



**SPORT &  
RIGHTS  
ALLIANCE**

RAISING THE BAR FOR  
SPORT, HUMAN RIGHTS  
AND TRANSPARENCY

December 23, 2024

**Re: Questionnaire for All Candidates for International Olympic Committee  
Presidency re. Human Rights and Transparency**

Dear IOC Presidential Candidate,

We are writing to you from the [Sport & Rights Alliance](#), a global coalition of non-governmental organizations and trade unions committed to raising the bar for human rights and anti-corruption in world sport. We are contacting you regarding your candidature for the presidency of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and your plans to ensure the IOC upholds its human rights and good governance responsibilities.

Following [decades of calls from civil society](#), the IOC adopted important amendments to the [Olympic Charter](#), the [IOC Code of Ethics](#) and the [Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance](#). In accordance with the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights \(UNGPs\)](#), the IOC recognized its responsibility to “respect for internationally recognized human rights” and strengthened systems of transparency and accountability.

In particular, the IOC’s [“Strategic Framework on Human Rights \(“Strategic Framework”\)](#) sets out long-term objectives and specific actions the IOC takes to respect human rights. The Strategic Framework provides plans for each of the IOC’s three spheres of activity: the IOC as an organisation, the IOC as owner of the Olympic Games, and the IOC as leader of the Olympic Movement. The IOC also [acknowledges](#) the importance of engaging with impacted people, their representatives and leading human rights organizations, to better understand potential negative impacts and incorporate stakeholder expectations.

Overall, the IOC President plays a crucial role in the implementation of its human rights commitments, as they represent the IOC and preside over all its activities. As the new IOC President will be tasked with upholding these commitments, we believe it is crucial that the selection process includes a clear explanation of each candidate’s views and plans on key questions related to these human rights, namely:

1. As IOC President, what specific measures will you take to ensure that the selection of future host countries fully and meaningfully evaluates potential human rights risks associated with hosting the event, as well as the host governments’ commitment to respect human rights in compliance with international norms?
2. As IOC President, how will you ensure that all involved within the Olympic movement across the globe, particularly athletes, have legitimate and safe means to report abuse and harassment, and to access immediate support and meaningful remedy? How will you ensure that International Federations and National Olympic Committees commit and comply with the highest safeguarding standards and occupational safety and health measures to prevent and address harassment and abuse, particularly of athletes?

3. As IOC President, how will you ensure that athletes who speak out for human rights are protected as human rights defenders and are not unduly punished, including through sporting sanctions, such as deselection and/or disqualifications?
4. As IOC President, how will you ensure that athletes enjoy their internationally recognized human rights without exclusions, including the right to organize and seek forms of effective representation freely and without fear of retaliation, at national, regional and global levels?
5. As IOC President, what specific steps will you require to ensure media are allowed to pursue “[the fullest coverage](#),” without restrictions, by allowing both domestic and foreign journalists to report freely, including on potential rights abuses occurring in the context of the Games (in the run-up to, during, and in the immediate aftermath of the Games)?
6. As IOC President, what measures will you take to ensure the current principles enshrined in the ‘[IOC Framework on Fairness, Inclusion and Non-discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity and Sex Variations](#)’ are further implemented and adhered to by International Federations?
7. As IOC President, what specific steps will you take to ensure the protections of migrant workers and ensure that international labor laws are upheld in host countries and as a condition for hosting the Games, including through independent oversight mechanisms, to ensure fair and timely remedy for migrants, migrant families and workers who suffer abuse whilst working on Games-related infrastructure and services?
8. As IOC President, how will you ensure local authorities do not discriminate against, imprison or injure individuals from the LGBTI community or do not interfere with spectators and athletes who wish to show solidarity with flags or clothing that represent pride colors?
9. As IOC President, how do you intend to follow-up on the IOC’s commitments to transparency, good governance and anti-corruption within the IOC’s three spheres of activities?
10. As IOC President, will you commit to meeting with us and other civil society organizations within the first year of your mandate? How will you ensure global, regional and local civil society organizations and trade unions representing athletes, fans, workers, LGBTI population, journalists and human rights defenders are meaningfully engaged and consulted via ongoing dialogue and measurable outcomes throughout the development, monitoring and implementation of human rights policies, mechanisms and reforms?

While we acknowledge your positions in the [Candidature documents](#), given the importance of human rights and transparency issues, we encourage all candidates to deepen their commitments by providing detailed responses to each of the questions outlined above by **30 January 2025**. Your engagement will demonstrate your dedication to these critical issues and ensure greater clarity and trust with civil society organizations. Any responses as well as other information that you can provide will be made public and reflected in our upcoming reporting. We can be contacted by email at [andrea@sportandrightsalliance.org](mailto:andrea@sportandrightsalliance.org).

We look forward to your answers and thank you in advance for your attention.

Sincerely,



Andrea Florence

Director

**Sport & Rights Alliance**