



**UNIVERSITY OF PELOPONNESE
FACULTY OF HUMAN MOVEMENT AND
QUALITY OF LIFE SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS ORGANIZATION
AND MANAGEMENT**

MASTER'S THESIS

“OLYMPIC STUDIES, OLYMPIC EDUCATION, ORGANIZATION
AND MANAGEMENT OF OLYMPIC EVENTS”

**Olympic Truce:
Creating a culture of Peace**



Dionysia K. Peppa

Supervisor: Professor Konstantinos Georgiadis

Vice-rector and Professor at the University of Peloponnese

Honorary Dean of the International Olympic Academy

Sparta, November, 2013

ABSTRACT

The concept of the Olympic Truce, which is also known by the name *ekecheiria* dates back to 776 B.C. in Ancient Greece. The three kings Iphitos of Elis, Lycourgos of Sparta and Cleosthenes of Pisa agree to the tradition of the Olympic Truce and organize the first Olympic Games at Olympia. All conflicts are ceased from seven days before until seven days after the Games, ensuring the benefit of safety and peace .Taking into consideration the global political reality, in 1992 the International Olympic Committee decides to revive the Olympic Truce in order to safeguard the athlete's interests and encourage peaceful solutions to the conflicts around the world.

The goal of this study is to explore if Olympic Truce can be re-established, overcome the obstacles and contribute to the development of a global culture for peace and togetherness. It illustrates the historical and contemporary link between Olympism and Olympic Truce and underlines the valuable role of international associations and organizations. In particular, this study looks at opportunities for building a culture of peace through Sport and fostering a culture of respect, tolerance, reconciliation and solidarity through Education.

It argues that sport is a powerful vehicle for achieving human development, peace-making and peace-keeping as it is based on a unique set of values. It may play roles in changing mentalities, inspiring and mobilizing future generations. Furthermore, it examines the power of education in a pedagogical base as an important resource in promoting peace, social justice, cultural diversity and stability at a global level.

Finally, it highlights the discrepancy between the theory and practice and analyzes the developments, tendencies, dynamics, existing difficulties and the future challenges of this priceless concept.

IMAGINE GLOBAL TRUCE...

MOVE THE WORLD FORWARD...



MAKE IT HAPPEN!

“..May the Olympic Truce, inspired by the Greek tradition of Ekecheiria, serve to promote dialogue, reconciliation and the search for durable solutions to all conflicts destroying peace around the world...”¹

Juan Antonio Samaranch

¹ International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Truce, An ancient concept for the new Millennium*, (Lausanne: IOC, 1998), p.4

CONTENT

1. Introduction	6
2. The “sacred” tradition of the Olympic Truce in ancient times and the birth of the modern Olympic Truce	8
3. The objectives, the mission and the establishment of the International Olympic Truce Foundation and the International Olympic Truce Centre	12
4. Creating a culture of Peace: The cooperation between the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations.....	17
5. Olympic Truce and Olympic Games	
5.1. Sport and Olympic Education as tools for peacebuilding (pedagogical and didactical approaches).....	22
5.2. The mission of the Youth Olympic Games in promoting peace.....	34
5.3. The basic ingredients of a culture of peace: Human Rights and Multiculturalism	37
5.4. A valuable window of opportunity or a romantic Olympic Tradition?	42
5.5. The next 16 days in Rio 2016. The action plans and the challenges.....	45
6. Peace must be enforced or it must be inspired?	48
7. Conclusions-Recommendations	52
8. Timeline.....	59
9. Appendices	63

9.1. Appendix I – Interviews / Opinions

9.1.1. Konstantinos Filis - Director of the International Olympic Truce Centre	63
9.1.2 Konstantinos Tzavaras – Former Alternate Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, Culture and Athletics.....	65
9.1.3. Pyrros Dimas – Olympic Gold Medalist Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000 (Weightlifting), President of the Hellenic Weightlifting Federation and Member of the Parliament State	67
9.1.4. Dimosthenis Tampakos - Olympic Gold Medalist Athens 2004, Olympic Silver Medalist Sydney 2000 (Rings-Artistic Gymnastics) and President of Hellenic Association of Olympic Winners	68
9.1.5. David Fernandez – Olympic Judo Athlete, Flag bearer for CRC at the Olympic Games Athens 2004, Physical Education Teacher and Law student– Costa Rica	69
9.1.6. Sakis Kostaris – Paralympian Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, Communications Manager and Sport Manager at the Hellenic Paralympic Committee - Greece	70
9.1.7. Megan Villanueva – Director of the peace and HR programme of the Fundació Catalunya Voluntaria - Barcelona	71
9.1.8. Tommy Kristoffersen - Project Manager of the International Sport and Culture Association - Denmark	74
9.1.9. Marina Vasilara - Managing Director Peaceplayers - Cyprus.....	75
9.1.10. Nevena Vukasinovic - Delegate and facilitator Generations for Peace - HK of Jordan and NOC of Serbia / Serbian Youth Council - Associate.....	76
9.1.11. Laska Nenova - Europe’s biggest community sports event - MOVE week, Regional coordinator SEE- Bulgaria	77
10. Bibliography.....	79



1. INTRODUCTION

*“The goal of the Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of Man, with a view to encouraging the establishment of a peaceful society, concerned with the preservation of human dignity. To this effect, the Olympic Movement engages, alone or in cooperation with other organizations, and within the limits of its means, in actions to promote peace...The goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport.”*²

Olympic Charter, Fundamental Principles

A culture of peace implies a global effort to change the way of acting and thinking in order to promote peace. In fact, the culture of peace is not just an idea but it is peace in action. It includes a set of values, behaviors, reflexes, mentalities and habits that promote social development, tolerance, equality, solidarity, respect for human rights and mutual understanding. Olympism is among others a peaceful philosophy. Its goal is to build a peaceful and better world by educating and inspiring youth through sport and promoting a spirit of friendship and harmonious co-existence. The present study focuses on the relationship among peace, sport and education.

The first chapter defines the ideal of the Olympic Truce and examines its historical roots. It explains how in ancient times the Sacred Truce is considered as a divine command and why it constitutes the cornerstone of the Olympic Games.

The second chapter delineates the importance of the establishment of the the International Olympic Truce Foundation and the International Olympic Truce Centre, analyzes the organizational framework and presents the building of partnerships, activities, strategies and priorities.

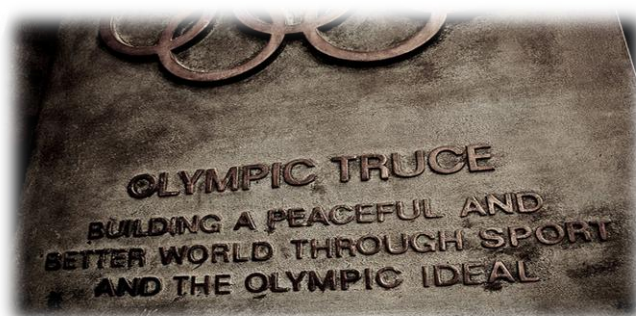
The third chapter presents IOC’s goals and attempts of protecting sport and searching for peaceful and diplomatic solutions to the world’s conflicts; illustrates UN’s peace

² International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Charter in force as 8 July 2011*, (Lausanne: IOC, 2011), p.10

operations and educational policies. Guided by the common principles, IOC and UN confirm their strong collaboration on joint actions and programmes in order to contribute to a better and peaceful world.

The fourth chapter outlines the potential role of sport as local and global tool for advocacy, social transformation and peace building. It discusses about the concept of Olympism and its contribution through Olympic pedagogy and education. It also explains the vision of the Youth Olympic Games to inspire young people around the world to promote multiculturalism, friendship, decrease prejudices and stereotypes and live by the Olympic values. Moreover, examines if the Olympic Truce has the potential to provide opportunities, hopes and practical results and apply its ideals in modern times. The idea of a truce and its observance during the next Olympics is also argued. The fifth chapter investigates the most effective ways to promote the ideals of peace and truce and put them into actual practice in order to make in depth transformations in order to cultivate and foster an international culture of peace. It is considered that peace must be inspired and not enforced. But is it really sufficient to make peace sustainable in order to bring ongoing conflicts to an end?

The conclusions summarize the most essential outcomes and provide tangible recommendations on how we can build a lasting legacy of peace re-establishing the most important aspect of the Olympic Games, the Olympic Truce. Finally, peace can be defined in different ways and it is shown that creating a culture of peace should be the ultimate long-term objective personally, locally, nationally and internationally. Great emphasis is also given on the ten interesting interviews/opinions that are included. These interviews are conducted by people from different countries and backgrounds who have key roles in peace organizations, politics or are involved in sport and education in any way.



3. THE “SACRED” TRADITION OF THE OLYMPIC TRUCE IN ANCIENT TIMES AND THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN OLYMPIC TRUCE

The word *ekecheiria* which literally means holding of hands - etymologically means *truce*. On the contrary, the term *peace* was not used in ancient Greece for the Olympic Games. As the myth says, the king Ifitos from Elis consulted the oracle at Delphi in order to put an end to the endless wars between the rival Greek city states. He was advised to break the cycle of conflict by replacing war with friendly athletic competition every four years. He sought the cooperation of kings Lycourgos of Sparta and Cleosthenes of Pisa. Finally they agreed to a truce called *ekecheiria* and revived the Olympic Games at Olympia in 776 BC. Fighting was ceased for seven days until seven days after the Games guaranteeing both the safe transit of athletes, artists and spectators, and their peaceful participation in the Games. The announcement of Truce was made through messengers, called *spondophoroi*.³

It was through these early Games that the ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce was born. The Olympic Games and the Olympic Truce were one and the same thing and it was impossible to have one without the other. Its institutions were universally respected, with few exceptions, for more than 1200 years. A treaty signed by Elis, Sparta and Pisa defined the area around Olympia as sacred and inviolable space and decreed the cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Olympic Games.⁴ Violating the Truce was regarded as an act of irreverence to the deity in whose honor the festival was held. Only with few exceptions, the ancient Greeks complied with the Truce with due respect, both because it was sacred and because they attached tremendous importance to their athletic festivals. It is a fact that Olympia held an important place in the conscience of all Greeks as a centre with a national character finding out that they had much more in common than the differences that separated them. Also, it became an intellectual beacon in the conscience of all Greeks as many peace treaties and cooperation agreements, such as the 30 – year peace Treaty between Athens and Sparta,

³ International Olympic Truce Center – History

<http://www.olympictruce.org/index.php/the-iotc/history> (accessed January 10, 2013)

⁴ Konstantinos Georgiadis, and Angelos, Syrigos, *Olympic Truce, Sport as a platform for peace*, (Athens: International Olympic Truce Centre, 2009), p.21

were signed between warring cities during the Games.⁵ Actually, the Olympic Truce is both an immediate reality and a symbol. It forces people to accept peaceful coexistence in peace during a given period and at the same time it symbolizes the manner in which people, in spite of all the antagonism among them, should be living all the time in a stable and permanent situation of peace. In other terms, the Olympic Truce is definitely the absence of war during a fixed period, but it is also the springboard which permits the wide dissemination of principles of action, in view of the contribution of Olympism to peace among individuals, societies and nations.⁶

It is really of pivotal importance to make clear that the Truce was not a general peace and warfare was not forbidden generally. The Truce of games meant a temporary protection of the organizing polis, and all people who attended but not more. The Olympic Games provided a Truce which meant peace to the whole Hellenic World during the Games but in substance *ekecheiria* in not *eirene*.⁷

In the 19th century the idea of worldwide peace became part and parcel of general humanistic thinking and there were first attempts to transform these ideas into practice. Pierre de Coubertin as the pioneer of the modern Olympic Games incorporated the idea of universal peace in his thoughts and in his movement. Since the days of Pierre de Coubertin, the promotion of peace is an important aspect of the modern Olympic Games. In 1896, the Olympic Games are resurrected for the modern era, celebrating humanity, noble competition and the peaceful coexistence of the humanity. *“Wars break out because nations misunderstand each other. We shall not have peace until the prejudices which now separate the different races shall have been outlived. To attain this end, what better means than to bring the youth of all countries periodically together for amicable trials of muscular strength and agility?”*⁸ Likewise, the Olympic Charter as a basic instrument of constitutional nature includes the notion of peace. According to

⁵ Ioannis, Mouratidis, “Culture and the Olympic Spirit in Antiquity”, report on the 33rd International session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994, pp.65-67

⁶ Nikolaos, Nissiotis, “The Olympic movement’s contribution to peace”, report of the 25th session 4-19 July 1985, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOC and HOC, pp.56-57

⁷ Werner, Petermandl, “Olympic Games and the idea of Truce and Peace in ancient times”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011, pp.89-98

⁸ Norbert, Müller, “The idea of peace as Coubertin's vision for the modern Olympic movement: development and pedagogic consequences”, The sport Journal 2006, vol. 9

this: “*The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, with view to promotion a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity*”. “*The goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practiced in accordance with Olympism and its values*”.⁹ The Olympic Games in Ancient Greece adopted Truce with great success instead of the Modern Olympic Games that the Olympic Truce was characterized by a big failure especially in 1916, 1940 and 1944. In 1992, the President of IOC Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch encourages the reinstatement of the Olympic Truce proposing to the members of the International Community to observe it, which was what the UN General Assembly asked for in 1993.¹⁰ The year 2000 is a milestone year for the combined action of the Olympic Movement and the UN in promoting peace. Encouraged by the IOC, the UN declared 2000 as the international year for a culture of peace, with the contribution of UNESCO to its promotion. Moreover, the Olympic Truce is revived the same year with the establishment of the International Olympic Truce Center and the International Olympic Truce Foundation. The goal of these is to promote the demand of the Olympic Movement worldwide for peace, tolerance, fair play, friendship and cooperation and ensure that the Olympic civil society will support and encourage the Olympic Truce to give peace a predominant position in today’s world.¹¹

Taking into account the global context in which sport and the Olympic Games exist, the International Olympic Committee decides to revive the ancient concept of the Olympic Truce and extend it beyond the period of the Olympic Games. Through this symbolic concept the IOC tries to build bridges between communities in conflict, mobilize and inspire the critical mass of people especially youth, use sport as a tool for peacebuilding, create opportunities and effective methods for dialogue and

⁹ International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Charter in force as 8 July 2011*, (Lausanne: IOC, 2011), p.11

¹⁰ Norbert, Müller, “The idea of Peace as vision for the Modern Olympic Games: origin, development and pedagogic consequences”, report on the 7th International session for Educators and Officials of higher institutes of physical education 20-27 July 2006, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2007, pp.59-62

¹¹ Stelios, Perrakis, “The Olympic Movement as a tool for world peace”, International Olympic Academy, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011, p.85

reconciliation, reflect on Olympic values and create a series of activities through the National Olympic Committees.¹²

It can be assumed that in our days, the Olympic Truce has become an expression of mankind's desire to promote togetherness, friendship, solidarity, international understanding and succeed peace beyond the duration of the Games. It is one of a wide range of instruments of peace that can be used to aid progress, experience peace inspired by sport, deliver practical results on the ground and at the same time inspire and show the power of idealism. Indeed, Olympic Truce can contribute to breeding tolerance between nations and build a peaceful society based on human dignity and can be used as a peace-keeping tool improving diplomatic relations and sending messages of hope in all over the world.¹³

“... It would, therefore, be a mistake to consider the Olympic Truce as nothing but a passive pacifist attitude, or a fiction, or even a form of moral hypocrisy, because it also is an education, a training in view of permanent peace, a total negation of war and a victory over the feeling of hatred amongst people, who, in life, happen to be constantly competing. That is the reason why the Truce, in the final analysis, became a school of peace for the ancient Greeks...”¹⁴



¹² Olympic Truce

<http://www.olympic.org/content/the-ioc/commissions/international-relations-/olympic-truce/>

(accessed June 5, 2013)

¹³ Konstantinos Georgiadis, and Angelos, Syrigos, *Olympic Truce, Sport as a platform for peace*, p.23

¹⁴ Nikolaos, Nissiotis, “The Olympic movement’s contribution to peace”, p.57

4. THE OBJECTIVES, THE MISSION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC TRUCE FOUNDATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRUCE CENTRE

The idea of Olympic Truce is based upon the deep belief that athletics and Olympic ideals can contribute to the creation of a peaceful and better world. The basic aim of this endeavor is to define specific guidelines, create initiatives and promote a culture of world peace. The Olympic Truce is symbolized by the dove of peace with the traditional Olympic flame in the background. It represents the IOC's ideals to build a peaceful and a better world through sport and the Olympic ideal. The flame and the colorful effervescent elements illustrate people of all races coming together for the observance of the Truce.¹⁵ In 1998, the Greek Government proposed to the IOC members the institutional revival of the Olympic Truce in the new millennium. A year later in December 1999, the IOC announced the establishment of the International Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Truce. Moreover, the dynamic gained further impetus with the commitment of the candidate city of Athens that the 2004 Olympic Games will come back in their place of birth and empower the meaning of the Olympic Truce around the world.¹⁶

In the framework of promoting peace through sport and the Olympic ideal, the International Olympic Committee in close cooperation with Greece, established an International Olympic Truce Foundation (IOTF) in July 2000 and its operational arm, the International Olympic Truce Centre. The Foundation and the Centre are non – governmental organizations included within the framework of the Olympic Movement. The Board Chair is Dr. Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee and Vice Chairs are George A. Papandreou, former Prime Minister of Greece and Fanny Palli – Petralia, former Minister of Tourism and former Minister of

¹⁵ Olympic Truce – History

<http://www.olympic.org/content/the-ioc/commissions/international-relations-/olympic-truce/?tab=history> (accessed January 10, 2013)

¹⁶ International Olympic Truce Centre

<http://www.olympictruce.org/Pages/IOTC.aspx?sub=AboutTruce> (accessed January 10, 2013)

Employment and Social Protection in Greece. One more Greek personality, Dr. Costantinos Filis is the Director of the International Olympic Truce Center.

