

# ARETE NEWSLETTER

October 2022



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
ACADEMY  
PARTICIPANTS  
ASSOCIATION



## HIGHLIGHTS



### 62<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL SESSION FOR YOUNG OLYMPIC AMBASSADORS

This session is considered as the main session of the International Olympic Academy, from the very first year of the IOA's establishment, in 1961, under the name "International Session for Young Participants" and since then is being successfully organized every year... (p.5)

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### LOOKING DOWN FROM OLYMPIC SKIES Arthur Gallois (FRA)

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# EDITORIAL

Yarden Har Lev (ISR)



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Dear Readers,

Welcome to the October 2022 issue of the Arete Newsletter!

Last month we marked the International Day of Peace, which is celebrated annually on 21 September in order to strength the ideals of peace in which people are treated equally, regardless of their race. The fundamental idea behind the Olympic Games is to unite the entire world in peaceful competition. As IOC President Bach said in his declaration: "To commit ourselves even further to this unifying peace mission, we recently amended our Olympic motto to: Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together. The word “together” highlights the fact that to overcome challenges – whether as individuals, as a community or as humankind – we need to stand together”. As IOAPA members and ambassadors of the Olympic Movement, let's act together to build better understanding among people. The IOA Sessions allow us to meet, share feelings and thoughts, respect each other and support one another. These actions are at the very heart of creating a more reconciled world.

In this edition, you will find a variety of interesting articles such as a summary of 62<sup>nd</sup> *International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors* by **IOAPA Executive Committee** and *Looking Down from the Olympic Skies* by **Arthur Gallois** who was one of the participants in this Session. Also, **Elizabeth Hanley** shares her personal experience of *visiting IOAPA friends in Denmark*. In addition, do not miss the Canadian Olympic School Program by the **Canadian Olympic Committee** providing direct access to their resources *Indigenous Legacies in Sport Series* as well as the report by *Head of Country Coordinators* **Stavros Stavrou** about the activation of the Country Coordinators worldwide. Finally, catch up on recent opportunities and news which will take place over the coming months.

To acknowledge the efforts of our members and partners, I wish to thank everyone, especially Megan Ritch, who contributed to this interesting and varied newsletter. Please note that the **submission deadline for the December edition is November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Share with us your experiences and join the authors of Arete.

Enjoy your reading!

With Olympic regards,

**Yarden Har Lev**

**Arete Newsletter Editor**

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Richard Koo (CAN)**



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Dear IOAPA members and readers of Arete:

With official sessions having concluded for 2022, we are quickly turning our attention to 2023 with initiatives to continue supporting IOA activities as well as planning for the most important event in our biennial calendar, the IOAPA Session.

After having hosted the most attended session in our history in 2019, we will continue with our virtual platform but also expand it to incorporate the return of our traditional in-person event in Olympia. I am therefore excited to announce that the 18th IOAPA Session 2022 will be held in two parts – a virtual weekend in April and then the continuation of the session in Olympia for one week in June.

The opening virtual session will incorporate web-based activities, lectures, the business of the association and the election of the new Executive Committee for 2023-2025. The in-person portion of session in Olympia will then host our traditional suite of events including lectures, relaxing tours around Elis, our famous pool party and banquet at the Magna Grecia olive production estate. Finally, our newly elected Executive Committee will be inaugurated at the end of the Session. We will be announcing more information on these events and how to get involved in the weeks to come, so be sure to check your inbox and our social media platforms for updates.

I am also proud to announce that applications will soon open for the 2023 Hans van Haute Scholarship, which for the first time will cover full accommodation and transportation to Olympia for the recipient. This additional bursary addresses a key systemic barrier that many applicants have faced over the years in applying for the scholarship, and we are hopeful that this initiative will assist in ensuring that our Session is more representative of our members around the world. We wish to thank in advance the support of Franca Magrini and Agriturismo Magna Grecia, without who's support this would not have been possible. More information on how to apply for the scholarship will be announced in the coming weeks.

There is a lot of work already underway, and we look forward to sharing all the exciting activities we have planned for you, our members, as we build to 2023!

Yours in Olympism,

**Richard Koo**

**IOAPA President**

# 62<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL SESSION FOR YOUNG OLYMPIC AMBASSADORS

## IOAPA Executive Committee

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This session is considered as the main session of the International Olympic Academy, from the very first year of the IOA's establishment, in 1961, under the name "International Session for Young Participants" and since then is being successfully organized every year, opening the Academy's educational season. The title of the Session was changed to "International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors" as a result of the discussions between the IOA and IOC. In addition, the IOA has also proceeded to a change in the structure and the activities of the session, in an effort to better respond to its mission to disseminate the Olympic Values through Olympic Education.

