

## File 1 – Methodology – Reading and presenting a press article – The ‘synthèse’

### A selection on Sports – The Olympic Games

#### INSTRUCTIONS

##### Thursday September 8

- 1/ React to one the five iconographic documents. What does it indicate or suggest?
- 2/ What questions revolving around sports / the Olympic games does it raise?

##### 3/ GROUP WORK

Read your text and its paratext (1, 2,3,4).

Identify the nature of the text, its general subject and specific key point.

Pick the key words and phrases.

##### 4/ Collective work – Focusing on text 4 – Practicing for the oral exam

Using the methodological document on the “texte en colle”, try to identify and hierarchise / organise the key ideas.  
Prepare an introduction.

##### For Thursday Sept 15

- 5/ Read the whole file. Prepare a mind map on the issues highlighted in it  
Try to organise a commentary on Text 4.

##### For Thursday Sept 22

Take organised notes on your document from the DM1 File as if you were preparing a “tableau synoptique”

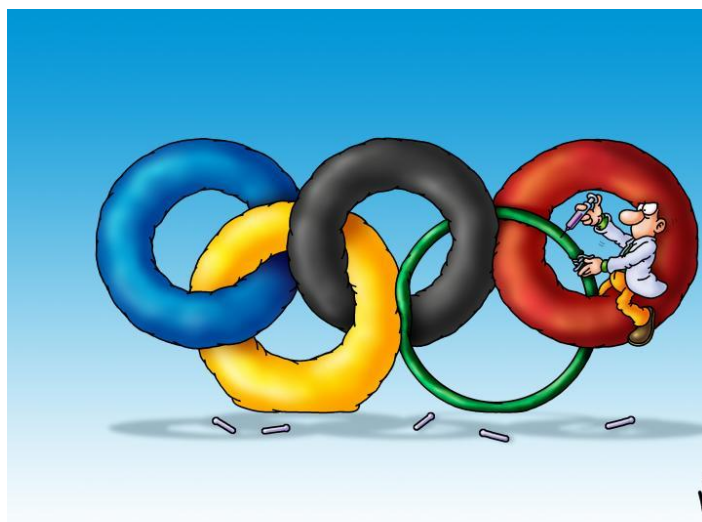
##### For Thursday Sept 29

> **DM 1 : Write a Centrale Synthèse based on those documents....**

> If you have time, translate two sentences from the Thème d’application n°1

**Documents A to E** > Olympic Games’ opening ceremony or other striking image (Prestige > France’s soft power etc)  
/ women’s football (gender gap etc) / Call for boycott (> link with geopolitics)

#### DOCUMENT A



#### DOCUMENT B



DOCUMENT C



DOCUMENT D



DOCUMENT E



## PROGRAMME DES SPORTS POUR LES JEUX OLYMPIQUES DE PARIS 2024



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### PRINCIPALES CARACTÉRISTIQUES

- Une parité historique  
(dans les quotas d'athlètes)
- 4 sports additionnels
  - Skateboard
  - Escalade
  - Surf
  - Breaking
- Des épreuves davantage tournées vers les jeunes
- Diminution du nombre total de participants – 10 500  
(11 092 à Tokyo)
- Diminution du nombre total d'épreuves – 329  
(339 à Tokyo)

### ÉGALITÉ DES SEXES

Participation des femmes :

Paris 2024	Tokyo 2020	Rio 2016
50%	48,8%	45,6%

Une participation strictement égale – 50 %  
– d'hommes et de femmes, à la suite de  
l'équilibre entre les sexes auquel parviendront  
les Jeux de Tokyo 2020 avec 48,8 % de  
concurrentes en lice

22

épreuves mixtes  
(18 à Tokyo)

28 DES 32

sports afficheront une  
stricte parité

### JEUNESSE

4 SPORTS ADDITIONNELS

Le breaking fera ses débuts aux Jeux Olympiques






Skateboard, escalade, surf et breaking

SPORTS URBAINS

Concept étendu, avec des épreuves  
tournées vers les jeunes,  
des épreuves inclusives et fédératrices  
qui peuvent se pratiquer en dehors  
des installations conventionnelles

