



PacificMUN 2018

Dare to Speak | February 23-25

International Olympic Committee
Backgrounder Guide



IOC - Topic B

PacificMUN 2018

Dare to Speak.



Dear delegates,

My name is Jaskirt Brar, and I have the absolute honour to welcome you to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) at Pacific Model United Nations 2018. I will be serving as the IOC Director with my Assistant Director, Annie Deng, and Chair, Naomi Shi. This year at Pacific MUN, the conference opportunely coincides with the quadrennial Winter Olympics, thus adding to the unique delegating experience IOC presents. The dais looks forward to seeing delegates challenge themselves, engage in fruitful debate, and tackle two very pressing topics over the course of the conference.

I am currently a Grade 11 student at Southpointe Academy and have been a part of Model UN for three years. Using MUN, I have expanded my knowledge of the world from a unique perspective deviating from a classroom setting. The decision to immerse myself in Model UN has served as an excellent one that I have never looked back upon. Throughout all the conferences I have attended, I have always been drawn to the fulfilling and engaging debate that has ensued. While participating in Model UN, I have been able to see the world through a different lens and create relationships that will last a lifetime. Your Dais hopes for a weekend of engaging and fruitful debate that will foster new learning while also being memorable.

Both topics, Corruption in Choosing Host Cities and the Ramifications of Economic Expenditures in Host Countries explore the different responsibilities of this committee and represent an array of issues within its jurisdiction. The very existence of these two subjects is tarnishing the reputation of the IOC and, therefore, requires a comprehensive resolution in order to help mediate the current situations. In preparing for the topics, the dais encourages delegates to thoroughly analyze the backgrounders, research their individual nation's policies, explore past and present case studies, and look into current IOC mechanisms for improvement.

Although the process of preparing for the conference can be daunting especially in combination with other commitments, please do not hesitate to utilize the backgrounders. However, if you feel the need to seek further clarification or extra resources, feel free to send any questions or concerns to the committee email as we'd love to answer the questions you may have. With that, I wish you the best of luck in your preparation!

Sincerely,

Jaskirt Brar

Director of IOC

Committee Description

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will be a unique committee at PacificMUN 2018. Although not a traditional UN body, the IOC continues to serve as the world's absolute authority in regards to all Olympic-related matters. Although its role has diversified with the expansion of the Olympic Games in the modern era, it remains the leader from a logistical perspective. The responsibilities of the organization continues to grow as seen with the committee focusing on using the Games as a tool to promote global social initiatives in coordination with the United Nations. In conjunction with its role at the forefront of planning and coordinating the Olympics, the IOC uses its grip to intertwine sport and social awareness in the Games.

Additionally, it is important to note that the committee was initially founded in 1894 as a means of planning and coordinating the revitalization of the ancient Games for the modern era. Since then, not only has it been the primary organization committee for both the Summer and Winter Games but has also expanded its role as a promoter of the global Olympic Movement.¹ The IOC would not be able to operate without its members. Hence, there are 105 active members, 32 honorary members, and 1 honour member.

The IOC has seen a significant evolution in the goals of the committee since its inception, however, some essential aspects of the committee continue such as upholding the Olympic Charter.² The guidelines of the Charter focus on promoting various social, ethical, and education related philosophies and outline the full role of the IOC.³ In addition to the various parameters set forth in the Olympic Charter, there has remained a consistent theme from the inception of the committee to the present day; the Olympic Games can be a tool for positive impact in all countries involved.

