History of the Olympic Movement in China

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At the beginning of the 20th century, Chinese newspaper articles began to raise interest for the Olympic Games: Several newspapers covered the games of 1904 in St. Louis and the press also reported about the 1908 Olympic Games in London. Before a national Olympic association was formed in China, the Young Men's Christian Association, like in many Asian countries, had been the first noteworthy sports organization. The YMCA sponsored and organized the first big sports competitions in China.

An important mentor of the early sports movement in China was U.S.-American Max J. Exner, who organized the first national games of Nanking. The Chinese National Games were repeated seven times until 1948. On the occasion of the first games in 1910, Max J. Exner claimed a Chinese participation in the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, but China did not take part in Stockholm. In 1915, China received an invitation to participate in the Olympic Games in Berlin planned for 1916.

On October 3rd 1922, a Chinese amateur sports association was founded in Beijing, which from 1931 claimed to be the National Olympic Committee. Between 1913 and 1934 China participated ten times in the Far-Eastern-Games – a competition regarded as "the Olympic Kindergarten" by Coubertin.

Shanghai hosted the FEG three times. The Association became a member of several world sports federations.

Year		City	Country
1.	1913	Manila	Philippines
2.	1915	Shanghai	China
3.	1917	Tokyo	Japan
4.	1919	Manila	Philippines
5.	1923	Shanghai	China
6.	1925	Japan	Japan
7.	1925	Manila	Philippines
8.	1927	Shanghai	Japan
9.	1930	Tokyo	Japan
10	1934	Manila	Japan

The ten Far Eastern Games held between 1913 and 1934

Three Chinese IOC Members

During the 1922 session in Paris, the IOC accepted Wang Zhengting (until 1957) as a member. Hsiang Hsi Kung (until 1955) followed in 1939 and Shou-Yi Tung (until 1958) in 1947.

Zhengting was accepted by postal vote, i.e. Coubertin proposed him as a member in one of his circular letters. Following this procedure and in the absence of objections the candidate would automatically become a member. There was no formal vote.

Zhengting was born July 25th 1882 in Ningpo. He died on May 21st 1961 in Hongkong. After completing his studies at the University of Peiyang, he took the position of secretary of the YMCA in Tokyo, which he held for the following two years.

Later he studied at the University of Michigan for a year until he changed to Yale University, from which he obtained a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in 1910. He attended the Versailles Peace Conference (1912/1920) as a delegate and was appointed foreign minister of China four times between 1923 and 1932. From 1936 until 1939, he was China's ambassador to the United States. He shortly returned to China in 1940 and soon moved to Hongkong from where he relocated to Shanghai in 1945 to build the foundation of his finance empire. Shortly before the Communists came to power, he moved to Hongkong again, where he would stay for the rest of his life.

As one of the founders of organized sports in China, he became president (1920-1921) and honorary president (1922-1923) of the Far Eastern Athletic Association. After the war, on October 20th 1956, he handed in his resignation from the IOC, but withdrew it on November 18th. He definitely resigned on September 23rd 1957 and was appointed an honorary member. He attended four sessions and missed 29.

Hsiang Hsi Kung was born in Shanghai on September 11th 1880 and died on August 5th 1967 in New York. Descending from a family whose roots are dated back to Confucius over 75 generations, he was a member of a remarkable banker's dynasty originating from the northern province of Shanxi. Already in his early years, he supported a Protestant Mission in Taiku and used his influence to save many Christians during the Boxer Rebellion in 1900. He was rewarded with a US-citizenship. Kung served for many years as the head of the Chinese Central Bank and as the Finance Minister of China.

In 1905, Kung became associated to the Sun Yat-sen's nationalist movement. He was studying in the United States at the time and obtained a master's degree from Yale University in 1907. Kung became well established due to his marriage to the older sister of Chiang Kai-Shek's wife in 1913 and his western education. As Minister for Industry of the nationalist government, which had formed in Nanking in 1928, he visited Great Britain and other European countries in 1933. A student of western industrial technology accompanied him. In 1937, on the occasion of the coronation of George VI, he returned to Great Britain as a special ambassador of China.