[olympic.org](https://olympic.org)

 Olympics
  @Olympics

## TEXT 1

### European Markets

#### Paris Games to buoy French economic growth in 2024, says INSEE

By Reuters - July 9, 2024 5:06 PM GMT

PARIS, July 9 (Reuters) - The Olympic Games' effect on the French economy will likely buoy the country's economic growth this year, the INSEE statistics institute said on Tuesday, although it warned France's volatile political situation could jeopardise its forecasts.

Quarterly growth in the third quarter will speed up to 0.5% from 0.3% in the prior three-month period, said INSEE.

5 The Olympics - set to take place over July and August - will contribute 0.3 percentage points thanks to the sale of tickets and TV rights and more tourism, it added. The effect would be similar to the one which the London 2012 Olympics had on the British economy, INSEE economist Dorian Roucher said.

Nevertheless, the overall impact is seen as more modest than many had hoped as spiralling travel and accommodation costs, political instability in France and security concerns discourage many sports fans. Flight bookings  
10 are expected to rise 10% year-on-year during the summer, according to flight ticketing data firm ForwardKeys.

Yet Paris - similar to other popular tourist cities - is already crowded and expensive, and most Olympics tourists simply end up taking the place of other traditional tourists, who delay or cancel their trips.

As the effect of the Paris Olympics wanes later on, the French economy is likely to contract by 0.1% in the fourth quarter compared to the third quarter, said INSEE. As a result, the annual gross domestic product growth would come  
15 in at 1.1% this year, the same rate as in 2023, INSEE said in a Tuesday report headlined "On GDP, Games and uncertainties".

The political situation in the country following the Sunday election that yielded a hung parliament will generate instability that may derail its forecasts, INSEE warned.

INSEE said the French economy will benefit from household consumption, which should also get a lift from the  
20 Olympics, although investment will experience no growth in the second half of the year as interest rates remain relatively high. Inflation will keep on falling during the rest of the year to reach 1.9% in December from 2.1% in June, the report said.

347 words

## TEXT 2

### Opinion

#### The 2024 Olympics showed what the world is becoming

*The Paris Games were refreshingly competitive, reflecting growing global wealth and prosperity.*

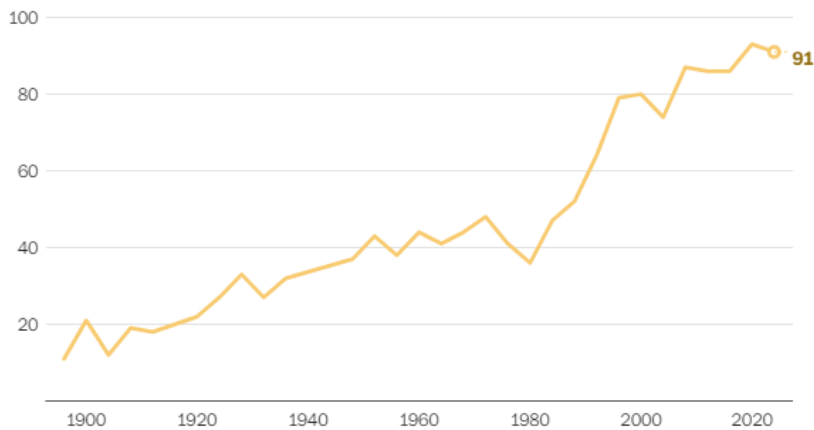
By the Editorial Board, **The Washington Post**, August 12, 2024

The world is still basking in the warm afterglow of a successful 2024 Paris Olympics. In addition to extraordinary feats on the track and in the pool, or beautiful photos of the Eiffel Tower adorned with the Olympic rings, this Olympiad should be remembered for the diversity of those who medaled. Five teams won gold, silver or bronze for the first time, extending a longer-term trend toward a more competitively balanced Olympics.

