



IOC

STUDY GUIDE

2024



COLOMBO MODEL UNITED NATIONS
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International Olympics Committee Study Guide

About the Committee

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) stands as the supreme authority for the Olympic Games, responsible for safeguarding the Olympic Movement and promoting the values of Olympism worldwide. Comprising representatives from various countries, the IOC plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of international sports, overseeing the organisation of the Olympic Games, and addressing critical issues within the realm of sports governance.

With a commitment to promoting excellence, respect, and friendship, the IOC strives to ensure that the Olympic Games remain a symbol of unity, fair play, and athletic achievement on a global scale. As the governing body for the Olympic Movement, the IOC works to uphold the Olympic Charter, which outlines the fundamental principles and rules governing the Olympic Movement and the organisation of the Olympic Games.

Throughout its history, the IOC has faced various challenges and has adapted to the evolving landscape of international sports. The committee's decisions impact athletes, nations, and the broader sports community, making it a key player in shaping the future of the Olympic Movement. The upcoming debates and discussions within the IOC at COMUN 2024 will focus on critical issues such as the criteria for incorporating new sports, inclusion policies for transgender athletes, and the complex matter of state-sponsored doping, particularly in light of the Russian Olympic ban. These topics reflect the diverse challenges and opportunities that the IOC navigates to ensure the integrity and fairness of the Olympic Games.

Committee Mandate

The committee will follow the pre existing mandate of the IOC with the below amends made to allow for more engaging debate. Representatives will be part of the IOC and not the respective country, however the past of each representative is up for debate and are able to be held accountable for Foreign Policy Violations that contradict falsifying statements from former roles held outside the IOC by each representative. Additionally, under special permission for the conference, one singular delegate representing the currently banned Russian Olympics Committee (ROC) will be in committee to allow for accountability and solution creating resolutions to be made. We advise the committee to use the IOC amends to create reason and justification to ensure the overall growth of the Olympics.

PRACTICE DEBATE 1:

Creating requisite criteria to govern the incorporation of new sports.

Introduction

The landscape of sports is ever-evolving, introducing new disciplines and activities that captivate audiences worldwide. As the International Olympic Committee (IOC), it is imperative to establish a changing set of criteria governing the incorporation of new sports into the framework of international competitions, particularly the Olympic Games. This practice debate will explore the considerations and principles essential for evaluating and approving new sports, ensuring that they align with the core values of Olympism and enhancing the Olympic experience for athletes and spectators alike.

What We Expect

The chairs expect delegates to engage in a thorough examination of the proposed criteria for incorporating new sports into international competitions, particularly within the Olympic Games. Delegates are encouraged to present well-reasoned arguments that balance tradition and innovation, considering the global appeal, inclusivity, sustainability, cultural relevance, and athlete welfare of the proposed sports. Additionally, the chairs anticipate a discussion on how the incorporation of new sports can enhance the accessibility and representation of athletes on the Olympic stage. Delegates should strive to find a delicate equilibrium that upholds the Olympic values while embracing the evolving landscape of sports.

Historical Context

Throughout its history, the IOC has welcomed new sports, reflecting societal changes, emerging trends, and the evolving interests of athletes. The addition of sports such as snowboarding, beach volleyball, and BMX cycling demonstrates the IOC's adaptability and openness to innovation. However, the process of integrating new sports has sometimes been met with challenges, including concerns about inclusivity, cultural relevance, and the potential impact on the overall Olympic program.

Requisite Criteria for Consideration

- **Global Appeal and Participation:** The IOC should evaluate the global popularity and participation levels of a proposed sport. A sport with widespread appeal and active participation across different regions may contribute to the universality of the Olympic Games.
- **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Consideration should be given to whether the new sport promotes inclusivity and diversity, ensuring that athletes from various backgrounds and demographics have the opportunity to participate. This aligns with the Olympic values of equality and non-discrimination.

- Sustainability: The environmental impact of a sport, including its facilities and equipment, should be assessed. The IOC has a commitment to sustainability, and incorporating sports with eco-friendly practices aligns with the broader goals of the Olympic Movement.
- Cultural and Historical Relevance: The cultural and historical significance of a sport should be evaluated, recognizing the role of sports as a reflection of societal values and traditions. This criterion ensures that the Olympic program remains connected to the cultural fabric of different nations
- Athlete Welfare: The impact of the sport on athlete welfare, including physical and mental well-being, should be considered. This includes assessing the potential risks and demands placed on athletes within the proposed sport.