In more detail, the main objective of the IOTF is to promote the Olympic ideals to serve peace, friendship and understanding in the world, promote the ancient Greek tradition of the Olympic Truce, uphold the observance of the Olympic Truce and initiate conflict prevention and resolution through sport, culture and the Olympic ideals. IOTF also builds partnerships, develops cooperations with the institutions of the Olympic family, with international and national organizations, with non – governmental organizations and with private initiatives and institutions. It also educates and mobilizes the youth of the world in the cause of peace, stimulates educational and research programmes and launches communications campaigns promoting the ideal of Olympic Truce. It is worth mentioning that the IOFC is administrated by a board composed of personalities from the world of sports and politics, and meets once a year.¹⁷

The International Olympic Truce Centre is dedicated to create the necessary support framework for the observance of the Olympic Truce and for the global promotion of a Culture of Peace, in accordance with the principles and policies established by the Foundation. The symbolic seat of the International Olympic Truce Center is in Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games and has a liaison office in Lausanne, Switzerland, where the International Olympic Committee is based. Furthermore, the executive offices of the International Olympic Truce Centre are in Athens, where the first Games of the modern era were held in 1896.¹⁸

... Imagine Global Truce

Move the world forward...



¹⁷ International Olympic Truce Foundation

<http://www.olympic.org/content/the-ioc/commissions/international-relations-/olympic-truce/?tab=international-foundation> (accessed January 10, 2013)

¹⁸ International Olympic Truce Centre, *Imagine Peace*, (Athens, 2011), p.22

The work of the International Olympic Truce Foundation and the International Olympic Truce Center is based on four fundamental pillars: the communication, the dialogue and discussion, the education and the truce building. Each pillar reflects a distinct strategy and leads to a steady shaping of a Culture of Peace.¹⁹ The first pillar refers to communication campaigns and to cooperative relationships among International Sports Federations, National Olympic Committees and Organizing Committees of the Olympic Games. The true goal is to make Truce a household word, ensuring that there is a growing awareness of the global community concerning the Truce, re – tying in peoples’ and leaders’ minds that the Olympic Games are there for peace and send the spirit of friendship and reconciliation in the Olympic Torch Relay. At the Olympic Flame Handover ceremony in Panathenaikon Stadium, children between 9-13 years old, wearing t – shirts with the Olympic Truce logo liberate white doves, in a strong symbolic gesture for lasting Peace during the Olympic Games. The second pillar deals with the stimulation of dialogue and discussion. Both of them, play a crucial role to the efforts of the Foundation and the Truce center. *The Olympic Truce Forum* is a brilliant idea, an online forum with easy access in every corner of the world, promoting exchanging of opinion, dialogue and fruitful discussion. Members of this forum participate in a global dialogue exploring the relevance of the Olympic Truce in our days. The third one contributes to the activation of a culture of peace through sport and the Olympic ideal, developing educational and research programmes, initiatives, workshops and publications. It formulates a ‘knowledge bank’ on the Olympic Truce and disseminates the value of Olympism in schools and universities. Some examples are the followings: *Imagine Peace* is an amazing initiative of the International Olympic Truce Centre that provides a series of lectures and creative workshops around Greece for younger children of various ages. *Time out for Truce, A goal for Peace* is a campaign that aims to promote the ideals of Peace and Olympism through popular sports like basketball and football. *What unites us is more than what divides us* is a campaign that includes events where people will share and exchange experiences and ideas about their culture’s special characteristics and folklore details, customs and traditions. At personal level is that each one transcends any differences in gender, nationality, religion and culture. At social level, is to develop stronger bonds and better

¹⁹ International Olympic Truce Centre

<http://www.olympictruce.org/Pages/IOTC.aspx?sub=AboutTruce> (accessed January 10, 2013)

understanding of the differences in nationality, religion and culture.²⁰ *Kid's athletics* is a joint program organized by the IOCT and the Hellenic Olympic Committee together with the Ministry of Education and the Hellenic Athletics Federation. Its aim is to bring children in contact with classic athleticism and its multiple benefits.²¹ The IOCT's educational program, in cooperation with the Hellenic Olympic Committee, forwards field trips to interesting historical sites that are closely related with the ideal of Truce. It also publishes a series of story books, activity books and teacher's guide in cooperation with leading educationists and authors. In 2012 has published the coloring book *Colors for Peace* that introduces children to the values of Olympism and a teacher's guide in order to enhance the teaching experience. Finally, the fourth pillar highlights the process of Truce building through activities and events that provide inspiration through sport and the Olympic ideal and humanitarian support to regions in conflict. Building partnerships, the Foundation and the Center organize symbolic Truce events in areas of tension, gather support for the observance of the Olympic Truce and involve youth in peace activities.²²

It is not considered that peace is going to solve all the problems or all the wars around the world but it is considered that the idea of reviving the Truce can provide a new promising instrument for peace, an instrument in the hands of the United Nations and others that work for peace. The significance of the effort behind the Olympic Truce is the fact that combines the strength of an Olympic Movement, the credibility of the athletic movement and the enthusiasm of the younger generation. The objective is to cooperate, combine the spirit of these movements and seek contribution to resolve existing conflicts and social problems and promote international peace, intercultural dialogue and understanding. We might act and do something more than simply watch and talk in theoretical level, we can try to become educators by example.²³

²⁰ Konstantinos, Filis, Presentation at the Youth Participants Session - International Olympic Academy June 2012

²¹ Official Blog of the IOCT - Kid's Athletics
<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/kids-athletics/> (accessed January 10, 2013)

²² International Olympic Truce Centre
<http://www.olympictruce.org/Pages/IOTC.aspx?sub=AboutTruce> (accessed January 10, 2013)

²³ George, Papandreou, "Olympic Truce (ekecheiria) and the International Foundation of Olympic Truce", report on the 41th International session for young participants 22 June-2 July 2001, Ancient Olympia, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 2002), p.43-47



It's important to make clear and repeat once more that the Olympic Truce does not promise peace, but it offers hope and inspiration. We have to go beyond imagining peace, to discuss the opportunities for peace and to reflect on our values. Social media is

a tool that can push new generation to take action, promote tolerance and solidarity, establish a culture of peace, open minds and souls and offer the necessary stimulus for people to bring Truce into their everyday lives. IOTC'S presence in the social media offers a tremendous opportunity to participate in the global dialogue and cultivate the next generation of 'truce ambassadors' through the web. Finally, if we understand that what unite us is more than what divide us, then the peaceful coexistence of all will be possible.²⁴ The aim of the Centre is to mobilize world leaders and athletes in creating and promoting a culture of Peace that would be further integrated into everyday life. It also works hard in order to create a prosperous environment for continued dialogue between civilizations, increasing mutual understanding and tolerance among people of different cultural backgrounds. Additionally, the IOCT seeks to encourage nations to observe the Olympic Truce and to cease hostilities during the Olympic Game and of course beyond them, determined that sport will not impose peace, but might inspire it. The specific aim of the educational program, structured by the Center, is to attract thousands of students, who are the best multipliers of the Center's messages and carriers of change, opposite to cynical and negative adult approaches to current affairs.²⁵



²⁴ 2nd International Forum on sport for Peace and Development in Geneva 2011 (Address delivered by Dr. Costantinos Filis, Director of the International Olympic Truce Centre
<http://www.olympictruce.org/Pages/Files/files/Address%20delivered%20by%20Dr%20Constantinos%20Filis.pdf> (accessed January 10, 2013)

²⁵ Sport & dev.org, "An interview with the International Truce Center
<http://www.sportanddev.org/?4009/An-interview-with-the-International-Olympic-Truce-Center>
(accessed January 10, 2013)

5. CREATING A CULTURE OF PEACE: THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND THE UNITED NATIONS

*“... Sports by its nature may be competitive, but sports can be a very powerful tool and vehicle to promote dialogue and peace and reconciliation. Unfortunately we are experiencing problems in many parts of the world, but through sports we can promote peace and dialogue and reconciliation. This is exactly what the United Nations and the IOC share – the same goals and objectives...”*²⁶

Ban Ki – Moon, United Nations Secretary General

According to Kofi Annan, General Secretary of the United Nations in 2000, the Olympic ideals are also United Nations ideals: tolerance, equality, fair play and most of all peace. Together the Olympic and the United Nations can be a winning team. But the contest will not be won easily. War, intolerance and deprivation continue to stalk the earth. He underlines that we must fight back, just as athletes strive for world records, so must we strive for world peace.²⁷

The founder of the IOC and the reviver of the modern Olympic Games, Pierre de Coubertin was a strong advocate of international cooperation and of the social and human values of sport. The IOC as the most important non – governmental organization in the field of sport is engaged in sports development at grass – roots levels promoting the values of solidarity, peace attitudes and human dignity which sport can channel. It also carries out a lot of initiatives relevant to its respective aims with partners, including numerous United Nations agencies.²⁸ The United Nations is an international

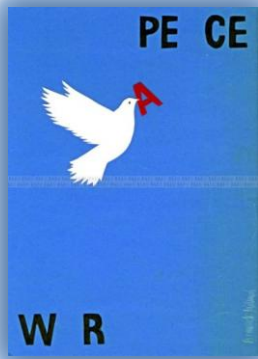
²⁶ Official website of the Olympic Movement – Olympic Truce

<http://www.olympic.org/content/the-ioc/commissions/international-relations-/olympic-truce/?tab=initiatives-for-peace> (accessed January 13, 2013)

²⁷ International Olympic Truce Centre and United Nations Information Centre, *United Nations and Olympic Truce*, (Athens, 2005), p.11

²⁸ IOC – Factsheet Development through Sport (update June 2012)

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents/Factsheets/Human_development_through_sport.pdf (accessed January 13, 2013)



organization that promotes peace throughout the world; develop friendly relations among nations, help nations work together to improve the lives of poor people, to conquer hunger, disease and illiteracy, and to encourage respect for other's rights and freedoms. Its work reaches every corner of the globe and due to its unique international character can take action on a wide range of issues and provide a forum for its 193 member States to

express their views through the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and social Council and other bodies and committees. Besides, work on peacekeeping, peacebuilding, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance coordinating efforts for a safer world for this and future generations.²⁹

More specifically, the most important milestones in the first ten years are presented below. The first initiatives to revive the ancient concept of the Olympic Truce were launched by the IOC in 1992. In order for the project to have greater impact the IOC, relayed to the UN.³⁰ The 48th session of the General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution co – sponsored by 121 states on the observance of the Olympic Truce, on the occasion of the IOC Centenary. The 1993 resolution, in favor of Olympic Truce is a landmark in the history of Olympism. Since 1993, an item on the Olympic Truce is permanently and regularly on the agenda of the UN General Assembly sessions a year before the Olympic Winter and Summer Games are held. The UN declared 1994 as the International Year of Sport and the Olympic Idea. The same year General Assembly adopted the second resolution on the Olympic Truce with the title *Olympic Idea*. The appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce allowed the participation of athletes from the former Republic of Yugoslavia in the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer. Juan Antonia Samaranch visited Sarajevo, which was at war, to extend its solidarity with the city that hosted the Games in 1984. In 1995 the President of the IOC attended the UN General Assembly for the first time in history. During the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998, tensions in the Persian Gulf region are high. The observance of the Olympic Truce, according to United Nations resolutions, offers an opportunity to

²⁹ United Nations at a glance

<http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/index.shtml> (accessed January 13, 2013)

³⁰ Jim, Parry, et al. *Sport and Spirituality, An introduction*, (Oxon: Routledge, 2007), p.211

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to intervene to seek a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Iraq. In 1999 a record number of 180 members States were co – sponsors of the Resolution on the Olympic Truce. In 2000 the General Assembly adopts the United Nations Millennium Declaration encouraging peace, cooperation, development and observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future. The South and the North delegations parade together under the flag of the Korean peninsula during the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in Sydney. Moreover, the establishment of the International Olympic Truce Foundation and of the International Olympic Truce Center turns the commitment of the Olympic Movement to promote the Olympic ideals and serve peace, friendship and international understanding. In 2001 the General Assembly adopted a resolution on the Olympic Truce as *creating a better world through sports*.³¹ The Olympic rings are still one of the most recognized and powerful emblems in the world. The Olympic Movement aspires to contribute to a peaceful future for humankind through the educational value of sport. It brings together athletes from all parts of the world in the greatest international sports events, the Olympic Games. It aims to promote the maintenance of peace, mutual understanding and goodwill, goals that share with the United Nations. In 1998, the IOC decided to fly the UN flag at all competition sites of the Olympic Games. The UN from its part is expanding its cooperation with the IOC and in general all the Olympic Family at large through a number of agreements and partnerships.³²

Finally, directly relations between the IOC and the UN have spanned three UN Secretary Generals – Boutros Boutros Ghali, Kofi Annan and Ban Ki – moon. Unarguably each one of them has raised bar on the relationship. Mr. Ghali supported for the first time an Olympic Games related resolution which was debated and adopted by the UN General Assembly. Mr. Annan received the Olympic Torch at the UN and visiting the IOC to discuss the support for sport in his drive for progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and at the end Mr. Ban visited the IOC on two occasions, attending the 2009 Olympic Congress as guest of honor and institutionalizing the two – yearly report on sport to the UN General Assembly. He has also undertaken a joint trip to Zambia, with IOC President, Jacques Rogge visiting the Olympic Youth

³¹ Ibid

³² United Nations and the Olympic Truce

<http://www.un.org/events/olympictruce/> (accessed January 13, 2013)

Development Center. This is a project whose purpose is as much about bringing sport to young people where they do not have enough facilities as it is about development of the community at large, education for the young people, health and peace.³³

Mr. Jacques Rogge during the 3rd Forum on Sport for Peace and Development referred that sport is at work for peace and development in countries around the world. Collaboration in this area has increased dramatically and involves a wide range of committed partners. The relationship between the IOC and the UN goes back many years. Our organizations have two very different roles in society, but we share some core values.³⁴ Also, UN Secretary – General Ban Ki – Moon commented that the link between sport, peace and development grows stronger by the year. It can be traced back in history to the original Olympic Truce, which guaranteed safe passage to athletes and other travelers attending the ancient Games. It is found in the bidding requirements for modern Olympic host cities, which are asked to provide a durable social and environmental legacy. And it is evident throughout the United Nations system, which has embraced sport as a valuable vehicle for reaching our peace and development objectives. The International Olympic Committee is a key partner. The UN stands ready to partner with organizations such as the IOC to promote sport for all, regardless of health or wealth, color or creed.³⁵

To sum up, IOC and UN have become definitely congenial partners and can help make this world a better, safer place. Today both of them cooperate in building up educational programmes, sporting activities, and social actions that seek to activate a culture of peace transmitting the spirit and the principles of the Olympic Movement worldwide. It's obvious that by using sport as a tool, the IOC and its partners implement various activities across the globe in fields such as peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance, education, gender equality, the environment and the fight against HIV/AIDS, thereby contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.³⁶

³³ International Olympic Committee, “Olympism in Action, Sport serving Humankind

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Olympism_in_action/IOC-Olympism-in-Action-FINAL-American-format-ENGLISH.pdf (accessed June 5, 2013)

³⁴ UN – Secretary Ban Ki - Moon receives Olympic Order

<http://www.olympic.org/news/un-secretary-general-ban-ki-moon-receives-olympic-order/200332>
(accessed June 5, 2013)

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ Ibid



“...One of the fundamental principles of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit. This is essentially why the International Olympic Committee revived the ancient Greek tradition of ‘Ekecheiria’, the Olympic Truce: using sport as an instrument to foster dialogue for reconciliation and peace with the support of the United Nations calling on its member states. The world around us has a strong desire for peace. Of course, sport cannot impose peace but it can contribute to inspiring it...’³⁷

Jacques Rogge

President of the I.O.C

Chairman of the International Olympic Truce Centre

³⁷ Jacques Rogge, Foreword to the *Olympic Truce, Sport as a platform for peace* by Konstantinos Georgiadis and Angelos, Syrigos, p.9

5. Olympic Truce and Olympic Games

5.1. Sport and Olympic Education and as tools for peacebuilding (pedagogical and didactical approaches)

*“... Sport has become a world language, a common denominator that breaks down all the walls, all the barriers. It is a worldwide industry of whose practises can have a widespread impact. Most of all, it is a powerful tool for progress and development...”*³⁸

Ban Ki – Moon

United Nations Secretary – General

Peacebuilding occurs gradually, at multiple levels. At the grassroots, sports are increasingly becoming part of the peace builder’s toolkit worldwide. Sport and Olympism are, by their very essence, “bearers of hope”, both collectively as they become platforms to promote peace and individually as they enable skills to be developed. Sport and in particular Olympic Games are an international media platform which can be used to highlight certain causes or become alternative diplomatic tools, encourage participation and inclusion, provide pathways, bring people together by highlighting commonalities between them and develop important individual and social competences. Adding an educational message to sports events can raise awareness on health information and services. The Olympic Truce around the Olympic Games has become a part of the organisation of the Games, with Organising Committees investing more in related activities and dedicating the Olympic Torch and the educational programmes of the Olympic Truce. Part of the legacy of the Olympic Games is the massive programme to engage young people and to imbue in them a culture of peace.³⁹

³⁸ United Nations – Office on Sport for Development and Peace

http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/sport/shared/sport/pdfs/Reports/UNOSDP_Annual-Report_2011_FINAL_web_single-pages.pdf (accessed January 25, 2013)

³⁹ The Olympic Museum, *Hope, when Sport can change the world*, Educational kit, (Lausanne: IOC, 2011), p.5

