

The 'Olympic Studies Forum 2018: Rio, Buenos Aires and Tokyo. The Olympic Movement in Three Times'

OTÁVIO TAVARES 

Physical Education and Sport Center, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Vitória, Brazil

ABSTRACT

The 2018 Olympic Studies Forum was held at the Federal University of Espírito Santo (Vitória - Espírito Santo, Brazil) and brought together academics and researchers from the Olympic Themes. There were oral presentations and conferences with the aim of preserving or recreating the legacies of the notable Mega events in Brazil. In addition, debates related to Tokyo 2020 were promoted. This is the second edition after the one held in 2017 and whose scientific production was published in a special issue of JHSE that can be consulted at: [Rio 2016 Olympic Games First Anniversary Special Edition. Olympic Studies Forum, 4-5 August 2017. Santa Úrsula University. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.](#) **Keywords:** Megaevents; Rio 2016 Olympic Games; Cultural Olympiad; Olympic Studies Forum.

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 **Corresponding author.** Physical Education and Sport Center, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Vitória, Brazil.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5893-4311>

E-mail: otavio.silva@ufes.br

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Dear Editor:

According to the Brazilian scholar Lamartine DaCosta (2002), Olympism can be defined as a philosophy in progress, seeking a dynamic balance between tradition and innovation, gigantism and sustainability, education and business. This means that the Olympic Movement continually seeks a balance between continuity and change. The oscillation between those focuses would also explain the common change of positions in the grounds of Olympic Movement's lifetime.

This is not surprising since the notions of harmony, balance and eurhythmy are present in the vast work of Pierre de Coubertin, creator of the Olympic Movement and ideologue of modern sport. As he himself stated in *The Olympic Idea* (1966: 11), "the law of the pendulum applies to everything."

It was exactly inspired by this philosophical conception and historical observation that we organized the Olympic Studies Forum 2018 in Vitória, Brazil. The theme of the event 'Rio, Buenos Aires and Tokyo - The Olympic Movement in three times' tried to capture the essence of this characteristic of the Olympic Movement. Situated in the middle of the time between the 2016 and 2020 Summer Olympics and at same time the year of the YOG Buenos Aires 2018, we had the perfect timing to discuss the transition between two editions of the "traditional" Games against the backdrop of the new IOC guidelines introduced by Agenda 2020 and the innovations that the YOGs bring.

The event was an outcome of the partnership between the Brazilian Pierre de Coubertin Committee and the Physical Education and Sports Center of the Federal University of Espírito Santo (Vitória) and the Arete Center for Olympic Studies. He also had the support of the Brazilian Olympic Committee and the Tsukuba International Academy for Sport Studies (TIAS).

The Olympic Studies Forum 2018 is part of the calendar for academic events destined to annually gather in Brazil researchers from the Olympic area until the year 2019. Due to its theme this event had a wider international reach than the previous editions held in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and 2017.

The President of the Brazilian Olympic Committee, Mr. Paulo Wanderley, discussed the impact of the 2016 Games on the organization of Brazilian sport and the preparation for Tokyo 2020. Prof. Daniel de la Cueva (Argentine Committee Pierre de Coubertin) addressed the organization and program of Olympic Education of YOG Buenos Aires 2018. Finally, Prof. Dr. Zubaidullo Ubaidulloev (TIAS) presented how the Tokyo Games are being used as a tool for the development of sport in developing nations.

The Forum brought together 49 participants from both national and international institutions from Puerto Rico to Porto Alegre and from United Arab Emirates to Vitoria. To compose the 'Olympic Studies Forum 2018 Rio, Buenos Aires and Tokyo - The Olympic Movement in Three Times Special Edition of the Journal of Human Sport and Exercise' were selected 14 papers whose sport theme goes beyond the Olympic Studies specifically. They, however, exemplify the variety and quality of Olympic and sports studies developed in this part of the globe.

In this edition we will find contributions of Mazo and Silva about the history of Olympic sport in Brazil and of Rubio about the memories of Brazilian Olympic athletes. Several authors have made important contributions to the development of Olympic Education. Vela discusses the fundamentals of virtue formation through sport while other researchers present data on the national (Kirst; Tavares) and Latin American (Ferreira; Tavares)

outreach of Olympic education programs. Merlin, Müller and Todt in turn are dedicated to analysing how the Olympic experience impacts the perception of values by young people.

This edition also brings four important methodological contributions to the Olympic studies. Scarton and colleagues present the validation of an instrument for the evaluation of learning in Olympic values, while Perovano and Tavares present a contribution to the discussion about legacies of the Rio 2016 Games from the systematic review. Mataruna dos Santos, Zardini Filho and Milla use marketing tools to analyse the participation of some Middle Eastern countries in the YOG 2018. Finally, Feliciano presents a three-dimensional model for education in Olympic values for grassroots sport.

A final set of texts delivers varied contributions on an Olympic sport, soccer, giving a more varied thematic feature to this edition. The articles deal with psychological issues of young athletes (Strey, Lindern, Lisbon), soccer expats (Faggiani et al.), The meanings of soccer for young athletes (Lindern et al.) And an analysis of the Global Football Glossary as a legacy of the 2014 FIFA World Cup (Todt et al.).

I must thank JHSE for the opportunity to give international visibility to the intellectual output coming from this Forum. This edition, in a certain way, revives in the academic scope the generous character that Pierre de Coubertin wanted to give to the Olympic Games, synthesized in the phrase "all sports, all nations". I wish you all a good reading.

Otávio Tavares

Coordinator of the ARETE – Center of Olympic Studies.

Director of the Physical Education and Sport Center /Federal University of Espírito Santo.

Member of the Brazilian Olympic Academy.

Member of the Brazilian Committee Pierre de Coubertin.