5 None of these milestones was more inspiring than sprinter Julien Alfred's gold medal — the first of any kind for St. Lucia — in the women's 100-meter dash. Her country (population: 180,000) plans to honor the win with a national holiday. Another Caribbean nation, Dominica, also earned its first medal, as Thea LaFond secured gold in the women's triple jump. She was the sole woman from her country competing in a track and field event. That might be because the island doesn't have a track, although Ms. LaFond now plans to build one.

### The Olympics have become much more competitive over time

Number of countries medaling in the Summer Olympics



The 20th century saw boycotts of several Summer Olympic Games, such as 1976 in Montreal (34 countries), 1980 in Moscow (67 countries) and 1984 in Los Angeles (19 countries).

Source: Olympics.com, Olympicgameswinners.com

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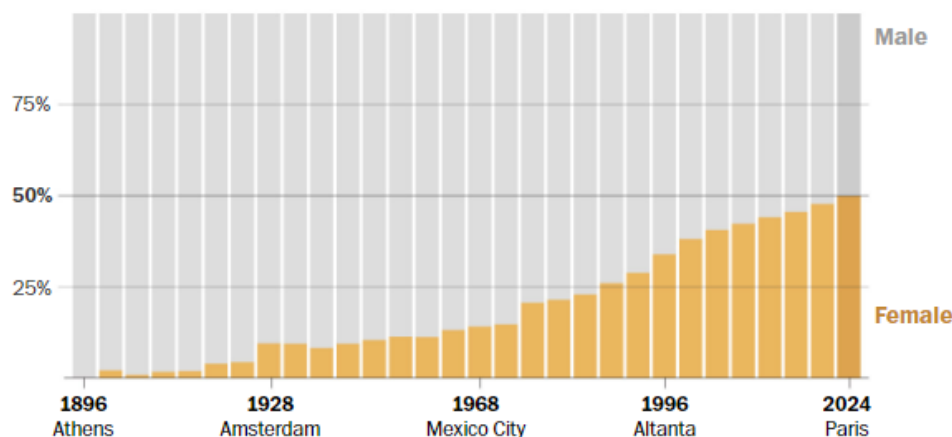
In gymnastics, Algeria's Kaylia Nemour became the first competitor from Africa to win an Olympic medal, and both Colombia and Kazakhstan won their first podium spots in the sport. Not every first occurred on behalf of an athlete's home country: Boxer Cindy Ngamba won the first medal for the Refugee Olympic Team.

The increasing diversity of countries medaling mostly reflects the growing number of independent countries since the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in the early 1990s. Over time, this has created a less top-heavy medal table. For most of the Games' history, only a handful of countries dominated. As recently as the 1988 Seoul Games, the top three countries won more than 40 percent of the medals. In Paris, that share was only a quarter. China, a nonparticipant before 1984, has replaced the Soviet Union as a fixture in the top tier. Russia did not participate at all this year, having been appropriately banned (along with Belarus) for its aggression against Ukraine.

New nations on the podium are also a reminder that, for all the world's problems, the past quarter-century has brought a historic decline in poverty and the rise of a "global middle class." Improved economic opportunity allows more young, talented people a chance to pursue their athletic careers — even on the world's biggest sporting stage. (...) Another positive global trend — easier, less expensive movement across borders — has resulted in athletes from poorer countries making use of top training facilities in richer ones.

Economics isn't the only factor responsible for a nation's medal count. Research has shown that higher gender equality in a country correlates with more female athletes winning medals, even after controlling for gross domestic product and population. Hence another milestone this year: The Paris Games were the first in which an equal number of male and female athletes took part — a stunning rise from the 1980s, when only a quarter of Olympic athletes were female.