Nowadays, the world of sport is regularly confronted with issues of violence, corruption, discrimination, excessive nationalism, doping, cheating and hooliganism. While these issues are still in a minority, they can be very damaging for athletes, sports, institutions and the image of sport in general. Olympism through its philosophy and its priceless values seeks to correct these abuses, promote teamwork, tolerance, cooperation and mutual – respect and show that sport can help to create a culture for peace.⁴⁰

It is fact that sport is an international language and the rules of game are easily understood by everyone, young and old, around the world. Thus, sport has an important role to play in the wider toolkit of development and peace programming. Although sport is not a panacea for development, it can contribute to the achievement of international development objectives such as eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, reduce stigma and come into social skills, achieve universal primary education, conveys positive messages, influences behavior and provide opportunities, promote gender equality through social interaction and friendship, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, ensure environmental sustainability and enhance participation in community and finally, develop a global partnership for development among governments, NGOs and sport organizations.⁴¹

Current definitions of peacebuilding go beyond an exclusive focus on the post – conflict phase and emphasize the building of relations between people as key components of peacebuilding. It is defined also as a comprehensive concept that encompasses, generates and sustains the full array of processes, approaches and stages needed to transform conflict towards more sustainable, peaceful relationships.⁴² Sport is an effective and broadly used tool in promoting peacebuilding and strengthening a culture of peace. Peace is a necessary condition for social, cultural and economic development

⁴⁰ International Olympic Committee, The Olympic Museum, “Hope. When sport can change the world”

http://www.olympic.org/documents/olympic_museum/education/dphope/dp_hope_en_web.pdf

(accessed January 25, 2013)

⁴¹ Wilfried, Lemke, “The potential of sport towards peace and development of mankind”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011), p.119-127

⁴² International platform on Sport and Development – Sport and Peacebuilding

http://assets.sportanddev.org/downloads/090611_sport_and_peacebuilding_profile_for_print.pdf

(accessed January 25, 2013)

in which sport has a major role to play. It's obvious that the Olympic Games and other mega events are windows of opportunity to promote a culture of peace and international friendship as many of the Olympic values associated with sport are relevant to conflict prevention and resolution to peacebuilding. To be realistic, sport alone cannot bring the change and prevent conflict or stop a war. It can have a supporting a wide range of peacebuilding interventions, complement more or less conventional approaches and be utilized in the peacebuilding process at various stages. More concrete, sport programmes are implemented as part of comprehensive peacebuilding strategies and ensure mutual acceptance and tolerance, connect individuals to communities, promote gender equality, create an environment in which people interact and come together, break down prejudices and try to rehabilitate post- conflict societies.⁴³

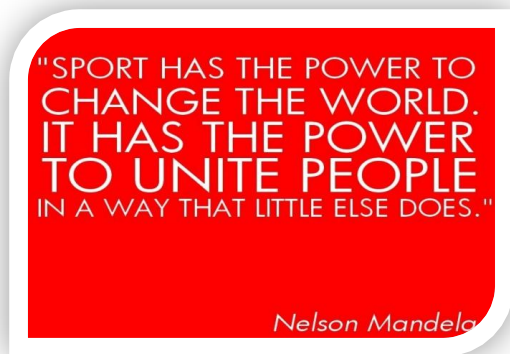
In the same vein, the International Olympic Committee formed the *Sport for all* Commission in 1983. The concept of Sport for all is central to this understanding of sport. The most important aim of the Commission is to encourage and support the efforts of sharing the health and social benefits to be gained by all members of society through regular physical activity. This goal is achieved through cooperation with International Sports Federations, National Olympic Committees, National sports organizations and a wide range of other recognized partners. *Sport for all* activities can provide significant social benefits for communities and should therefore be seen as a platform for promoting values and teaching life skills and ethics. They can also assist in reconciliation efforts by building bridges between distanced communities and can build new communities by creating a sense of common purpose and teamwork.⁴⁴ On the other hand, in order to reach the full potential of sport for development and peace is necessary to eliminate the negative aspects and address the various obstacles. The lack of qualified trainers, the lack of good and accessible sport infrastructure, the issue of sexual abuse in sports, the ongoing focus on elite sports, the development of technical sports skills instead of the development of the individual, the bad effects of technology on youth and the perception of sport as a non – educational activity are some of the challenges that is

⁴³ Wilfried, Lemke, “The potential of sport towards peace and development of mankind”, pp.124-127

⁴⁴ The IOC guide to managing Sport for all programmes

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Olympism_in_action/Sport%20for%20all/spt-tk-en.pdf

(accessed January 25, 2013)



needed to face down efficiently.⁴⁵

Clearly, Sport is not about conflict but competition, not about violence but aggression, neither it is moral and value – free but itself a moral enterprise. It is this peacemaking capacity of sports that informs its peacekeeping potential. A deeper understanding of sport would try

to explain why it is universally popular as a mode of mutual expression of our common humanity. Only if we can give some account of the nature and intrinsic values of sport will be in a position to identify and promote those values which are the bedrock of its peacekeeping potential.⁴⁶ Sport can be used as a deterrent by teaching the values of respect and communication skills needed to reduce tensions and build a better world. Incorporating sport into education can lead to better achievement and strengthens the potential of youth to contribute to intercultural understanding. It can be an effective tool to provide children with equal opportunities, giving them a valuable asset they can use to build their future.

Sport as a mean for Development and Peace has been recognized by the United Nations as directly contributes to the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group whose aim is to promote the integration of Sport for Development and Peace argues that the focus must be always on mass sport and not elite sport. Sport is used to reach out to those most in need including refugees, child soldiers, persons with disabilities, victims of racism, victims of conflict and person living with diseases.⁴⁷ The field of sports peacebuilding has launched a series of programs worldwide and the International Olympic Committee has been cooperating with and assisting the United Nations and its Members States in their

⁴⁵ 2nd International Forum on sport for Peace and Development in Geneva 2011

http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/sport/shared/sport/pdfs/Reports/10-11.05.2011_UN-IOC_FORUM_Geneva_REPORT_EN.pdf (accessed January 25, 2013)

⁴⁶ Jim, Parry, “The power of sport in peacemaking and peacekeeping” in *Sport in society: Cultures, commerce, media, politics*, (London: Routledge, 2012), p.775-787

⁴⁷ United Nations – Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group
<http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/sport/home/unplayers/memberstates/pid/6229>
(accessed January 25, 2013)

efforts to achieve peacebuilding activities and establish a culture of peace. Their philosophy is applied to a much broader range of activities and especially to popular sports such as football and basketball creating in this way common ground through shared experience and passion for sport. Some of them are the following: United Nations Office on Sport and Development for Peace, the International platform on Sport and Development, Sports United, the United States Institute of Peace, Right to play, Dance for Peace, Fight for Peace, Generations for Peace, OA Projects, Mifalot: Sport for Education, Development and Peace, Peaceplayers International, Ultimate Peace, Peace and Sport and the Peres Center for Peace.⁴⁸

Sport has a unique power to attract, mobilize and inspire but it is fair to acknowledge once more that sport alone cannot solve all the ills of society. As a cultural phenomenon it is a mirror of society and is just as complex and contradictory. By its nature, sport is about participation, inclusion and citizenship, it is powerful tool to strengthen ties and networks and to promote ideals of peace and fraternity. Its positive potential does not develop automatically. It requires a professional and socially responsible intervention which is tailored to the perspective social and cultural context. The responsibility for peacebuilding and social development lies within the societies. It cannot bring peace by itself but it can contribute greatly given the opportunity and used in well – designed programmes and policies. The collaboration among governments, international organizations and local communities is essential in order to implement sport programmes, evaluate their contribution and if is needed to improve them. It's crucial to give emphasis on effective monitoring and guiding of all sport activities and introduce compulsory sport activities in school, which would definitely help sustain the legacy of a continuing sporting education. If we use sport as part of an appropriate approach, we can give hope for a productive and fulfilling future, communicate messages of peace and values, draw confidence and create an atmosphere of optimism to the apparently hopeless communities of the world.⁴⁹

“ In between shouts of GOAL! GOAL! GOAL, enemies might not remember how many times they embraced each other. ”

⁴⁸ Alex, Krafchek, Sports peacebuildings: The basics.

<http://www.beyondintractability.org/bi-essay/sports-peacebuilding-basics> (accessed January 25, 2013)

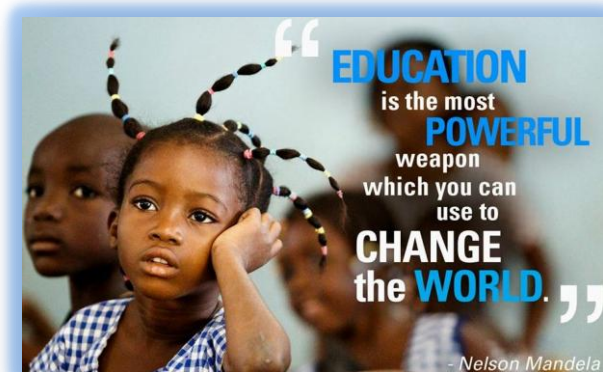
⁴⁹ United Nations - Sport for Development and Peace

<http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/sport/home/sport> (accessed January 25, 2013)

As long as the Sport Movement applies and defends the values of fair play, respect for rules and brotherhood, it will have a social function and a genuine moral dimension.⁵⁰

Education is central to the achievement of all of the Millennium Development Goals and sport has a natural place in education whether the approach used is formal, non-formal or informal. It is a key component of a quality education in schools, outside the classrooms teaching basic values and life skills and a powerful vehicle for public education.⁵¹

The marvellous concept of education through Olympism, inherited from ancient Greeks, remains valid today, increasing in its importance proportionally to the degree to which processes of education of youth are affected by various pathologies. These pathologies lead to violating the rule of fair play, to doping, commercialisation of sports achievements and treating them in an instrumental manner, to the idolatry of sportsmen and treating the records as an ultimate fetish. In view of such phenomena, the most appropriate and effective reaction seems to be a reference to the classical ideals of the Olympic ethos and their incessant reinforcement in the process of education.⁵² Olympic Education is an educational process that aims at the upbringing of young people and spotlights the Olympic Ideals according to the contemporary cultural and social context.



⁵⁰ Jacques, Rogge, “Opening ceremony of the 113th IOC session”

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reports/EN/en_report_271.pdf (accessed January 25, 2013)

⁵¹ United Nations, “Sport as a tool for Development and Peace: Towards achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals

http://www.un.org/sport2005/resources/task_force.pdf (accessed January 25, 2013)

⁵² Maria, Zowislo, Maria, “Philosophy and Olympic Education”, report on the 8th International session for Educators and Officials of higher institutes of physical education 10-17 July 2008, (Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009), pp.187-188

It refers to the athletic spirit that is developed through the ages and connects the past with the new cultural and educational values. It also promotes the Coubertin's message which combines in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind, encouraging a harmonious development. Moreover, galvanize support and action around key issues and combine the history of the Olympic Games with the modern social environment and includes programs that accent the Olympic ideas.⁵³ The aims, the goals and the ideals of Olympism have very close parallels with some of the goals and objectives of schools and school systems. On the one hand, Olympism supports the expansion of opportunities for sport and play to create what de Coubertin called "the democracy of youth", the development of opportunities that are genuinely educational, the fostering of a high standard of sportsmanship, the integration of the visual and performing arts into Olympic celebrations, the pursuit of excellence in performance and the creation of a movement that promotes mutual understanding and contributes to world peace. On the other hand, teachers encourage mass participation in physical activity by helping every student become physically fit, stimulate sport as education, teach fair play, sportsmanship and self-esteem, support cultural exchanges and international tolerance. Clearly, the mystique of the Olympics that creates so much interest and enthusiasm can be a unique motivator for learning and create a stable base for a culture of peace.⁵⁴

Today, Olympic education describes teaching and learning about the Olympic spirit and Olympic ideals, on the latter side Olympic pedagogy is more understood as the theory or at least as the philosophical – pedagogical background of Olympic education for the purposes of learning physical, social, ethical and humanistic values and virtues in sport activities. In certain respects, we may assume that Olympic pedagogy is somewhat like a theoretical or philosophical foundation for the aims and objectives of Olympic education.⁵⁵

The promotion of Olympic education is closely linked with the Olympic Movement and has been developed through the five steps of the International Olympic Committee over

⁵³ Deanna, Binder, *Keep the Spirit Alive, You and the Olympic Games*, (IOC Commission for the International Olympic Academy and Olympic Education, 1995), pp.4-5

⁵⁴ Deanna, Binder, "Bringing the Olympic Spirit to life in schools", report on the 33rd session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, *Ancient Olympia*, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994), pp.67-68

⁵⁵ Ronald, Naul, "Olympic pedagogy as a theory of development of ethical and humanistic values in education", report on the 9th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 1-8 June 2007, *Ancient Olympia*, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009), pp.27-30

the last fifty years. The first step is referred to the opening of the International Olympic Academy in 1961 in Olympia and its highly productive role. The second step establishes the idea of the Olympic Youth Camp and their coincidence with the Olympic Games in an optional frame. The third step includes the resolution by IOC in 1983 that each national Olympic Committee should found a National Olympic Academy in order to promote the Olympic idea and disseminate Olympic educational ideals by means of its own activities and according to country's specificities (ideologies, customs and traditions). Thus, the creation of NOA's is totally necessary as the educational activity in the Olympic movement can be expanded universally in order to serve properly more people in their environment.⁵⁶ The fourth step is demand the long – term promotion of Olympic Ideals during the further development of the Olympic Games, a decision adopted by the IOC at the 1994 Paris congress. The Youth Olympic Games can be considered as a fifth measure in the IOC's promotion of Olympic Education. The aim of these Games is something more than crucial and essential as they address all young people to further healthy and active lifestyles and ethico – moral behaviors that conform to the Olympic Ideals.⁵⁷

Moreover, the Commission for Culture and Olympic Education that was founded in 2000, the Olympic Solidarity Committee, the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, the Olympic Truce Foundation, the Olympic Truce Center (Lausanne, Athens, Olympia) and the World Anti – doping Agency are some of the main players that support a wide range of different activities in developing Olympic education on different levels. Also, Olympic centers, universities, institutes of higher education, academies, networks, international conferences, seminars and initiatives supported by IOC in cooperation with international organizations and non – governmental organization have a great impact on Olympic Education and Olympic pedagogy in teaching and expanding research activities.⁵⁸

Importantly, the particular's country tradition is behind the aim and objectives of education, built into official documents such as the constitution and various educational laws. At the same time there are people in every people in every country or groups of people who hold a different view from the official one about the aim and objectives of

⁵⁶ Nikolaos, Nissiotis, “The educational work of the International Olympic Academy together with the National Olympic Academies”, (Arena Review, 1982, vol. 6, Issue 2), p.10

⁵⁷ Naul, Roland, *Olympic Education*, (United Kingdom: Meyer & Meyer Sport, 2008), pp.30-32

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, pp.59-63

education. So, the criteria which curriculum planners have in order to achieve educational objectives are usually not strictly educational but serve ethnic, religious, political and other purposes.⁵⁹ The teaching process depends on teaching strategy and methodology but also is influenced by factors such as the teaching style, the size of the educational material and of course of the environmental conditions. In order to succeed a moral development, there need to be systematically organized programs with real life dilemmas and processes and curricula based on a model of moral development, both in theory and practice. Olympic education can do this job and at the same time can give physical education teachers a context and a route to a number of important aims relating to moral education.⁶⁰

The Olympic value to which most attention is paid today is the idea of peace. Olympic internationalism can be taught in many ways as part of an Olympic curriculum as encompass the promotion of understanding of the specific cultural features of other nations and continents and the improvement of familiarity with the cultures of those countries which organize the Olympic Games. It also seeks to help familiarize people with the forms of sport played by others and promote internationally sporting contacts and personal contacts between individuals. Many schools have highly multiracial student bodies. This is a microcosm of an extensive field of action, because sport speaks all languages. Olympism, as a part of world culture, is unaffected by financial recourses, colour and creed. The Olympic Games are the greatest of all peaceful global gatherings, taking place every four years. Coubertin's idea of peace education as core area of Olympism is more real today than ever.⁶¹

The great publicity of the Olympic Games manages to excite the interesting of pupils' and teachers' making them to deal with Olympic Educational programmes more and more. Consequently, it allows for the systematic teaching of the principles and values of the Olympic Movement, incorporated in school curricula. Through games, art activities and activities related to mind and body the children acquire knowledge and experience on multiculturalism, appreciation of the other and social responsibilities and build feelings of sincere cooperation and mutual respect. Furthermore, the students must have

⁵⁹ Costas, Mountakis , *Curriculum development in Olympic Education*, Part I, (Sparta: 2009), p. 4

⁶⁰ Jim, Parry, “ Physical Education as Olympic Education’’, (European Physical Education Review: 1998, vol. 4), pp.56-69

⁶¹ Norbert, Müller, “Olympic Education’’, (The sport Journal 2004, vol.7), p.13

the opportunity to develop their own idea about the various principles and values and teachers should tackle sensitive issues with attention and extra care.⁶²

Olympic education bases its content, its expression and its value on an Olympic philosophy whereby humility and the sense of honor, wisdom and grandeur of the soul, kindness and integrity, courage and respect of human dignity are predominant and nothing can hinder the indomitable will to succeed, to go faster, higher and to become stronger. The great advantage of Olympic education is that to a degree it guides the convergence of human forces towards a universal scale and it provides for continuity between generations. It is a task that will require a lot of time, patience, conviction and tenacity but the results will be certain. It is the most useful and the most precious of all activities undertaken by the Olympic Movement and in reality constitutes an invaluable investment as a contributing factor for the construction of a better and more peaceful world.⁶³