As the Governor of the Central Bank, he became one of the most influential people in China. He was no finance

genius, but even though under his leadership, the Chinese currency experienced an inflation rate of 2,500% between 1937 and 1946, he was acknowledged as a skilled operator. He led the Chinese delegation to the Bretton Woods Conference of 1944. In 1948, he relocated to the US, but stayed engaged in businesses in Taiwan for a long time. He was buried in the cemetery of Marble College Church in New York City – a clear demonstration of his importance. Among the 500 funeral guests were prospective US president Richard Nixon and Cardinal Spellman.



Liu Changchun, the first Chinese to participate in the Olympics, at the X Olympic Games in Los Angeles, 1932

Tung was accepted as a member on June 6th 1939 during the session in London. Although he was a member of the IOC until June 13th 1955, his commitment to the Olympic cause was limited. He did not attend any of the 13 sessions held during his membership.

After Wang and Kung went into political exile (National China or Taiwan, depending on the point of view), the IOC decided to accept another third IOC member and wanted to find someone, who would actively contribute to the Olympic work. On June 19th 1947, at the session in Copenhagen, Shou-Yi Tung won the vote and was accepted as a new member. Following the instructions given by his government, he aggravated the "China problem" rather than solving it.

Shou-Yi Tung was born October 4th 1895 in Hebei and died on June 13th 1978 in Beijing. After graduating from Tungchou University, where he was captain of the basketball, baseball and soccer teams, he became YMCA director of physical education in Tientsien (in 1916). He participated as captain of the Chinese team in the Far Eastern Games of 1917 and 1923. After the games, he took a two-year course at Springfield University and became a basketball coach after his return to China in 1925. He coached the teams for the Far Eastern Games of 1927, 1930 and 1934 and for the 1936 Olympic Games. In 1936, he was appointed International Referee by the FIBA.

He also accompanied the team participating in the 1948 games in London. In 1944, he became secretary general of the Chinese National Athletics Association, which attended to the tasks of a NOC in Nanking during the political confrontations. He later moved to Beijing and was elected vice president of the NOC. Until 1952, he was the only one of the three Chinese IOC members still living on Chinese mainland.

When the IOC was preparing the session preceding the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki, there was a rumour that Tung had died. The IOC president requested Tung to attend the session. Three days later, Tung arrived in the Finnish capital, accompanied by an interpreter who claimed that Tung did not speak English. Sigfrid Edström, who knew Tung from earlier meetings, was clearly annoyed and remarked that Tung had spoke perfect English in the past and sent Tung and the "interpreter", who was supposed to monitor Tung, away. It was not until the 1957 session in Sofia that Tung attended another IOC session. Now he spoke fluent English again. It was a "stormy" session. China left the IOC due to the Taiwan issue and Tung expressed his personal resignation through a vehement diatribe against the IOC and Brundage. He definitely left the IOC on May 14th 1958. He had attended six of the eight sessions held during his membership.

Participations 1932 in Los Angeles and 1936 in Berlin

The Japanese occupied Manchuria in 1932 and established the puppet state of Manchukuo under their protectorate with the last Quing emperor Pu Yi as its regent. China was in civil war between the Kuomintang led by Chiang Kai-Shek and the Communists led by Mao Zedong. The Japanese wanted to send a team of Manchukuo to the X Olympic Games of 1932 in Los Angeles, while the Kuomintang government declared not to be willing to spend money on a premature team. Those athletes wishing to participate in the Olympic Games were supposed to fund the participation on their own. When General Zhang Xueliang of the Kuomintang heard about this situation, it annoyed him that such a big country claimed not having enough money to send a team to the Olympic Games. He then financed the participation of the trainer and interpreter Song Junfu and of the athletes Liu Chang Chun and Yu Xiwei. The Japanese army tried in vain to prevent their departure. During the parade of the participants at the Opening Ceremony, the team consisted of flag bearer Son Jungfu, the athlete Liu Chang Chun and three Chinese support staff living in the USA.

Liu Chang Chun (1909-1983) was a sprinter who entered the 100m and 200m competitions. He came in last in both preliminary heats and was eliminated. His results are not officially documented; spectators timed him at 11.1s and 22.1s respectively.