As the Committee is not directly a UN body, the mandate regarding such is slightly different. Nevertheless, there still appears to be cooperation between the two bodies in order to achieve their collective goals. To expand, the IOC was granted permanent observer status by the UN and therefore plays a role in continuing its mission to spread the acceptance of sport as a means to promoting internationally agreed development goals.⁴

1 <https://www.Olympic.org/about-ioc-institution>

2 <http://www.inbrief.co.uk/sports-law/international-Olympic-committee-ioc/>

3 <https://www.Olympic.org/news/ioc-welcomes-enhancement-of-close-cooperation-with-the-united-nations>

4 <https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sg2231.doc.htm>

Topic Overview

In light of recent events, the process to choose host cities for the Olympic Games has come under great scrutiny. The fact that the process has been plagued by corruption in order to favour specific nations' bids defeats the very principles in which the IOC focuses upon. Corruption has seemingly been achieved through a plethora of reasons, however, the main culprit for allowing these atrocities is the current voting process and methods for choosing the host cities. The result of not only condoning corruption, but allowing it to occur has, inherently, shifted the course of the International Olympic Committee. This has damaged its core pursuit of spreading the Olympic Movement.⁵ It has also enabled nations to use the Games for their own ulterior motives instead of those outlined in the Olympic Movement. For instance, the massacre of 27 student protesters at the Mexico City Olympics in 1968 provided a prime example of both, the IOC and host governments, ability to take advantage of preparations via corruptions within both respective committees.⁶ With the motives for countries to corrupt the process in picking host cities not seeming to change, and the lack of action in combating these issues from any third party, the IOC must take it upon itself to rid itself from the shackles of corruption.

Before delving into the issue of the corruption in choosing host cities, one must understand the fundamentals of corruption as a concept. In relation to the Olympic Games, the concept of corruption extends not only to state-sponsored bribery that occurs when seeking hosting opportunities. It seems that dictatorships provide the best incentives and the IOC is happy to appease their every demand.⁷ There are multiple facets of corruption and delegates must look at this holistically in order to combat the issue as a whole. Another important aspect of corruption that delegates must consider is the time-frame in which it has taken place. The entire issue that is corruption seemingly began fairly recently. But, in reality, it has been an issue present throughout the last century and still lacks any action or reform. For instance, the 1936 Olympics were hosted by the Nazi regime and were seemingly riddled with corruption. Another example is the Six IOC members who were caught accepting gifts and enormous bribes from Salt Lake City to secure it as a host city of the 2002 Winter Olympics.⁸ In most cases, the corruption that has riddled the IOC since its inception has gone unseen and has resulted in an almost tolerant attitude towards the overall concept; the status quo must change.

Keeping recent events in mind, the pressing issue of corruption has seemingly begun to plague the IOC once again. Seeing as this is the International Olympic Committee, the correction of such an issue should be held with the utmost importance. The IOC's unsaid direction that each Olympics must be bigger than the last, no matter the cost, proves they are not the human rights organization they claim to be.⁹ In the status quo, the image of a once great committee is being tarnished and the importance of, not only the Games, but the message that goes along with it is being damaged as well. It is important to note that corruption impedes the IOC's ability to spread its Olympic movement. This creates a false illusion of what the Olympics should be.¹⁰ If the corruption continues, it can have devastating effects on the global community by making it increasingly harder to host the Games, and almost impossible to reap the benefits that they present.

There are many potential avenues for discussion in regards to this topic. Delegates must reconsider already existing voting methods as a means of bringing about change for a potential corruption-less

5 <http://nypost.com/2016/05/21/corruption-is-killing-the-Olympic-Games-or-should/>

6 <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/from-the-archive-blog/2015/nov/12/guardian-mexico-tlatelolco-massacre-1968-john-rodga>

7 <http://www.nationalreview.com/article/438532/rooting-corruption-out-Olympics>

8 *Ibid*

9 <http://www.flotrack.org/article/44257-the-ioc-s-true-ideals-corruption-and-greed>

10 <https://internationalsales.lexisnexis.com/news-and-events/corruption-Olympic-games>

process. Specifically, the overall effects of corruption and how it happens to plague the Olympics and the international community. Also, they must be able to look at the issue from a holistic standpoint which looks at corruption as a problem that affects all branches of the committee. Though the corruption in choosing host cities has been an issue since the inception of the Games, through fruitful debate, as well as comprehensive resolution, the issue can be solved.

Timeline

776 B.C.E: The first Olympic Games take place in Ancient Greece

In the plains of Olympia, the games were a means of honouring their respective gods.¹¹ This marks the ancient beginning of the Greek Olympic Games pitting amateur athletes against each other.

