



TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

# Understand the video game world from different perspectives

With the Videogame Hall, a space is created for those fans to enjoy and socialize

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World Video Games Day is celebrated today, with the aim of making visible all those people whose hobby or job is playing video games. This day was marked in 2008 by the world's leading magazines specializing in video games.

Year after year Andorra celebrates, on behalf of Andorra Telecom, the Videogame Hall. As Andorra Telecom's CSR Manager, Inés Martí, explains, the aim is to bring technology closer to citizens. This intention, as Martí explains, has evolved over the years: «now it is a digital well-being initiative, without wanting to leave aside this approach of technology and innovation», and adds that the most important objective at present is «to give a socializing space to families through video games, where they can find all the news, trends and where gamers can meet friends and family to play». That is why she explains that the hall still has that spirit of competition with tournaments

**Andorra Telecom** provides training in the world of video games together with the University of Andorra

**Willy Rex** started recording videos when he was just a teenager to show them to his friends

and prizes, even though they are not in metal, but objects that can be used by all the players, thus creating «a hall for the country, not for the professionals», insists Martí.

The head of CSR explains that in addition, a few years ago the telecommunications company teamed up with the University of Andorra to bring the training part of video games closer to the country, noting that this industry moves many millions of euros around the world: «We want to promote video games, since the training behind it is very transversal, which is why we see this sector as an opportunity for the country's young people.»

On the other hand, Martí emphasizes that they are very aware of the addiction problems that video games can create, which is why «for the past two editions we have accompa-



►► An image of a girl playing with virtual reality at the last Video Game Show.

nied the hall with talks by specialists aimed at families and young people at the time identify a possible addiction on the part of parents and families», noting that this type of information is very well received. In addition, she adds that «Andorra Telecom wants to raise awareness in society as a whole because it is everyone's responsibility to work to alleviate the addictions that can lead to activities such as video games», stressing the importance of good information both to gamers themselves as well as families.

On the other hand, the head of CSR explains that Andorra is a good place for anyone who has a technological initiative and who needs a powerful Internet to work. One of these people is Guillermo Díaz, the YouTuber resident in the country who calls himself Willy Rex. He started making videos on the YouTube platform about 12 years ago, when he was 17 years old, as he explains that he wanted to share the experience of playing video games with his friends he met on the Internet, and each time he started to see more people. He explains that people start



**Inés Martí**

HEAD OF CSR AT ANDORRA TELECOM

«We want to give families a socializing space through video games, where they can find all the latest news»

**Willy Rex**

YOUTUBER

«Sometimes the video game is the least, they just want to see you play and interact with the video game and with them»

watching live YouTubers who play video games like «who sits on the sofa and watches 22 people kicking a ball, it's the same. People like to see other people do things they are better at than they are», adding that «sometimes the video game is the least, they just want to see you play and interact with the video game and with them».

He also points out the difference in his work when he started and now: «Today there is a lot of competition even with applications. Before there weren't as many social networks as there are now» and he points out that 10 years ago people had a lot more patience than now: «Before I used to upload 40-minute videos and people loved them, they even asked for them to be longer. Currently, they just want a 10-minute summary video, or even a short with the best moments on the Tik Tok network.»

Regarding the future of video games, he does not believe that immersive reality is the best solution: «There are people like me, who get dizzy. Instead, I think augmented reality will be the way forward for the video game industry. Even so, there are still five or 10 years for that to happen.»

THIRD STAGE

# Evenepoel reigns in Arinsal and is positioned as the leader of La Vuelta

The Belgian took the third stage beating Jonas Vingegaard and Juan Ayuso

The cyclist made a great attack in the last meters with a treacherous finish

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The Belgian Remco Evenepoel prevailed yesterday afternoon, crossing the finish line with a time of 04h 15' 39", beating Vingegaard and Juan Ayuso. The good weather on arrival in the Principality accompanied some cyclists who came from Súrria, after a complicated second stage in Barcelona marked by precipitation. Here yesterday the weather was with them, although due to the rains of the last few hours the ground was still wet.

The Soudal Quick-Step cyclist is defending the title he won last year after winning a road World Championship, a World Time Trial, Liege-Bastogne-Liege, the UAE Tour and the Donostia Klasikoa.

The battle for the breakaway in this third stage was difficult, but a group of 11 cyclists ended up consolidating after the 50-kilometer race.

## The cyclists

participating in the Vuelta traveled 158.5 kilometers from Súrria to Arinsal

Already in Andorran territory and once they reached the Coll d'Ordino, about 21 kilometers from the end, Damiano Caruso and Lennard Kamna, who were leading the group, began to see how the strength of the UAE Team Emirates team meant that finally they were left behind and were the favorites to win those who ended up playing for victory.

The cyclists traveled 158.5 kilometers to reach Arinsal. The demand went from less to more, and the stage was decided at the last moment, since during the ascent to the Coll d'Ordino the positions changed and the victory was not clear until a few meters from the finish where the Belgian brutally attacked to crown Arinsal. Thus, Evenepoel will wear the red jersey tomorrow.

The Belgian's arrival, however, was uneventful, as just after crossing the finish line he bumped into a wo-



►► Soudal Quick-Step cyclist Remco Evenepoel crossing the finish line yesterday.

man, causing him to fall off his bike. Even so and beyond the scare, the Soudal Quick-Step cyclist will continue in the competition tomorrow.

At the end, during the statements he was «happy for the victory», but he emphasized that «it is the third day in a row that the safety of the runners is not taken into account. It was

a tactically perfect day... some skin and flesh have left my head», referring to the incident. About the stage he emphasized that «I felt very good on the climb to Arinsal with a long and sustained sprint. I felt like I had a good last attack in my legs. It was a nice win. It shows that my preparation has been good and I didn't plan to

take the red jersey so soon, but it's always a bonus», he emphasized.

About the climb to Arinsal and his more patient pace, he explained that «I saw Jumbo try it with Kuss first. They didn't care which team won. Also that the UAE was working hard for Ayuso. It was a bit of a tactical game and that's new for me, going on



## REMCO EVENEPOEL CYCLIST

«It is the third day in a row that the safety of the runners is not taken into account. A little skin and flesh have gone from my head»

«It was new for me to go on the defensive against other strong runners. I had to be patient and attack at the best time»

the defensive against other strong runners. I had to be patient and attack at the best time», he concluded.

Today the cyclists leave the Principality again for Tarragona, facing the fourth stage of La Vuelta where 185 kilometers await them ahead. ≡

## The activities and animations of Parc Vuelta

►► The capital's Central Park hosted Parc Vuelta yesterday, a special event full of activities and animations. From fans of the event who have been watching it with their families for years, to people who were walking around the area and stayed to see the end of the race, they were able to enjoy the multiple stops. The company 'Skoda' organized an interactive game, in which just for playing they gave away glasses and entered the raffle for a trip to Prague. The company 'Plenitude' had some «bicycle blenders» that, through the energy of the legs, could make a fruit smoothie. There was also a BiciLab Andorra stand, with two copies of the Riberaigüa exhibition, to give recognition to both the museum and cycling in Andorra and to promote different mountain passes.

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