In 1936, the Olympic Games were held in Berlin. The

Sino-Japanese War had not yet started, but there had already been numerous incidents. This time, the Chinese NOC sent a delegation of 140 people including an observer group. Fifty-five athletes, among them two swimmers, would compete in the following sports: athletics, football, swimming, weightlifting, cycling, boxing and basketball. There also was a demonstration of Wushu.

All 23 athletes were eliminated in the preliminary heats or in the qualifying rounds, with the exception of Fu Bao Loo who finished 16th place in pole vault with 3,80m. The times and distances are not listed in the official report, so we only know that the 4x100m relay was timed at 44,8 seconds in its preliminary heat.

Sixteen teams, divided into two performance groups, participated in the football tournament. The Chinese team was assigned to the weaker group and had play against Great Britain in the preliminary round. China lost 2:0. Earlier, the Chinese team had been undefeated for 20 test games in a row. Their trump card was the inner trio consisting of the two inner forwards Sun Jin Shun and Feng Jin Xiang and the centre forward Hui Tang Li, who was the overall star of the Chinese football players. The Chinese, who played their first international match, were all very fast, mobile and enduring. It was only in the second half of the match that Johnny Dodds and Charly Finch decided the result in just a few minutes. Nevertheless, it was a "succès d'estime" for the Chinese. Twenty-two teams participated in the basketball tournament and China lost 19:35 (15:10) against Japan in the first round. China defeated France 45:38 in the first match of the consolation round. Now followed two defeats against Brazil (14:32) and Peru (21:29), which resulted in the elimination of the Chinese team.



The Chinese Team at the XI Olympic Games in Berlin, 1936

Two women competed in swimming, thus becoming the first female Chinese athletes to participate in the Olympic Games. The Chinese athletes did not demonstrate good results, in neither boxing, swimming or weightlifting. Only the Wushu performance caused a stir.

China during World War II

The Sino-Japanese war broke out on July 7th 1937 and lasted until September 9th 1945. On August 8th 1945, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan and marched with over a million soldiers into Manchuria. In the summer of 1945 both parties assumed that combat would continue for at least another year, but the USA abruptly ended the war by dropping the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan surrendered on August 15th 1945 and the Japanese troops in China officially surrendered on September 9th 1945 by signing a capitulation treaty in Nanking. During World War II, the Allies officially supported China and the USA built airbases on Chinese territory which would later be used to bomb Japan, among others. US support for China between 1941 and 1945 amounted to more than 5 billion US dollars. But the support lost some of its effectiveness because the parties of the civil war stocked up a lot of weapons to prepare for the final battle of the civil war.

The Japanese had committed serious war crimes during the occupation of China. After Nanking had been occupied, a massacre took place, which, according to estimations, killed up to 300,000 people. Villages were pillaged to feed the troops and some villages were even burned down, especially when the Chinese started to rely more and more on guerrilla tactics. The Allies had decided at the 1943 Cairo Conference, that Manchuria and Taiwan would be restored to China.

The Kuomontang fought more than 22 big battles against Japan, engaging more than 100,000 soldiers on each side, and over 40,000 smaller engagements, with more than 50,000 soldiers on each side. The Communists fought in 111,500 armed confrontations of varying sizes. Most of them were guerrilla attacks in rural areas, particularly in Northern China. The Japanese losses finally amounted to around 1.1 million dead, wounded or missing. The Chinese suffered losses of 3.22 million soldiers. In addition to that, 9.13 million civilians died in military confrontations and another 8.4 million civilians died in non-military incidents. China's financial losses amounted to 383 billion US dollars. That was fifty

times the gross national product of Japan at the time.

A deep anti-Japanese resentment remains until today among the Chinese population. One of the reasons for that is the Japanese way of dealing with its historic responsibility: until today war crimes have always been denied. In April 2005, riots occurred against Japanese facilities because there had been plans in Japan to introduce schoolbooks trivializing the Japanese war crimes as "incidents".

China after World War II (1949-1965)

After World War II and the surrender of Japan, the Chinese civil war continued. The Kuomintang Party (KMT) started a war against the Communist Party (CP), which had grown from 100,000 members (1937) to over 1.2 million members during the Sino-Chinese War. The CP, led by Mao Zedong, defeated the KMT, led by Chiang Kai-Shek, in 1949 and expelled them to Taiwan. On October 1st 1949, the victorious Communist Party founded the People's Republic of China.