### Paris is the first Olympics with gender parity among athletes



Source: International Olympic Committee

30

Ms. Alfred of St. Lucia said bringing home a gold medal “would definitely have a positive impact” on the children of her country. The hero’s welcome waiting for returning athletes in countries formerly devoid of medals will inspire more young people to try sports. And such scenes motivate governments and sponsors to invest more in athletics. (...)

Not every athlete can go home with a medal, and some lost out by mere milliseconds. (...) But even those who didn’t make the podium took advantage of their moment. Kimia Yousofi, an Afghan sprinter, finished last but held up a sign to highlight the plight of women in her country under Taliban rule.

To be sure, Paris, like previous Games, was not without controversy. (...) Yet despite its problems, the Paris Games showed that more young people are getting a chance to thrive. Here’s hoping Los Angeles 2028 is even more diverse — and exciting. 659 words

### TEXT 3

#### At Paris Olympics, women athletes finally reach parity

*Paris (AFP)* – Once seen as a “celebration of manly virtue” without women athletes, the modern Olympics will reach gender parity for the first time during this year’s Paris Games, 128 years since its first edition.

**France24.com**, June 25 2024

When the ancient Greek event was revived by French aristocrat Pierre de Coubertin in the late 19th century, he saw it as a celebration of gentlemanly athleticism “with female applause as its reward.”

In 1924, the last time the Olympics were held in Paris, just four percent of competitors were female and they were 5 restricted to sports considered suitable for them, such as swimming, tennis and croquet.

“For the first time in Olympic history we are going to have gender parity on the field,” Marie Sallois, IOC director in charge of gender equality, told journalists about the Paris 2024 Games on International Women’s Day in March.

The milestone is the result of incremental jumps in female participation at each Games, mirroring broader societal trends in most parts of the world that have gradually opened up male-only domains from the board room to the voting 10 booth. “It took a very long time for us to finally get to 44 percent (of women) in London in 2012, the first edition at which women could take part in all the sports, then 48 percent in Tokyo (in 2021),” Sallois added.

The barriers for women were once so high that they were forced to compete in a rival “Women’s Olympics” in the 1920s, before the event was absorbed by today’s International Olympic Committee (IOC). In 1928 in Amsterdam, they were allowed to compete in athletics for the first time, but the sight of exhausted female runners after the 800m final 15 appalled male onlookers so much that they were excluded again. Until 1968 -- forty years later -- women were barred from competing in any race of more than 200 metres, and even in 1976 women’s events made up only a quarter of the Olympic programme. Long considered unable to cope with the physical demands of the marathon, they were allowed to take part for the first time at the Los Angeles Games in 1984.

“We’ve come a long way over a relatively short space of time,” the head of World Athletics, Sebastian Coe, said 20 recently in Paris.

The Paris 2024 Olympics will not only feature as many women as men, it will also give greater prominence to women’s events. Instead of the men’s marathon being the athletics event, leading up to the closing ceremony, it will be the women’s event instead. “We’ve made a lot of effort to organise the women’s events to ensure they get visibility, meaning over the weekend when there are more viewers, or during prime-time,” Sallois added.

25 For the opening ceremony, the IOC has also suggested each national delegation nominate two flag carriers, a man and a woman.

Sallois conceded elite sport still had lots of work to do to achieve genuine gender parity. Among coaching staff at the last Olympics in Tokyo, just 13 percent of coaches were women. Sports administration remains overwhelmingly male, including in national Olympic delegations and in the federations that run sports. The IOC has never had a female 30 leader and its membership -- made up of 106 delegates who vote on key decisions -- remains 59 percent male.

