

The 3rd International Colloquium of **Olympic Studies** and **Research Centres**

Date 23–24 September 2021



The Digital Leaflet Daily Program and Abstracts

In the final discussions of the 2nd International Colloquium of Olympic Studies and Research Centres, which took place on 3rd August 2016 in Porto Alegre, Brazil, all participants agreed on continuing with the tradition of a quadrennial meeting which had started at Loughborough in 2012 already.

Now, on 23rd and 24th September 2021 hosted by University of Tsukuba, Japan, representatives of Olympic Studies and Research Centres hold the opportunity to meet again and to start dialogues on joint research and teaching initiatives.

Host Organization:

Centre for Olympic Research and Education (CORE)
University of Tsukuba, Japan



Steering Group:

Stephan Wassong (Olympic Studies Centre – German Sport University Cologne) - Chairman

Nuria Puig (Olympic Studies Centre – International Olympic Committee)

Nelson Todt (Olympic Studies Research Group – Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul)

Hisashi Sanada (Centre for Olympic Research and Education – University of Tsukuba) – Host Organization

Day-1: 23 September 2021

***Time zone: CEST (UTC+2)**

Facilitator: Akiyo Miyazaki (University of Tsukuba)

Zoom: 11:45 Open

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87391671690?pwd=dmt2RFAySit4OTZkWnh2dFk4d1dIZz09>

meeting ID: 873 9167 1690

Pass: 761098

12:00-12:30 Opening Addresses

Benton Caroline F. (University of Tsukuba)

Stephan Wassong (German Sport University Cologne)

Maria Bogner (IOC Olympic Studies Centre)

12:30-13:00 The Updates from the IOC Olympic Study Centre

Maria Bogner/Nuria Puig (IOC Olympic Studies Centre)

13:00-13:15 Break

13:15-14:15 Presentations of the OSCs' Collaborations -Part 1-

***15min. presentation+ 5min. discussion**

1) Collaborative initiatives in teaching and research of the Olympic Studies Centre of the German Sport University Cologne

Stephan Wassong (German Sport University Cologne)

Thierry Zintz (Director of the Olympic Chair at the Université catholique de Louvain)

2) eMuseum of Sport – Olympic Games in discussion

Nelson Todt (Pontifical Catholic University of the Rio Grande do Sul)

Bianca Gama Pena (Rio de Janeiro State University)

3) SDP Networks and Olympic Movement Connectivity

Cora Burnett (University of Johannesburg)

Holly Collison-Randall (Loughborough University London)

14:15-14:30 Break

14:30-16:00 Session “Olympic Movement in new-normal era beyond the COVID-19”

● Rio 2016 Olympics & Research & Perspectives

Luis Henrique Rolim Silva (Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul)

● Chronometric innovations in the Olympic movement and competitive sports: from regulated time to digital age.

Guillaume Rayot (University of Franche-Comté – CEROU)

● Historical dimension of Tokyo 2020: Faster, Higher, Stronger and Together

Taro Obayashi (University of Tsukuba)

Day-2: 24 September 2021

***Time zone: CEST (UTC+2)**

Facilitator: Taro Obayashi (University of Tsukuba)

Zoom: 11:45 Open

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670597785?pwd=aFhuNTlmT3pNYml1Um1USlo2L2lUUT09>

meeting ID: 876 7059 7785

Pass: 135635

12:00-12:50 Keynote lectures (regarding the legacy of the Tokyo 2020)

- The Host Town Initiative for Tokyo 2020 and beyond
Mie Katsuno (Headquarters for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Cabinet Secretariat)
- The Olympic and Paralympic Education in Tokyo
Shinya Nakamura (Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education)

12:50-13:30 Presentations of the OSCs' Collaborations -Part 2-

***15min. presentation+ 5min. discussion**

- 4) Collaboration projects in developing Olympic movement for Tokyo 2020
Akiyo Miyazaki (University of Tsukuba)
- 5) Tokyo 2020 media rituals, social interactions and the development of new research networks
Andressa Fontes Guimarães-Mataruna (University of Beira do Interior)
Adriano Lopes de Souza (Federal University of Tocantins)
Renan Petersen-Wagner (Leeds Beckett University)
Doiara Silva dos Santos (Federal University of Viçosa)
Leonardo José Mataruna-Dos-Santos (Canadian University of Dubai)
Otávio Guimarães Tavares da Silva (Federal University of Espírito Santo)