Expected Points of Discussion

1. Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Delegates are expected to explore the delicate balance between maintaining the traditions of the Olympic Games and embracing innovative sports that resonate with contemporary audiences.
2. Ensuring Accessibility: Discussions should address how the incorporation of new sports can enhance accessibility, providing opportunities for athletes from diverse backgrounds and nations to participate on the Olympic stage.
3. Safeguarding the Olympic Brand: Delegates should consider how the inclusion of new sports may impact the overall identity and brand of the Olympic Games, ensuring that the event maintains its unique and prestigious status.
4. Global Representation: The practice debate should delve into the importance of global representation, discussing how the addition of new sports can enhance the geographic diversity of the Olympic program.

The creation of a requisite criteria framework for the incorporation of new sports is crucial for maintaining the relevance and dynamism of the Olympic Games. Delegates are encouraged to engage in a creative system of productive solution generation and to consider the multifaceted aspects involved in shaping the future of the Olympic program.

Reading Material

- Olympic Charter. (2023). International Olympic Committee. <https://olympics.com/ioc/olympic-charter>
- Contexts shaping the development and success of elite sport systems: a scoping review <https://doi.org/10.1080/14413523.2023.2171276>
- Perceptions of current support systems leading to international sporting success for South Africans - <https://bit.ly/3H6BisL>

- Technological Fair Play: An Ethical Framework for Olympic Sports - <https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=12559&context=etd>
- Does the Olympic Agenda 2020 Have the Power to Create a New Olympic Heritage? An Analysis for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games Bid - <https://doi.org/10.3390/su11020442>
- The New Agenda 2020+5 and the Future Challenges for the Olympic Movement - <https://www.athensjournals.gr/sports/2021-8-2-2-Nicoliello.pdf>

PRACTICE DEBATE 2:

Non-cisgender athlete inclusion and gender confirmation laws for Paris 2024

Introduction

In the pursuit of fostering inclusivity and ensuring fair competition, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) faces the complex and sensitive issue of transgender athlete inclusion and the establishment of gender-confirming surgery laws. As the world evolves in understanding and acknowledging diverse gender identities, the IOC must navigate a path that respects individual rights, promotes fairness in competition, and aligns with the principles of Olympism. This practice debate aims to delve into the considerations and challenges associated with transgender athlete inclusion and the role of gender-confirming surgery laws in the context of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

What We Expect

The chairs expect delegates to engage in a comprehensive discussion regarding transgender athlete inclusion and the role of gender-confirming surgery laws for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Delegates are encouraged to explore the principles of inclusive participation, medical and ethical considerations, competitive fairness, and athlete welfare. The chairs anticipate discussions on defining eligibility criteria, promoting education and awareness, considering global perspectives, and finding a delicate balance between respecting rights and maintaining fair competition. Delegates should strive to develop policies that reflect the evolving understanding of gender identity while upholding the values of the Olympic Movement.

Historical Context

The inclusion of transgender athletes in international sports has been a subject of evolving discussion. The IOC has made strides in addressing gender-related issues, such as the removal of sex verification tests in 1999. However, the specific guidelines regarding transgender athlete participation and the role of gender-confirming surgery remain areas of ongoing debate within the Olympic Movement.

Key Considerations

- **Inclusive Participation:** The debate will centre around the importance of inclusive participation, recognizing the rights of transgender athletes to compete in sports while ensuring that the principles of fair play and competition are upheld.
- **Medical and Ethical Considerations:** Delegates are expected to discuss the medical and ethical considerations surrounding gender-confirming surgery laws. This includes exploring the impact of such laws on individual autonomy and the potential benefits or drawbacks for athletes.
- **Competitive Fairness:** The practice debate should address the concept of competitive fairness and how the inclusion of transgender athletes may impact the level playing field in sports.

Delegates are encouraged to explore potential policies that maintain fairness while respecting diversity.

- Athlete Welfare: Discussions will touch upon the well-being of transgender athletes, both in terms of mental health and physical safety. Delegates may consider how policies can be crafted to support the overall welfare of athletes.