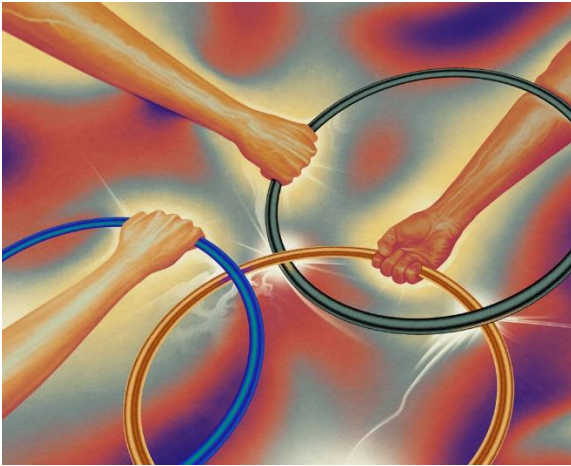
But the organisation has ensured gender parity on its internal commissions and the number of women members has increased significantly in recent years. “The IOC needs to be a role model and set an example,” Sallois added. 593 words



## The Olympics have always been political

Efforts to keep politics out of sports will never be successful.

By ALI WALKER, *Politico*, July 18, 2024 <https://www.politico.eu/article/paris-summer-olympics-2024-politics-sports/>



*Illustration by Jakov Jakovljević for POLITICO*

*This article is part of the [Future of the Olympics](#) special report.*

If there's one thing the organizers of the Olympics want you to know, it's that politics has no place in their biennial sporting event. It's the principle the International Olympic Committee (IOC) cited in the run-up to the Summer Games in Paris kicking off next week, when it announced that athletes from Russia and Belarus could compete, despite their countries' participation in the invasion of Ukraine. It's also behind the IOC's decision to ignore calls to prevent Israel from joining the Games over the war in Gaza.

The truth, however, is that the Olympics are political, have always been political and will always be political. Just ask Adolf Hitler, Vladimir Putin and Asterix the Gaul.

On their surface, the Games are a celebration of athleticism. Underneath, they've been bubbling with politics as far back as the original Olympics in ancient Greece, when city-states would use the occasion for political maneuvering and alliance-building.

The modern Games (first held, by no coincidence, in Greece on the anniversary of the country's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire) may have been founded on the noblest of political principles — the promotion of international goodwill. But they were quickly run through with nationalism, propaganda, cheating and eventually even terrorism and murder.

This dark side of the Olympics was the subject of "Asterix at the Olympics Games," the iconic 1968 comic strip by French cartoonists René Goscinny and Albert Uderzo. In the book, tiny Asterix travels from his besieged Gaulish village to Greece to compete against muscle-bound Spartans and burly Romans.

The Romans, thoroughly thrashed and humiliated by the Greeks, are then tricked by Asterix into gulping down his village's magic potion (the performance-enhancing drug of its day) ahead of the final race of the Olympiad. As one Roman centurion sagely observes in the strip, "If we are to be promoted, Julius Caesar has to be pleased, and if Julius Caesar is to be pleased, you have to win the race and the palm of victory." Instead, the Romans are busted for cheating and Asterix is declared the winner by default.

While fiction, the Asterix cartoon was inspired by the real world, in which a succession of dictators and war criminals have used the Games to whip up populist emotions or targeted them to make a bloody point.

Most infamously, the Nazi leader Adolf Hitler tried to use the 1936 Olympics in Berlin to celebrate his theories of racial supremacy — only to see his dream shattered by the Black American speedster Jesse Owens winning four gold medals.

The 1972 Games were the target of the Palestinian Black September terror group, which staged a violent hostage-taking in Munich's Olympic Village, killing 11 Israelis and a West German police officer. (...) Cold War-era boycotts then dominated the 1980 and 1984 Games in Moscow and Los Angeles, as the United States and the USSR kept their athletes at home.

More recently, Russian President Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping have used the Olympics to legitimize and glorify their nations (and themselves). Beijing has hosted the Games twice this century, using the 2008 Olympics to announce its arrival as a world power to the beat of 2,008 pounding drummers during an eye-popping opening ceremony. China's 2022 Winter Games were overshadowed by calls for a boycott over Beijing's treatment of its minority Uyghur population. (...)