After the failure of the American General George Marshall's efforts to mediate between the KMT regime and the Communists, civil war broke out again in 1947. The Communist army, provided with military technology by the Soviets, first conquered Northern China starting from Manchuria (Battle of Suzhou 1948) and then, until 1949, all China. Chiang Kai-Shek, president of the Republic of China since 1948, retreated to Taiwan with his remaining troops in 1949, from where he claimed sovereignty over all of China. In the context of the East-West-Conflict his government could, for a long time, maintain its representation in international organizations established during World War II, particularly that in the UN.

On October 1st 1949 Mao Zedong proclaimed the PRC and, as the president of the central council of the people's government, became head of state. Chou En-lai became prime minister. The party and state leaders implemented a radical reorganization of state and society according to Mao Zedong's specific interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. The communists liquidated the former political elite in several "cleansing waves". Around ten million people were killed. The government launched a land reform (1950), nationalized heavy industry and foreign trade (1950) and, with Soviet support, pushed the industrialization of the country. The USSR delivered around 300 industrial plants and sent around 10,000 experts to China. A new marriage law was introduced in the pursuit of equalization of the position of women and men in society. The CP searched to ideologically re-educate the Chinese ideologically with indoctrination and reform-of-thought campaigns. A campaign against counter-revolutionaries in 1951/52 should strengthen the "revolutionary alertness". The Hundred Flower Movement was aimed at enabling the state and party leaders to canalize criticism and, if necessary, to take measures against it.

The Great Leap Forward plan (1958-60/61) was supposed to culminate the agricultural revolution with the establishment of the People's Communes and should lead to economic growth along with ideological re-education. The objective of this campaign was a qualitative leap forward in the establishment of a socialist society and to catch up with or even outperform the social development of the USSR. The actual result was a grave famine, millions of people starved (1960-1962).

After the failure of this plan, Mao Zedong felt impelled to retreat to the position of party leader and to hand over the presidency to Liu Shao Qi.

Games of the XIV Olympiad, London 1948

China participated in the 1948 Olympic Games in London, the first games after World War II. The team consisted of 26 athletes, who competed in basketball, football, swimming, cycling and athletics. Similar to the preceding two participations, there were no outstanding results. The civil war had made it almost impossible for the athletes to prepare adequately for the competitions.



The Chinese basketball team at the XIV Olympic Games in London, 1948

The controversies about the participations in the Olympic Games of 1952 and 1956

The NOC of the People's Republic of China claimed to represent all of China in Helsinki. The IOC had to make a decision during its session preceding the 1952 Games. The Chinese athletes were awaiting the IOC's decision in Leningrad. The only officially recognized NOC was that of "National China" (Taiwan). The Finnish IOC member Erik von Frenckell proposed to allow both Chinese states to participate.

With a political speech he tried to convince Taiwan's NOC president Gun Sun Hoh. He reported that 19 of the 25 Chinese NOC members were staying in Taiwan. Chen Chie Pai, a representative of the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm, spoke in favour of the 600 million continental Chinese, but he was put down as "incompetent" by the IOC president at the time, Sigfrid Edström (1946-1952). The result of the voting about an equal participation of both Chinese teams was 29 IOC members in favour and 22 against. François Pietri, a French IOC member, then made the counterproposal to let the Chinese participate only in those disciplines, in which the respective international federation recognized their national associations. The IOC accepted this proposal with 33:22 votes, but one day later Avery Brundage declared that the IOC did not recognize any of the two Chinese NOCs. He said that the IOC felt sympathy for the athletes, who were already on their way to Helsinki, and that they would therefore be allowed to participate although this meant a breach of the Olympic Charter. The above-described episode with Shou-Yi Tung happened during this IOC session.

Nevertheless, the Chinese team only reached Leningrad, where they awaited further development. In the end, the only Chinese participant was swimmer Wu Chuan-yu, who lived in Indonesia and did not have a visa problem with his Indonesian passport. He already had travelled to Helsinki ahead of time. The remaining 41 members of the team did not reach Helsinki until July 30th, when it was already too late for participation. The Chinese footballers then played against Finland on August 4th (4:0 for Finland).

