

A TIME OF SUCCESS AND PRIDE: FROM PARIS (1924) TO PARIS (2024)- REPRESENTATIVES OF SERBIA AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

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SUMMARY

The history of the Summer Olympic Games is too rich and deserves a lot of space and attention. Between the two Olympics in Paris (1924-2024), exactly 100 years have passed. A whole century. This city was the organizer of the Olympic Games in 1900, when France won the most medals. This work and the idea of extracting the names of medal winners from these areas from the multitude of data is a modest contribution to the preservation of the Olympic spirit. For all athletes, going to the Olympic Games is a dream come true. The intention is to encourage already established athletes to fulfill the norm and find themselves in the selection of Serbia in 2024 at the Olympics in Paris. And so that they never forget the message: Persistence, will and love for sports are the drivers of many sporting and life activities and feats. The history of Olympism, scholarly works and books, will celebrate the pride of each Olympic medal-winning nation.

Key words: Olympic Games, Paris, Pierre de Coubertin, IOC, Yugoslavia.

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INTRODUCTION

For the History of Olympism, the information about the beginning of the Olympic Games, which were created in Greece in 776 BC, is significant. The Games then gain all-greek importance and the List of Winners begins to be kept. They were held every fourth year, in the summer months, every 1417 days. They lasted

until 396 BC when they were abolished by the Roman emperor Theodosius II. The games became a moral and political act, and above all a religious demand.¹

The first congress of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) began on June 16, 1894 in Paris and lasted seven days. 2000 people attended, including 79 official delegates from 12 countries. It was then accepted that the First Olympic Games would be organized in 1896 in Athens. The next one, in honor of Pierre de Coubertin, was announced four years later in France. The IOC was elected at the Congress and had 14 members. The Greek Demetrius Vikelas was elected as the first president, and Pierre de Coubertin as the secretary. This Congress made probably the most important decision in its history: "In order to nurture and develop physical exercise and fraternal cooperation of all peoples, international competitions called the Olympic Games will be organized on the model of the classical Olympic Games and will be held every four years, at which the cultural nations of the world are invited."²

The slogan "It is important to participate and not to win" was used for the first time at the Games in London in 1908. It is most often attributed to Baron Pierre de Coubertin and his supporters. The motto "Faster, higher, stronger" was the first trademark of the IOI in Antwerp in 1920. In this city, on August 14, 1920, at the Olympic Games, the white Olympic flag with five Olympic circles (blue, yellow, black, green, red) appeared for the first time, which denote the connection of all five continents with the Olympic idea. Those Olympic rings are on the IOC flag. In the top row are blue (Europe), black (Africa), and red (America), and in the bottom row, yellow (Asia) and green (Australia).³

It should be remembered, in particular, about the results that Serbian athletes have achieved as members of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY) and Serbia and Montenegro (SCG) selections in the past hundred years, and that Olympic Committee of Serbia (OCS) is the legal successor of Yugoslavia Olympic Committee (YOC). This work also reminds of the results of athletes from Serbia, which they achieved as members of the SFRY and SCG selection.⁴ By using the texts of witnesses to the events, especially at the 1988 Olympics in South Korea, photo illustrations from that time were added. Why a special place for the results in Seoul? At the 1988 Games, Yugoslavia won 12 medals, but in very strong

¹ Савић Звездан. *Историја олимпизма са олимпјским васпитањем*. Ниш, 2008. Издавач: ГИП „Тимок“ Д.О.О. Књажевац.

² Живановић, Ненад. *Историја физичке културе*. Ниш, 2002. Издавач: ПАНОПТИКУМ.

³ Савић Звездан. *Историја олимпизма са олимпјским васпитањем*. Ниш, 2008. Издавач: ГИП „Тимок“ Д.О.О.

⁴ *Водич кроз Олимпијске игре*. Додатак Политике, 2004. године.

competition (159 countries with 8, 465 athletes).⁵ In Los Angeles, Yugoslavia won a record number of 18 medals, but in the competition of 140 countries with 6,797 athletes. Even without the participation of the selection team, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) responded to the boycott of the Games in Moscow in 1980 by boycotting the Americans.⁶

METHOD OF WORK

In this paper, a theoretical and descriptive analysis was applied.

The subject of the research is the results of athletes from Serbia at the previous 32 Olympics, where it participated under the names SFRY and SCG, and since 2008, as an independent state.

The goal of the research is to present the medal winners at the previous 32 Olympics through theoretical and descriptive analysis.

RESULTS WITH DISCUSSION

Yugoslavia and Serbian Olympians

Under the flag of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, athletes from these areas participated (1920-1936) with the tricolor and pentagram of the SFRY (1948-1992 only at the Winter Olympic Games).⁷ Independent participants were at the Summer Olympic Games in Spain in 1992, under the flag of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia we participated (1996-2002), and as the joint state of Serbia and Montenegro (SCG) (2004-2006).⁸ Until Tokio and the Summer Olympic Games in 2020, athletes from the former Yugoslavia, SCG and the Republic of Serbia won 119 medals at the Summer Olympic Games, and four medals at the Winter Olympic Games, a total of 123 medals. The highest number was won by shooters (14), followed by water polo players with 13 medals, 11 each by gymnastics, boxing and basketball.⁹

⁵ Исто

⁶ Исто

⁷ sr.wikipedia.org/sr-ec/Југославија_на_олимпијским_играма.