So what will happen in Paris? The 2024 Olympics have already been overshadowed by political upheaval in France after President Emmanuel Macron called a snap election last month. Other political issues that might muscle their way into the Games include the war in Ukraine, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and allegations of Chinese cheating by the U.S.

Let the Games begin? They've already started. (630 words)

## DOCUMENT 5 – AUDIO

### How the Olympics makes room for refugee athletes and what it means for them to compete

<https://www.npr.org/2024/07/30/nx-s1-5029638/37-athletes-represent-this-years-refugee-olympic-team>

running to stay active, to deal with the stress." He now combines training with his job as a security guard at a Milan disco and has a tattoo of the Olympic rings on his chest.

## Document 5 bis

### 'This team is a message of hope': behind the scenes with the Refugee Olympic Team

*How 37 remarkable athletes have overcome harrowing tales of hardship and tragedy to make it to the Paris Games*

Angelique Chrisafis in Bayeux, **The Observer**, Sat 20 Jul 2024 (extracts)

Farida Abaroge jogged across the athletics track in Normandy in the early morning light. "When you've known hard times, mental and emotional fitness is just as important as physical form," she said as she trained for the 1500m at the Paris Olympics. Abaroge is part of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Refugee Team, which represents more than 100 million displaced people. "This team is like a family," she said.

When Abaroge, 30, fled her native Ethiopia eight years ago because of persecution, she was a karate black belt, footballer and would-be track runner who dreamed of one day competing at the Games but could not see how. Her gruelling search for safety lasted more than a year, taking her to Sudan, then to an Egyptian refugee camp, then to Libya, where she was imprisoned, and finally to France in 2017 where she was granted asylum. Physically wrecked from hardship, lack of food and

stomach surgery that had gone wrong en route, Abaroge made an astonishing return to sport, taking up athletics.

She credits the local town hall and refugee charity workers in north-eastern France with setting her back on the path to the Olympics. "When I arrived in France, alone, they asked me what my passion was in life. I said sport. They took me to a shop to buy some trainers and kit and I started running." She now combines twice-daily training with her full-time job packing parcel deliveries in a warehouse in Strasbourg. Support from the IOC allowed her to take two months' unpaid leave from the warehouse to compete in the Paris Games. "The workers there are all rooting for me," she said.

Created in 2015, the Refugee Olympic Team first took part in the 2016 Rio Games, with 10 athletes in three sports. But this year it has grown to 37 athletes, whose countries of origin range from Iran, Syria and Afghanistan to Eritrea and South Sudan, competing in 12 sports including cycling, swimming, taekwondo, judo and breaking. The team is so important for the IOC that the refugee athletes will appear in second position at the Paris opening ceremony, after Greece, carrying the Olympic flag.

The team spent several days in Bayeux in Normandy this week for training and team building before arriving at the Olympic Village in Paris. They cycled together to one of the D-day Normandy landing beaches at Arromanches-les-Bains, where a tour guide recounted details of the fight against fascism in the second world war.

On the beach, Farzad Mansouri, a taekwondo athlete, remembered athletes who had died. Mansouri competed for Afghanistan in the Tokyo Olympics, aged 19, and was the Afghan flag-bearer in the opening ceremony, but for his second Games he will now compete as a refugee. Soon after Tokyo, in the summer of 2021, he fled Afghanistan with only his Olympic kit as luggage, amid the tens of thousands trying to board evacuation flights as the Taliban returned to power. He spent months in a refugee camp in Abu Dhabi before arriving in the UK, where he is now based in Manchester. But his taekwondo teammate, Mohammed Jan Sultani, 25, was killed in a suicide bomb attack at Kabul airport. “It was a really hard moment when I heard that I lost my friend,” Mansouri said. “I now really hope that we can find peace in my country and around the world.”

Many of the refugee athletes credited sport for helping them cope with displacement, bereavement and starting again from nothing. “I owe my trainer my life,” said Ramiro Mora, 26, a Cuban weightlifter who will compete in the 102kg category in Paris. (...)

