

22.00.00 Sociological science

22.00.00 Социологические науки

UDC 122

**THE CONTRADICTIONS WITH THE OLYMPIC GAMES` PRINCIPLES
SEEN THROUGH THE PRISM OF POLITICS, TERRORISM,
PROTEST AND RACE DISCRIMINATION**¹ Ekaterina O. Tskhakaya² Evgeniya V. Vidishcheva

¹ SGUTiKD, Sochi, Russia.
«Finance and credit», 3^d year
354000 Sochi, 15 Gagarina st., ap. 33
Tel. + 7918 9190234
E-mail: catherinet2008@rambler.ru

² SGUTiKD, Sochi, Russia.
PhD, associate professor
354008 Sochi, Sanatornaya st., 59, ap. 88
E-mail: evgenia-vv@mail.ru
Tel. +7-965477-95-39

This article describes the known examples in the history of gaming, revealing conflicting realities of famous slogans of the Olympic Games. And purpose of this article is not debunking the existing view modernity of the peaceful nature of the Olympic movement, and attempt to prove the importance of respect for these principles, rather than the allegation.

Keywords: Olympic principles, politics, discrimination, racism, protest, terrorism, violence, respect, solidarity.

If we look upon the fundamental principles of the Olympic Games it may seem that no kind of violence is acceptable during the period of the Games as if they were blessed by the Gods of the Olympus indeed. Peace, cooperation, respect and equality constitute the framework of the Olympic ideology long time ago. But does the reality always justify the concepts of the Games?

To start with, let me briefly enumerate some of the principles taken from the Olympic Charter.

1. «...Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles».

2. «The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity».

3. «...It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world's athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games. Its symbol is five interlaced rings».

4. «...Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play».

5. «Any form of discrimination with regard to a country or a person on grounds of race, religion, politics, gender or otherwise is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement».

As you`ve may noticed the basic for the Games are promoting peace and harmony in many aspect of these two notions. Let me now pay your attention to the events that undermined these concepts and made the messengers of peace in the person of sportsmen the victims of their good intentions.

Let us turn to the history in order to follow the most violent accidents to come.

4.10 am September 5th 1972, Munich, Germany. 8 Arab terrorists infiltrated the Olympic village. The terrorists murdered wrestling coach Moshe Weinberg (33) and weightlifter Yosef Romano (32) as they attempted to escape and took another nine Israelis hostage, demanding the release of 236 political prisoners. When the terrorists requested a jet to fly them out of Germany, a plan was hatched to lay on a decoy plane filled with police. But just seconds before two helicopters containing the terrorists and their hostages landed at Fuerstenfelbruck airport, police aborted the mission, claiming they were not trained for the task. The terrorists killed the athletes by throwing a grenade into one helicopter and firing a round of bullets into the other. The hostages perished.

The terrorists were the members of a Palestinian guerilla movement, Black September – a splinter group from Arafat's Al Fatah Organization. What followed the incident was not unpredictable: the Israelis responded with a string of kidnappings and assassinations of their own; airstrikes, invasions and bulldozing of Arab homes also followed.

This example proves us that though with the promotion of humility by all countries of the world there are still those who use the most innocuous and the largest-scale events to satisfy their demands by the vilest means ever.

What is even more notable in this story is that at the height of that tense situation the International Olympic Committee President Avery Brundage announced: "The Games must go on".

As a result of repeated violent attacks more close attention has been paid by the Olympic Committee during the preparation to the games. In Sydney, for instance, 5,000 military personnel and thousands of police and intelligence officers were employed. Sydney also pioneered the use of members of the public as security personnel. Here 50,000 were trained in security matters and given powers to search, remove and detain people.

In 1996 the Olympics in the US, Georgia an American far-right radical described by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a terrorist Eric Robert Rudolph placed a bomb at the Olympic Park in Atlanta during the Summer Games held at that venue. As a result one woman was killed and 111 wounded. The motives of Eric were unclear till 2003 the year when he was caught. He claimed to rail against the rights of homosexuals, abortions and of all non-Aryans of the world.