117 young men and women from 74 countries as well as 7 lecturers, 19 coordinators and 12 observers participated in this session, which traditionally opens with an exciting ceremony at the Hill of Pnyx. The main subject of this year's Session, that took place at the renovated IOA facilities in Ancient Olympia, was "The Olympic Movement and Olympism in digital era" and its special subject focused on the "The promotion of physical activity via digital engagement strategies and virtual sports". Notably, many of this session's participants attended the on-line sessions in 2020 and 2021 and came with high anticipation of actually being in Olympia.

The session's topic was covered by the following lecturers: Prof. Dr. Jim PARRY (GBR), Dr. Alberto CARRIO SAMPEDRO (ESP), Assoc. Prof. Ian BRITTAIN (GBR), Prof. Dr. Emilio FERNÁNDEZ PEÑA (ESP), Dr. George ILIOU (GRE), Prof. Vincent PEREIRA (IOC), Ms. Zhang HONG (CHN). They all come from various backgrounds, each being an expert in their field, in order to introduce the participants the spirit of the new digital era of the Olympic Movement. Alongside the lectures, the academic program has been enriched with two workshops. One on the subject of "Olympism and Olympic Education" with Prof. Konstantinos GEORGIADIS (GRE) and the other one on the subject of "We are Olympic Media: Seminar on Social Media Audiovisual Reporting" with Prof. FERNÁNDEZ PEÑA.

As part of the program, the participants had the opportunity to attend guided visits to the Acropolis museum as well as to the archaeological site and the museum of Ancient Olympia. The extracurricular program, which was organized by the coordinators (40% IOAPA members), included activities such as Sport Tournaments, Social Evenings, Arts Workshops, Track and Field Competition, Torch Relay, Olympic Day Run and Film Projection.

Last but not least is the Olympians and Paralympians presentations, which serve a vital part of this Session. This year, 10 athletes shared their personal experience and as always it has been consensus that each of them particularly touched and inspired every person in the lecture hall.


# LOOKING DOWN FROM THE OLYMPIC SKIES

Arthur Gallois (FRA)

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If the rarity of the event makes it worthwhile, allow me to address you in poetry.

My heart has been resting here for 85 years, waiting for you to come and feel this energy. I won a gold medal at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics with beautiful rhymes, so much so that I can't resist talking to you like this. Born Frédy dit Pierre on January 1st 1863 in Paris, I made the introduction of sport in schools the first battle of my life. As a teacher, I travelled the world to defend the right to sweat, to see bodies reddened. And no matter the critics, even those who denounced my Anglomania. Ennobled in 1477, the Coubertins are lords, I do not betray this attachment to aristocracy. To be an "amateur" is not only to refuse the degrading condition of the professional sportsman from the slums, It is also to distinguish oneself from the men of leisure who play sport, but that's not the case. So I tried to invent a sociological category, the sportsmen, a new chivalry. I was neither a revolutionary nor a reactionary, rather a reformist and a conservative, although some proposed the word 'evolutionary' in a biography. I was a defender of freedom and property, claiming the legacy of the French Revolution of 1789, a great year of frenzy. I gave more reforming capacity to social action than to political action, which is one of the reasons why I watched over the independence of sports societies with such jealousy. Very early on, as a victim of political repression, I staked my hopes on sports internationalism through the renewal of the Olympic Games. In fact, this idea was the brainchild of two members of the Permanent International Peace Bureau, Hodgson Pratt and Frédéric Passy, they proposed to organize athletic and peaceful encounters between foreign students to prevent conflicts. Peace education, and peace through education, is excellent diplomacy! So I promulgated the renovation of the Olympic Games in June 1894 to the great delight of the delighted Hellenists. It was clear to me, however, that it was not a question of restoring the Games to their original form, which would only be a pale copy. On the contrary, it was necessary to promote modern sports, those of the Anglo-Saxons such as rugby. Not forgetting athletics, lawn tennis, rowing and velocipedes... My skill was to use a concept borrowed from Antiquity, which federates, beyond the rivalries of a still bruised Europe. Athens, Paris, London, Stockholm... oops, I forget about Saint Louis in the United States, on the eve of the war, I drew a white flag with five rings to symbolize the united continents, It is added to the Olympic oath, a bulwark against all barbarism, and to the flame that lights up the night. Oh what an illustrious privilege it is to be the last torchbearer, isn't it Ms. Osaka Naomi? With so much excitement, my reputation travels, reaching all your countries.