Wu Chuan-yu (* 1928) first entered the 100m freestyle but gave up in the fourth preliminary heat. He was eliminated as fifth in the heats of the 100m backstroke with 1:12.3 min. Later, in the 1953 World Games, he won the 100m backstroke with 1:06.4 min (national record). He was killed in an accident in 1954.
Nationalistic China did not participate in Helsinki.

After Helsinki, both sides continued to insist on an exclusive right of representation.

At its 49th session in May 1954 in Athens, the IOC passed a resolution with 23 to 21 votes, which recognized the All-China Sports Federation as China's NOC ("Olympic Committee of the People's Republic of China") and at the same time recognized the NOC of Taiwan ("Chinese Olympic Committee"). None of the two NOCs was satisfied with this solution. Avery Brundage tried to justify the IOC's decision in a letter to Gun Sun Hoh, representative of Taiwan.

Shou-Yi Tung stated in his speech held during the 1956 IOC session in Cortina d´Ampezzo that Taiwan's sports organization was a Chinese regional organization and therefore had no right to represent China as a whole.

Brundage strongly disapproved of the speech and described it as "99% political", for which reason he refused to include its text in the protocol.

China boycotted the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne because Taiwan was not excluded, Taiwan participated as the "Republic of China". At the session in Sofia in 1957, Shou informed that the People's Republic agreed with the name "NOC of the People's Republic of China", but on August 25th 1958, China left the IOC due to the recognition of the "two Chinas". China also suspended relations with all International Professional Sports Federations (swimming, athletics, basketball, weightlifting, shooting, wrestling and cycling). The USSR tried to mediate at the 1959 IOC session in Munich and remarked that the NOC of Taiwan did not have any influence on sports in the People's Republic. With 48 to 7 votes, the IOC decided to assign chancellor Otto Mayer with the task of informing the Taiwan's NOC that its participation as the "NOC of the Republic of China" would no longer be accepted. In case there was a request for changing the name, it would be reviewed.

This decision particularly caused problems for Brundage. He was insulted as a "Communist" in the USA, where a news agency mistakenly announced that Taiwan had been expelled from the IOC, and Beijing called him



Taiwan's delegation marching into the *Stadio Olimpico*

"a pawn in the service of American imperialism". The IOC president himself commented in Munich:

"So, what am I now? A Communist, a Nazi or an Imperialist? I'm none of those; I completely ignore politics".

In 1961, the IOC decided at its 57th session in San Francisco in 1960, that a participation of the NOC of the "Republic of China" in future Olympic Games would only be accepted under the name "Taiwan". This is why an official of the Taiwanese delegation carried a sign reading "under protest" when the participants marched into the *Stadio Olimpico* during the 1960 games in Rome. This evoked strong protest from the IOC. After the games, Taiwan's NOC received a letter expressing the IOC's disapproval. The athletes' clothing had not had any territorial reference.

To solve the problem for good, the IOC stipulated in the revision of the respective clause of the Olympic Charter that it reserved the right to decide on the conditions, including names and territorial borders of a country, under which it recognizes a NOC.

Taiwan's participations since 1960

China boycotted the Olympic Movement from 1956 to 1979. Taiwan participated six times on its own, first as the "Republic of China" (1956), then from 1960 to 1972 as "Taiwan" and since 1984 as "Chinese Taipeh". In 1980, Taiwan followed the American call for boycott and did not participate.

Yang Chuan Kuang won the silver medal in pentathlon with 8,334 points at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome. With this success he became the first Chinese medal winner at the Olympic Games. Eight years later, at the Olympic Games of 1986 in Mexico City, Chi Cheng won the bronze medal in 80m steeplechase with 10.4s after the Australians Maureen Caird and Pam Kilborn. She thus became the first female Chinese athlete ever to win a medal.

Yang Chuang Kuang, who died in 2007, is nowadays admired in "both" Chinese states. C.K. Yang, as he was called in the USA, did not win the gold medal, but his duel against his friend Rafer Johnson was one of the most thrilling competitions in Olympic history. In America we were glued to the radio, in Europe to the television with Eurovision, when we followed how Yang was leading again and again and how the competition stayed undecided until the very last event.