⁸ Ibid

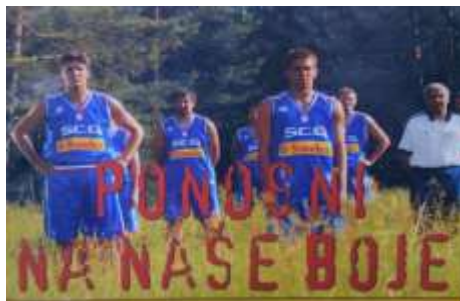
⁹ Ibid

Serbia and Serbian Olympians

Gold medals for independent Serbia were won by Milica Mandić (London, 2012) in taekwondo, wrestler Davor Štefanek (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), men's water polo team of Serbia (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), Milica Mandić (Tokyo, 2020), Jovana Preković in karate (Tokyo, 2020), men's water polo team of Serbia (Tokyo, 2020). Silver: Milorad Čavić, swimming (Beijing, 2008), Ivana Maksimović in shooting (London, 2012), Tijana Bogdanović, taekwondo (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), Marko Tomićević and Milenko Zorić kayak and canoe (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), women's Serbian volleyball team (Rio de Janeiro, 2016) and Damir Mikec in archery (Rio de Janeiro, 2016).¹⁰ Bronze: Novak Djokovic (Beijing, 2008), men's water polo team of Serbia (Beijing, 2008), men's water polo team (London, 2012), Ivana Španović, long jump (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), Andrija Zlatić, shooting (London, 2012), Serbian women's basketball team (Rio de Janeiro, 2016), Tijana Bogdanović, taekwondo (Tokyo, 2020), 3x3 basketball (Tokyo, 2020).¹¹ In total, the Republic of Serbia won 24 medals at the Summer Olympic Games in four appearances: 6 gold, 7 silver and 11 bronze medals. Due to international sanctions, Serbian athletes were not allowed to participate in Atlanta (USA) in 1994.¹²



A guide through the Olympic Games.
Source: Politika (Belgrade, 2004).



Selection of basketball players of Serbia and Montenegro, bronze medal (2004). Photo: Politika.

Performances and medals of Serbian athletes until independence

In the summer of 2024, it will be exactly one hundred years since the Summer Olympic Games, the eight in a row, in Paris, held from May 4 to July 27, 1924 in the

¹⁰ sr.wikipedia.org/sr-ec/Србија_на_олимпијским_играма.

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Ibid

capital of France.¹³ The most medals, first for the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, were won by gymnasts Leon Štukelj, two gold medals in Paris, in the gymnastic all-around and on the beam. Gymnasts were also the pride of the country at the Ninth Summer Olympic Games in Amsterdam (from May 17 to August 12, 1928). No fewer than five medals were won: Leon Štukelj gold (gymnastics- circles), Josip Primožić silver (gymnastics-loom). Bronze: Yugoslavia, team (gymnastics-all-around), Leon Štukelj (gymnastics-all-around) and Stane Dergenc (gymnastics-valut).¹⁴ At the 11th Summer Olympic Games in Berlin (August 1-16, 1936), Leon Štukelj won a silver medal for the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. For the first time in history, the Olympic flame was lit in ancient Olympia and carried by a relay race to the Olympic Stadium in Berlin, where it burned until the official opening of the Games.¹⁵

The host of the next 12th Olympiad, in 1940, was initially designated Tokyo, but due to the Sino-Japanese War, the organization was given to Helsinki. And again due to the beginning of the Second World War, they were not held in the capital of Finland. The city of Athens in Greece was the main candidate to host the 13th Olympic Games in 1944. In 1939, the games were first awarded to London, but World War II postponed the gathering of the world's best athletes for 1948 in London, the capital of Great Britain.¹⁶ The representatives of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia won two silver medals at the Summer Olympic Games in London (July 29-August 14, 1948).

In the individual competition, Ivan Gubijan was second in athletics-hammer, second place was also won by the football team of Yugoslavia. In Helsinki, at the 15th Games (July 19- August 3, 1952), the first gold medal was won for Yugoslavia in the team sport: coxless rowing (Šegović, Trojanović, Valente, Bonačić).¹⁷ Silver medals were won by the Yugoslav water polo team and the Yugoslav football team. Athletes of the USSR participated in the Games for the first time, and from Helsinki, the fantastic rivalry between the two superpowers in sports, the USA and the USSR, begins.¹⁸ Unfortunately, the fight for primacy on the Olympic stage led to the boycott of the games in Moscow in 1980 (the USA selections were absent) and Los Angeles in 1984 (the USSR national team did not participate). At the 16th Summer Olympic Games (XVI) in Melbourne (November 22-December 8, 1956), Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia won three silver medals: Franjo Mihalić (athletic- marathon), Yugoslavia-water polo and Yugoslavia-football. In Rome

¹³ *Водич кроз Олимпијске игре*. Додатак Политике, 2004. године.