13:30-13:45 Break

13:45-14:25 Presentations of the OSCs' Collaborations -Part 3-

***15min. presentation+ 5min. discussion**

- 6) From Torino 2006 to Milano-Cortina 2026: From territorial competition to research cooperation towards a joint Olympic and mega events research center
Egidio Dansero (Università di Torino)
Stefano Di Vita (Politecnico di Milano)
Francesco Gastaldi (Università IUAV di Venezia)
- 7) Joining the IOC OSC-OSRC Network: a Newcomer From Shanghai
Peijie Chen and Fan Hong (Shanghai University of Sport)

14:25-14:45 Closing (Chair: Nelson Todt)

Abstracts of the Oral Presentations

1) Collaborative initiatives in teaching and research of the Olympic Studies Centre of the German Sport University Cologne

Stephan Wassong, Ansgar Molzberger, Daniel Quanz, Rory Flindall, Marloes Ekkelboom and Daniela Mentzen (The Olympic Studies Centre of the German Sport University Cologne)

External expert: Thierry Zintz (Director of the Olympic Chair at the Université catholique de Louvain)

The Olympic Studies Centre at the German Sport University Cologne (OSC of the GSU) has a long tradition within the sports academic world, having been established as a central research and teaching facility in compliance with the Federal Higher Education Act. The profile of the OSC Cologne meets the expectations of a modern university landscape and its current demands in research and teaching.

The presentation's main content will highlight the delivery of academic initiatives initiated and executed successfully after the 2nd International Colloquium of Olympic Studies and Research Centres, which was held in Puerto Alegre, Brazil in 2016. Therein, one focus will be on the project Database on Olympic Studies: Degree Programmes, Courses, Seminars & Workshops. It was a collaborative project between the OSC of the GSU and Prof. Thierry Zintz as director of the Olympic Chair at the Université catholique de Louvain. The final project report was presented at the meeting of the IOC Olympic Education Commission in 2019. The Olympic Studies Centre of the IOC supported the project in various aspects. Following this, collaborative publishing projects will be presented, including special Olympic issues of the acclaimed International Journal of the History of Sport and Diagoras. The International Academic Journal in Olympic Studies. These publishing projects have been realized under the responsibility of an institutional network of OSCs. In addition to this, attention will be given to the presentation of interesting data on the development of the international interinstitutional study programme M.A. Olympic Studies.

To conclude the presentation, an overview will be delivered on the future expansion of the M.A. Olympic Studies in terms of content and the revision of the interinstitutional partner structure which will be based on already established partners, including the OSC of the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Canterbury University, New Zealand, but also on new partner OSCs to make the programme even more international. As to future research collaborations, information will be presented on a joint publishing project of the OSC of the GSU, ICOS of Western University, Canada and the Olympic research team of Victoria University Melbourne, Australia. The publishing project is entitled Athlete's Voice in History and constitutes a multi- and interdisciplinary analysis of the role and institutional representation of athletes within the Olympic system and beyond.

2) eMuseum of Sport – Olympic Games in discussion

Nelson Todt (Olympic Studies Research Group - Pontifical Catholic University of the Rio Grande do Sul), Bianca Gama Pena (Olympic Research Group of the Rio de Janeiro State University)

In 2020 the Olympic Studies Research Group of the Pontifical Catholic University of the Rio Grande do Sul and the Olympic Research Group of the Rio de Janeiro State University developed a series of projects unfolded in two different phases: (1st) Virtual Exhibition at the eMuseum of Sport and (2nd) Published an e-Book with full texts related to the topics of the Virtual Exhibition.

The project is a trilingual initiative (English, Portuguese, and Spanish) and it was developed twice (2020 e 2021) in partnership with the Brazilian Pierre de Coubertin Committee and the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee.

Internationally renowned experts from five continents in the fields of Olympic Studies and Pierre de Coubertin have been invited. The Virtual Exhibition 2020 had two seasons with the central thematic “Reinventing sport and Olympic Games after COVID-19: return to Pierre de Coubertin”.

The experts were invited to present their findings, trends and point of view based on past experiences lived by Pierre de Coubertin.

Moreover, they were asked to analyze in which crises and conflicts of interest it had occurred actions and/or adaptation of the Olympic Movement to deal with challenges as the one society face today.