The attack caused was a continuation of the political discrimination first widely presented by Adolf Hitler in 1936 Games in Germany. The Aryan supremacy was an obsession of the Führer of the Third Reich who tried to prove by his revolting behaviour during the Olympic games when he refused to congratulate a black American athlete who won the first gold medal for the United States. He received a number of winners at the Games, but quickly departed just before Cornelius Johnson was to receive his award. When reminded by the Olympics officials that he must receive all winners or none at all, Hitler opted not to acknowledge subsequent foreign winners. Most notable among the athletes Hitler is said to have snubbed was Jesse Owens – another African-American four-time gold medalist. This act is the most evident instance of the racial discrimination that appeared on the Olympic Games.

Meanwhile black sportsmen were discriminated not only by Aryans but by their nationals as well! In 1964, the IOC banned South Africa from the Olympic Games in Tokyo over its policy on racial segregation. This ban continued right up until 1992, following the abolition of apartheid in South Africa. In 1976, just before the summer games in Montreal, 32 African countries refused to participate.

The Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in December 1979, the year before the Olympics in Moscow. On January the 20th US president Jimmy Carter declared that if the Soviet army did

not withdraw from Afghanistan then the US would not send a team to the Moscow games. Other western governments also followed suit. The result was that all national Olympic committees (NOC s) were put under great pressure from their own governments not to submit teams. In total 65 NOCs refused to take part, although it is suspected that some smaller countries declared a boycott in the hope of receiving aid and support from the US.

In retaliation for the previous boycott, the Soviet Union and 13 communist allies did not participate in the 1984 Los Angeles games.

China's human rights record was called into question prior to the 2008 Beijing Games. There was talk of boycotts after what began as peaceful protest marches led by monks in Tibet's largest city, Lhasa, escalated into full-scale rioting. The anti-Chinese demonstrations marked the 49th anniversary of a failed Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule. Tibet's government-in-exile, based in India, claimed Chinese security forces cracked down on unrest and about 140 people were killed, but Chinese authorities claimed 19 people were killed by rioters.

Having tracked the most notorious events that went with the Olympic Games we should ponder over one very important question – What people should really do to maintain the rules of the Olympic Games and what is more important – how to follow them? It is already not enough writing bare words on the ads and making speeches at the openings of the Games by emphasising on the need to prevent any violence, discrimination let it be by sex or race. It is up to the countries that are sometimes driven by political motives to put an end to the conflicts that later on result in victims. If Olympic Games still mean something more than just participation and sport than let`s put the idea forward by act, not words.

УДК 122

ПРОТИВОРЕЧИЯ ПРИНЦИПОВ ОЛИМПИЙСКИХ ИГР, РАССМОТРЕННЫЕ ЧЕРЕЗ ПРИЗМУ ПОЛИТИКИ, ТЕРРОРИЗМА, ПРОТЕСТА И РАСОВОЙ ДИСКРИМИНАЦИИ

¹ Цхакая Екатерина Отариевна

² Видищева Евгения Владимировна

¹ СГУТиКД, Сочи, Россия.

«Финансы и кредит», 3 курс

354000, г. Сочи, ул. Гагарина 15, кв. 33

Тел.: + 7918 9190234

E-mail: catherinet2008@rambler.ru

² СГУТиКД, Сочи, Россия.

кандидат экономических наук, доцент

354008, г. Сочи, ул. Санаторная, 59, кв. 88.

E-mail: evgenia-vv@mail.ru

Тел.: +7-965477-95-39

В данной статье рассмотрены самые известные примеры в истории Игр, раскрывающие противоречие реальности знаменитым девизам Олимпийских игр. И целью этой статьи является не развенчание существующего представления современности о мирном характере Олимпийского движения, а попытка доказать важность соблюдения этих принципов, а не голословных заявлений.

Ключевые слова: Олимпийских принципов политики, дискриминации, расизма, протест, терроризма, пропагандирующие, уважение, солидарность.