It is curious to me today that I am often more loved in your country than where I grew up. I am sometimes criticised for having moved the IOC headquarters to Switzerland in 1915, and also my position on women's sport, which has changed thanks to Alice Milliat, a genius leader. You are too young to have known the confrontations with the sports leaders of my decade, they were Frantz Reichel or Chasseloup-Laubat, there were many marquises!

They wanted to create international federations, and challenged the IOC's hegemony. So when I refused the Legion of Honour and the Pantheon, jealousy pushed me into oblivion. Two years before the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris, after Albertville, Grenoble and Chamonix, I am moved that France and the youth of the world are rediscovering my philosophy. You are the 2024 generation, who share the values of friendship, respect and excellence to guide your lives. By taking part in the IOA Youth Ambassador session, you have experienced the combination of a balanced set of qualities of body, will and mind. Like a glimmer of dawn dappling with rays of light this amphitheatre finally filled, I have waited too long for your return and this ceremony. To you first, who are all great, to the organisers, too, for their dedication and the welcome to Olympia, I think there is only one thing left to say: thank you, see you in Paris.

## IOC NEWS

### 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLYMPIC STUDY CENTER

*The event will be streamed online at 17:00 Zurich Time on 6 October!*

*International Olympic Academy Participants' Association are invited to join the event which will be streamed on zoom at the following [LINK](#)*

### BECOME AN IOC YOUNG LEADER!

*The IOC Young Leaders Program supports passionate individuals as they launch projects that leverage the power of sport to strengthen their local communities.*

*Are you interested? Find more details below and apply [HERE](#) before 20 October 2022!*

# SERENDIPITY IN DENMARK

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Elizabeth Hanley (USA)

In early August I traveled to Denmark with an equestrian friend, to attend the World Equestrian Games/Championships sponsored by the FEI (International Equestrian Federation), for two exciting weeks of dressage, vaulting and para-dressage in Herning. Our tour group was a good size: 18 enthusiastic equestrian men and women from Florida, California, Vermont, Colorado, Montana, North Carolina, Bermuda, and Peru! ~ and two of us from Pennsylvania. Our hotel was in Viborg, situated on a lovely lake where there was ample time for leisurely walks each morning after breakfast and before we boarded our 45-minute bus ride for the day's events just outside the city of Herning. Note: Denmark won the team dressage gold!!! The competitions were extraordinary and the day trips to various places, including the west coast on the North Sea, were special. However, the 'icing on the cake' was getting together with IOAPA friends Tove Thomassen and her family (including their beautiful Icelandic sheepdog, "Sam"), Erling Joensen and his wife Ann, and Thomas Idskov and his wife, Pia. Tove was my tour guide for a couple of 'free' days, and toward the end of my stay, Erling and Ann hosted all of us for a classic Danish dinner, complete with an absolutely delicious Danish cake made by Pia! The highlight of the evening was a grand tour by Erling of his Viborg Idrætsskole (sport school) where he is Headmaster! So... what was serendipitous about this trip? On the day of departure, I happened to hear Greek being spoken by three people, a young woman and her family, on our bus at the Billund airport where we were being bused to our next destination, heading for our respective home countries. Naturally, I spoke a bit of Greek and engaged the woman in conversation! Marianna told me that she had brought two para-dressage athletes from her Riding Academy in Crete to compete. It was the first time that Greeks had qualified and she was very excited for her athletes. She gave me her business card and told me that it was the only riding academy in Greece but she hoped the word would soon spread! I told her I'd get in contact with our Paralympic specialist, Ian Brittain, and let him know about her success with para-dressage athletes. The two of them are now in contact (networking is one of my favorite 'sports'!). She also emailed me several photos from her Academy of para-dressage athletes. One is always an 'ambassador' in one way or another after attending the IOA and one never knows when an opportunity will arise to speak about the IOA. It would be wonderful for her to attend the IOA as a Greek participant or even a lecturer in the future! Marianna Grammatikaki is the Riding Instructor for her Riding Academy in Iraklion, Crete ([www.ridingacademy.gr](http://www.ridingacademy.gr)). She is hoping to make para-dressage more well-known in Greece and, eventually, to bring more athletes into the sport. Meeting Marianna was a perfect way to end my trip to Denmark!