Our collective responsibility is to continue the advancement of Olympic Education in such a way as to transform the theory into practice and implement to our daily lives. It has to inspire and raise youth's awareness in a creative way, use many forms of expression, shape positive attitudes through organizing workshops and work on policies for integration, peaceful coexistence and friendship using the appropriate tools. Teachers except from the specific educational materials should be encouraged to use their creativity at maximum and schoolchildren their imagination, since there are an inexhaustible source of ideas for more ambitious projects. In a broader perspective, National Olympic Committees is needed to plan, organize, monitor and evaluate and finally achieve higher efficiency and quality, including social education aspects and

**Establishing lasting peace is the work of
education; all politics can do is keep us out of
war.**

(Maria Montessori)

⁶² Konstantinos, Georgiadis, "International understanding through Olympic Education", report on the 42th International session for young participants 24 July-8 August 2002, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2003, pp.78-80

⁶³ Mohamed, Zerguini, "Olympic Education as a contributing factor to international understanding", report of the 25th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, (Athens: HOC, 1985), pp.128-133

responding the needs of today in the context of a globally successful Olympic education. The Olympic Movement is the greatest social and sport movement in human history. The Olympic Games has become a worldwide event and is seemed as a unique opportunity to promote Olympic education and in extension propagate understanding and peace. Olympism does not yield to fashion, it is an eternal movement within which action and thought are closely linked and which creates perfectly balanced and fulfilled human beings. It is indeed an education of the body, education of the spirit and education of the soul. It teaches the youth how to understand the past and become integrated within the world of today in order to prepare a better tomorrow in a completed way.⁶⁴

In short, for a long time Olympic education was no topic of special interest. However, in the seventies of the last century issues of sports education and also Olympic education became more important. Reasons for this change might be found in the loss of old traditional values in society, in the increase of tendencies to violence going along with a lack of tolerance towards other nationalities and because of a more egoistical way of life involving also a loss of orientation.⁶⁵ Today, it is imperative to understand that social changes demand constant adjustments to educational systems. New strategies need to be employed with flexibility and interchangeability. Olympic education and its values have the dynamic to serve as a theoretical framework, enable practical pedagogical tools and develop an experience – based learning strategy. In other words, Olympic education needs to be designed by educational specialists, professionals in different social areas, all of them deeply committed to the Olympic idea and aware of those problems that the Olympic Movement faces today.⁶⁶

⁶⁴ Mohamed, Mzali, “Olympism and Education”, report of the 18th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, (Athens: HOC, 1978), p.63

⁶⁵ Hermann, Andrecs, “Aims, Objectives and Contents of Olympic pedagogy ”, report on the 9th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 1-8 June 2007, Ancient Olympia, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009), p.61

⁶⁶ Konstantinos, Georgiadis and Angelos, Syrigos, Olympic Truce, Sport as a platform for peace, pp.95-107



“...The modern Olympic Movement has two fundamental elements, sport and education. Olympism is a set of ideas which combines these two concepts of sport and education. It is expressed through the triptych: philosophy, art and sport

Representing a harmonious and invisible whole consisting of dialectic, measure and harmony.

This synthesis is achieved through the process of human thinking...”⁶⁷

Nikos Filaretos

President of IOA 1986-1982, 1997-2005,

Member of the IOC 1981-2005

⁶⁷ Konstantinos Georgiadis and Roula Vathi, *International Olympic Academy*, 2nd edition, (Athens: IOA, 2006), p.42

5.2. The mission of the Youth Olympic Games in promoting peace

The Youth Olympic Games (YOG) are an elite sporting event for young people aged from 15 to 18 from all over the world. At the 119th IOC Session in Guatemala City, the IOC members approved the project on 5 July 2007. The YOG alternate every four years like the Olympic Games. In February 2008, the IOC announced Singapore as the first host city for the summer YOG and in December 2008 proclaimed Innsbruck as the first winter YOG host city. The second summer Youth Olympic Games will be held in Nanjing in 2014 and the second winter Youth Olympic Games will be held in Lillehammer in 2016.⁶⁸ The main aim of the Youth Olympic Games is not only to offer a platform for young people to participate in an international sport event and practice sports but also to act as ambassadors in their communities and countries promoting the Olympic values. Although there is a strong connection between the YOG and the Olympic Games there are enough differences. The YOG is much more than competition as education, culture, exercises, new disciplines fun activities, attractive team- building



and formats are the key ingredients of the Games.⁶⁹ The real objectives of these Games are to bring together and celebrate the world's best young athletes, propose a unique and powerful introduction to Olympism, innovate in educating and debating Olympic Values, share and celebrate the cultures of the world in a festive and bright atmosphere.⁷⁰

⁶⁸ International Olympic Committee - Factsheet Youth Olympic Games (update - July 2012)

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents/Factsheets/The_Youth_Olympic_Games.pdf

(accessed January 25, 2013)

⁶⁹ Olympic Review, Official Publication of the Olympic Movement

<http://view.digipage.net/?userpath=00000001/00000004/00042762/&page=33>

(accessed January 25, 2013)

⁷⁰ International Olympic Committee, "The Youth Olympic Games", report on the 9th International session for Presidents or Directors of National Olympic Academies and officials of National Olympic Committees 12-19 May 2008, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009, p.95

In order to accomplish these goals, the IOC developed an ambitious, valuable and innovated programme to be implemented during the YOG, the Culture and Education Programme (CEP). Specifically, its role is to share the Olympic values with the young athletes as well with young people around the world arguing about sports and social challenges. The structure of the CEP is based on five themes: Olympism, skill development, well – being and healthy lifestyle, social responsibility and expression.⁷¹ During the first summer YOG the CEP offered more than 50 different activities in seven different formats: chat with champions, discovery activities, world culture village, community project, arts and culture, island adventure and exploration journey. At Innsbruck 2010 there were over 20 CEP activities based on the following six formats: media – lab, world mile project, sustainability project, arts project, competence project, and Youth Olympic festival 2012.⁷² Moreover, all athletes remained for the entire period of the Games where an extensive range of activities were organized for them to live together, learn and understand one another through the CEP. Undisputable, the cultural and educational programme is the cornerstone of the YOG. The Olympic spirit is not available in theory in the first place but in personal experiences. From the other side international understanding, getting to know each other, mutual respect and tolerance does not happen by chance or occur naturally, they are much more a matter of educational efforts.⁷³

By implementing the YOG, the IOC is willing to establish a sport event for young athletes that is closely connected to the idea of Olympic Education and which build the core of a broad youth campaign. The goal is to have its own identity and reflect the Olympic idea without simply carrying the Olympic Games with all its accompanying problems. The positive approaches, the opportunities and possibilities of Olympism are highlighted with a simultaneous avoidance of hazards.⁷⁴

⁷¹ Cesar R., Torres, The Youth Olympic Games, their programs and Olympism

http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/pes_confpres/3 (accessed January 25, 2013)

⁷² International Olympic Committee - Factsheet Youth Olympic Games (update - July 2012)

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents/Factsheets/The_Youth_Olympic_Games.pdf (accessed January 25, 2013)

⁷³ Alex, Horn “ The pedagogical ways through which the Youth Olympic Games achieve their ambitious objectives”, report on the 10th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 6-13 May 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010, pp.85-94

⁷⁴ Ibid

It is true that it is difficult to conclude if the YOG can indeed become a viable vehicle for peace but some early signs have shown that there is great hope that the youths will rise to the challenge and may lead the way with their innocence, purity, optimism, generosity, courage, vitality and passion.⁷⁵ The YOG are a worthwhile project to embrace and support in order to deliver sustained benefits for children and shape this world's future. They enrich human personality through sport blended with culture and develop a sense of human solidarity. Singapore 2010 produced the world's first batch of Young Olympians influenced with the belief that sport is not just about winning but being a champion in life.⁷⁶

Synopsizing, the mission of the Youth Olympic Games is to educate, influence and engage young athletes inspiring them to play an active role in their nations. The YOG prove that are not just another competition but one in which young people can build priceless experiences, bonds of friendship, acquire opportunities for reflection and interaction, use social networks and open up new prospects and initiatives. These Games are a significant opportunity to empower and motivate the next generation through the educational and humanist values of sport. It's important to trust and learn from young generation, as they have a clearer view of the world than adults. They can put the differences aside, take responsibilities, support the Olympic goal and contribute to a better world. If we want to build a more peaceful and harmonious world, we have to believe and invest in youth.

“... You will learn the difference between winning and being a champion. To win, you merely have to cross the finish line first. To be a champion, you have to inspire admiration for your character, as well as for your physical talent...”⁷⁷

⁷⁵ Sock Miang, Teo-Koh, “The Youth Olympic Games as a vehicle for world peace”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011, p.105

⁷⁶ Ng Ser, Miang, Youth Olympic Games: From vision to success
<http://www.thesportjournal.org/article/youth-olympic-games-vision-success>
(accessed January 25, 2013)

⁷⁷ Singapore 2010 - Official Website of the Olympic Movement
<http://www.olympic.org/singapore-2010-youth-olympics> (accessed January 25, 2013)

5.3. The basic ingredients of a culture of peace: Human Rights and Multiculturalism

Culture for Peace is a set of values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their roots causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation among individuals, groups and nations. Some crucial steps must be followed in order to be implemented. It's necessary to foster a culture of peace through education, promote sustainable economic and social development, ensure respect for all human rights and equality between women and men, foster democratic participation, advance understanding, tolerance and solidarity, support participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge and of course, promote international peace and security.⁷⁸

The tradition of the Olympic Truce shows clearly the huge impact that the Olympic Games can have on human rights, social entrepreneurship, multiculturalism, international understanding, peaceful co-existence and sincere cooperation. Athletes and audience taking part in the Olympic Games is a melting pot of people from all over the world. Pierre de Coubertin as the wise designer of a great project or as the unique and expert actor of such a complex enterprise combined his varied and extensive knowledge on psychology, sociology, history and arts in order to establish a strong base for Olympism and set in motion the most important movement of the century.⁷⁹ The philosophy of Olympism has as its focus of interest not just the elite athlete, but everyone. Not just a short truce period, but the whole of life. Not just competition and winning, but also the values of participation and cooperation. Not just sport as an activity, but also as a formative and developmental influence contributing to desirable characteristics of individual personality and social life.⁸⁰ More specific, Olympism highlights the right to participate in sports and the achievement of human rights through sport. The Olympic Movement's struggle against apartheid in sport, which held sway in South Africa and

⁷⁸ Culture of Peace – UNESCO

http://www3.unesco.org/iycp/uk/uk_sum_cp.htm (accessed January 28, 2013)

⁷⁹ Conrado, Durantez, "Pierre de Coubertin, the Humanist", International Olympic Academy, report on the 49th International session for young participants 10-24 June 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010, p.75

⁸⁰ Jim, Parry, "Olympism and its ethic", report on the 44th International session for young participants 23 May-6 June 2004, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2005, pp.86-90

against the politically motivated boycotts of the Olympic Games, whose victims were the athletes, are also a matter of human rights. In retrospect, an amazing example of perseverance comes from the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936. Jesse Owens, an African - American had already won gold twice in the 100 meter and 200 meter sprints. The stadium was filled to capacity as Owens prepared for the long jump. His only real opponent was Germany's Ludwig "Luz" Long. With his final jump, Jesse Owens broke the Olympic record and won the gold medal. Adolf Hitler left the stadium without acknowledging Owens' achievement. He wanted to promote Nazi's propaganda and had high hopes that German athletes would dominate the games with victories. The two athletes hugged each other, cheered on wildly by the crowd and established a strong bond that transcended ideology and racial divide and celebrated the peaceful power of Olympism.⁸¹ It is indeed interesting, as well important, to mention the ban on the participation of colored citizens in sports activities alongside white people, led to the IOC's decision to exclude the country from seven editions of the Olympic Games, starting with the Games of Tokyo in 1964. For the same reason, Rhodesia was excluded from the Olympics of 1968, 1972 and 1976, until it could return as Zimbabwe, after the change of the regime, for the Games of Moscow in 1980. Regarding the above cases it is proved the positive intervention of IOC in order to be protected the human dignity and basic human rights. Moreover, in 1968 in Mexico City during the medal presentation ceremony, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, gold and bronze medal winners in the 200m, raised a black – gloved fist and hung their heads when their country's national anthem was played. In doing this, they were protesting against racial segregation and poverty in the United States.⁸²

The Olympic Games have a unique ability to create a powerful stage for the promotion of human rights and can be successfully utilized to raise concern over international human rights. In any case, finding peace in our world will take a joint Olympic effort. Throughout history, the Games have experienced a tumultuous legacy of human rights issues and concerns. As a result of the political nature of the Olympics there has always

⁸¹ International Olympic Truce Centre, *Peace inspired by sport*, Olympia – Lausanne - Athens

⁸² Dionyssidis, Gangas, "Olympic Games and International politics: Olympic Games through international politics or international politics through the Olympic Games", report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, (Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011), pp.112-113

been a place for human rights to promote their cause through this mega – event. It's true that the relationship between the Olympic Games and human rights is extremely complex and dynamic and the role of commercialism, financial donors and media has a large impact upon the role that human rights play at the Games. It is important that the Olympics drive the global developments and not the global situation drives the Olympics. However, the Olympics will never fill its full potential in promoting the ideals of Olympism until the underlying economic values of the Games are diminished and the international community places greater emphasis on the promotion of international human rights.⁸³

A strong emphasis is placed on the issue of Human rights and Multiculturalism. The International Chapter of Physical Education and Sport was adopted by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization General Conference at its twentieth session, Paris 21 November 1978. Its aim is to place the development of physical education and sport at the service of human progress and urges governments, competent non-governmental organizations, educators, families and individuals themselves to be guided by it and put it into practice. Human rights, respect and tolerance must be guaranteed to every individual and their effective exercise must be fostered through the recognition of the cultural diversity. It is vital to be perceived that cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue are key levers for strengthening the consensus on the universal foundation of human rights.⁸⁴

More concretely, Multiculturalism refers to the ethnic diversity and to the respect of each human being without discrimination or prejudice. It is a fact for most western societies and it requires a political society to recognise the equal standing of all stable and viable communities existing in a society. In its broad sense, outlaws discrimination against groups and individuals on the grounds of ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, class, gender or sexual preference. Obviously, we have to value diversity because every culture expresses a form of human life and helps us to appreciate the full range of difference and choice. We have to tolerate difference and accept that sometimes other

⁸³ University of Calgary - Human rights and the Olympic Games: The role of the international sporting events in the promotion of the rights of first nations

<http://comecul.ucalgary.ca/HumanRights> (accessed January 28, 2013)

⁸⁴ International Chapter of Physical Education and Sport

http://assets.sportanddev.org/downloads/17_intl_charter_of_pe_and_sport.pdf (accessed January 28, 2013)

people's views will hold sway over our own.⁸⁵ Except from Sport also education plays a paramount role in imparting the value of Multiculturalism and peace to the next generation. Multicultural Education is a field of study whose main objective is to help all students to respect cultural differences and human rights, to know other cultures and lifestyles, to value diversity, to have sensitivity to others and to decrease prejudices and stereotypes. The big challenge is to manage to create an effective Olympic education program focusing on Multicultural education and prepare students to be part of a global society and adapt a universal desire for peace.⁸⁶

Pierre de Coubertin was appealing to transculturism when he wrote that neo – Olympism was “a state of mind”. And then, “mens fervida in corpore lacertoso”, the homo Olympicus could open up to the multiculturalism of the world. Is it utopia? Not as much as we may think. Let us reflect and draw wisdom from this advice.⁸⁷ The Olympic Games are used as a symbol of peace and as a vehicle of human rights reform. The energy of the Olympic spirit and the authority of the Olympic Movement can definitely create opportunities for positive political and social change in the future. The more young people are educated of the diversity in this world we share; we have more possibilities to transform society into a tolerant community based on equality and mutual understanding. We must recognise that educating for peace is a complex task but is our best solution in order to shape a society of generosity, solidarity, tolerance and pure values and qualitative attitudes. Cultivate a culture for peace means respect the human rights and accept the idea of the Multiculturalism not as a goal but as a spontaneous process and a way of life. Building a long legacy of peace requires understanding of cultural diversity and effective exercise of human rights. Power sharing arrangements, such as consensus democracy should be complemented by empowerment and continuing policies in the fields of education, sport, culture and media.⁸⁸ As is already referred the younger generations is a powerful tool for a better and peaceful future.