In total 25 experts presented their texts concerning the following six themes: (1) The Context of the Pandemic and Expectations of Changes; (2) Management Strategy; (3) Values-based Actions; (4) Innovation, connectivity, and videogames; (5) Sport, Peace, and International Unity; (6) Education in New Era.

The exhibition reached more than 4,000 visits. In 2021, motivated by the Tokyo Olympics, the exhibition had the central thematic “Olympic Reflections and Human Dignity”. It was invited 23 experts in the following topics: (1) Sport and Values; (2) Refugees; (3) Freedom of Expression; (4) Intersexuality. This exhibition represents a change of direction in the interpretations of sport and Olympic Movement today by associating it with the Sustainable Development Goals (United Nations), as well as it provokes reflection on human dignity in response to the current crisis of values; therefore, it aims to contribute to the development of gender equality, well-being, peace and reducing inequalities. The exhibition had the institutional support of the United Nations and from its agencies United Nations Information Centre for Brazil (UNIC Rio), the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and reached more than 75,000 people in the first weeks. The exhibitions curatorial development was led by Nelson Todt and Lamartine DaCosta (Curator of the eMuseum), together with the scientific support of Fernando Fontoura and Ana Miragaya, and the eMuseum’s manager Bianca Gama Pena. The eBook for the first exhibition is already published and the one for the second exhibition will be released later this year.

3) SDP Networks and Olympic Movement Connectivity

Cora Burnett (University of Johannesburg)

Holly Collison-Randall (Loughborough University London)

In view of a global trend of stakeholder engagement, and supported by the cross-cutting Sustainable Development Goal 17, the recent addition of “Communitier’ (together) to the Olympic motto, reflect agenda for collaboration. The way was paved by the IOC Agenda 2020 and 2020+5 and heightened by the Covid-19 pandemic effects. The significance of civil society agencies as potentially implementing partners of grassroots sport delivery, and sport for development (SfD) work in addressing selected Sustainable Development Goals, necessitates a roadmap for policy convergence and collective practice.

This paper reports on the inter-connectivity through networks and different collaborations between funders/donors, facilitators and implementing agencies in the Olympic Movement and SfD sectors. A comparative analysis of such stakeholder cohorts in Europe and Africa provide meaningful insights on stakeholder configurations and practices, in addition to responses to the Covid-19 pandemic.

After the recruitment of SfD network actors in Europe and Africa, the research documented the strength (e.g. duration, frequency, and closeness) of relationships between SfD actors, OM stakeholder networks, UN Agencies, NGOs, funders and sponsors through a social network analysis. Further insights emerged through 28 in-depth interviews (14 per continent) with representatives from well-connected and less connected agencies. Key findings show close and valued relationships within the SfD network across the two regions, whilst more challenges exist in Africa regarding the efficient flow of information, connectivity and access of resources. European actors dominate as funders and in the flow of knowledge, resources and information within Africa. The combined network profile show strong positions (centrality), whilst about half of the 20 top organisations fulfil multiple roles as funder, facilitator and/or implementer. Different stakeholder types engage in the SfD space with relationships are regarded as open, integrated and stable (Europe) or trustworthy, formal/informal and technical (Africa) in the exchange of a diversity of policies, resources, goals and capacity building (including education and training). Innovation and responses to Covid-19 manifestations include increased reliability on technology, diversification and process (Europe) compared to the focus on ideas, progress based on personal and localised opportunities. Different types of constraints emerged, whilst re-branding, adaptations, collaboration and accountability related to sustainable impact became prominent. Despite possible synergies across partners, the Olympic Movement remained relatively in isolation with little connectivity to external networks and SfD agencies. Key recommendations address the lack of synergies, missed opportunities and how to collaborate in the face of post-Covid challenges.

*This research is a collaboration between the University of Loughborough (UK), Deakin University (Australia) and the University of Johannesburg (South Africa).

*Swanson, S., Collison, H., Burnett, C., Skinner, J. Meeks, V. (2021). Sport for Development and Olympic Movement Stakeholders: A Social Network Analysis. Lausanne, IOC Olympic Studies Centre Grant Programme, 2019/2020 Award.

