The Olympic Studies Centre

OSC Knowledge and Resources Acquisitions Policy

November 2025

Foreword

As world source of reference for Olympic knowledge, the IOC Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) must, to fulfil its mission, ensure the continuous development of its resources and their accessibility to all. Through our programmes and services, we support the work of the Olympic Movement but also foster Olympic education, teaching and research among professors, researchers, students and about 80 academic Olympic Studies and Research Centres (OSRCs) around the world. As part of the IOC, we are uniquely placed to collect and share the most up-to-date and accurate information on Olympism.
Our unique resources cover all the key themes related to the Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement and their place within society. Among our resources, you will find the official publications of the IOC and the Organising Committees of the Olympic Games (OCOG) as well as academic publications.

General framework of the acquisitions policy

We constantly develop and enrich our knowledge bases and collections to meet the evolving needs of our audiences. Our acquisitions policy is dynamic: it is regularly reviewed to consider emerging trends and the changing expectations of our users. We ensure the long-term preservation of the publications of the IOC and OCOG. Except for these heritage publications, acquisitions focus on updating content rather than quantitatively increasing the collections.
The identification and selection of new resources are based on a monitoring system that uses the most appropriate sources and tools. This process is complemented by a thorough evaluation and a coordinated validation by a selection committee, based on explicit selection and exclusion criteria. These acquisition criteria are used to assess each resource according to its quality and relevance, both in terms of content and format.

Types of resources

Our resources, available in print or electronic format, include:
conferences, periodicals, academic publications (monographs, articles, chapters, doctoral theses, conferences reports), publications from the Olympic Movement, institutional publications (reports, studies), publications related to future Olympic hosts (bid documents, publications related to the host election process), heritage publications (IOC and OCOG), websites and digital content from OCOG, occasional audiovisual materials (e.g. commercial or institutional DVDs).

Our resources are mainly in English and French, except for those from OCOG, which are also published in the language of the host country. The OSC acquires resources published in other languages if they are of particular interest to our audiences. All acquired publications are catalogued in our online catalogue, the *Olympic World Library*, where digital publications are freely accessible.

Themes

Our acquisitions policy connects Olympic knowledge themes with academic disciplines. In principle, all OSC resources relate to one of these main areas:
The IOC and the Olympic Movement
Olympic Games, Olympic Sports, and Athletes
Sports Sciences

Themes and sub-themes covered by the OSC Acquisitions Policy

International Olympic Committee

Pierre de Coubertin, Presidents et members, *Activities « Beyond the Games »* and events, History, Administration, International Relations, IOC organisation and links with the Olympic Movement, Olympic symbols and properties, Olympic finance / marketing.

Olympic Games / Youth Olympic Games (YOG) / Olympic Qualifier Series

Olympic Games (Summer, Winter), Youth Olympic Games (Summer and Winter), Olympic Qualifier Series, Election of Olympic host cities (past and future), Games ceremonies, Cultural Olympiad and art competitions, Olympic torch relay, Official films and photography, Games look and design, Olympic symbols, Olympic Games legacy and sustainability, Olympic architecture and venues, Broadcasters, IT & telecommunications, Timing, Volunteers, Risk management, Security and terrorism, Games and national/international politics.

National Olympic Committees (NOC) / NOC Associations / Countries

NOCs (history, organisation, activities, Olympic delegations), NOC Associations (history, organisation, activities), History and development of sport and Olympism in countries.

International Sports Federations (IF) / IF Associations / Olympic Sports

IFs and IF Associations (history, organisation, activities), Olympic sports and competitions, History of sport and Olympic disciplines, Technical and technological evolution of sports, Olympic programme.

Other Components of the Olympic Movement

Recognised organisations, Paralympic Movement and Paralympic Games, International multi-sport events recognised by the IOC.

Olympism

Ancient Olympic Games, Olympism and Olympic values, Olympism365, Olympic education and culture, Philosophy of sport.

Athletes

Olympians, Athlete365, Athletes as role models, Career management and transition, Athletes and social media, Athlete entourage, Talent identification and development, Safe sport, Anti-doping/Doping, Sports medicine, Physical preparation and training, Mental health and psychology of elite athletes.

Sport and Society

Equity, inclusion and diversity in sport, Gender equality, Women in sport, Social role of sport, Sport and sexuality, Sport and spectators, Sport and youth, Sport and active society, Sport and sustainable development, Peace and development, Impact of crises on sport and the Olympic Movement, Sport and politics, Sport and migration, Violence in sport, Sport and media / information technology, AI and sport, Esport, Geography of sports practices, Physical education teaching, Physical activity and sports practice, Sport and religion, Sport and disability.

Sport Law and Ethics

Athlete nationality, Sports legislation in host countries, Sport and international law, Human rights, Protection of athletes' and minor athletes' rights, Social responsibility and ethics, Integrity, Prevention of competition manipulation and sports betting, Ethical and legal issues of performance-enhancing technologies.

Sport Economy and Management

Sport and major event management, Sport economy, Governance of sports organisations, Sport and tourism, Marketing and sponsorship, Sports industry.