⁸⁵ Jim, Parry, “Olympism and its ethic”, pp.90-92

⁸⁶ Keith, Wilson, “Multicultural Education”

<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/papers/keith.html> (accessed January 28, 2013)

⁸⁷ Yves, Boulogne, “Coubertin's Multicultural Olympism”, report on the 33rd session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994, p.94

⁸⁸ UNESCO World Report - Investing in Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001847/184755e.pdf> (accessed January 28, 2013)



“...There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace...”⁸⁹

Koffi Annan

Former Secretary – General of the United Nations

⁸⁹ The state of the world’s children 2000 - UNICEF

<http://www.unicef.org/sowc00/foreword.htm> (accessed January 28, 2013)

5.4. A valuable window of opportunity or a romantic Olympic Tradition?

The ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce was born in 776 B.C. It was a remarkable and effective Truce respected during almost 1200 years of ancient history. The Olympic Games were revived in 1896 but the Truce remained dormant for about a century. Nevertheless modern Olympism claims to further peace and international understanding and draws on the authority of an alleged classical model. During the ancient Games there was a general laying – down of arms all over Greece. But, this constitutes only a truce and not a peace. The furtherance of peace and international understanding is a creation of the Coubertin and not of the ancient times.⁹⁰

It would be a mistake to consider the Olympic Truce as nothing but a passive pacifist attitude, or a fiction, or even a form of moral hypocrisy, because it also is an education training in view of permanent peace, a total negation of war and victory over the feeling of hatred amongst people who in life happen to be constantly competing. That is the reason why the Truce, in the final analysis, became a school of peace for the ancient Greeks.⁹¹ In July 2000, the Olympic Truce was revived with the establishment of the International Olympic Truce Foundation in Lausanne and the International Olympic Truce Centre in Athens. The Olympic Truce is not a romantic idea, but one which may be able to mobilize and become a real spirit of our world. It's a window of opportunity in a world defined by new forms of political realities and insecurity. So, we can try to create a longer – lasting peace, be educators by example and pledge all our support in making it happen.⁹²

The work of the Olympic Truce should encompass a wide range of actors, the Olympic Movement, international bodies, national governments, political leaders, sportsmen and women, the media and communications industry, non – governmental communities,

⁹⁰ Jim, Parry, “Olympism at the beginning and the end of the twentieth century, immutable values and principles and outdated factors”, report of the 28th session 29 June-14 July 1988, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOC and HOC, p.83

⁹¹ Nikolaos, Nissiotis, “The Olympic movement’s contribution to peace”, report of the 25th session 4-19 July 1985, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOC and HOC, p.57

⁹² Stavros, Lambrinidis, “The Olympic Truce: an ancient concept for the new millennium”, report on the 43th International session for young participants 30 July-13 August 2003, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2004, pp.72-76

sports networks and Olympic Games host cities.⁹³ All these creating a synergy, still have the potential to represent a true army without weapons, tooled with the values of Youth, Olympism, sport, education, culture, social networks that could succeed in transforming a society's dream into reality of peace and understanding.

In this context, there is a growing conflict of opinion on the usefulness of the Olympic Truce. To some, all this sounds a bit utopian. They talk about a romantic tradition that has been invoked many times but never implemented. In reality, the Olympic Truce is a starting point for turning a culture of violence into a culture of peace patiently, constantly and progressively. Others, support that the Olympic ideals cannot play a tangential role as they are not consistent with reality. In practice, the Olympic Movement can effectively contribute to promote opportunities for peace and be an exceptional advocacy mechanism. The Olympic values are timeless and global and go hand in hand with the Truce. The link between sport and peace is absolutely intrinsic. While recalling its core contribution in the long Olympic history, this link is still relevant nowadays and illustrated through many examples such as the ping – pong diplomacy between U.S.A and China, the cricket diplomacy with India and Pakistan, the friendship of the Georgian and Russian athlete, hugging each other in Beijing or the Israeli and Palestinian regular peaceful confrontations on the sports fields.⁹⁴

However, Olympism definitely must take into consideration some parameters and make continual improvements: it must fight continually the unethical behavior, avoid over-commercialization in the Olympic Movement, choose more reasonably and widely the IOC's members, consider other areas such as African or Asian countries which are willing to hold the Games, include traditional sports from different cultures, promote peace and mutual understanding rejecting any racial prejudice and encourage Olympic

⁹³ Rachel Briggs, Helen McCarthy, Alexis Zorbas, p.73

⁹⁴ Address delivered by Dr Mario Pescante Chairman of IOC International Relations' Commission, at the 1st International Forum on Sport, Peace and Development in Lausanne, 7 and 8 May 2009.

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Conferences_Forum_and_Events/Sport_peace_and_development/R_eport-SportPeace-EN.pdf (accessed January 28, 2013)

Education in the wider sense as Olympic Education should focus more on moral education.⁹⁵

Clearly, Olympic Truce it's not a panacea. Conflicts are still ongoing around the world. We have to act at the grassroots work on many practical matters that require much time and strength. Olympic Truce represents a significant opportunity to make the world better and implement strategies for change and progress. It does not an idea for idealists and romantics as the Olympic Truce does not promise peace. It is an inspiring tool that offers hope and provides a window of opportunity for dialogue, cooperation, mutual understanding, respect, fair play, consensus and tolerance. Therefore, Truce should be present and visible not only or shortly before or during the Olympic Games but also in the interim years.⁹⁶ We must be guided by the needs of the future and by the shape and content that we wish to give it. Undoubtedly, it is responsibility of all to play a crucial role within the local community, country and on a global scale and focus on national and international levels. Olympic Truce carries a universal message of optimism and as it is known the positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible and achieves the impossible.

⁹⁵ Leo, Hso, Olympism: A dead ideal and a western product? (5th International Symposium for Olympic Research 2000)

<http://www.la84foundation.org/SportsLibrary/ISOR/ISOR2000zf.pdf> (accessed January 28, 2013)

⁹⁶ Address delivered by Dr Costantinos Filis of the International Olympic Truce, at the 2nd International Forum on Sport, Peace and Development in Geneva on 11May 2011.

<http://www.olympictruce.org/Pages/Files/files/Address%20delivered%20by%20Dr%20Constantinos%20Filis.pdf> (accessed January 28, 2013)

5.6. The next 16 days in Rio 2016. The action plans and the challenges

The 2016 Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Rio 2016 will be an excellent opportunity to continue the mobilization of the Olympic ideals as it will host the first South American Olympic Games in history. Its goal is to inspire, engage young people in sport, education and sustainable transformation and give priorities to legacies that are immediate related to youth.⁹⁷

Rio, the marvelous city is the second largest city of Brazil and as other metropolis faces particular security problems. The social diversity, the slums and the inequality maintain and increase violence which causes are multiple and intertwined. In respect of security matters, *the Peacemaker Police Units* is an initiative of the state government with impressive results in the fight against organized crime. Its goal is to liberate the favelas using special operations to sweep out the gangs and create a permanent police presence to pacify Rio's corrupted and violent areas. Moreover, *Morar Carioca* is a project that focuses on social inclusion through the integration of all Rio de Janeiro favelas as regular neighborhoods in the city. Its aim is to establish for every resident a standard of living to be expected from a modern and developed international city.⁹⁸

Furthermore, the social-educational programs and schools can be used as development hubs for the integration of favelas. Sport also is an increasingly effective tool for improving the quality of life and brings equality to the Brazilians. More detailed, the widest-reaching Sport Education Programme in the country is being revitalized, affecting twenty-four thousand teachers and trainee teachers serving about two million students. The Rio 2016 Education Programme tries to design projects that will continue beyond 2016 and focus on youth at seventeen and under at local communities in urban centers.⁹⁹

⁹⁷ Nuzman, Carlos, Sport and the Olympic Movement including attracting and maximising major events as catalysts for development
http://www.en.acnolympic.org/acnoen/fichiers/File/XVIII_GA_Moscow_2012/2nd_wosc_moscow_2012_-_presentation_mr_carlos_nuzman_-_sport_and_the_olympic_movement_including_attracting_and_maximizing_major_events_as_catalysts_for_development.pdf (accessed February 1, 2013)

⁹⁸ Ibid

⁹⁹ Ibid

Fight for peace is an additional important community project that started in Rio de Janeiro using boxing combined with education as a tool for the social inclusion of disadvantaged youth. It is a clear example of the use of sport for the social development of low-income communities that try to inspire young people and develop their skills and abilities. It is based in Rio and in London and support 2250 young people each year that suffer from crime and violence.¹⁰⁰

Subsequently, Rio's 2016 vision is to deliver Games of transformation and celebration, Games of passion and purpose that will deliver weeks of wonderful sport and many years of inspiration, social change and sport development. Rio is passionate about transformation through sport and sustainable legacy.¹⁰¹ The Games plan legacy is based on key priorities and one of them is youth and education through specific initiatives. *Programa Segundo Tempo* is a strategic program that aims to democratize access to the practice and culture of sport in order to promote the integral development of youth. From 2009 to 2016, it will grow from one to three million children. *Mais Educao* is a federal program that provides resources directly to schools in order to allow them to develop different sports and cultural activities. Furthermore *the school and university Games* is a program aligned to the IOC Youth Olympic Games concepts of sport, culture and education and it is predicted to be expanded from two to five million young people. It encourages the Olympic spirit and promotes mutual respect and fair play through sports.¹⁰²

The big challenge for the host city is to succeed social integration, manage to produce a change in the regular routine of the country and create a standard for security planning in other vulnerable cities around the world. The use of the Olympic Games as a platform for promoting stability and creating a peaceful environment in emerging nations rests on Rio's ability to effectively implement lasting security strategies. Rio must reconfigure its dynamics in order to promote cooperation and weaken the causes of violence, criminality and illegal activity.¹⁰³ It's a great chance to build a long-lasting

¹⁰⁰ Fight for Peace

<http://www.fightforpeace.net/?p=53> (accessed February 1, 2013)

¹⁰¹ Rio de Janeiro 2016

http://rio2016.com/sites/default/files/parceiros/candidature_file_v1.pdf (accessed February 1, 2013)

¹⁰² Ibid

¹⁰³ Samantha, Mc Roskey "Security and the Olympic Games: Making Rio an example", Yale Journal of International Affairs 2010, Vol.5, Issue 2, pp.102-104

culture of peace rejecting violence, use the capacity of sports and educational programs to drive radical social change, work for the environment and enhance sport and tourism opportunities.

To sum up, the Rio 2016 Games is not only an opportunity of unprecedented development but intends to address global issues involving healthy living, inclusiveness, prosperity and peace. It is worth noting that Games offer only a significant springboard to a solution. However, Brazil's problems will be solved only by adopted long-range opportunities of education, peace and economic advancement. Taking into consideration the vision, the plans and the challenges that are already referred, Rio 2016 has enough possibilities to make social legacy a genuine and tangible fact promoting the fundamental ideals of Olympic Truce and peace. It is obvious that sets the path for achieving widespread responsible development. While the reality of the Truce remains an ideal, our hope is that through the next 16 days in Rio we can succeed the real social change diminishing conflicts across the globe, enhancing the well-being of vulnerable people and inspiring a lasting peace legacy worldwide. ¹⁰⁴



Viva sua paixão!

¹⁰⁴ Host city contract-Games of the XXXI Olympiad in 2016

http://www.rio2016.org/sites/default/files/parceiros/hc_en.pdf (accessed February 1, 2013)

7. PEACE MUST BE ENFORCED OR IT MUST BE INSPIRED?

Peace among and within nations is a fundamental human aspiration and a primary goal of the global development community.¹⁰⁵ A deeper understanding of peace would try to explain how sport and education may support peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes. A culture of peace is not an illusion. Building a culture for peace doesn't mean the end of a conflict but the empowerment of our young people to carry forward a new and powerful commitment to peace and human dignity. Today's global world demands all of us to provide the maximum of our courage, capacities, strengths, possibilities and suggestions in order to journey through the challenges and the difficulties that the peace process entails.

But are ideals enough to inspire people and nations or peace can only be achieved by enforcing compliance?

On the one hand, many people believe that the real peace doesn't need force; it comes from inspiration, motivation and understanding. It is widely considered that if peace is enforced upon people, it will only be temporary and it is doomed to fail. The central importance of inspiration as *soft power* is to promote peace in a creative way based on fairness, cultural diversity, goodwill, mutual respect and understanding beginning with the individual, expanding to the community and spreading out into the world. In fact, Nelson's Mandela example stands as a beacon of positive change and provides inspiration for others to follow.¹⁰⁶ The world seems to need the Olympic Ideals and the tradition of the Olympic Truce. Truce inspires peace and creates a culture of conflict avoidance and bridges the gaps. The Olympic Movement has no means of enforcing the Truce, nor does it pretend to have a magic wand to bring peace where governments, international organizations or religions have failed. Sport cannot impose peace but for sure it might inspire it and play a strong supporting role. Indeed, conflicts in the world

¹⁰⁵ Sport and Peace, Social inclusion, conflict prevention and peace building

http://www.righttoplay.com/International/our-impact/Documents/Final_Report_Chapter_6.pdf

(accessed February 1, 2013)

¹⁰⁶ Peace cannot be enforced, it must be inspired

<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/iotc-activities/peace-cannot-be-enforced-it-must-be-inspired/>

(accessed February 1, 2013)

will not cease overnight but a Truce call for breaking the violence for a few days during all future Olympic Games will create a window of opportunity for longer lasting peace.¹⁰⁷ The goal may still remain elusive, but if the Olympic Truce can help us to bring about even a brief respite from conflict and strife, it will send a powerful message of hope to the international community.¹⁰⁸

On the other hand, some others characterize the concept of the Olympic Truce as a public relations' project. They believe that it appears totally utopic and dangerous to inspire justice and respect in situations and environments of complete lack of rational thinking, while people and children are being killed on the ground. Around the world, millions of people are still denied food, water, and education without having the luxury of waiting for conditions to ripen for achieving peace. This opinion also claims that peace manages to inspire only individuals and not countries and governments. Unfortunately the practical reality makes difficult to uphold and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms in an environment that lacks in democracy and in international institutions. It is underlined that enforcement is the first step forward peace. The International Community has the institutional capacity and the obligation to enforce peace and terminate conflicts at minimum cost using strategic efforts such as diplomacy, offers of reward and threats of sanction.¹⁰⁹

However, both these options it is imperative to be combined in case we want the Tradition of the Olympic Truce and the peace ideals to work in effect and let us make a small stable step forward. It is true that some cases demand an application of force to sustain a more immediate and drastic approach towards peace. Noticeably, idealism and pragmatism have to walk together for a while and support one another in order to make peace scalable and sustainable. Peace is hard to build and easy to destroy. Ways of establishing and maintaining peace may be classified on a dimension with imposed peace at one end and conceptual peace at the other end. The consensual peace ends

¹⁰⁷ George, Papandreou and Stavros, Lambrinidis "The Olympic Truce: an ancient concept for the new millennium", report on the 44th International session for young participants 23 May-6 June 2004, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2005, pp.127-130

¹⁰⁸ Rachel Briggs, Helen McCarthy, Alexis Zorbas, p.83

¹⁰⁹ Peace cannot be enforced, it must be inspired

<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/ioc-activities/peace-cannot-be-enforced-it-must-be-inspired/>

(accessed February 1, 2013)

violence and hostilities and establishes a new relationship based on harmonious interaction and mutual goals. Imposing peace, however, suppresses the conflict but it does not resolve underlying grievances and does not establish positive long-term relationships among disputants. It's necessary to identify at the earliest possible stage situations that could produce conflict and try through diplomacy to remove the sources of danger before violence results.¹¹⁰

Overall, we conclude that peace is a continuing, fragile and unpredictable process and challenges can have no limit. Passive coexistence is not a viable path to peace. There is a need to ensure that the lessons of the past for decades are learned and not repeated. Our constant duty should be to maintain the integrity of each while finding a balanced design for all.¹¹¹ We must cooperate and share responsibility in order to identify factors and synthesize insights that influence the success of peace process. Today more than ever, everyone seeks peace and harmony. Our goal is to give peace a chance and create the appropriate conditions promoting local and global initiatives. We have to unite our efforts, revive the true spirit of the ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce and make this world a better place.

¹¹⁰ Gavriel Salomon and Edward Cairns, *Handbook on Peace Education*, pp.224-225

¹¹¹ An Agenda for peace, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping
http://www.unrol.org/files/A_47_277.pdf (accessed February 1, 2013)



“...The Olympic ideals closely resemble those of the United Nations in seeking peace and understanding among nations and people ... I call upon all nations to observe the Olympic Truce. I am convinced that in this observance, and by working with the International Olympic Committee to promote the Olympic Ideal, we will draw the world’s attention to what humanity can achieve in the name of international understanding...”¹¹²

Kofi Annan

Former Secretary – General of the United Nations

¹¹² International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Truce, An ancient concept for the new Millennium*, p.4

7. CONCLUSIONS- RECOMMENDATIONS

The Olympic Truce is a universal value and a cornerstone dimension of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Its role is not the same as it was in antiquity and could not be as societies change and transform. Since the days of Pierre de Coubertin, the promotion of peace is an important aspect of the modern Olympic Games. Today, the Olympic Truce is a United Nations resolution, a tool for promoting peace and understanding between nations, dear to the spirit of IOC. In a rapidly and deeply changing world characterized by the growing importance of ethical issues, a culture of peace provide future generations with values that can help them to shape their destiny and actively participate in constructing a more just, humane, free, prosperous society and a more peaceful world. Constructing a culture of peace requires comprehensive educational, social and civil action. It addresses people of all ages. It is an open – minded, global strategy to make a culture of peace take root in people's hearts and minds. Youth involvement, the Youth Olympic Games, collaboration between entities, the future of Olympic Education, the use of technologic tools must be utilized to build peace and serve as a step forward.¹¹³

Having defined and reviewed the key concepts and ideas, we focus on observations and provide valuable insights offered by ten interviewees who have different backgrounds and come from different fields, organisations and countries. Olympic Truce is a mechanism that maintains the idea that peace is the absence of war, but this is just the one side of the coin. Olympic Truce includes the long term aspect of sustainable peace and promotes it as something that states and people must do every single day. The potential of the Truce is greatly enhanced by sport, education and the Olympic Games. Although sport does not bring peace, it can be a huge educational tool for promoting ideals that will highlight its importance and consolidate its meaning. Sport was and always will be the most important antidote to the poison of violence, frenzy and depression that afflict human societies. Sport can mobilize people and nations, if it manages to get into every school, every community and every home. Moreover, the

¹¹³ 7th World Conference on Sport, Education and Culture (Giving a voice to youth)

http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Conferences_Forum_and_Events/Sport_Culture_and_Education/Conference_DURBAN_ENG.pdf (accessed February 20, 2013)

Olympic Games have a major educational role and should act as an educational tool and an example setting paradigm for the youth of the world. The Olympic Games is the one and only event in which people of all races and from all countries parade together, eliminating discriminations, possible national differences and underling the common values and heritage the world shares. It is more popular than any other event; therefore it has an added responsibility of educating people about peace, human rights and a sustainable living. Unfortunately, the political and economic interests are stronger than the Olympic Truce. Unquestionably, the over – commercialization of the Games has born numerous of challenges such as doping and lots of unethical behaviours. The Olympic Games need to start being perceived as a medium to get people together and promote good sportsmanship as opposed to a commercial activity of the developed world. The deep commitment of Media, new technologies, and International institutions plays also a significant role in this process.