1894: The IOC is first established

Founded on June 23, 1894, in Paris, France, by Pierre de Coubertin the committee begins its plans on revitalizing the first Olympic Games of the modern era and creating the basis for the Olympic Movement. Coubertin is seen as the first to revitalize the committee and the overall concept of the Games. He is often considered the father of the modern Olympic era.

1896: The first Olympic Games are held in Athens

Playing host to 251 athletes from 13 countries the Games are held with nine sports.¹² They marked the official beginning of the Modern Olympic Era and signified a new shift in the sports event known as the Olympics.

1936: The Olympics are held in Berlin

This iteration of the Games was the first to systematically link a particular political ideology and use them as a form of state-led global soft power.¹³ The government of Germany, led by Adolf Hitler, used the Olympics to showcase Nazi ideals and propaganda officially intertwining politics and Olympic sport as a whole.¹⁴

1996: The Atlanta Olympic Community was caught attempting bribery

The Atlanta Olympic Committee is put under great scrutiny for its role in attempting to influence many IOC members to vote for their bid. The Atlanta Games were seen as proof of collusion, especially when William Payne, the co-chairman for the Atlanta Olympics said, "Today seem(s) inappropriate but at the time reflected the prevailing practice in the selection process and an extremely competitive environment. Those kinds of practices should not be permitted in the competition for future Olympic bids."¹⁵ Such a statement not only acknowledges the presence of corruption, but also its role as an integral piece in securing a hosting opportunity.

January 1st, 1999: IOC document outlining the history of corruption is released

A confidential IOC document outlines how attempts at influencing by bidding cities and IOC members goes back decades. The report also details the activities of two unofficial agents who contacted bidding cities for the purpose of potential collusion between the two parties for an undercover operation.¹⁶

11 <https://www.Olympic.org/ancient-Olympic-games/history>

12 <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounders/economics-hosting-Olympic-games>

13 <http://time.com/4421865/Olympics-cost-history/>

14 http://keepingscore.blogs.time.com/2008/08/07/a-long-history-of-Olympic-politics/photo/Olympic_politics_05/

15 <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/722775/IOC-culture-of-corruption-attacked.html>

16 <http://www.nytimes.com/1999/01/22/sports/Olympics-corruption-is-extensive-ioc-official-finds.html>

January 7th, 1999: IOC reforms the bidding process

In response to various ethical concerns posed by those members involved in the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee corruption scandal, the IOC completely reforms its bidding process. Instead of the traditional bidding process where IOC members vote on the individual cities in a secret ballot format. An independent committee, made up of eight IOC members including permanent members, athletes, and a representative of the Winter Sports Federation and the National Olympic Committee will decide on the host city.¹⁷

1999: IOC established commissions to combat corruption

In direct response to corruption within the IOC, the committee established two other commissions to address this, the Ethical Standards and Practices (Ethics Commission) and Structural Reform (IOC 2000 Commission) respectively.¹⁸ These commissions were supposed to serve as mediatory bodies for the topic of corruption.

July 20th, 2002: Action was taken against conspirators in the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee

Several Officials from the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee were charged by the American Government for conspiring with IOC officials in order to bring the Winter Olympics to Utah. It is estimated that more than \$1 million in cash, scholarships, gifts and other inducements were provided to IOC members to boost Salt Lake City's bid.¹⁹ As a result of these actions, six members of the IOC were condemned and expelled by the overall committee.

2004: IOC Vice President was found guilty of corruption

In 2004, IOC Vice President, Kim Un-Yong, who was involved in both the Seoul Olympics and the Salt Lake City scandal, was found guilty of receiving \$700,000 in gifts and bribes.²⁰ This officially cements the existence of bribery inside the IOC and, therefore, poses a greater liability to future acts of corruption.

2014: The IOC met for its 127th session in Monaco to pass the Olympic Agenda 2020.

