

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How is sport used in your country to promote human rights? What are the best practices being applied?

Sport is used to promote human rights in Denmark by the main sport organisations. The following appear from the general agreements the state makes with the primary sport unions in Denmark:

The main sport organizations work on securing and strengthening diversity in sports in Denmark. They especially focus on gender equality and on strengthening non-ethnic Danes' involvement in volunteering and leadership in sports. Furthermore it is a goal to get more Danes - regardless their gender, age, ethnicity - to practice sport in their everyday life.

In relation to the mentioned two main sport organisations sports are practised in associations. In Denmark we have a tradition for a rich associational life which we wish to keep, because sports practiced in associations learn the practising democratic values and create social cohesion.

2. What are the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic ideal to strengthen respect for human rights?

When doing sports "practise communities" can get created. Communities where different kinds of people get to know each other and thereby get to accept each other. Sports create relations, relations which wouldn't have been created in other arenas. Relations generate experience and knowledge which can minimise fear of the unknown and thereby stimulate acceptance of diversity.

In this respect there is a possibility of using sports as a means to inclusion.

3. What are the sports practised in your country and how far are they all inclusive (for women, youth, vulnerable groups etc.)?

In Denmark the number of women doing sports outnumber the number of men doing sports, which is a good example of the including function the associations have.

In Denmark all kind of sports are practised. Under the two main sport organisations you can practise many different kind of sports. The two primary sport unions in Denmark also have it as a goal to support new sport tendencies.

In Denmark there are organizations which especially focus on vulnerable groups for

examples homeless, abusers and physically challenged. Inclusion is also an objective for the associations under the two main sport organisations.

4. *In what way can sport and the Olympic ideal become a means to:*

- a) *advance the cause of peace ?*
- b) *promote development?*
- c) *combat all forms of discrimination?*

Sport can advance the cause of peace, promote development and combat discrimination in relation to the international discussions which emerges when international sport events take place. There are numerous examples of sport events acting as a catalyst for an international discussion of national problematics. In this respect light is shed on violation of human rights.

In relation to this the media cf. question 6 plays a huge role.

5. *What kinds of challenges are faced in promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal?*

6. *How can the media help in the promotion of human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal?*

The media can address and thereby set a problem on the agenda. The media can facilitate a debate e.g. Winter OL 2014.