In this sense, the solution lies in the strong will of all of us for the peaceful settlement of disputes. Therefore, in order to have real peace in the world, the personal peace of every human being should precede something which is exclusively a matter of morals, education and personal regard. Peace is not a matter of young people but a collective project of everyone. All involved in sport but particularly statespersons and the Olympic Committee of each country need to advocate for a culture of peace and inspire the youth to work towards it. The power of education of young people at an early age gives them the right skills and competences in order to build a peaceful world. All the interviewees emphasized that we need to explore how we can bridge our differences, respect the uniqueness and diversity of others and spend time with and pay attention to our fellow men in order to listen, get to know and finally understand them.

Taking into consideration the observations that are already referred, peace culture is not just a figment of the imagination. It exists in daily life and habitual interaction as people get on with their lives and work, negotiating differences rather than engaging in interminable battles over just how to solve each problem as it comes up. Peace and citizenship education have the power to create the base for a good governance and the development of life skills. Violence is more visible and gets more attention in our media that peace does. But peace culture will take us where we want to go and since peace

culture exists in all social spaces, it is possible.¹¹⁴ Hence, becoming a peacemaker does not happen overnight. The process of peacemaking must be long, continuous, well – organized and strategic. Youth can offer creative energy and active potential for the transformation of this world. The signs are promising but like all the solutions success depends on wide – scale awareness, popular support and real action on the ground. If the Olympic Truce can harness all three it has the potential to be a new peace – inspiring tool for our times.¹¹⁵

The recommendations in this paper point the way forward for continued progress in the efforts to empower young people and build values, peace mentality and ethical awareness. Peace and human rights are indivisible and concern everyone. The implementation of a culture of peace project requires thorough mobilization of all means of education, both formal and non – formal and absolute matching teaching-learning methods with content and objectives. A global effort of education and training should empower people at all levels with the peacemaking skills of dialogue and cooperation and break down the stereotypes. The teaching of educators should emphasize on peace through multiple channels of communication, active classroom methodologies, use of elicitive methods and enriched educational curricula. Also is needed the creation of a core development team and committed trainers and head teachers.

Young people are the key agents in promoting intercultural dialogue, change, and respect for values, cultures and ways of life. Sport is a natural platform for assisting youth to develop life skills and pave the way to a brighter future. Sportspeople and spectators have an extra responsibility on placing themselves at the service of peace and Olympic champions and medalists have an important role to promote Olympic education and play as good examples for youth. Multicultural and human rights education, not only as abstract knowledge, but through participatory practice, deserves high priority so that the basic principles become part of the consciousness of each person. From a semantic viewpoint, it's necessary to create a global system and communication exchange and study traditional practices in order to succeed a fundamental change. It is also vital to keep in mind that cross sector collaboration,

¹¹⁴ Elise, Boulding. ‘Peace Culture: The problem of managing human difference’, Cross Currents, Summer 1998, Vol.48, Issue 4, pp.445-457

¹¹⁵ Rachel Briggs, Helen McCarthy, Alexis Zorbas, p.81

monitoring and evaluation of goals, tools, criteria and processes is the recipe for success.¹¹⁶

Concluding this analysis, i would like to present my personal experience at the Master's degree programme on Olympic studies "Olympic studies, Olympic Education, Organisation and Management of Olympic Events organised by the International Olympic Academy in collaboration with the Department of Sports Organization and Management of the University of Peloponnese. The educational programme rests on the three pillars of the Olympic Movement: Education, Sports and Culture and its philosophy is fully compatible with the core principles underpinning the Olympic Movement's creation.¹¹⁷ Both professors and students come from all the five continents and both genders are equally represented. Generally, the IOA's work and actions on issues of Olympic education have been pioneering. Through its programs, implants the seed of peace and promotes solidarity, international mutual understanding and tolerance.¹¹⁸

Sometimes the words are enabling to express exactly the feelings and the bonds of friendship that are developed. From my perspective, it is extremely enriching to interact with people from other countries and cultures. I consider it a special privilege to have the opportunity to meet people with different colour, different language, different religion, and different traditions but with a common passion, values, dreams and goals, in the sacred place of Ancient Olympia. We shared our similarities and appreciated each other's differences. We had the chance to experience the principles of Olympism, interact between us, share knowledge and ideas, enjoy artistic activities, play sport and be involved in social events. Beyond the educational part, this course managed to provide to all of us plenty of inspiration, encourage fruitful discussions, strong feelings, memories and an unforgettable lifetime experience that will unite us forever. This

¹¹⁶ Unesco - Towards Culture of peace

<http://www.peace.ca/downloads/cpprpt.pdf> (accessed February 20, 2013)

¹¹⁷ Konstantinos, Georgiadis, "The Master's degree programme on Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organisation and Management of Olympic Events", report on the 10th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 6-13 June May 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010, pp.36-37

¹¹⁸ Konstantinos, Georgiadis, "Olympic Games and the idea of Truce and Peace in ancient times", report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010, pp.66-69

meeting of cultures, this atmosphere of balance, solidarity and fraternity, and this unity of space and values brought the vision of a world peace to seem possible and realistic. In this regard, IOA plays a leading role in training people for establishing a peace network worldwide and proves the real value of experiential learning.

As argued throughout this paper, concrete experiences can shape a culture for peace, create appreciation of diversity, social cohesion, tolerance, break down the stereotypes and the barriers between nationalities and cultures; build self – respect, values and ethical awareness. My own experience have taught me that the ideal platform for expanding your horizons, succeed personal development is to make youth experience the Olympic values themselves in a wide range of possible activities. In this way you learn to respect and understand each other, develop social and moral behaviours and transfer it to your daily life and pass to the others. I really believe that my multicultural background have had a huge impact on my perception to the world as the “international atmosphere” is the most important experience. In this context, diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. We have to understand it and celebrate it every day. Overall, blending sport with culture and education through the activities of the IOA and NOAs, the Olympic Movement will continue to play a leading role in disseminating its fundamental moral principles of respect for others, fair play, equality, democracy and peace in the world.¹¹⁹

The Truce is an indispensable constituent of the Olympic Tradition. By bringing this tradition into the limelight, we are endowing upon it new dynamics, greater strength and new perspective within the Olympic Games. Unfortunately, nowadays the Olympic Truce is purely symbolic. There are threats and challenges that we have to overcome in order to remain active and optimistic. The Olympic movement, the Olympic Ideals, sport, youth, and role models, acceptance of diversity, policy planning and education can play a catalyst role for peace and reconciliation. Indeed, they can be priceless tools for peace, multicultural cooperation and social justice. So, we have to keep up the spirit of aspiring, supporting, creating the appropriate conditions and providing opportunities for sport, cultural activities and educational programmes.

It's our responsibility to encourage peace, mutual understanding, and respect of different cultures, basic human values and concerns, according to regional and national requirements, towards the establishment of long – lasting peace. Learning to accept the

¹¹⁹ Ibid., p.77

differences and enjoy diversity is an important element of both peace and Olympic values education.

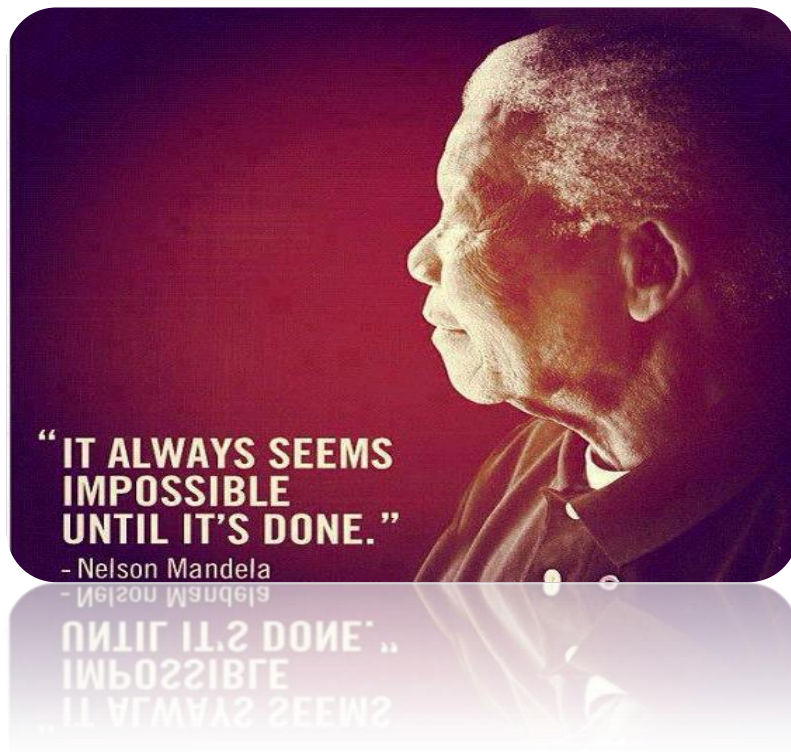
To sum up, the Olympic Truce is not an utopia. Today more than ever, everyone seeks peace and harmony. Clearly, our objective is to educate, inspire and mobilize individuals, communities, nations, continents, devote all our efforts, surpass ourselves, and work all together in promoting the Olympic Ideals and spreading the pursuit of peace locally, nationally and internationally. If we believe we can bridge the differences, all the barriers could be broken down and the Olympic Truce could become reality again creating a safer, more equitable and sustainable future. Let's give peace a chance...

“...It is not yet soon, gentlemen. The days of history are long, so let us be patient and remain confident...”

Pierre de Coubertin

Peace

Peace



Peace

Peace

8. TIMELINE



776 B.C The tradition of Olympic Truce ('Ekecheiria') is established in Ancient Greece by the signature of a treaty between three kings: Iphitos of Elis, Cleosthenes of Pisa and Lycurgus of Sparta.

1894 The International Olympic Committee is founded by Pierre Baron de Coubertin. The Greek Demetrios Vikelas is the first President of the IOC, from 1894 to 1896.

1896 The first Olympic Games held in the modern era are hosted in the Panathenaic stadium in Athens.

1992 The Truce is officially revived by the International Olympic Committee in order to allow athletes from the Former Republic of Yugoslavia to participate in the Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona. The United Nations embrace the initiative, recognizing the Olympic Truce as the unique instrument of creating a culture of global peace.

1993 The United Nations General Assembly urges Member States to observe the Olympic Truce from the seventh day before the opening and the seventh day following the closing of the Olympic Games. This resolution is a landmark in the history of the Olympism.

1994 The appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce facilitates the participation of athletes from the Former Republic of Yugoslavia in the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer.

1995 The fiftieth session of the United Nations General Assembly, which is attended for first time in history by the IOC President, adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. Also, all member states are called to reaffirm the observance of the Olympic Truce during each Summer and Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

1997 The fifty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on observing the priceless ideal of the Olympic Truce during Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan.

1998 During the Nagano Olympic Games, the observance of the Olympic Truce allows the United Nations Secretary General Koffi Annan to intervene and seek a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Iraq. Finally, a memorandum of understanding is signed between the United Nations and the Iraqi government.

1999 An appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce is launched by 180 United Nations Member States during the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

2000 The International Olympic Committee establishes the International Olympic Truce Foundation and the International Olympic Truce Center with the goal of promoting peace worldwide and reviving the ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce. The South and the North delegations parade together under the flag of the Korean peninsula during the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games in Sydney. Also, the General Assembly adopts the United Nations Millennium Declaration encouraging peace, cooperation, development and observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future.

2001 The fifty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

2002 The XIX Winter Olympic Games take place in Salt Lake City. During the Lighting of the Flame Ceremony in Ancient Olympia is announced the Olympic Truce Statement of World Personalities which applies to all future Games and supports the implementation of Truce.

2003 The fifty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Olympic Games in Athens, where the Olympic Truce Tradition is first established. It is worth mentioning that the Resolution is adopted by 190 UN Member States, an exceptional and unprecedented number in UN history.

2004 The Olympic Games take place in Greece where the Olympic Games and Olympic Truce were born. More than 300 important personalities from the five continents sign the Truce appeal.

2005 The sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italia.

2006 The 2006 Winter Olympics are celebrated in Turin. During the Opening Ceremony acrobats come together and form the shape of a dove, the symbol of peace while IOC President Jacques Rogge launches a strong appeal for reconciliation peace in the world. Olympic Truce Walls are placed in three Olympic Villages in Turin, Sestriere and Bardonecchia.

2007 The sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

2008 The Summer Olympic Games take place in August in Beijing. The Peace and Friendship Wall is launched in the Olympic village. Numerous of officials, athletes, organizers and visitors add their signature on it showing their support to the Olympic Truce Ideal and expressing their wish for a peaceful world.

2009 The sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, Canada.

2010 The 2010 Winter Olympic Games, officially known as the XXI Winter Olympics take place in Vancouver. The project *Make your Peace* provides important information about Olympic Games and teaches them peaceful ways of living with each other.

2011 The sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal in preparation for the Summer Olympic Games in London.

2012 The Games of the XXX Olympiad take place in London and the Olympic Truce Resolution for these Games receive the unanimous support of all 193 UN Member States. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon carries the Olympic Flag during the Opening ceremony. All Syrian athletes sign the Olympic Truce Wall proving the huge power of sports. The 2012 Olympic Games are the first in which women compete in every sport on the Olympic Programme. The Truce activity *Get set for the Olympic Truce* encourages young people to create and promote peace cultures in their daily realities.

9. APPENDICES

9.1. Appendix I-Interviews/Opinions

Konstantinos Filis

Director of the International Olympic Truce Centre

The Olympic Truce is a universal value pervaded by a timeless Greek essence. In ancient times the revival of the Olympics was combined with the ceasefire between the member-cities, so that athletes, artists and spectators could travel to Olympia and go back to their hometown secure and under peaceful conditions. This is how the Olympic Truce, which was respected for 1200 years, was born. The Olympic Truce is not a political process, such as the Armistice; therefore there is no guarantee that it will be respected. Also, no international organization can impose it on its Member States or enforce sanctions for the “offenders”.

Although sport does not bring Peace, it can be a tool for promoting ideals that will highlight its importance and consolidate its meaning. This is what we have tried and largely succeeded in transitional societies that heal up their wounds as a result of protracted conflicts. Therefore, we do not intervene during a conflict, for which we do not have the necessary evidence to separate right from wrong and fair from unfair, but we mediate when it ends, when people need us even more. When some leave having completed their work, the Olympic Truce is present to give hope and the perspective of peace. To cultivate and consolidate, through sport, a culture of peaceful co-existence in the echo the hostilities that have spawned hatreds and stereotypes leave behind.

The Olympic Truce is a concept that can alter the attitude of life each one of us has towards our fellow men and society. It does not concern only the states or an invisible

“elite”, but each and every one of us. In this context, we encourage the Nations and peoples to work for the building of the foundations of Peace, holding as a central idea that “what unites us is always far greater than what divides us”! This is, essentially, the sense that the Olympic Truce receives in modern times.

We need to explore how we can bridge our differences, respect the uniqueness and diversity of others and spend time with and pay attention to our fellow men in order to listen, get to know and finally understand them. We have to choose dialogue, understanding and cooperation instead of everlasting rivalries that lead to nowhere. We also need to consider the way we can practice all these in our everyday life in order to coexist in greater harmony and improve the quality of life we and our fellow men have.

Konstantinos Tzavaras

Former Alternate Minister of Education & Religious Affairs,
Culture & Sports

The idea of Olympic truce constitutes one of the basic structural components of the Olympic Idea. It is the essential and basic condition, on which the ancient Greek world shaped the content and the substance of the athletic events. Its idea, lost partly in the fable and partly in reality, was weaved together with the games in Alte. The very same idea was incorporated in the collective memory of the Greek people and constituted a constant reference point in the historical reality of the era. It was the need for peace was the cause that led Ifitus, after the divine intervention of the Delphi Oracle, to establish athletic and cultural games of Olympia, at the same time however it was also the need for the preparation and participation of the best athletes at the games, far from that their martial duties. For the people of the ancient world the Olympic truce was considered a sacred and at the same times an institutionally guaranteed action, absolutely essential for the proper organization of the games, an action of respect toward the gods, the athletes and the citizens that participated. It is not accidental the fact that the trespass of truce is testified very few times in history, and whenever it happened historical narrators presented it from a detested point of view.

The revival of the Olympic Games in 1896 was not followed by a proportional effort of reintroducing the idea of Olympic Truce. The different social, economic and geopolitical conditions, as well as the new globalized version of the games, do not constitute a fertile ground for such an effort. Despite the individual aspirations of modern states, many attempts were made, with some of them successful, in order to achieve world truce during the games, with perhaps the more successful the one during the 1998 winter games of Nagano, when truce was achieved in Iraq, warding off a growing crisis. Keeping in mind however that the Olympic movement does not have significant political power, it appears weak in dealing with the geopolitical planning of its members. A global choice of action, as the Olympic truce, is difficult to be applied, even for the short interval of time that the games last, since the multi-faceted national choices and the feeble social web do not allow it. However can this ascertainment be absolute and final? Even though such an effort appears to be utopian, the societies of

the world are ready to engulf it. The global ideals of the noble rivalry and competition constitute a common idea for the citizens, a single base of perception and agreement, even between governmental entities in conflict. This common idea allows us to lead the people easily to the acceptance and at the same time to the need of applying the Olympic truce. The symbolic message of the Olympic truce, left to us by the ancient Greek world as a precious deposit, should be strengthened and expand in the planet. Its messages remain inalterable and powerful, despite the diversity of the modern societies. The only thing missing is the global political will, which will place on the fringe aspirations, plans and strategies, aiming for 16 days each four years to plant the seed for a culture of agreement, peace and athletic rivalry. Even though it seems utopian and difficult, it is in any case absolutely necessary.