Expected Points of Discussion

1. Defining Eligibility Criteria: Delegates are expected to engage in discussions about establishing clear and comprehensive eligibility criteria for transgender athletes, taking into account factors such as hormone levels, transition timelines, and medical guidelines.
2. Education and Awareness: The practice debate should explore the role of education and awareness in fostering a more inclusive sporting environment. This includes educating athletes, officials, and the broader sports community on issues related to transgender inclusion.
3. Global Perspectives: Considering the international nature of the Olympic Games, delegates should offer perspectives on how different regions and cultures approach transgender athlete inclusion, contributing to a comprehensive and globally relevant policy framework.
4. Balancing Rights and Fairness: The debate is likely to revolve around finding a balance between respecting the rights of transgender athletes and maintaining fair competition. Delegates may propose measures that strike this delicate balance.

The IOC faces the responsibility of crafting policies that reflect the evolving understanding of gender identity and promote inclusivity while maintaining the integrity of competitive sports. Delegates are encouraged to engage in a respectful and nuanced debate.

Reading Material

- International Olympic Committee. (2016). IOC Consensus Meeting on Sex Reassignment and Hyperandrogenism. - <https://bit.ly/3H50q2X>
- The IOC consensus statement: beyond the Female Athlete Triad--Relative Energy Deficiency in Sport (RED-S) - <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24620037/>
- The Future of Women's Sports Includes Transgender Women and Girls -<https://bit.ly/47nkfx6>

CONFERENCE:

The challenges of state-sponsored doping with special emphasis on the Russian Olympic ban

Introduction

The complex issue of state-sponsored doping poses significant challenges to the integrity of international sports, particularly within the context of the Olympic Games. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) must grapple with the repercussions of state-sponsored doping, with a special emphasis on the Russian Olympic ban. This conference topic explores the historical context, ethical considerations, and potential measures to address state-sponsored doping, ensuring that the Olympic Movement remains a beacon of fair competition, clean athleticism, and ethical sportsmanship.

What We Expect for Conference

Delegates are expected to be aware of the Historical Pathway that leads to the debate of the conference topic, "State-Sponsored Doping with a Special Emphasis on the Russian Olympic Ban." We as the chairs anticipate a thorough exploration of ethical considerations, enforcement mechanisms, athlete rights, and global cooperation in addressing state-sponsored doping. Delegates should aim to propose pragmatic solutions that balance the imperative for clean and fair competition with the complexities of international relations. Moreover, the chairs encourage delegates to delve into the long-term impact of doping on athlete health, the restoration of trust in international competitions, and preventive measures to safeguard the integrity of future Olympic Games. We also strictly do not condone a blame game scenario based around delegates or representatives of the Russian Federation or Russian Olympics Committee as we see the unlikely possibility this may occur in debate and would kindly request delegates to not go forward with conflict creation as it is not the takeaway from the motion.

Historical Context

The use of performance-enhancing substances in sports has a long history, but state-sponsored doping introduces a more intricate dimension. The IOC has faced instances where national governments played a role in orchestrating doping programs, compromising the principles of fair play and endangering the health of athletes. The notable case of the Russian state-sponsored doping program, leading to the ban of Russian athletes from the Olympics, serves as a crucial backdrop for this conference topic.

The issue of state-sponsored doping reached a critical juncture with the exposure of a widespread and systematic doping program orchestrated by the Russian government. This intricate saga unfolded, leading to a series of investigations, revelations, and ultimately, the ban of Russian athletes from participating in the Olympic Games. The historical context of the Russian state-sponsored doping scandal is crucial for understanding the magnitude of the issue within the realm of international sports.

In 2014, investigative journalists and whistleblowers began to unveil a state-sponsored doping program in Russia, implicating athletes across various sports and the involvement of Russian sports

officials. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) played a pivotal role in investigating these allegations, with the establishment of the Independent Commission led by Richard McLaren.

For Representative Reference

1. Independent Commission Reports:

- (https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/wada_independent_commission_report_1_en.pdf) The first report delves into the initial findings of the Independent Commission, exposing widespread doping practices in Russian athletics.
- (https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/mclaren_report_part_ii_2.pdf) The Independent Person Report by Richard McLaren provides an in-depth analysis of the state-sponsored doping system in Russia, detailing the manipulation of samples, cover-ups, and the involvement of the Russian Ministry of Sport.

2. International Reaction - The revelations led to widespread condemnation from the international sports community, with calls for accountability, transparency, and sanctions against Russia.