The Agenda is based on reforming the status quo and changing the longstanding but somewhat liable mechanisms still in use. The reform recommendations had a profoundly positive effect on the 2022 bid process. Both Almaty and Beijing embraced the spirit of Olympic Agenda 2020 and its emphasis on legacy, sustainability, and cost containment.²¹

2016: IOC investigation into the 2016 Summer Olympics

The IOC conducts an investigation into the 2016 Summer Olympics and seeks to find any sort of corruption surrounding the nation and its hosting abilities. The former Mayor of Rio de Janeiro, Eduardo Paes, comes under great scrutiny for his role in the use of potentially corrupt entities to build infrastructure for the Games.

17 <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/1999/jan/25/Olympic-bribes-scandal-investigation>

18 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279891907_An_Agency_Theory_Perspective_on_Corruption_in_Sport_The_Case_of_the_International_Olympic_Committee

19 <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865629546/Salt-Lake-Olympic-scandal-set-a-precedent-for-US-prosecution-of-FIFA.html>

20 <https://newrepublic.com/article/135698/since-ancient-greece-Olympics-bribery-gone-hand-hand>

21 https://stillmed.Olympic.org/Documents/Reference_documents_Factsheets/2020-Host_City_Election.pdf

February 15, 2017: The International Forum for Sports Integrity conference takes place in Lausanne, Switzerland

The IFSI is the main platform for all stakeholders to exchange ideas and coordinate actions. The IFSI looks to combat problems related to potential unethical practice in sports, which includes corruption in the IOC. Discussions at this meeting focused on future actions of two main strands: strengthening the prevention of the manipulation of competitions and supporting ethical conduct through anti-corruption initiatives.²²

Historical Analysis

Origins of Corruption in the Olympics

The Olympic Games are an ancient endeavour that began as a religious festival to celebrate Zeus in Ancient Greece. They were held solely in one location, Olympia. The Ancient Games were quite grand, but nothing to the scale of today's Games. Although this religious tradition continued for nearly twelve centuries, it was ended abruptly under the rule of Emperor Theodosius I.²³ It took approximately 1503 years for civilization to reincarnate the power of the Games, albeit under different circumstances.

There's one practice that's a strong holdover from ancient Greece: allegations of bribery, some of which were documented more than 2,000 years ago.²⁴ It is important to note that there is precedent to believe that corruption has existed since the very ancient Games. Although corruption in the making of the Olympics and the bidding process did not exist (The Games remained in one sole location,) it was corruption nonetheless. The level of corruption was at a much lower level than that of today. But, it seemed to plant the root for future nations to see corruption as a plausible endeavour. The thought process for executing corrupt and unfair mechanics for getting an advantage over the playing field is believed to be an idea that has crossed inter-millennial boundaries.

Change in Ideology

In 1892, a man named Pierre de Coubertin saw the reinvigoration of the Ancient Olympic Games as a means of promoting various ethical, moral, and societal ideologies through sport that fell in accordance to the Olympic Movement. At first, the Games fell prey to becoming a sideshow to greater world events such as the World's Fair during the early part of the Twentieth century. Considering the fact the Olympics were actively growing, and becoming more successful, it was not until the 1936 Berlin Games that the Olympics had been on the map. These Games were the first to link their political ideologies and the Olympics in the hopes to use such as a global soft power of sorts.²⁵ To explain, the German government used the Games as a means of officially linking Nazi propaganda and nationalistic influence on the Games themselves. The Berlin Games posed the first instance of linking political ideologies with the Games themselves and, in doing so, provided another incentive for nations to host the Games. Such a drastic shift in incentive and ideology made more nations ready to accept the benefits of hosting the Games. Regardless of what means were necessary. The bidding process began to become extremely competitive. Host nations themselves began to consider colluding with the IOC members as a method of gaining advantage over other nations. This very change in ideology meant that the corruption was gaining traction as a means of gaining advantages over other nations.