4) Collaboration projects in developing Olympic movement for Tokyo 2020

Akiyo Miyazaki, Hisashi Sanada, Taro Obayashi, Keita Fukuda (Centre for Olympic Research and Education, University of Tsukuba)

Olympic Education Projects for Tokyo 2020 were developed by utilizing the Japanese own education system in Japan. The “Youi Don” project by TOCOG (Tokyo Organizing Committee of Olympic and Paralympic Games) was a system that kept participating schools under the umbrella of the program. In fact, the Olympic education for Tokyo 2020 was promoted by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and the Japan Sports Agency (JSA)’s “the nationwide developing project”. In this project, national organizations collaborated to make decision of policy in the national consortium. They were JSA, TOCOG, TMG, Japan Olympic Committee, Japan Paralympic Committee, Nippon Foundation Paralympic support center and three universities. They held the meetings every 2-3 months for sharing the project’s progress and other resources regarding Olympic and Paralympic Education. Three universities shared responsibility for the participating regions (prefectures and municipalities) and held seminars and workshops for teachers in each year. They introduced the theoretical background, practices, information of materials such as IOC’s Olympic Value Education Programme (OVEP) in the seminar, shared practical examples in the workshops each other. TOCOG translated OVEP to Japanese and CORE made the lesson plan to be able to utilize OVEP for Japanese schools and made many other educational contents and worksheets.

CORE was found in 2010, it was not only for Tokyo 2020. We have collaborated international OSCs such as COS&R in Loughborough university and CEROU in universit  de Franche- Comt . After London 2012, we had partnership in study about “Olympism, Olympic values and Olympic Education” with COS&R. Two OSCs exchanged researchers each other and researched about “Post Games Legacy of London 2012”, “Understanding of cultural specific values and systems of Tokyo 2020 Olympic education”. In recent years, we have started collaboration project with CEROU for content renewal. We had an information exchange and study meeting jointly with JOA in this summer and planning to exchange researchers and collaborative study in Olympic Education in the future.

5) Tokyo 2020 media rituals, social interactions and the development of new research networks

Andressa Fontes Guimarães-Mataruna (University of Beira do Interior, Portugal)

Adriano Lopes de Souza (Federal University of Tocantins, Brazil)

Renan Petersen-Wagner (Leeds Beckett University, UK)

Doiara Silva dos Santos (Federal University of Viçosa, Brazil)

Leonardo José Mataruna-Dos-Santos (Canadian University of Dubai, UAE)

Otávio Guimarães Tavares da Silva (Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil)

The Center for Olympic Studies – ARETE of the Federal University of Espírito Santo has recognized performance in the field of Olympic studies in Brazil and has participated in this Colloquium since its first edition (2012). More recently, we have developed a network of researchers based in universities in Brazil, Portugal, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom, which intends to consolidate professional relationships previously initiated and expand the possibilities of knowledge production in themes such as media, gender, doping and Olympic education.

The starting point of this collaborative network was the researchers' expertise in different aspects of Olympic Studies, although not all of them have managed to gain recognition of their research groups at the IOC Olympic Studies Centre.

A series of virtual work meetings led us to develop two initial research projects. The first addressed different media narratives of the Olympic Games opening ceremonies and the second focused on fandom and digital media, both during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

With the end of arguably the most disrupted Olympiad of recent times where the novel coronavirus global pandemic has caused important changes to our relationship to sport and our ways of life in both local and global settings, by transforming the Olympic calendar through the postponement of the summer Olympic Games, and ultimately requiring all of us to appreciate the event at distance, it is now important to look back and reflect on how those disruptions materialized themselves in places that are becoming ever more common in our lives: television, digital media and in particular social media platforms.

The first project dealt with Olympic Games opening ceremonies as cultural performances, understood as a ritual and a spectacle. This performance articulates universal messages with local cultural meanings. As a ritual, it marks the beginning of an event which transmits, through its symbols, a set of values of universal aspiration. As a spectacle, it tells a story about the culture of the country that organizes the Games. Media itself 'constructs' the ceremonies through images and texts that do not portray them in their entirety, but edit and redefine them in some way. The way the ceremony is narrated depends on the emphases, comments and stories each national television gives to frame it toward local meanings. As the world has changed dramatically since the last researches on this topic (1990s), it seemed interesting revisiting the topic and ask: what post-pandemic narratives may emerge in different television channels worldwide?

Virtual meetings were held to define the moments and characteristics of the ceremony that should be analyzed and the basic methodological and theoretical approach (grounded theory).

The ceremony was watched, noted and commented on synchronously by all researchers. The data were collected from three national broadcasters: TV Globo (Brazil), RTP (Portugal), BBC (UK). Additional material from ceremony media guide was also collected.

