

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Problems and prospects of Russia's participation in the International Olympic movement.

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Relevance of the research issue. Sport is the instrument of political influence with great potential and opportunities in the modern world. The history knows many examples how different countries used this instrument to achieve their political goals.

Nowadays according to the results of winter Olympic games in Sochi the issues of internal and foreign policy of Russia play very important role. In addition, there is an increasing interest of different political forces for the Olympic games, as well as the problems associated with their implementation. Moreover, it requires in-depth and comprehensive study of the political role of the international Olympic movement, which also determines the relevance of the themes of scientific research. Another reason, emphasizing the political role of the international Olympic movement, is the nature of the regulatory functions of world politics non-governmental sports organisations: their new role in the international relations system is fully manifested in the activities of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which becomes an important subject of political process and a key element of IOC political management. In this regard, the task of scientific understanding of the role of the IOC in the resolution of acute and pressing global issues of our time, as well as the main directions of cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations, multinational companies and other new subjects of international relations, also makes actual the chosen subject of the thesis.

The purpose of the work is in outlining the problems, trends and prospects of Russia's participation in the International Olympic movement and the definition of the basic directions of optimization of sports diplomacy of the Russian Federation.

Research objectives:

- to identify the conceptual approaches to the definition of sport diplomacy as a instrument of foreign policy;
- to define the role of epy International Olympic movement in the foreign policy of the state and trends of меф development;
- to evaluate the effectiveness of political protest as a mechanism of political influence of the IOC on the foreign policy of the countries of the modern world;
- to identify the role of the Olympic games in Russia's foreign policy at the present stage;
- to systematize political and technological aspects of the impact of the IOC on the foreign policy of Russia in preparation for Olympic games of 2014, and the main threats and risks related to its implementation;
- to analyze the results of the Olympic games in Sochi and to determine the main directions of optimization of sports diplomacy of the Russian Federation

Scientific novelty of the research is determined by the following provisions. Firstly, the role of the Olympic movement as an important component of world politics and world political process; it is shown that the Olympic movement creates ideological platform for use values and resources of the international Olympic movement for political purposes and the interests of the leading actors in the world politics and international relations.

Secondly, actual external and internal political problems are headlined, they can be effectively solve, using the potential, opportunities and channels of the Olympic movement. In this regard, recommendations of solving some foreign policy problems of Russia in the security sphere, sports diplomacy, image policy and international cooperation are also proposed.

The structure of work: the two chapters, containing six paragraphs. The conclusion and a 137-reference bibliography (22 of which are in foreign languages). The total volume is 78 pages.

Summary: At the present stage of relation between policy and sports are becoming more and more beneficial to both participants of this process, but the potential of sport as a policy tool is not fully explored. First of all we should take into account an increasing function of the International Olympic Committee, the governing structure of the modern Olympic movement. IOC experience suggests that the Olympic movement helps in peacebuilding, and can act as an important diplomatic instrument. Generally, we can say that in modern conditions the IOC is a significant political force, which operates a wide range of means and methods of foreign influence. These circumstances are particularly relevant in the context of cooperation between the IOC and Russian Federation. Russia is connected with the IOC by long-term cooperation, often accompanied by attempts to put pressure on the policy of the country using different types of political protests, infringement of the rights of Russian sportsmen, biased refereeing at the Olympics, using pressure on the Olympic judges from the media and even the boycott of the Olympics.

Analyzing various aspects of cooperation between Russia and the IOC, it is possible to note, that nowadays the political leadership of Russia has a number of tasks that can be effectively solved using the resources of the Olympic movement. Successfully prepared winter games in Sochi should certainly bring economic benefits, they will contribute to the modernization of the Russian economy, attraction investments to our country, development of infrastructure and tourism industry. In addition, it will give an opportunity to raise Russia's prestige in the world and beneficial impact on national identity.