# INDIGENOUS LEGACIES THROUGH SPORT

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Canadian Olympic Committee

## INDIGENOUS LEGACIES THROUGH SPORT SERIES



Olympic stories of glory, triumph and disappointment engage learners in discussions about important value-based issues. Through the stories and challenges faced by Olympic athletes, children and youth can explore and connect values to their lives, and begin to see their world in new and different ways.

In 2022, the goal of the Canadian Olympic School Program (COSP) was to amplify and share diverse Team Canada voices. By sharing these captivating stories, more children and youth are able to see themselves in Team Canada and the Canadian sport experience, encouraging them to participate and stay in sport. In honour of Truth and Reconciliation Week, the Canadian Olympic School Program is proud to feature the stories of two distinct Indigenous Team Canada athletes, Jesse Cockney and Jillian Weir, in the Indigenous Legacies in Sport Series. Through their personal growth and achievements, they have brought Indigenous voices to the forefront. Students will explore the themes of gratitude and inclusion, making links between their world, curriculum and stories.

Indigenous Legacies in Sport Series is available for free at [olympic.ca/education](https://olympic.ca/education)

## ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITY



### REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR UIA ASSOCIATIONS ROUND TABLE EUROPE 2022 IN ROTTERDAM

The Union of International Associations (UIA) cordially invites International Olympic Academy Participants' Association to participate in its 16<sup>th</sup> Associations Round Table Europe at the Postillion Convention Center Rotterdam, Netherlands on **Thursday 24 & Friday 25 November 2022**.

The UIA Associations Round Table Europe 2022 is an event designed for participants working in and with international associations, and we hope to see many of you in Rotterdam!

- Please, see all the topics of the program and the schedule at this [LINK](#)
- To register for Round Table Europe 2022 click [HERE](#)

# IOAPA COUNTRY COORDINATORS

Stavros Stavrou (CYP)

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Since the election of IOAPA's new Executive Committee last year, there was a renewed effort to strengthen the role of Country Coordinators within the IOAPA community. Country Coordinators have traditionally been an important part of IOAPA'S work. They are responsible for the coordination of the IOAPA members and all the former participants of the IOA sessions at the national level.

To work on the above goal, the Executive Committee appointed a Country-Coordinators sub-committee to work alongside the Head of Country Coordinators. At the same time, an open call was made to fill in the position in countries which did not have a Country Coordinator. Interest by members was high and many applications were received, making the sub-committee's work particularly difficult.

As a result of the above procedure, more than 50 countries now have an IOAPA Country Coordinator, a record number. In an online meeting held on 3 September, old and new country Coordinators shared their plans and vision for the future of IOAPA in each country and had the opportunity to meet with their colleagues from other countries.

You can find the list with all the Country Coordinators in the following [LINK](#).

If your country does not have a Country Coordinator and you are interested in the post, don't hesitate to email Stavros Stavrou, Head of Country Coordinators, at [stavros@ioapa.org](mailto:stavros@ioapa.org).

We wish all the new Country Coordinators the best of luck! Their projects in their respective countries will be presented thoroughly in the following issues of our newsletter.

**Stavros Stavrou**

**Head of Country Coordinators**

## 25 NOVEMBER 2022

### INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

*The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. The global theme for this year is*

*"UNITE! Activism to end violence against women and girls".*

*The concept note is available [HERE](#) in different languages.*

## ARETE Editorial Board

### BENEFITS OF IOAPA MEMBERSHIP?

Besides having the opportunity to keep in touch with other members, attend our Reunion at the Olympics and take part in our bi-annual Session in Olympia, as a member you also get exclusive access to the following (to get access, login our website):

- ✓ [List of members](#)
- ✓ Monthly emails with news on sport related opportunities
- ✓ Helpful links for [jobs](#) and [research](#)

### KNOW A PAST PARTICIPANT WISHING TO BECOME A MEMBER?

Please refer them to [IOAPA MEMBERSHIP](#) and they will be able to register and pay online directly!

### DO YOU HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IOAPA MEMBERS?

You have access to great perks and you are able to share: sporting event tickets, cultural event tickets, sport promotions, special museum exhibits, etc.?

Send us the details at [info@ioapa.org](mailto:info@ioapa.org) or post the information on our [Facebook group](#) (members only).

### FEEL FREE TO JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

You can find us on

[Facebook](#) , [Twitter](#) , [Instagram](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

### PROMOTE YOUR IOAPA ACTIVITY

We are continuously looking for news from our members. Are you working on a sport or Olympic education project that could be of interest to others? Does your country have a National Academy and you're taking part? Are you travelling and meeting IOAPA members or want to host IOA friends in your city? Do you have a great Olympic/Paralympic story? Did you meet the love of your life in Olympia? You're hosting a mini IOAPA reunion? **WE WANT TO KNOW!** Send us the details with a couple pictures/videos at [info@ioapa.org](mailto:info@ioapa.org) and we may just publish them.