Due to the professional networking of one of the researchers, additional data were collected about the broadcast of the ceremony on Iranian television (Varzesh channel). However, for security reasons, this researcher cannot have his/her identity revealed. A virtual meeting 3 days after the ceremony started the collective analysis process still in progress.

The second research project started from the observation that media has undergone major disruptions specifically since the end of the 20th century when digital technologies - the transformation of all forms of content into 0s and 1s - and the wider adoption of Internet protocols around the world meant that a more participatory culture through two-way communication was possible. With this in mind we have automatically scraped data from Twitter to understand how Brazilians interacted with the official fan handle of the Brazilian Olympic Committee ([@TimeBrasil](#)) during all the events that took place on the 28th July. Data ([Bernardamus projection](#) - network representing user network via hashtags from tweets) was collected between the beginning of the first event of the day until the end of the last event ([see Tokyo 2020 schedule](#)) where Brazil participated in men's archery, men's artistic gymnastic, women's and men's badminton, women's beach volleyball, men's boxing, women's and men's canoe slalom, men's football, men's handball, men's and women's judo, women's and men's sailing, men's and women's swimming, men's table tennis, mixed double's tennis and women's doubles tennis, and men's volleyball.

In order to check who were the most influent users in this network we ran an eigenvector centrality analysis (Borgatti et al, 2018) which unsurprisingly showed that the sport media ecosystem has been disrupted by new digital media affordances such as the capacity for interactivity in an environment where all users become content producers and consumers. Like the first project, the collected material analysis is still in the process of shared analysis and discussion.

It should be noted that the development of these actions generated the interest of the participants in requesting recognition for their research groups at the IOC Olympic Studies Centre. Thus, actions in progress points to the establishment of new research networks, the production of knowledge and the expansion of Olympic studies groups.

6) From Torino 2006 to Milano-Cortina 2026: From territorial competition to research cooperation towards a joint Olympic and mega events research center

Egidio Dansero (Università di Torino, OMERO (Research Center on Urban and Event Studies), Stefano Di Vita (Politecnico di Milano, DASTU (Department of Architecture and Urban Studies), Francesco Gastaldi (Università IUAV di Venezia, DCP (Department of Architecture and Arts))

The history of the Olympics and related literature are characterized by multifaceted results, impacts and legacies. The success of some Games' editions has contributed to make the Olympics as driver and policy of cultural, economic, environmental, political, social, and spatial transformation of host cities and regions (from modern growth to post-Fordist transition), as well as reference for other similar temporary events (mega and smaller). At the same time, the failure of other Games' editions has determined the raise of critical opinions and movements around local effects by the international machine of mega-events. In a context of multiple crises (financial, economic, environmental, sanitary), the level of contradictions, conflicts, and uncertainties is further and further high.

Against the backdrop of growing awareness on coexisting tensions and connections (physical and intangible) between mega-events and host cities and regions (at multiple scales), this contribution aims to reflect about the role of mega-events for the advancements in urban studies. Being the role of research not only that of monitoring, but also that of exploring and anticipating issues, the fields and interests can be multiple, such as the sustainability, temporality, flexibility, and transcalarity of spatial policy, planning and design.

Specifically, this contribution aims to depict the research activities in urban studies which have been promoted by universities in Turin, Milan and Venice on the occasions of past mega-events, as for instance the Italy World Cup 1990, the Turin Winter Olympics 2006, or the Milan Expo 2015. At the same time, this contribution aims to frame the legacy of these past mega-events within the new collaboration between universities of Turin, Milan and Venice in the prospect of the macro-regional Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Games.

Whilst historical events had strong media and political values for Italy in the period of the post-WWII reconstruction and economic boom (for instance, the 1950 Jubilee in Rome, the 1956 Winter Olympics in Cortina, the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome, the 1961 Expo in Turin), since the 1990 World Cup the debates on Italian mega-events have mostly focused on the link between the importance of hosting events and special procedures to carrying out the related interventions. Extra funding has frequently corresponded to organization and management issues, which have resulted in severe pathologies over time (as in the 2000 Jubilee in Rome) and in post-event abandonment of specific venues (as in the Alpine area of the 2006 Winter Games in Turin).