Manizha Talash, 21, who left Afghanistan in 2021, is the only refugee athlete taking part in a new urban sport in Paris: breaking. As a 17-year-old girl starting out in Afghanistan, she took part in breakdancing behind closed doors. Now based in Spain, she was pleased to be breaking in the open. “To form one big team, despite coming from so many different countries, is very

motivating,” she said. “Just the fact that I’m here at the Olympic Games is a message for refugees as well as all the kids in Afghanistan.” (...)

Many athletes had been through difficult years in transit and in asylum seeker centres with no space to train. Iman Mahdavi, 29, was a seven-time national junior wrestling champion when he left Iran in 2020, arriving in Italy via Turkey. “When I became a refugee, wrestling was the only hope for me. At first I couldn’t train in clubs, so I started running to stay active, to deal with the stress.” He now combines training with his job as a security guard at a Milan disco and has a tattoo of the Olympic rings on his chest. (...)

The British-based boxer, Cindy Ngamba – who is unable to return to Cameroon because she is homosexual, which remains a criminal offence in the country – is tipped to become the first athlete to win a medal for the refugee team. Ngamba, who has been through school and university in the UK, and has a degree in criminology, said: “We’re going out there as a unique team, as a family, and I hope refugees all around the world can look at us, be humble and motivated to see themselves in a couple of years and believe in what they can achieve.”

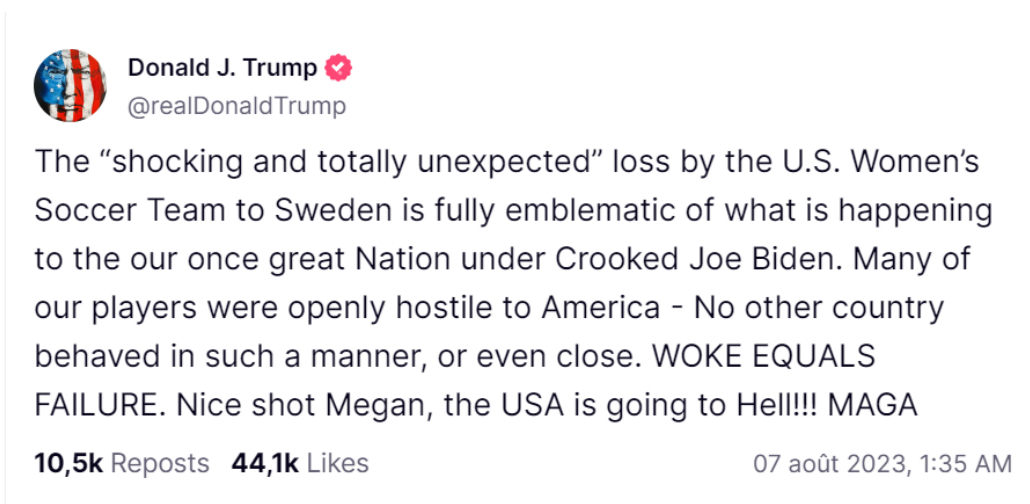
At 20, the badminton player, Dorsa Yavarivafa, who left Iran with her mother aged 14 and now studies sport science at Middlesex university, is the youngest on the team. Her father introduced her to badminton but had never watched her play in public until recently because of rules in Iran that separate men and women in sport. She said her message to all displaced people in sport was: “Keep training, never give up.” (...)

968 words The original article was about 1250 words long



# Complements

## DOCUMENT 7



## DOCUMENT 8

### Naomi Osaka: Athletes, Speak Up

*We're affected by bias and racism, just like everyone else. Why shouldn't we say so?*

**The New York Times, Dec. 21, 2020, By Naomi Osaka**

**Ms. Osaka is an athlete.**

“Shut up and dribble.”

That’s what a news anchor suggested LeBron James do after he discussed racism, politics and the difficulties of being a Black public figure in America during an ESPN interview in 2018.

Needless to say, he didn’t take her advice.