22 <https://www.Olympic.org/news/international-forum-for-sports-integrity-steps-up-action-to-prevent-competition-manipulation-and-corruption-in-sport>

23 <https://www.penn.museum/sites/Olympics/Olympicorigins.shtml>

24 <https://newrepublic.com/article/135698/since-ancient-greece-Olympics-bribery-gone-hand-hand>

25 <http://time.com/4421865/Olympics-cost-history/>

The impact of the newfound change in ideology only escalated in the years to come. For instance, the bidding process began to attract exponentially more nations and, therefore, interest in hosting grew quite significantly. With events like the 1984 Olympics showed nations that the Games can be a lucrative endeavor; one that can stimulate the economy but also help to develop the nations as a whole, nations began to become more attracted to the prospect of hosting the Games. This officially marked the start of a new age of the Olympics, one that was dominated by host cities looking to contribute to their profits rather than display their international Olympic pride.

The Role of Corruption in the Bidding Process

It is important to note that the role of corruption in the bidding process has existed since the 1960's and is not necessarily a recent concept. Although widespread reports suggest that corruption had a place in the bidding process earlier, it was not until 1996 that this was all but confirmed. To enumerate, William Payne, the co-chairman for the Atlanta Olympics said, "Today seem(s) inappropriate but at the time reflected the prevailing practice in the selection process and an extremely competitive environment. Those kinds of practices should not be permitted in the competition for future Olympic bids."²⁶ A statement made by the chairman of the Atlanta Olympics not only suggested that some sort of bribery was necessary in securing the bid, but that it was commonplace within the IOC. A leaked IOC document all but confirmed the presence of corruption in the organization for previous decades. Another instance of corruption was the highly publicized Salt Lake City scandal that shook the IOC and Olympic organizing committees around the world. It is estimated that more than \$1 million in cash, scholarships, gifts and other inducements were provided to IOC members to boost Salt Lake City's bid.²⁷ There were six members of the organization that were inevitably put up for expulsion as a means of cleansing the IOC. The presence of corruption has inevitably grown into more of a common occurrence inside the IOC and must be officially combatted in order to restore peace to the process.

Current Situation

The IOC has remained, for the better part of a century, a club for the athletic elite to converse on their status amongst themselves, without having to consult any greater power.²⁸ In the status quo, the decisions made in regards to the bidding process has remained within the committee, even as corruption and other forms of bias persisted. As documented in a leaked report from the IOC, corruption has existed within the organization with little to no actions being taken to combat such. Although efforts have been taken in order to mediate the effects of corruption in the process, the issue continues to plague the committee and, therefore, shroud the good name of the Olympic Movement.

There appears to be a variety of reasons for the increasingly difficult nature of the problems surrounding corruption but most rely on the organization of the IOC.²⁹ Although the committee has taken steps to mediate the effects of corruption upon the committee, most efforts have been done in vain. There seem to inherent flaws in how the measures that dictate the regulation of corruption within the IOC have been regulated. For instance, the Ethics Commission, and the IOC 2000 Commission are largely made up of the same members and, therefore, provide little to no effect in combating the effects of corruption in the organization. Despite the previously mentioned efforts of former IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC continues to be fraught with corruption. There must be either a reformation of the current

26 <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/722775/IOC-culture-of-corruption-attacked.html>

27 <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865629546/Salt-Lake-Olympic-scandal-set-a-precedent-for-US-prosecution-of-FIFA.html>

28 <http://www.nytimes.com/1999/02/20/sports/Olympics-reform-process-could-change-entire-ioc-structure.html>

29 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279891907_An_Agency_Theory_Perspective_on_Corruption_in_Sport_The_Case_of_the_International_Olympic_Committee

mechanisms in place or the implementation of additional protocols to commissions in monitoring the corruption. Seeing as though nations have been taking advantage of the bidding process (, such as those presented by Qatar and Beijing. The mechanism is in dire need of reform. If the IOC fails to adequately address the concerns of all of its residual claimants, the future of the Olympic Movement might be irreparably harmed by the opportunistic behavior of its own members.³⁰

It is important to note, the bidding process for the Olympic Games can be described as a competitive endeavor. In a world where the Olympic Games pose a potential boost to both infrastructural and financial institutions, the process has become as rigorous as it is prestigious. In addition to this, nations take advantage of the IOC members themselves in an attempt to gain the hosting privileges for themselves. For instance, it is widely speculated that nations such as Rio and Qatar used potential weak spots in the bidding process to secure their hosting abilities. Seeing as though the phenomenon exists and persists in the committee, action must be taken against such. In the status quo, the mechanisms provide fairly small improvements to the problem and can often provide a sense of false security for the IOC. For example, the Ethics Commission and the IOC 2000 Commission both fulfill the previously stated requirements. On the hand, the committee should look towards major improvements in its stance towards the issue, and may see a rehaul in the bidding process as one such advancement.

