Human Rights and the Olympic Games

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Today

- IOC’s legitimacy crisis
- IOC’s response – Agenda 2020 (2014)
- Accountability

- Has the IOC made meaningful progress on improving human rights at the Olympics Games since Agenda 2020?
IOC’s Legitimacy Crisis

- Gigantism
- High costs
- Poor legacy outcomes
- Human rights violations
Who Does Los Angeles's Olympic Legacy Really Serve?

Jonny Coleman  
29 minutes ago • Filed to: LA84

Illustration: Benjamin Currie (G/O Media)
IOC’s Legitimacy Crisis
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Bids to Host the Olympic Games
IOC’s Legitimacy Crisis

Referendums to Host the Olympic Games

- **Pro-Games**
- **Anti-Games**
Accountability for Human Rights?

- The right to hold an actor to a set of standards
- To judge whether the actor has met those standards
- To impose consequences if those standards have not been met
The International Olympic Committee, Law, and Accountability

Ryan Gauthier
Accountability for Human Rights?

Standards

- International human rights instruments
- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Agenda 2020
IOC’s Response
Agenda 2020

The IOC to include in the host city contract clauses with regard to Fundamental Principle 6 of the Olympic Charter as well as to environmental and labour-related matters. [Recommendation 1.5]

The Commission to benefit from third-party, independent advice in such areas as social, economic and political conditions, with a special focus on sustainability and legacy. [Recommendation 2.6]
Post-Agenda 2020 – The Games

Rio 2016

PyeongChang 2018

Tokyo 2020
Post-Agenda 2020 – The Bids

BEIJING 2022
Candidate City

PARIS
Ville candidate
Jeux Olympiques de 2024

ALMATY 2022
CANDIDATE CITY

LOS ANGELES
CANDIDATE CITY
Olympic Games 2024

STOCKHOLM ÅRE 2026
CANDIDATE CITY
Olympic Winter Games
## Accountability for Human Rights?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Review</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Coordination Commission</td>
<td>- Possible removal of Games</td>
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<td>- Games-by-Games basis</td>
<td>- Loss of funding ($1 billion – $1.5 billion)</td>
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<td>- Announcement of Human Rights Advisory Committee</td>
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<td>- Pushed back until late 2019</td>
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Conclusions

- Has the IOC done enough?
  - No, especially compared to FIFA

- Will the problem fix itself?
  - Next few Games in Japan, France, USA, Italy
  - What about Beijing 2022?

- Next steps?
Thank You!

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