Because what the people of the world demand those 16 days of the games, is the same that someone can distinguish easily inside the crowded stadiums, not other than peace, prosperity and noble rivalry, values that will always surpass the political choices.

Pyrros Dimas

Gold Olympic Champion Weightlifter

Member of Parliament State – PA.SO.K

President of the Hellenic Weightlifting Federation

In this day and age, a great effort has been made by many international organizations and states to cease any hostilities and warfare, during the Olympic Games at least. This way the Olympics can be the springboard for the peaceful settlement of disputes between states and the achievement of the much desired peace in the world. The so-called Olympic Truce can spur humankind to lower the weapons and work for the mutual respect, understanding and reconciliation. It can promote the dialogue and relieve the population suffering under the weight of war and hostilities, even temporarily.

The idea of reviving the Olympic Truce -as happened with the revival of the Olympic Games before more than a hundred years ago- may seem romantic and utopian, but we must not forget that it took several years for the Olympics to evolve into the leading event of humanity. It's only natural that it requires a lot of work to achieve this goal. Public awareness, training and education, as well as relations and action in areas of conflict are some of the necessary prerequisites for the revival and preservation of the Olympic Truce during the Games.

Sport was and always will be the most important antidote to the poison of violence, frenzy and depression that afflict human societies. Nowadays, as so happened in ancient times, if the Olympic Truce is not achieved, modern warriors will not be able to put down their weapons and enter the arenas to compete with their "enemies" with the vigor of their soul and the glory of their hearts, instead of fighting to deprive the souls and hearts of the other athletes.

Dimosthenis Tampakos

Olympic Gold Medalist Athens 2004, Olympic Silver Medalist Sydney 2000

(Rings-Artistic Gymnastics)

President of Hellenic Association of Olympic Winners

The purpose of Education in ancient Greece was the molding of a fulfilled personality of the man. In this way, people would be able to balance their internal conflicts and respond with bravery to their “internal wars” while growing up. The Olympic Games gave athletes the opportunity to show their best self “in honor of the gods”. In fact, there was a deeper symbolism in some of the athletic events, the bull leaping being a case in point, which was the emergence of a ‘higher self’, suggesting a ‘previous internal battle’.

Truce is defined as the temporary cessation, and not the end, of hostilities. The Olympic Games is, perhaps, the one and only global event in which people of all races and from all countries parade together, eliminating discriminations and possible national differences. However, due to the excessive commercialization of the Games, the involvement of multinational corporations and, to a certain extent, the dependency of the Games on them, there has come a corruption to the real meaning of the institution. What is more, the developed industry of the production and use of banned substances (doping) has also made a contribution. Even in ancient times it would not be possible to exclude the existence of facts which offended the spirit of the Games. These incidents were the exceptions that confirmed the rule, i.e. the need most people had to genuinely adopt and implement the truce.

Today, the sense of the Olympic Truce could parallel a course aimed at audiences like school students which analyzes on a theoretical and symbolic basis the meaning of the institution. Practically, the *Olympic Truce* seems to be a utopia and unfortunately it fails to give a final solution to the hostilities between the countries. Possibly, the solution lies in the strong will of all of us for the peaceful settlement of disputes. Therefore, in order to have real peace in the world, the personal peace of every human being should precede something which is exclusively a matter of morals, education and personal regard.

David Fernandez

Olympic Judo Athlete

Flag bearer for Costa Rica at the Olympic Games Athens 2004

Physical Education teacher

Law student

I think that nowadays truce is pipe dream. The point is that when the truce was a reality, the world was "smaller" and the control that could be Executive over countries taking part at the games, were much easier.

What happens nowadays? It is easy! Political and economic interests could be stronger than the Olympic truce. Sadly...

The Way that the World should change and make peace a constant in the Humanity it's, definitely through Education and moral values. Unarguably, sport can help in the learning of these matters.

But why Sports can help? It is easy! Sport is a huge educational tool. It is easier to explain the meaning of courage to a teenager with a real life sports experience than opening a boring dictionary and reading him the etymological meaning and composition. For instance, teaching him that those who lose in a competition and have the "courage" of getting up after bite the dust, are the ones that develop the emotions and values that could transform the world in a place of effort and justice. Why justice? Because it will win, after man loses. So this is the way, man values can be developed at maximum and these values will guide us to peace.

Sakis Kostaris

Paralympian Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004

Communications Manager - Sport Manager at the Hellenic Paralympic Committee

The Olympic Truce is a cornerstone dimension of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Games have a major educational role and should act as an educational tool and an example setting paradigm for the youth of the world.

It is a tradition originating from Ancient Greece that still has a substantial meaning and relevance in our time. The Games offer a unique opportunity for the people and nations of the world to gather, exchange and also underline the common values and heritage that the world shares. The "ékécheiria" the "laying down of arms" as it is called in Greek is a major symbolic and substantial value set. In ancient times during the Truce period wars were suspended, armies were prohibited from threatening the Games, legal disputes were stopped, and death penalties were forbidden.

During the modern Games we have to continue this tradition and try to encourage further actions and initiatives to mobilize the youth for the promotion of the common human values. We should use the powerful tool of sport to establish contacts between communities in conflict and offer humanitarian support for countries at war. The gathering of the world during the Games offers a great window of opportunity to create dialogue, understanding and reconciliation between the nations of this world.

Meg Villanueva

Director of the peace and HR programme of the Fundació Catalunya Voluntaria-
Barcelona

If we are talking about the Olympic Truce as to how I understand it, which is the laying down of arms before, during and after the Olympic Games (like a ceasefire in armed conflict study terms), I do not think it is utopic idea. As we have discussed together in Bakuriani,* conflict is different from violence. Conflict is something natural that cannot be prevented and SHOULD not be prevented. ARMED conflict, on the other hand is already the violent part of conflict when it escalates. Many people are still, until now, using these two terms (CONFLICT and ARMED CONFLICT) as two similar things, when it is not.

I believe that the Olympic Truce is one mechanism that maintains the idea that peace is the absence of war (with the Olympic Truce, there should be no armed fighting/war/killing, etc). But this is just one side of the coin. What I would like to see the Olympic Truce also include is the long term aspect of peace - sustainable peace. This means that the truce should not only promote “no fighting/war/killing/bombing” before, during and after the Olympic Games, but promote it as something that international states and people should do every day, every single day. Now this is the one that seems utopic; thinking that the society will actually really be free from violence 365 days a week. While the Olympic Truce is a “first step” to say, “hey, we should stop war/ fighting to make way for the Olympic games” which is a good idea, i think it should also try to promote the idea that with or without the Olympic games, war should not happen anyway. I see the Olympic truce as similar to the Peace One Day initiative of UK artist Jeremy Gilley. He lobbied to have 1 day of the 365 days in a year where all war and fighting SHOULD STOP (Sept 21st of every year) to make way for international humanitarian aid, health care, support and food to go to victims of the war.

* *Chance for peace* is a project founded by the Youth in Action Programme of the European Comission. It took place in Georgia (Bakuriani), in February 2013 with the participation of young leaders from 13 countries. Dionysia Peppas was selected as leader of the Greek delegation by the Youthnet Hellas.

It has been an important initiative since then. But like what he says, this is one day and therefore the first step. The idea is to promote it one day at a time, and that hopefully it becomes a reality not just one day, but one week, then one month, then one year! You can read more about the Peace One Day initiative and the intro video here...it should be able to help you in your research.

Here's the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4khdQUINgg4>

Can it be a reality? Yes I believe so but it will take time, a long time. I also want to be realistic enough to say that while I believe it can happen, it will be a very difficult journey. Violence is in our systems....our institutions, our governments, and the structures of our living (status quo, etc). We have to work on these systems and structures to be able to move forward. For example, being a good politician in a corrupt political/government system will definitely not work. Either the politician will be gunned down and killed for being good, or the politician will, after some years, quit, or join the corruption(the saying that if you can't beat them, join them!). So the problem also lies in the social and cultural structures that we have...that we have created ourselves...and this is making the process even more challenging.

How can we succeed in mobilizing young generations? This is a very broad question. I think peace is not the work just of young people but a collective project of everyone, young or old. I also believe in the power of education and training of young people at an early age of giving them the right skills and competences, for example in dealing with conflicts so that they do not become violent. I also believe in the role of educators, parents and adults in being a good example to young generations. We have a saying in the Philippines "in the eyes of a child, what an older person does, even if it is wrong, becomes right" and I think this is very true. Unless we act coherently with what we are promoting, it will be a big challenge to try to work for peace when we are not peaceful ourselves.

I also believe that media plays a big role in this process. International institutions, such as the Olympic Committee, should also think about not just sports but also sports for a greater cause... It should create a window of opportunities for people from opposing parties to dialogue with each other, to promote sports for solidarity instead of competition (which is also a bit of a structural aspect as we have seen in the "ways of

dealing with conflict” we did in Bakuriani). I may be radical in this idea, but I think that nowadays, the Olympics have become a motor for “power” or the “us vs. them” idea, and the idea of winners and losers. While fortunately, the Olympic Games do not promote war and fighting, it has been used by teams, states, athletes, companies, sponsors, etc in not the best way possible. It has been also more and more tainted (talk about drugs, doping, etc) than when it started back in Greece, which I believe was a very healthy kind of games. The advantage of the Olympics is that it is a world renowned event, and many people really look forward to it! I think it is more popular than any other event I can think of, therefore it has this “added responsibility” of educating people about peace, human rights and sustainable living/health” as well as mobilizing people for a cause greater than just sports.

Tommy Kristoffersen

Project Manager of the International Sport and Culture Association – Denmark

I think that Olympic Games are an important event in order to bring people together and for a period think global and international. The Olympic Games cannot create peace itself, but they can be an eye-opener of the diversity of people in the world and hopefully make a better understanding which can bring peace and harmony among people in long term.

It is a very long process and the Olympic Games are one of few elements worldwide that really unite the world for two weeks every 4 year.

Move week is one example of sport for all activities that can bring people together on a European and global level. It gives people the opportunity to share and learn from each other and work united on an overall vision of getting +100M more Europeans active in sport and physical activity by 2020.

Marina Vasilara

Managing Director Peaceplayers – Cyprus

The Olympic Truce, the idea that any fighting between people, cities or states had to stop during the Olympic Games was something that encompassed the essence of the Olympics and the power of sport. In other words, the Games were so important for humanity that any fighting had to stop, recognizing the noble value that sportsmanship and competition carried. Unfortunately today, the Olympic Truce is more of a utopia than an achievable goal given the number of conflicts that are taking place and the diminishing value placed on the Games themselves. Nevertheless, as long as the Olympic Games are alive, every sportsperson and every statesperson should become aware of this goal and work towards its potential. All sports organizations have a role to play in this.

Inspiring the Olympic Truce is a task for all involved in sport but particularly the Olympic Committees of each country. By realizing the enormous power that sport can play in the lives of a nation, every statesperson and every sportsman or sportswoman need to advocate for it and inspire the youth to work towards it. For the Olympic Truce idea to become alive, the Olympic Games need to start being perceived as a medium to get people together and promote good sportsmanship as opposed to a commercial activity of the developed world.

Sport is a powerful tool and can mobilize people and nations - if it manages to get into every school, every community, and every home. It is an enormous tool for youth development and excellence and a way up to a better future for our youth.

Nevena Vukasinovic

Delegate and facilitator Generations for Peace - HK of Jordan

NOC of Serbia / Serbian Youth Council - Associate

Word *truce* is not just a word for people coming from Balkans. *Truce* represents a state of mind and an eagerly wanted possibility for freedom, balanced life and prosperity. It should be perceived by nations all over the world as something more than a task to be done, but more often as a common legacy of people of the world.

Within Serbian Youth Council and Foundation of Sports and Olympism, both entities coming from the National Olympic Committee of Serbia, we are very aware how peace can be inspired by sports activities. Thus we are not just supporting initiatives coming from the outside, but we are creating our own, also letting peace to be a leading thread among people of our country, especially youth. We like to believe that in every action, workshop, lecturing, project we are making, as well as in every message we are transmitting, loudly or between the lines is written a *peace* word.

Our last year has been marked with the implementation of projects of the Generations for peace, partners' program from Amman, Jordan. Through various sports games and activities, as well as a number of educative workshops, children from different backgrounds of the region had a possibility to participate and to pass on the message of Olympism inspired by peace, support and tolerance. Personally I was very proud of being a witness how peaceful ideas could successfully bridge the differences and intolerance through active playing, learning and advocacy.

My colleagues and I believe that *truce* is possible if we could mobilize as much youth as possible to promote Olympic values, involve local communities and authorities to advocate and promote the Olympic *Truce* legacy, give a voice to people so that empowered nation along with the legitimated politics can easily identify themselves with the Olympic *Truce* diplomacy on a long term. We strongly believe that this could be a long but strong and trustworthy way for making this ancient story possible if not on everyday basis, then in everyday prayers of people of the world.

Laska Nenova

Europe's biggest community sports event - MOVE week

Regional coordinator SEE - Bulgaria

For me Olympics has been just money making machine and like one I would hardly connect it to peace or truce. I have never followed the games closely but just the opening and closing ceremonies as for me professional sport has turned to something that I do not believe in or like.

Not following the Olympic politics or messages has kept me ignorant of the current proceedings of Olympic truce and the political objectives of the Committee. My first thought of answering your question was "Yes, it is an utopia", but now when you made me read and search for more information I think that Olympic truce could become a reality if there are more people that actually follow the idea.

I have found this extract on the web and I will close with this quote: "The Truce helps to show the world that peace is a possibility. It shows the power that sport has to inspire unity, mutual understanding, and respect among different types of people." Mr. Sebastian Coe.

MOVE WEEK the facts sheet!

WHAT: MOVE Week – an annual Europe-wide campaign week promoting sport and physical activity

WHY: To encourage broader participation in sport and physical activity

WHERE: Across Europe

WHEN: 7-13 October 2013

WHO: Sport organisations, cities, communities, clubs and institutions

HOW: Through community events that promote the benefits of being active

WHAT IS MOVE WEEK?

MOVE WEEK is an annual Europe-wide campaign promoting sport, physical activity and the positive impact on society they bring. In 2012, the first ever MOVE WEEK brought together individuals, organizations and cities from across Europe in a large-scale celebration of sport and physical activity. The first edition of MOVE WEEK took place **1-7 October 2012** with **250** organisers in **23 European countries** attracted over **140,000 participants**. The campaign promotes a myriad of existing events across the continent as well as fostering and nurturing new initiatives.

MOVE WEEK is part of **NowWeMove**, a broad platform of initiatives from ISCA and its partners with the aim of getting 100 million more Europeans physically active by 2020.

The overall objective of the Campaign is to facilitate cross-sector collaboration for promotion of participation in sport and physical activity.

Specific Objectives:

- I. Raise **awareness** about the benefits of sport and physical activity among European citizens;
- II. Increase accessible **opportunities** to be active in sport and physical activity by developing new and up-scaling existing initiatives;
- III. Enable sustainable and innovative capacity-building for the MOVE Agents through advocacy and open-sourced solutions.