LeBron, the activist, first caught my eye in 2012. He and his Miami Heat teammates posted photos of themselves in hoodies to protest the murder of Trayvon Martin, an

unarmed Black teenager in Florida who was wearing a hoodie when he was fatally shot by George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch volunteer. In 2014, Eric Garner, a Black man, died in Staten Island after police officers held him in a chokehold, a move banned by the police at the time and one that has since become illegal in New York State. Soon after, LeBron wore a T-shirt with the words “I can’t breathe” — Garner’s last words, which were captured on video as the officers strangled him — during a pregame warm-up. The rest of the league followed, but James was the focal point.

Fast forward to this year and he is still in the cultural spotlight. LeBron has the loudest voice and the biggest platform, and he used them to protest systemic racism, inequality and police brutality, all while his game

continued to flourish in the face of unprecedented protests, a world-changing pandemic and deeply personal hurts, including the tragic death of our mutual friend Kobe Bryant.

LeBron is ferociously brave in his steadfast support of the Black community. He is unwavering, upfront and passionate. On the court or at the mic, he is simply unstoppable and an inspiration. He is dedicated to his craft, but equally dedicated to his community, even as he continues to fight against an established history of silencing athletes who speak out.

Musicians sing and write about social movements, activism and equality all the time. Actors voice their opinions and often personally endorse political candidates, hosting fund-raisers and throwing parties. Business executives, authors and artists are almost expected both to have opinions about the latest news and to publicly defend their views. Yet when it comes to athletes, we are often met with criticism for expressing our opinions.

Do people see us as no more than bodies — individuals who can achieve what's physically impossible for nearly everyone else, and who entertain fans by pushing ourselves past our limits? Do they wonder if a collection of muscles, bones, blood and sweat might also be able to voice an opinion? Should sports just be sports, and politics just be politics?

That's often the message. Hit the ball. Sink the shot. Shut up and dribble.

But whatever the argument is, it always ignores a critical fact: When we are not performing, we live in the same country as everyone else. And as plenty of athletes today can attest, that means we are subject to the same injustices and inequalities that have led to the murder of people who look just like us but who don't enjoy the same protections afforded by our fame, access and support systems. Just ask the N.B.A. player Sterling Brown, whom police officers shot with a stun gun, or

my tennis colleague James Blake, who was slammed to the ground and handcuffed for 15 minutes by police officers while he stood outside a New York City hotel (the officers said it was a case of "mistaken identity"). Just because we are athletes doesn't mean we are unaffected by what happens around the country, nor does it obligate us to keep our mouths shut.

Sports have never been apolitical, and as long as they continue to be played by human beings, they won't be. Muhammad Ali spent decades as a voice for justice, even after he was sentenced to five years in prison for refusing to be drafted because of his religious beliefs. At the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, Tommie Smith and John Carlos were booed when they raised their black-gloved fists on the podium, and afterward faced waves of criticism from the public and the media alike when they returned home to the United States.

Colin Kaepernick risked his career when he knelt during the national anthem before an N.F.L. game, and may never play another down in the league because of it. Megan Rapinoe has been a stalwart of the L.G.B.T.Q. movement and equal pay, even when it meant standing up to the president of the United States and refusing to visit the White House. Venus Williams has done more than most people know to continue the legacy of Billie Jean King in fighting for equality in women's tennis. Coco Gauff, at such a young age, is fiercely active online and has spoken publicly and passionately in support of Black Lives Matter.

Yet even with all this progress, I still feel like we as athletes have a long way to go.

Today, given the television coverage we receive and our prominence on social media, athletes have platforms that are larger and more visible than ever before. The way I see it, that also means that we have a greater responsibility to speak up. I will not shut up and dribble. Naomi Osaka, a top-ranked professional tennis player, won her second United States Open singles title in 2020.

See also

<https://www.npr.org/2024/08/12/nx-s1-5072047/us-women-olympic-medals>