## CONTRIBUTE TO ARETE NEWSLETTER!

Do you manage an interesting project on Olympic Education in your country?

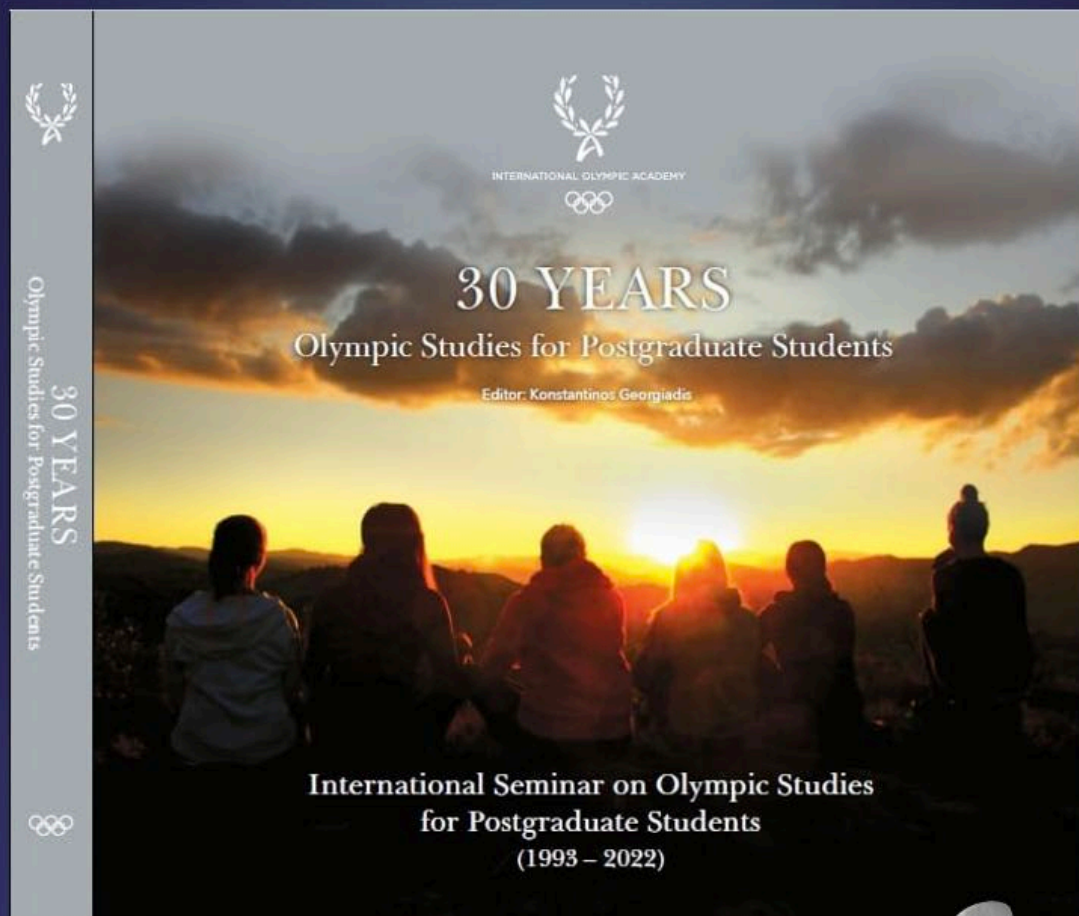
Do you organize a sport-related webinar during the COVID-19 time?

Do you work on an Olympism-related dissertation or paper?

**SHARE with us your experiences and contribute to the ARETE NEWSLETTER!**

For any ideas, do not hesitate to contact the Newsletter Editor, Yarden Har Lev at [yarden@ioapa.org](mailto:yarden@ioapa.org).

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One of the IOA's latest publications is the commemorative volume titled "30 Years Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students", edited by the IOA Dean, Prof. Konstantinos Georgiadis. It comprises 58 texts, written by word-renowned academics who have contributed to the physiognomy of the Seminar through their valuable lectures and supervision of the students' papers, as well as by young scholars who have gained useful knowledge and experienced the Olympic spirit through the IOA Seminar's activities. Some of those are IOAPA members. Click [HERE](#) to check it out!

