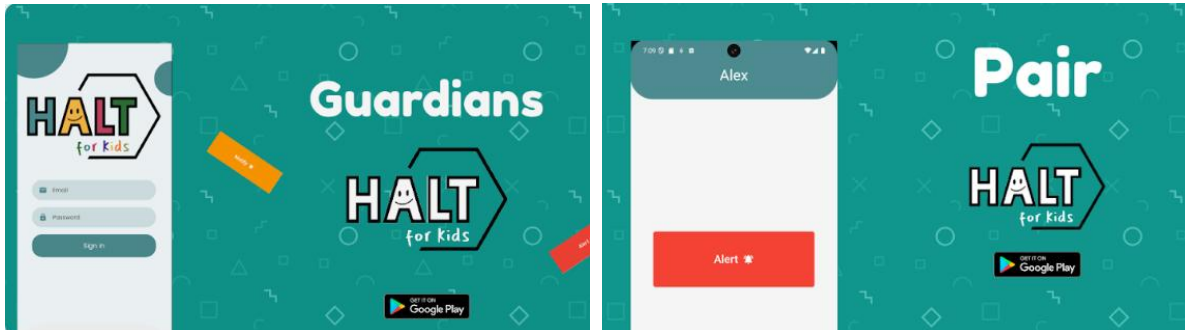
**App Store**



**Play Store**

### **HALT4Kids Launches New Safety Apps: PAIR & GUARDIANS**

HALT4Kids consortium is excited to share the launch of two cutting-edge mobile applications designed to enhance safety in sport for children and young athletes: **PAIR - HALT4Kids** and **GUARDIANS - HALT4Kids**.

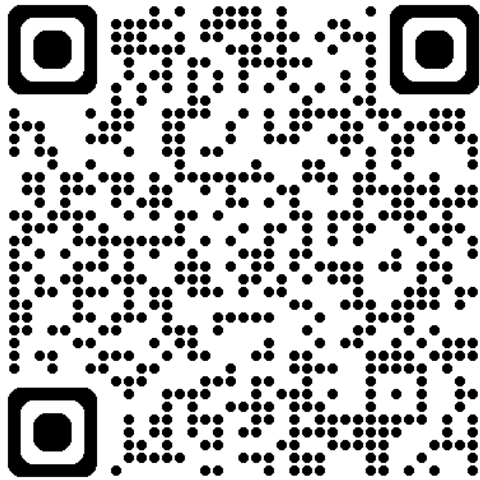


- ◆ **PAIR - HALT4Kids** empowers children to send real-time alerts when they feel unsafe—whether at school, in sport environments, or during everyday activities.
- ◆ **GUARDIANS - HALT4Kids** allows parents or trusted adults to pair their app with the child's using a unique code and instantly receive location-tagged notifications when assistance is needed.

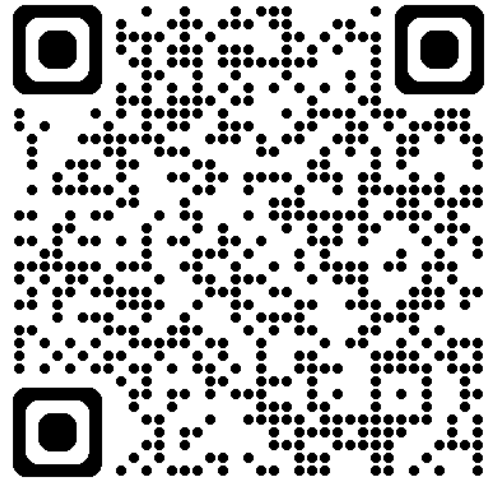
Together, these apps form a responsive alert system that allows families and caregivers to act swiftly and confidently in safeguarding their children from harassment and unsafe situations.

At HALT4Kids, we believe that digital tools can play a transformative role in building safe, inclusive, and supportive spaces in sport.

You can access both the apps from the HALT4Kids community portal here: <https://haltvm.phed.auth.gr/course/view.php?id=4> or download directly from the Android App store by scanning the QR codes below:



[GUARDIANS - Android Play Store](#)



[PAIR- Android Play Store](#)

*p.s. Apple app store versions coming soon!*

**Download. Pair. Protect.** Because every child deserves to feel safe. ❤️

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## RELATED NEWS FROM PARTNER COUNTRIES

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### **Catalonia Unites to Protect Children: New Safeguarding Network Launched**

On May 7th, the *Catalan Network for Protection and Good Treatment of Children and Adolescents* was officially launched — a powerful initiative led by **FEDAIA**, with the support of **Educo ONG**. This milestone comes in response to a pressing need: in just four years, more than 3,000 cases of violence against minors have been reported in Catalonia, with 25 new cases each week.

The newly formed network aims to become a central hub of support and coordination for child-focused organizations across the region. It will:

-  Support and guide organizations working with children
-  Promote safe environments and good treatment practices
-  Advocate for the real implementation of **LOPVI** (Spain's child protection law)
-  Collect and monitor rights violations through a dedicated digital channel

Already 12 organizations have joined, with more set to follow — laying the groundwork for a united, region-wide safeguarding strategy.

At **HALT4Kids**, we wholeheartedly support this mission. Our project complements these efforts through digital storytelling, interactive games, mobile apps, and training resources that empower families, coaches, and professionals to recognize, prevent, and respond to abuse in sport. Together, we're building safer environments for children — in Catalonia and across Europe.



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## **RELATED NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

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***HALT4Kids project is focused on developing awareness about harassment and abuse in sports among child athletes, coaches, athletes/former athletes, physical education students, physical education teachers and sport sector stakeholders.***

***Visit the website and follow the social media channels of the HALT4Kids project to keep yourself updated about the upcoming events and reports:***

Website <http://halt4kids.phed.auth.gr>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091602860387](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091602860387)

INSTAGRAM: [www.instagram.com/halt4kids/](http://www.instagram.com/halt4kids/)

X (formerly TWITTER): <https://X.com/HALT4kids>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/halt4kids/>

***Don't want to miss any update from HALT4Kids? [Click here](#) to join the mailing list and receive this Newsletter and other updates about the HALT4Kids project straight to your inbox.***