An important concept in looking at corruption is the consideration of the opportunistic nature of the IOC. The changes in the governance of the IOC and the bid selection process are an attempt by the IOC to deter some of the opportunistic behaviors that have been long-standing occurrences among IOC members.³¹ However, the considerable increase in IOC sanctioned efforts to the hinder the impact of corruption has been minimal. For instance, the establishment of the Ethics Commission was supposed to be a monumental event in combating corruption. The purpose of the committee was to investigate any incidents that potentially question an IOC member's Code of Conduct or actions in relation to the Code of Ethics. Likewise, the commission was supposedly an investigative body limiting the effects of corruption. Nonetheless, in the history of the commission, only one member has been sanctioned. The ineffectiveness of the current mechanisms poses delegates with a unique situation. They must consider the morale and nature of the IOC while trying to combat the overarching issue of corruption. Finding a balance between the factors would be monumental in achieving a solution in relation to the issues at hand.

UN Involvement

The very existence of Corruption shrouds the legitimacy of the International Olympic Committee and creates a false sense of the Olympic Movement. With full knowledge of such, the IOC has taken steps to mediate the effects of corruption on the bidding process. The actions taken by the IOC are not all done in vain, but have shown to have minimal impacts on the concept thus far. For the most part, the actions taken have been in direct response to a specific case of corruption. They but have not, however, caused significant change to the problem as a whole.

The first well-documented case of IOC action in combating corruption was in direct relation to the Salt Lake City Scandal (SLCO). The corruption scandal shook the IOC to its core and saw that action needed to be taken in order to mediate the damage that had been done. At the time, the IOC saw that a thorough investigation needed to be conducted in order to rid the committee of any potentially corrupt members.

30 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279891907_An_Agency_Theory_Perspective_on_Corruption_in_Sport_The_Case_of_the_International_Olympic_Committee

31 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279891907_An_Agency_Theory_Perspective_on_Corruption_in_Sport_The_Case_of_the_International_Olympic_Committee

After the findings concluded that Salt Lake bidders gave cash, travel coverage, medical care, and other lavish gifts to try to win votes³², six members of the IOC were expelled from the committee expulsion. This expulsion of members due to corruption was the first of its kind in the IOC's history. Thus, marking a new era of zero tolerance and restoring the five rings. In addition to this, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the IOC at the time, was quoted in saying, "It is my firm conviction that, unless we act quickly, decisively and unanimously... the damage which may be done to the Olympic movement and to the IOC as a result of recent disclosures will be very, very serious,"³³The incident and its response from the committee showed the world that the IOC was serious about combating corruption, however, the concept is very difficult to get rid of.

Long-Term Efforts

Although corruption is seemingly alive today, the IOC has taken a variety of measures throughout the years to combat it. Firstly, the IOC Ethics Commission was established in 1999 to promote and upkeep the ethical principles of the Olympic Movement.³⁴ In doing so, the IOC created a regulatory body of sorts to safeguard the ethics of the committee and to oust those who pose a liability towards such. The commission indirectly regulates corruption within the IOC and helps the mediation of such effects. In February 2016, the IOC saw the need to add several additions to the Ethics Commission's respective powers and saw the need to further its independence. This was a step that would further its pursuit to put an end to corruption.