In 1958, Taiwan's athletic association sent Chuan-kwang Yang to Los Angeles so that he could train for the Olympic Games with Rafer Johnson. Johnson had won the silver medal in the 1956 games in Melbourne and held the world record since 1955. Previously Yang had finished second at the Asian Games of 1954 in Manila and eighth in Melbourne. During their preparations in California, the trainer "Ducky" Drake coached both Yang and Johnson.



Yang Chuan-Kuang at the XVII Olympic Games in Rome, 1960

Shortly before the games in Eugen (Oregon), Johnson set a fantastic world record with 8,683 points and was considered a strong favourite for the games in Rome. However, Yang held his friend Johnson off in a gigantic duel. He was better in seven disciplines. Merely at the throwing events was Johnson superior to dainty Yang:

While Johnson ended his career after his Olympic victory, Yang continued for four more years. Yang had been married in Los Angeles in the meantime and set an amazing world record in Walnut with 9,121 points between April 27th and 28th 1962. Since one year, fibreglass poles were allowed to be used in the pole-vault and Yang cleared 4.83m. That made 1,515 points. The IAAF later reacted and restored the proportions with a new point table: 4.83 m now equalled just 1,012 points, thus Yang's world record was scored "only" 8,089 points.

Yang was a favourite during the 1964 Games in Tokyo, but he finished only fifth, clearly beat by the German Willi Holdorf. Yang came down with liver cancer in 2001 and suffered a stroke in January 2007. He died from the complications of the stroke on January 27th in a hospital in Woodland Hill, California.

Pentathlon on September 5th and 6th 1960 at the *Stadio Olimpico* in Rome

Johnson	10.9	7.35	15.82	1.85	48.3
	15.34	8.49	4.10	69.76	4:49.7
Yang	10.7	7.46	13.33	1.90	48.1
	14.6	39.83	4.30	68.22	4:48.5
1. Johnson (USA)	8,392	(7,901 today's scoring) points			
2. Yang (TPE)	8,334	(7,829) points			



Chi Cheng during the 80m steeplechase at the XIX Olympic Games in Mexico-City 1968

GANEFO Games

Relations between China and the IOC were suspended from 1958 until 1978. In 1963, China, Indonesia and 46 further countries and regions decided to jointly organize other games, the so-called GANEFO Games.

The integration of Asia into the Olympic Movement, which until then had been making substantial progress, experienced a huge setback in 1962. The athletes of Taiwan and Israel were denied entry to Indonesia, host of the 4th Asian Games. The IOC, which by the way was the patron of the event, was so annoyed by the Indonesian government's arbitrary act that, in February 1963, it excluded the Indonesian NOC from participation in the Olympic Games for violation of the Olympic Charter. This sanction immediately led to the creation of the GANEFO, the Games of the New Emerging Forces, a "rival business" to the IOC. That made Asia the second obstacle, along with Africa (apartheid), for the Olympic Integration Movement.

The criticism of the Olympic Movement also has to be seen as a consequence of the policy of the decolonised states, which after the Conference of Bandung (1955) regarded themselves as self-contained Third World, independent from the great powers. They did not want to be patronized by those states influenced by the Western world. They regarded the IOC as an organization under the influence of Europe and North America.

In spite of the IOC's efforts for balance, the first GANEFO Games opened on November 10th 1963 (November 10th until 22nd). When the GANEFO "flame" arrived in the enormous Bungkarno Stadium after a long torch relay, it was greeted by over 2,400 athletes from 51 countries and communities of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. Like the Olympic Games, the GANEFO Games would be repeated every four years and were also supposed to be held in a different member country each year.

Chinese and Korean athletes set five new world records during the 1st GANEFO Games. The records were never internationally recognized, because China and North Korea were not represented in the respective world federations. Another 60 national records were registered in athletics, swimming, weightlifting, shooting and archery. From the organizers' point of view, these performances demonstrated that the decolonised countries definitely were able to shape the development of sports in their countries by themselves and to contribute to the evolvment of international sports. Many countries did not send top athletes or sent non-IOC-teams, because they did not want to jeopardize their participation in the Olympic Games.