The frequent recurrence and the growing scale of mega-events in the territorial context of North Italy outline the need for spatial policy, planning and design able to integrate the urban scale and the regional/macro-regional scale. The transcalarity of spatial policy, planning and design could support the transition from territorial competition to cooperation, as well as the coordination between temporary/exceptional mega-events and long-term/ordinary development trajectories of host cities and regions. The transcalarity implies an update and upgrade of responsibility for both local and national governments, as well as international organizations as the IOC. The new cooperation between universities of Turin, Milan and Venice could provide a first insight on this direction.

7) Joining the IOC OSC-OSRC Network: a Newcomer From Shanghai

Peijie Chen and Fan Hong (The Institute of Olympic Studies and Research of Shanghai University of Sport)

The Institute of Olympic Studies and Research was supported by Shanghai University of Sport (SUS), the Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) and is recognised by the IOC-OSRC. It was officially launched on 23rd June 2021, the International Olympic Day, in Shanghai. The Vice President of the IOC and COC, Deputy Mayor of Shanghai, and the President of SUS attended the ceremony and revealed the plaque of the Institute. The Director of the IOC-OSRC delivered her congratulatory message online to the ceremony.

In his speech President Chen stated that the SUS will provide to the Institute strong institutional support in terms of finance, human resources, office and activity space, and administration. The SUS encourages the Institute to work together with the IOC-OSRC and OSRCs in other countries to promote the Olympic Movement, Olympic Spirit, and Olympic Education around the world.

The mission of the Shanghai Institute is to promote research and teaching on Olympic ideals and spirit, in China (especially in Shanghai and Southern China in particular), in Asia, and globally.

The Shanghai Institute undertakes teaching and research programmes in the areas of Olympism, history, culture, philosophy, ethics, economy, governance and organizations, politics and policies, athletes, coaches, sport events, professionalization, doping, women's sport, youth sport, disability sport, community sport, and other significant theoretical and practical issues related to the Olympic Movement.

The Shanghai Institute will

- Provide teaching programs online and offline of Olympic history and culture for universities, schools and local communities.
- Become a training base for middle and senior management staff of national and international sports organizations.
- Publish refereed journal articles and books related to Olympic Studies; supervise PhD students; provide strong support to junior researchers and young academics; establish a high-quality research and teaching team in the university and in Southern China; organize workshops, forums and conferences in Shanghai, China, and Asia.
- Establish an Olympic research database in China which will collect and maintain research results and information and provide data and information for students, scholars, researchers, and public and private institutions which have an interest in Olympic Studies.
- Become a national sports think-tank, and a national and international exchange and cooperation platform, to promote research on Olympic history, culture, ideas,

practices, and Olympic spirit in China, Asia and beyond.

- Maintain a close working relationship with the IOC-OSRC and send an annual activity report by the end of each academic year to the IOC-OSRC, together with a projected programme of activities for the following year.

Major ongoing research projects:

- Assessing the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games from cultural, social, economic, and sports reform perspectives.
- The Olympic Movement in Asia: nationalism and national identity (Japan, Korea, China)
- The Diplomatic Games: the Olympic Games and China's international relations policies and practice
- Translating classic Olympic Studies books into Chinese and promoting understanding of Olympism in China

Call for a joint research project with OSRCs around the world

Topic: Sport, the City and Urban Citizenship

The concept of citizenship in the Western literature was traditionally related to national citizenship, which in Marshall's (1950) classic account was defined as full membership of a community, consisting of three elements civil, political and social rights. In recent years the concept of citizenship has been extended to encompass at the global level rights and responsibilities for such policy matters as climate change and food security, as well as global shifts in migration. At the same time, at the sub-national or local level, questions of urban citizenship, rights and responsibilities in respect of membership of the urban community have become more acute.

Within this context, the right to sport is recognised in the Olympic Charter which argues that "the practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play." However, income disparities produce inequality in access to sporting opportunity, and this is particularly likely to be the case in communities in which the influx of culturally diverse segments of the population are most noticeable, as for example with the influx of refugees and migrant workers from the Central and Southern Americas into the US, or the migration of the rural workforce into China's Eastern cities; or the influx of refugee migrants into western European cities.

The research project proposed aims to identify ways in which access to sport and physical activity is mediated by the commercial, public or voluntary sectors, in particular in former and potential future Olympic host cities. We are reaching out to research groups and centres that have a focus on urban sport policy, who would have an interest in progressing research on this theme.