In a post-SLCO world, the IOC saw itself strengthen its stance against corruption quite significantly. Another action the committee conducted was the implementation of a new bidding process, one that relies on an independent committee. This committee is made up of eight IOC members including permanent members, athletes, and a representative of the Winter Sports Federation and the National Olympic Committee. The committee now chooses the host city.³⁵ In addition, the effects of corruption were further mediated due to the increased awareness the IOC showed in regards to the topic. Another instance of direct involvement by the International Olympic Committee was the implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020. To summarize, the Agenda was implemented as a means of restoring the glory of the Olympic Movement and make the committee as efficient as possible. The implementation of such an agenda marked the most significant recent action against corruption on behalf of the IOC. However, the actions of the IOC, thus far, have not eradicated the entire concept of corruption from the committee. Delegates must consider past IOC involvement when thinking of solutions and build upon the foundation set forth by previous precedents.

Seeking Resolution

Short-Term Solutions

The entire concept of corruption in choosing host cities relies on reform to come from the IOC in order to strengthen existing or potentially new mechanisms for regulation. The roots of the problem attacks the status quo and targets potentially corrupt IOC members. The collusion between both nations and members must be stopped in order to prevent any bias in the voting process. Delegates may consider more rigid punishments for those nations that attempt to collude with members as a means of swaying votes. Although inducing greater punishments for those nations that attempt to corrupt the system seems reasonable, it must be done in conjunction with other solutions. Simply put, increasing punishment, although practical, will not provide adequate incentive for nations to stop colluding and may be a detriment to the already limited field of host worthy candidates.

32 <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/1999/mar/17/ioc-expels-members-bribes-scandal>

33 [Ibid](#)

34 <https://www.Olympic.org/ethics-commission>

35 <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/1999/jan/25/Olympic-bribes-scandal-investigation>

In coordination with the aforementioned potential avenues of solution, delegates must consider a more holistic approach when looking at this topic. The IOC must consider recycling past precedent, such as past commissions, and put it to use in the current day. Delegates can look at the actions of the committee when addressing the SLCO scandal and the multi-faceted approach taken at the time in order to combat the issue of corruption. For instance, measures can be taken in terms of further investigation on the members of the IOC in order to rid the committee of potentially corrupt members. One major method of accomplishing such would be through the implementation of shorter sentences for IOC members. Although rather radical, these measures are increasingly practical and can help mediate the level of liability the IOC faces in regards to corruption. The mechanisms for conducting such already exists and can be used in order to hinder the effects of corruption on the bidding process. Further extension of the current tools of the IOC can be used as a means of monitoring IOC members. The paradigm for change already exists in the short-term and, therefore, needs to be discussed and implemented to increase transparency in the bidding process. The ambiguity and unclarity of the status quo enables concepts like corruption to thrive. Delegates must consider multi-faceted solutions for solving one of the most fundamental causes of corruption, a non-transparent system.

Long-Term Solutions

There are a number of radical solutions that seem to be gaining steam in the international community to completely eliminate the existence of corruption in the bidding process. Firstly, the entire principle of setting up a single host city to be host for all the Olympic Games seems to be a radical solution towards corruption. A singular Olympic city would eliminate the bidding process as a whole, meaning this would get rid of the corruption that is associated with it. However, the singular Olympic venue would mean that greater demographics would not be allowed to share the Games and would hinder the IOC's ability to share the Olympic Movement. Also, the entire basis for the creation of the multi-venued Games meant that the Olympics could serve as a positive impact for the selected host cities and the creation of a single Olympic venue goes against those very principles. Delegates must consider the entire precedent set forth by the IOC and compare those with the issue of combating corruption when discussing solutions. Additionally, the goal of the committee would be to essentially reform the bidding process in order to create fairness and equality for all parties involved in it.³⁶ Although a complete overhaul of the process would be ideal for some, delegates should discuss the specific areas in which the process should be reformed and methods of completing this. Also, recommendations and further additions to existing paradigms would be seen as favourable in combating the ongoing issue that is corruption. The entire goal of this topic is to try to completely solve the issue that has plagued the committee for far too long and it is recommended that delegates attempt to find new and innovative solutions to a persistent problem.