The GANEFO Games' success made Brundage visibly insecure and his policy became less confrontational from now on. After Indonesia's NOC had accepted the Olympic principles in a half-hearted declaration, the IOC Executive lifted the suspension in June 1964. However, this decision did not take effect, because the IAAF and the FINA continued to impose sanctions. Before, these organizations had warned their members about competing at the GANEFO against athletes of associations, which were not members of the international federations. The sanctions also affected six North Korean athletes, including 26 year-old Shin Kim, who had set world records in Jakarta in the 400m with 51.4s and in the 800m with 1:59.1min.

The second GANEFO Games in Egypt had to be cancelled in 1967. Because of the Six-Day War against Israel, Egypt lacked the means to organize the games. The People's Republic of China, who had been determined as the alternative organizer, was in the middle of a cultural revolution with disastrous effect, which made it equally unable to host the games. The GANEFO Movement thus ended after a short existence as a kind of "intermezzo".

1980: Return to "Olympia" – participation in Lake Placid

In 1979, China returned to the Olympic Movement. The IOC recognized the Chinese Olympic Committee without excluding Taipei. This progress was preceded by a longsome development. It began with the denial of entry of Taiwan's team on June 13th 1976 by the Canadian government, which did not have diplomatic re-

lations with the Island state. The background of this decision was the fact that Canada had officially recognized the People's Republic that year and respected its important trade partner, who had provided them with a trade surplus of 320 million dollars.

The Taiwan Question engaged the IOC for years. In 1970, Avery Brundage hat for the first time had accepted a National Chinese as a member of the IOC: Henry Hsu, who was born in Kanton. This meant that the wind had changed, like Brundage's successor, Lord Killanin, already noticed at the 1974 Asian Games in Teheran. Now Beijing was recognized instead of Taiwan. Killanin henceforth favoured the Chinese motherland, which had not been part of the Olympic Movement since 1958. He proposed that Taiwan should participate in Montreal under the Olympic Flag, accept the Olympic Anthem and abstain from a reference to "China" in its name. The IOC – although it was a violation of rule 58 – voted in favour of this compromise with 58:2 votes (and six abstentions), but Taiwan did not accept the conditions and its athletes were thus excluded for the time being. USOC president Philip Krumm threatened in vain that the US team would leave the games if Taiwan would not participate. This would have been fatal for the contract with the US television company ABC, because it only would pay the full amount, if the American team participated. These threats did not have any effect.

The IOC vice president at the time, Juan Antonio Samaranch, recommended after a journey to China to resume talks on lifting the exclusion. The IOC discussed this issue during its sessions of 1978 and 1979. At the 81st session of 1979 in Montevideo, the IOC agreed to recognize the following two NOCs:

1. the Chinese Olympic Committee located in Beijing,
2. the Chinese Olympic Committee located in Taipei.

This did not solve the problem for the Taiwan Chinese, who regarded themselves as the single legitimate representative of China. The IOC demanded that Taiwan should choose a new flag and anthem to allow the return to the Olympic family of Beijing, which until then had insisted on the exclusion of Taiwan.

The People's Republic had its debut in the Olympic Winter Games in 1980 in Lake Placid. Taiwan on the other hand, which would have had to bear the denomination "Chinese Taipei (TPE)", in protest abstained from participating and did not give in until 1984.

The XIII Olympic Winter Games in 1980 were held in Lake Placid (USA). Because China was a member of the IOC again since 1979, for the first time 24 Chinese athletes participated in the Olympic Winter Games. Winter sports are not well developed in China and therefore not as popular as, for example, table tennis. The Chinese athletes competed in speed skating, figure skating and cross- country skiing, but they did not achieve good results. The best Chinese result was achieved by the speed skater N.C. Wang, who finished 23rd in the 500m.

