What is learning and living the French language today in relation to the values of Olympism? How can the Olympic culture and the language form a common front to foster dialogue in the international community? How can intercultural, interdisciplinary and linguistic synergies be federated in order to strengthen the values of Olympism and the French language for the benefit of living together and sustainable development?

# "The Olympic spirit, a French inspiration"

The French language is currently spoken by 270 million people on all continents, including 72 million partial speakers. Speaking French is strategic today and will be even more so tomorrow. By 2050 there will be 750 million French speakers in the world. La Francophonie is an area made up of 84 states and governments, some of which are among the richest and most industrialised on the planet, while others are resolutely on the road to emergence.

The Olympic Games are undeniably a unique opportunity for the French language to be heard throughout the world and to assert its status as a major language of international communication and culture. The tradition imposed by Baron de Coubertin survived his death and the Second World War. In addition to Pierre de Coubertin, French and French-speaking people have played a leading role in the organisation and development of sport at the international level.

Even if, in 1972, under the presidency of the IOC by the American Avery Brundage, English became increasingly important and also became an official language.

The Olympic spirit is a collective, timeless and global cultural heritage.

The values of Olympism (excellence, friendship, respect) and more generally those of sport, are universal educational values, easily transmitted from a very young age and which find a real field of expression in school and university teaching.

Born during the ancient Games, reinvented by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and by the commitment of Greece at the end of the 19th century, the Olympic spirit is inspired today, in France and throughout the world, by the principles of tolerance, peace, friendship, solidarity and fair play aimed at creating a peaceful society, less marked by violence and rivalry.

The Olympic spirit perpetuates these humanistic values, in particular through the practice of individual and collective physical activities by communities with different cultural traditions. These communities have, over time, appropriated these physical and social practices, infusing them with specific rituals, country-specific customs and particular social and cultural significance.

The Olympic spirit, in relation to the French language, represents a heritage that has been passed on and enriched from generation to generation, from community to community, since the end of the 19th century. It unites all the individuals who animate it, regardless of gender, cultural and social origins, and faith. Its strong cultural dimension makes it a field of application for creativity and artistic practices: a wide variety of productions and expressions are inspired, on an international scale, by the Olympic spirit, notably artists, museums, writers, journalists, and this has been the case for more than 3000 years.

The French language has contributed and continues to contribute to this sporting, intellectual, educational, artistic and linguistic influence and to convey these values.

#### Submission of the abstract

Length of the abstract: between 1,500 and 2,000 characters (including spaces) with an indicative bibliography. It should also include your full name, address, telephone number, titles and professional address.

It should be sent by e-mail to: <a href="mailto:eric.monnin@univ-fcomte.fr">eric.monnin@univ-fcomte.fr</a> before 30 June 2022.

Return of abstract evaluations: July 2022

### Submission of the article

If the abstract is accepted, the article will be between 20,000 and 45,000 characters long (including spaces) with the bibliography. It should be sent before 30 September 2022 to <a href="mailto:eric.monnin@univ-fcomte.fr">eric.monnin@univ-fcomte.fr</a>

Return of the evaluations of the article by the scientific committee: October 2022

#### Deadlines

- ✓ Deadline for sending the abstract: 30 June 2022
- ✓ Return of the evaluations of the abstract: July 2022
- ✓ Date for sending the article: 30 September 2022
- ✓ Return of article evaluations: October 2022

The article can be written in French, English and Spanish.

This publication will be part of the Collection Les cahiers d'études olympiques directed by Éric MONNIN at Désiris Editions.

## Contact

Éric MONNIN

Vice-President of the University of Franche-Comté Representative for Olympism

Director of the Centre for University Olympic Studies and Research (CEROU) Associate Professor (Ph. D – HDR) Laboratory Culture, Sport, Health, Society (EA 4660)

Maison de l'Université 1 rue Claude Goudimel, 25030 Besançon Cedex - France Tél. + 33 (0)3 81 66 50 04 / + 33 (0)6.02.50.12.43 <a href="https://cerou.univ-fcomte.fr">https://cerou.univ-fcomte.fr</a> eric.monnin@univ-fcomte.fr