- (<https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-s-executive-board-sets-the-dates-for-the-ioc-executive-board-and-ioc-session>) The International Olympic Committee (IOC) responded by initiating disciplinary proceedings and re-analyzing samples from the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.
- (https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/roadmap_to_compliance_september_2018.pdf) WADA's Compliance Criteria: WADA outlined a roadmap for the reinstatement of the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA), setting specific criteria for compliance.
- (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/media/news/2018-09/wada-executive-committee-decides-to-reinstate-russian-anti-doping-agency>) Despite concerns, WADA reinstated RUSADA, expecting access to the Moscow Laboratory's data and samples.

3. Further Sanctions and Appeal

- (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/media/news/2019-12/wada-executive-committee-unanimously-decides-to-impose-four-year-ban-on-russian>) WADA imposed a four-year ban on Russia, prohibiting Russian athletes from participating in major international competitions.
- (https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_6717_Decision.pdf) The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) partially upheld WADA's decision, reducing the ban to two years but maintaining certain sanctions.

Key Considerations

- Ethical Implications: Delegates are expected to delve into the ethical implications of state-sponsored doping, considering the impact on individual athletes, fair competition, and the credibility of international sports organisations.
- Enforcement and Accountability: The debate should address measures to enforce anti-doping regulations and hold states accountable for their involvement in doping programs. This includes exploring potential sanctions, investigations, and collaborations with anti-doping agencies.
- Athlete Rights and Responsibilities: Discussions should consider the rights and responsibilities of athletes in the face of state-sponsored doping, emphasising the need to protect clean athletes while holding those who violate regulations accountable.
- Global Cooperation: Delegates are encouraged to explore the role of global cooperation in addressing state-sponsored doping. This involves examining international collaboration between sports organisations, governments, and anti-doping bodies to establish a united front against doping practices.

Expected Points of Discussion

1. Effectiveness of Current Anti-Doping Measures: Delegates are expected to evaluate the effectiveness of current anti-doping measures in preventing and addressing state-sponsored doping, identifying strengths and weaknesses in the existing framework.
2. Long-Term Impact on Athlete Health: The debate should consider the long-term health consequences of doping on athletes, emphasising the importance of protecting the well-being of individuals who may be subjected to state-sponsored doping programs.
3. Restoration of Trust in International Competitions: Delegates are encouraged to discuss strategies for restoring trust in international competitions and the Olympic Games, considering the impact of state-sponsored doping on the credibility of sporting events.
4. Preventing Future State-Sponsored Doping: The conference topic should explore proactive measures to prevent future instances of state-sponsored doping, including enhanced monitoring, intelligence sharing, and diplomatic efforts to deter such practices.

Understanding that the historical context of the Russian state-sponsored doping scandal provides delegates with insight into the challenges faced by the IOC in upholding the principles of fair play, clean competition, and the credibility of the Olympic Movement, we expect delegates to utilise all provided resources to come to the committee fully aware of what issues to avoid in resolution writing and solution making. We want delegates to analyse the mistakes made in the past, and come to committee with well backed solutions on how the IOC can learn from its previous mistakes and prevent such occurrences in the future.

Addressing state-sponsored doping with a special emphasis on the Russian Olympic ban requires a comprehensive and multifaceted approach. Delegates are expected to contribute to a constructive and solution-oriented discussion, exploring ethical considerations, enforcement measures, athlete rights, global cooperation, and strategies for preventing future incidents of state-sponsored doping.

Further References

1. World Anti-Doping Agency. (2015). Independent Commission Report (https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/wada_independent_commission_report_1_en.pdf)
 2. [Timeline of Russia's state-sponsored Olympic doping scandal - The Washington Post](#)
 3. [Russian athletes back in doping spotlight after Paris green light | Reuters](#)
 4. [The Russian Doping Scandal – CSCE](#)
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Message from the Head Table:

Dear Representatives,

As we convene to address the critical issue of state-sponsored doping with a specific focus on the Russian Olympic Ban, we extend a warm welcome to each of you. This conference topic requires a delicate balance between upholding the ideals of fair play and navigating the intricate geopolitical landscape.

We anticipate thoughtful discussions, innovative solutions, and a collaborative effort to grapple with the multifaceted challenges posed by state-sponsored doping. Representatives are encouraged to consider the historical context, ethical dimensions, and the global impact of doping on the world of sports. Let us strive for a productive and respectful dialogue that reflects the dedication of the Olympic Movement to clean competition, athlete welfare, and the pursuit of excellence.

Best wishes for a fun, debate heavy and productive conference

Your Chairs,

Stephan & Vakeesh

President and Vice President of the International Olympics Committee

COMUN 2024