The XXII Olympic Summer Games in 1980 were held in Moscow (USSR). The games were boycotted by the USA and 64 further countries, among them China. The reason was the Soviet attack on Afghanistan. Consequently, most Eastern-bloc states boycotted the 1984 Olympic Summer Games in Los Angeles. The attack on Afghanistan was regarded a Soviet aggression by the Western states. US president James E. Carter announced a number of sanctions against the USSR in a televised address on January 4th 1980, ranging from an export ban on cereals to the boycott of the XXII Olympiad in Mos-

Medal Statistics

Year	City	Athletes	Medals gold/silver/bronze	Table
1984	Los Angeles	216	15 / 8 / 9	4
1988	Seoul	273	5 / 11 / 12	11
1992	Barcelona	244	16 / 22 / 16	4
1996	Atlanta	298	16 / 22 / 12	4
2000	Sydney	311	28 / 16 / 15	3
2004	Athens	269	32 / 17 / 14	2

Overview of China's participations at the Olympic Summer Games between 1984 and 2004

Year	City	Athletes	Medals gold/silver/bronze
1980	Lake Placid	24	0
1984	Sarajevo	37	0
1988	Calgary	13	0
1992	Albertville	32	0 / 3 / 0
1994	Lillehammer	24	0 / 1 / 2
1998	Nagano	55	0 / 6 / 2
2002	Salt Lake City	72	2 / 2 / 4
2006	Turin	76	2 / 4 / 5

Overview of China's participations and achievements at the Olympic Winter Games after 1980 until 2006, www.olympic.cn 21.09.2007

cow. The UN General Assembly also reacted with an extraordinary meeting and passed a resolution requesting the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The People's Republic of China and most countries of the world voted in favour of the resolution. The reaction of the Islamic states was especially sharp.

1984 until today, more and more successful

In 1984, the Chinese participated in the Olympic Summer Games for the first time in 32 years. This time it was the biggest Chinese team so far in Olympic History. The Delegation consisted of 353 persons, including 216 athletes. They competed in basketball, volleyball, handball, gymnastics, athletics, swimming, weightlifting, shooting, wrestling, table tennis, badminton, fencing, archery and cycling. The Chinese team won a total of 15 gold, 8 silver, and 9 bronze medals. These achievements of 1984 in Los Angeles ended the unsuccessful history of China at the Olympic Games. Counting the number of gold medals, China reached the fourth place in the unofficial nations' ranking.

Successful application for the XXIX Olympiad 2008

After the successful organization of the 11th Asian Games in 1990, the Chinese formed the idea to host the Olympic Games in their own country. On February 22nd 1991, Beijing officially entered the application process for hosting the 2000 Olympic Games. The bidding committee was founded in Beijing on April 1st 1991. In 1992, Beijing submitted its first application for the right to host the Olympic Games – the 27th Olympic Games – but lost by two votes (43:45) against Sydney in September 1993.

After the failed application of 1993, the Chinese capital applied again in 1993. The estimated costs amounted to 23 billion Euros for the infrastructure and 3.6 billion for the organization. The application included plans for an Olympic village in Northern Beijing, where most of the facilities should be located. The beach volleyball competitions should be held on Tiananmen Square. There were also plans for the route of the Olympic Flame; it should pass the Himalaya. After the first failure, radical changes were made in the city. Backyard factories were closed to improve air quality. Old, labyrinthine neighborhoods were restructured, grass strips built and modern apartment complexes constructed.

The application was accompanied by the criticism of human rights activists, because China executes the highest number of death penalties in the world. In a direct context to the games, forced relocations were suspected. It was also criticised that all that money would be better invested in schools and hospitals. The ignorance of human rights, a lack of environmental protection and censorship instead of press freedom were strongly condemned.

China's second application started in 1992 and lasted nine years; finally ending in success. Beijing had submitted its second application in November 1998. On April 7th 1999, the more detailed application was entered. In total, ten cities had applied, of which five were allowed to enter the application process.

Until December 13th 2000, the Chinese bidding committee had the approval of all 28 International Sports Federations. On July 13th 2001, at 6pm, at the Session in Moscow, IOC president Samaranch announced that Beijing would host the XXIX Olympic Games. ■

City	Country	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
Sydney	Australia	30	30	37	45
Beijing	China	32	37	40	43
Manchester	Great Britain	11	13	11	–
Berlin	Germany	9	9	–	–
Istanbul	Turkey	7	–	–	–

Results of the voting for the host city 2000

City	Country	Round 1	Round 2
Beijing	China	44	56
Toronto	Canada	20	22
Paris	France	15	18
Istanbul	Turkey	17	9
Ōsaka	Japan	6	–

Results of the voting for the host city 2008