Bloc Positions

In the IOC, the general consensus amongst most nations is that the corruption involved in the bidding process must be eradicated in order to restore the glory of the Olympic Movement. However, the economic levels of the nations, as well as their said reliance on the Olympics, plays a factor in determining the importance of corruption and their stance against it. Although not completely solidified, the economic level of a country plays into the individual country's stance in regards to the topics at hand.

36 <http://www.nytimes.com/1999/02/20/sports/Olympics-reform-process-could-change-entire-ioc-structure.html>

LEDCs Willing to Host

These nations do not necessarily possess the means to contribute to the corruption that continues to plague the IOC. In fact, the Olympics provides their nations with various benefits such as those presented by the Olympic Movement as well as the fiscal and developmental benefits that the Games pose to their respective host cities. They simply do not stand a chance in the bidding process if the status quo is not changed. To be frank, the countries have little to no chance in hosting if the issue of corruption is not solved. Also, they would like to see significant change brought about to the bidding process and greater punishment in regards to those guilty of collusion.

Economically Unstable Countries

Although these nations see the Games in a positive light, they simply lack the resources to bid or host such a grand event. The Games could be a great investment for the country, however, unless they take part in a joint bid in some respect, the prospect of hosting seems unrealistic. The status quo, in regards to hosting, does not necessarily affect them and is of little concern to these nations. Regardless of such, they would still reap the benefits of the Olympic Movement and hope for fairness in the bidding process.

MEDCs Skeptical of Hosting

Although fully capable of playing host to the Olympic Games, these nations do not find the endeavour to be useful and often times avoid the process in general. The act of hosting the Games entails various benefits, but these nations choose to reap such benefits from other methods. The nations see the current voting process as an unfair process in which only larger nations see benefits from. This bloc is a vested stakeholder in the name of the Olympic Games as they send athletes to compete. Due to this, they are completely for the reformation of the bidding process but are not as enthusiastic about the concept as other nations.

MEDCs Willing to Host

These nations possess the means to contribute to the corruption that continues to plague the IOC. The public stance of these nations is to go against the very fundamentals of corruption within the IOC and to be in favour of all measures to counteract the effects of such. The countries see the Olympics as a means of furthering their economic or infrastructural institutions but would also not like to incorporate themselves in any corruption of sorts. However, these very nations appear to be the main perpetrators of corruption within the IOC and possess the means to contribute to these very practices. The benefits of the Olympics are seen by these countries and the status quo benefits these groups of nations as it stands, but could be tweaked in order to ensure the Olympic Movement doesn't lose merit.

Discussion Questions

How can the IOC balance the ethical concerns that plague their nations with the level of opportunism that exists within the organization? Can a balance be struck within reasonable means? Is it necessary for the IOC to do such?

Considering past circumstances in relation to corruption within the IOC, how can the committee use past knowledge to lead future change in this respect?

Discuss the viability of establishing a permanent venue for hosting the Olympic Games? What are the Pros and Cons? How does it impede on the purpose of the Olympic Movement?

How exactly does the very idea of corruption impede on the declarations made in the Olympic Movement and how does the concept change the fundamental principles of the IOC?

Seeing as though the mechanisms for action currently exist and have been implemented as a result of past resolution, how can they be altered or changed to work more efficiently in fighting corruption?

How can the committee find a balance between compromise and a well thought-out solution? Is there a combination of solutions that must be implemented to cover all bases? How can they work together to tackle corruption?

Seeing as the problem of corruption has existed since the inception of the IOC without further action, what issues about the structure of the IOC disable any solution from being reached? How can delegates sort out these structural flaws in order to tackle corruption?

Further Reading

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/438532/rooting-corruption-out-Olympics>

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/722775/IOC-culture-of-corruption-attacked.html>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/leighsteinberg/2016/09/13/recent-concerns-over-the-Olympic-bidding-process-are-not-justified/#26585e51124c>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279891907_An_Agency_Theory_Perspective_on_Corruption_in_Sport_The_Case_of_the_International_Olympic_Committee

<http://www.nytimes.com/1999/02/20/sports/Olympics-reform-process-could-change-entire-ioc-structure.html>

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