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY



BOOKS:

- Albanidis, Evangelos, *History and Sport in the ancient Greek world*, Athens: Salto Publications, 2004
- Binder, Deanna, *Teaching values: an Olympic Education Toolkit, A project of the International Olympic Committee*, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2007
- Binder, Deanna and Yangsheng, Guo, *The Truce Story*, Athens: International Olympic Truce Centre, 2004
- Briggs, Rachel, McCarthy Helen, Zorbas Alexis, *16 Days, The role of the Olympic Truce in the toolkit for peace*, Athens: International Olympic Truce Centre, 2004
- Doxas, Takis, *The Light of Olympia*, Athens: Hellenic Ministry of Culture, 2004 (Limited edition)
- Fisas, Vicenç, *Cultura de paz y gestión de conflictos*, Barcelona: Unesco, 2002
- Furlong, Andy and Cartmel, Fred, *Young people and social change*, Berkshire: Open University Press, 2007
- Galtung, Johan, *Peace by peaceful means, Peace and conflict, Development and civilization*, Oslo: International Peace Research Center, 1996
- Georgiadis, Konstantinos, *Olympic Revival. The Revival of the Olympic Games in Modern Times*, Athens: Ekdotike Athinon, 2003
- Georgiadis, Konstantinos and Syrigos Angelos, *Olympic Truce, Sport as a platform for peace*, Athens: International Olympic Truce Centre, 2009
- Gilbert, Keith and Bennett, Will, *Sport, Peace and Development*, Illinois: Common Ground, 2012

- International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Truce, An ancient concept for the new Millennium*, Lausanne: IOC, 1998
- International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Charter in force as 8 July 2011*, Lausanne: IOC, 2011
- International Olympic Truce Centre and United Nations Information Centre, *United Nations and Olympic Truce*, Athens, 2005
- International Olympic Truce Centre, *Imagine Peace*, Athens, 2011
- Miller, G. Stephen, *Ancient Greek Athletics*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2004
- Mountakis Costas, *Curriculum development in Olympic Education, Part I, Sparta: 2009*
- Naul, Roland, *Olympic Education*, United Kingdom: Meyer & Meyer Sport, 2008
- Panagiotopoulos, Dimitris, *Sports Law*, Athens: Ant. Sakkoulas Publishers, 2005
- Parry, Jim. et al. *Sport and Spirituality, An introduction*, Oxon: Routledge, 2007
- Salomon Gavriel and Cairns Edward, *Handbook on Peace Education*, New York: Psychology Press, 2011
- The Olympic Museum, *Hope, when Sport can change the world*, Educational kit, Lausanne: IOC, 2011
- Yalouris, Nicolas, *The Ancient Olympics in Ancient Greece*, Athens: Ekdotike Athenon, 1982

ARTICLES:

- Boulding. Elise, “Peace Culture: The problem of managing human difference”, *Cross Currents*, Summer 1998, Vol.48, Issue 4
- Coubertin, P., “The Philosophical foundation of modern Olympism”, in Müller, Norbert, *Olympism: selected writings of Pierre de Coubertin*. Lausanne: IOC, 2000
- Johnson, David W. and Johnson, Roger T., “Frontiers in Research: Peace Education”, *Journal of Research in Education*, Fall 2003, Vol.13, No 1

- Liu, Julie H., “Lighting the torch of Human rights: the Olympic Games as a vehicle for Human Rights reform”, Northwestern University School of Law- Northwestern journal of international Human Rights 2007, vol.5, Issue 2
- Mc Roskey, Samantha, “Security and the Olympic Games: Making Rio an example”, Yale Journal of International Affairs 2010, Vol.5, Issue 2
- Müller, Norbert, “Olympic Education”, The sport Journal 2004, vol.7
- Müller, Norbert, “The idea of peace as Coubertin's vision for the modern Olympic movement: development and pedagogic consequences”, The sport Journal 2006, vol. 9
- Nissiotis, Nikolaos, “The educational work of the International Olympic Academy together with the National Olympic Academies”, Arena Review, 1982, vol. 6, Issue 2
- Parry, Jim, “The power of sport in peacemaking and peacekeeping” in Sport in society: Cultures, commerce, media, politics, London: Routledge, 2012
- Parry, Jim, “ Physical Education as Olympic Education”, European Physical Education Review 1998, vol. 4
- Reid, Heather, L, “Olympic Sports and its lessons for Peace”, Journal of the Philosophy of Sport 2006, vol. 33
- Spaaij, Ramón, “Olympic rings of Peace? The Olympic Movement, Peacemaking and Intercultural understanding” in Sport in society: Cultures, commerce, media, politics, London: Routledge, 2012

PROCEEDINGS:

- Anastassopoulos, George, “Unesco’s contribution to the advancement of the Olympic Movement in the context of its humanistic mission”, report on the 48th International session for young participants 11-25 June 2008, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009
- Andrecs, Hermann, “Aims, Objectives and Contents of Olympic pedagogy ”, report on the 9th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 1-8 June 2007, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009

- Binder, Deanna, “Bringing the Olympic Spirit to life in schools”, report on the 33rd session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994
- Boulogne, Yves, “Coubertin’s Multicultural Olympism”, report on the 33rd session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994
- Despotopoulos, Konstantinos, “The ancient Olympic Games as an element of Greek civilization”, report on the 2nd joint International session for directors of National Olympic Academies, members and staff of National Olympic Committees and International sports Federations 2-9 June 1994, Ancient Olympia: IOA, 1995
- Durantez, Conrado, “Pierre de Coubertin, the Humanist”, International Olympic Academy, report on the 49th International session for young participants 10-24 June 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010
- Fasoulas, Panagiotis, “The Olympic Truce, the request of the new era”, report on the 6th International session for Educators and Officials of higher institutes of physical education 26 June – 2 July 2003, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2004
- Filis, Konstantinos, Presentation at the Youth Participants Session: International Olympic Academy, June 2012
- Gangas, Dionyssi, “Olympic Games and International politics: Olympic Games through international politics or international politics through the Olympic Games”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Georgiadis, Konstantinos, “Olympic Games and the idea of Truce and Peace in ancient times”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Georgiadis, Konstantinos, “The Master’s degree programme on Olympic Studies, : Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organisation and Management of Olympic Events”, report on the 10th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 6-13 June May 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010

- Georgiadis, Konstantinos, “The implementation of Olympic Education Programs at world level”, report on the 48th International session for young participants 30-25 June 2008, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009
- Georgiadis, Konstantinos, “International understanding through Olympic Education”, report on the 42th International session for young participants 24 July-8 August 2002, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2003
- Horn, Alex, “The pedagogical ways through which the Youth Olympic Games achieve their ambitious objectives”, report on the 10th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 6-13 May 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010
- HRH Prince Feisal bin Al-Hussain, “Reconciliation and recovery through sport”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Lambrinidis, Stavros, “The Olympic Truce: an ancient concept for the new millennium”, report on the 43th International session for young participants 30 July-13 August 2003, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2004
- Lemke, Wilfried, “The potential of sport towards peace and development of mankind”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Mouratidis, Ioannis, “Culture and the Olympic Spirit in Antiquity”, report on the 33rd International session for young participants 7-22 July 1993, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 1994
- Müller, Norbert, “The idea of Peace as vision for the Modern Olympic Games: origin, development and pedagogic consequences”, report on the 7th International session for Educators and Officials of higher institutes of physical education 20-27 July 2006, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2007
- Mzali, Mohamed, “Olympism and Education”, report of the 18th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, Athens: HOC, 1978
- Naul, Ronald, “Olympic pedagogy as a theory of development of ethical and humanistic values in education”, report on the 9th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 1-8 June 2007, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009
- Nissiotis, Nikolaos, “The Olympic movement’s contribution to peace”, report of the 25th session 4-19 July 1985, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOC and HOC, 1986

- Palaeologos, Cleanthis, “Sport and the Games in ancient Greek society”, report of the 18th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, Athens: HOC, 1979
- Palaeologos, Cleanthis, “The institution of the Truce in the Ancient Olympic Games”, report of the 5th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, Athens: HOC, 1965
- Papandreou, George and Lambrinidis, Stavros “The Olympic Truce: an ancient concept for the new millennium”, report on the 44th International session for young participants 23 May-6 June 2004, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2005
- Papandreou, George, “Olympic Truce (ekecheiria) and the International Foundation of Olympic Truce”, report on the 41th International session for young participants 22 June-2 July 2001, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2002
- Parry, Jim, “Olympism and its ethic”, report on the 44th International session for young participants 23 May-6 June 2004, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2005
- Parry, Jim, “Olympism and its ethic”, report on the 43th International session for young participants 30 July-13 August 2003, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2004
- Parry, Jim, “Olympism at the beginning and the end of the twentieth century, immutable values and principles and outdated factors”, report of the 28th session 29 June-14 July 1988, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOC and HOC
- Perrakis, Stelios, “The Olympic Movement as a tool for world peace”, International Olympic Academy, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Petermandl, Werner, “Olympic Games and the idea of Truce and Peace in ancient times”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Ritter, Peter, “The Olympic Movement in the service of peace and brotherhood”, report of the 18th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, Athens: HOC, 1979

- Stalder, Patrick, “Youth Olympic Games”, report on the 10th International session for Directors of National Olympic Academies 6-13 May 2009, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2010
- Teo-Koh, Sock Miang, “The Youth Olympic Games as a vehicle for world peace”, report on the 50th International session for young participants 16-30 June 2010, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2011
- Zerguini, Mohamed, “Olympic Education as a contributing factor to international understanding”, report of the 25th session of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, Athens: HOC, 1985
- Zowislo, Maria, “Philosophy and Olympic Education”, report on the 8th International session for Educators and Officials of higher institutes of physical education 10-17 July 2008, Ancient Olympia, Athens: IOA and IOC, 2009

INTERNET RESOURCES:

- 8th World Conference on Sport, Education and Culture (The Amsterdam Declaration)
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Conferences_Forums_and_Events/2012-amsterdam/World-Conference-Declaration-v2.pdf
- 7th World Conference on Sport, Education and Culture (Giving a voice to youth)
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Conferences_Forums_and_Events/Sport_Culture_and_Education/Conference_DURBAN_ENG.pdf
- 2nd International Forum on sport for Peace and Development in Geneva 2011
http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/sport/shared/sport/pdfs/Reports/10-11.05.2011_UN-IOC_FORUM_Geneva_REPORT_EN.pdf
- 1st International Forum on sport for Peace and Development in Lausanne 2009
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Conferences_Forums_and_Events/Sport_peace_and_development/Report-SportPeace-EN.pdf
- An Agenda for peace, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping
http://www.unrol.org/files/A_47_277.pdf

- Conley Bridget, Calling a Truce: on sports, diplomacy and human rights (World Peace Foundation)
<http://sites.tufts.edu/reinventingpeace/2012/07/26/calling-a-truce-on-sports-diplomacy-and-human-rights/>
- Durántez, Conrado, “ Peace in the ideology of Baron Pierre de Coubertin” (Olympic Review April-May 2001)
<http://www.la84foundation.org/OlympicInformationCenter/OlympicReview/2001/OREXXVII38/OREXXVII38s.pdf>
- Fight for Peace
<http://www.fightforpeace.net/?p=53>
- Host city contract-Games of the XXXI Olympiad in 2016
http://www.rio2016.org/sites/default/files/parceiros/hc_en.pdf
- Hso, Leo, Olympism: A dead ideal and a western product? (5th International Symposium for Olympic Research 2000)
<http://www.la84foundation.org/SportsLibrary/ISOR/ISOR2000zf.pdf>
- IOC seminar on Sport and Peace in the Middle East 2007
<http://www.joc.jo/seminar.htm>
- International Chapter of Physical Education and Sport
http://assets.sportanddev.org/downloads/17_intl_charter_of_pe_and_sport.pdf
- International Olympic Truce Centre
<http://www.olympictruce.org/>
- International Olympic Committee - Factsheet Youth Olympic Games (update - July 2012)
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents_Factsheets/The_Youth_Olympic_Games.pdf
- International Olympic Committee - Factsheet Olympic Truce (update - March 2013)
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents_Factsheets/Women_in_Olympic_Movement.pdf
- International Olympic Committee - Factsheet Olympic Truce (update May 2012)
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents_Factsheets/Olympic_Truce.pdf
- International Olympic Truce Centre supports Unicef
<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/tag/unicef/>

- Wilson, Keith, ‘‘Multicultural Education’’
<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/papers/keith.html>
- Kidane, Fékrou, The search for Peace
<http://www.aafla.org/OlympicInformationCenter/OlympicReview/2002/OREXXVII43/OREXXVII43zh.pdf>
- Kidane, Fékrou, Sport and Politics - Diplomacy of an Olympic Truce
<http://www.la84foundation.org/OlympicInformationCenter/OlympicReview/1999/OREXXVI28/OREXXVI28zo.pdf>
- Lambrinidis, Stavros, Olympic Truce
http://www.kathimerini.gr/4dcgi/w_articles_kathglobal_2_16/05/2004_1282832
- Müller, Norbert, Olympic Education (University lecture on the Olympics)
<http://ceo.uab.es/lec/pdf/muller.pdf>
- Nuzman, Carlos, Sport and the Olympic Movement including attracting and maximising major events as catalysts for development
http://www.en.acnolympic.org/acnoen/fichiers/File/XVIII_GA_Moscow_2012/2nd_wosc_moscow_2012_-_presentation_mr._carlos_nuzman_-_sport_and_the_olympic_movement_including_attracting_and_maximizing_major_events_as_catalysts_for_development.pdf
- Official blog of the International Olympic Truce Centre
<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/>
- Official Website of the Olympic Movement - Olympic Truce
<http://www.olympic.org/content/the-ioc/commissions/international-relations-/olympic-truce/>
- Olympic Charter
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/olympic_charter_en.pdf
- Peace cannot be enforced, it must be inspired
<http://olympictruce.wordpress.com/iotc-activities/peace-cannot-be-enforced-it-must-be-inspired/>
- Sport and Peace, Social inclusion, conflict prevention and peace building
http://www.righttoplay.com/International/ourimpact/Documents/Final_Report_Chapter_6.pdf
- Peace one day
<http://peaceoneday.org/welcome/>

- Best practices in peace building and non-violent conflict resolution
http://www.peacewomen.org/assets/file/PWandUN/UNImplementation/SpecializedAgencies/UNESCO/unesco_bestpractices_1998.pdf
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-sixth session
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Olympic_Truce/OT_Resolution_ENG_2011.pdf
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-fourth session
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Olympic_Truce/OT_Resolution_ENG_2009.pdf
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-second session
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reports/EN/en_report_1247.pdf
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its sixth session
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reports/EN/en_report_1242.pdf
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its fifty-eighth session
[http://disarmament2.un.org/Library.nsf/be8c371496c2110885256d420052b4a1/fd3f11c603b6442885256ec2007057e3/\\$FILE/ga.res.58.49v.I.pdf](http://disarmament2.un.org/Library.nsf/be8c371496c2110885256d420052b4a1/fd3f11c603b6442885256ec2007057e3/$FILE/ga.res.58.49v.I.pdf)
- Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its fiftieth session
<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N96/172/39/PDF/N9617239.pdf?OpenElement>
- Jacques, Rogge, “Opening ceremony of the 113th IOC session”
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Reports/EN/en_report_271.pdf
- Sport as a tool for development and peace: Towards achieving the United Nations Millennium developments goals
http://www.un.org/sport2005/resources/task_force.pdf
- Sport for Development and Peace, “From the field: Sport for development and Peace in action”, International Working Group 2007
http://www.righttoplay.com/news-and-media/Documents/Policy%20Reports%20docs/From_the_Field_Full_Doc_Web.pdf

- The United Nations and the Olympic Truce
<http://www.un.org/events/olympictruce/newsroom.shtml>
- The United Nations-Building a Culture for Peace
http://www.un.org/events/UNART/panel_culture_of_peace04.pdf
- The United Nations-International decade for a Culture of Peace and non-violence for the children of the world
<http://www.unesco.org/cpp/uk/news/english.PDF>
- The Olympic Truce and International inspiration
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/What-we-do/Key-Issues/Governance-and-conflict/Building-peace/Olympic-Truce/>
- The Youth Olympic Games: A vehicle for world peace?
http://www.playthegame.org/fileadmin/image/PTG2011/Presentation/Fay_Ted_Mega-events.pdf
- The International platform on sport and development-Sport and peace-building
http://www.sportanddev.org/learnmore/sport_and_peace_building/
- The contribution of sport within the process of peace and reconciliation
http://assets.sportanddev.org/downloads/dissertation_serena_borsani_february_2009.pdf
- Unesco's programme of action, Culture of Peace and non-violence, A vision in action
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002177/217786e.pdf>
- Unesco - Culture of peace: A declaration on a culture of Peace
<http://www.unesco.org/cpp/uk/declarations/2000.htm>
- Unesco - Towards Culture of peace
<http://www.peace.ca/downloads/cpprpt.pdf>
- UNESCO World Report - Investing in Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001847/184755e.pdf>
- United Nations Sport for Development and Peace-why sport?
<http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/sport/home/sport>
- United Nations-General Assembly, Observance of the Olympic Truce
<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r011.htm>
- United Nations - General Assembly, United Nations Millennium Declaration
<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

- United Nations - General Assembly, Building a peaceful and better world through Sport and the Olympic Ideal
http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Olympic_Truce/en_report_202.pdf
- UN - NGLS, Sport: a catalyst for development and peace
<http://www.un-ngls.org/spip.php?article3432>
- University for Peace - Sport as an international tool for development and peace-building
http://www.monitor.upeace.org/archive.cfm?id_article=621
- University of Calgary - Human rights and the Olympic Games: The role of the international sporting events in the promotion of the rights of first nations
<http://comcul.ucalgary.ca/HumanRights>

The Light of Olympia by Takis Doxas ¹²⁰

Tell them
all to start for Olympia.
Thousands thousands thousands of youths
swars of bodies white black yellow,
to go and cleanse themselves near the Palaistra
from yesterday from today from tomorrow,
to annoint with oil their souls and minds
and then
to enter from the wide open gate into the Stadium
to contend.

Not in slaughter and fire
not with the knife and the iron that burns
not for the destruction of man by man
not for causing new dead new maimed new wretched,
but for boxing and the spear
for jumping the discus the race the wrestling
for the four-horsed chariot
for Virtue,
beside Kastor or Antipatros
Diagoras or Alkibiades
which will unite the ancient world with the present
with the future with the everlasting
and it will conquer Ares once more
for the last time.

¹²⁰ Takis, Doxas *The Light of Olympia*, Athens: Hellenic Ministry of Culture, 2004 (Limited edition)

There in the clearing Olympía
vigilant day and night weaves for each
A wreath of wild olive
of Greek peace
of Peace of the whole world.
(extract)



***This poem has been recited in every new Olympiad at the 'Touch of the Holy Flame' ceremony since 1964. The ceremony always takes place in Ancient Olympia, Greece.**



**UNIVERSITY OF PELOPONNESE
FACULTY OF HUMAN MOVEMENT AND
QUALITY OF LIFE SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS ORGANIZATION
AND MANAGEMENT**

MASTER'S THESIS

“OLYMPIC STUDIES, OLYMPIC EDUCATION, ORGANIZATION
AND MANAGEMENT OF OLYMPIC EVENTS”

Olympic Truce: Creating a culture of Peace

Dionysia K. Peppa

Supervisor: Konstantinos Georgiadis
Honorary Dean of the International Olympic Academy

It was approved by the Advisory Committee on the.....

Konstantinos Georgiadis

Konstantinos Mountakis

Werner Petermandl

Supervising Professor

Professor-1

Professor-2

*Honorary Dean of the IOA

*Chairman of the Depart. of
Sport Management at the
University of Peloponnese

*Professor Dr. at the Universities
of Innsbruck and Graz.

*Vice-rector and Professor
at the University of Peloponnese

Sparta, November, 2013

Dionysia K. Peppa

Master's Degree Holder of University of Peloponnese

Copyright © Dionysia K. Peppa, 2013.

All rights reserved.