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ Ibid

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Ibid

¹⁸ Ibid

(August 25-September 11, 1960) on the 17th Summer Olympic Games (XVII), Yugoslavia won gold in football, and Branislav Martinović (wrestling-greek roman style) won the silver medal.¹⁹



Novak Đoković, tennis, bronze medal (Beijing, 2008). Photo: M. Stamenković



Milorad Čavić, swimming, bronze medal (Beijing, 2008).

Athletes from the SFRY won five medals at the 18th (XVIII) Games in 1964 in Tokyo, the capital of Japan.²⁰ Gold, Miroslav Cerar (gymnastics-pommel horse), Branislav Simić (wrestling-greek roman style up to 87kg), silver Yugoslavia- water polo, bronze Miroslav Cerar (gymnastics-high bar), and Branislav Martinović (wrestling-greek roman style- 63kg). Mexico City (Ciudad de Mexico) hosted the 19th (XIX) Summer Olympic Games in 1968 (October 12-27).²¹ The athletes of Federal Federative Republic of Yugoslavia recorded great results:²² gold, Yugoslavia-water polo, Đurđa Bjedov (swimming-100m breaststroke), Miroslav Cerar (gymnastics-pommel horse), silver: Yugoslavia-basketball, Đurđa Bjedov (swimming-200m breaststroke), Stevan Horvat (wrestling-greek roman 70kg) and bronze medals: Zvonko Vujin (lightweight boxing), Branislav Simić (greek-roman style wrestling, 87kg).

In Munich, FR Germany, in 1972, the 20th (XX) Summer Olympic Games were organized with the participation of 7,123 athletes from 121 countries.²³ They fought for medals and titles in 23 sports. The USSR won the most medals in 1999 (50 gold, 27 silver and 22 bronze). In the terrorist attack of the Palestinian group "Black September" on the Olympic village, two members of the Olympic mission of Israel were killed, and nine more athletes and coaches from Israel died in the

¹⁹ Ibid

²⁰ Ibid

²¹ Ibid

²² Ibid

²³ Ibid

attempt to free the hostage.²⁴ For SFRY, gold medals were won by Mate Parlov (boxing) and Yugoslavia-men's handball, silver by Josip Čorak (wrestling), and bronze medals by Milan Nenadić (wrestling) and Zvonko Vujin (boxing).²⁵



Milica Mandić, taekwondo, gold
(London, 2012, Tokyo, 2020).

Montreal hosted the 21st Summer Olympic Games (XXI) in 1976 (July 17-August 1), where athletes from Yugoslavia once again achieved great results and won nine medals, gold: Momir Petković (wrestling), Matija Ljubek (canoe 1000m), silver Tadija Kačar (boxing), Mića Frgić (wrestling) and Yugoslavia-men's basketball, bronze: Ace Rusevski (boxing), Matija Ljubek (canoe) and Slavko Obadov (judo).²⁶ In the capital of Russia, Moscow, in 1980 (July 19-August 3), the 22nd Summer Olympic Games (XXII) was organized with the participation of only 5,217 athletes from 80 countries, who competed in 203 sports disciplines, the program included 21 sports. American athletes, for the first time in history, did not participate in the Games due to the boycott by

which US President Jimmy Carter wanted to punish the USSR for military intervention in Afghanistan.²⁷ A total of 56 countries joined the boycott, but not all the countries of the Western Alliance. The USSR won 195 medals (80 gold, 69 silver and 46 bronze). Gold medals for Yugoslavia were brought by Slobodan Kačar (boxing) and Yugoslavia-men's basketball. Silver: Yugoslavia-handball players, Yugoslavia- water polo players, double sculls: Stančilov, Pančić (rowing), bronze: Yugoslavia-basketball players, Radomir Kovačević (judo), Šaban Seidi (wrestling) and a duo with the helmsman of Yugoslavia in rowing.²⁸

The SFRY representatives achieved a fantastic balance of medals of the 23rd Summer Olympic Games in 1984 (July 28-August 12) in Los Angeles, where 140 countries participated with 6,797 athletes in 23 sports.²⁹ The USA team won the most medals, 174 (83 gold, 61 silver and 30 bronze). SFRY won a record number of 18 medals (7 gold, 4 silver, 7 bronze). Gold: Yugoslavia-handball players, Yugoslavia-female handball players, Yugoslavia- water polo, Šaban Trstena

²⁴ Ibid

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Ibid

²⁷ Ibid

²⁸ Ibid

²⁹ Б92, Олимпијски специјал, 8. август 2008. године.

(wrestling), Vlado Lisjak (wrestling), Mate Ljubibek and Nišavić (canoeists), and Anton Josipović (boxing). Silver: Redžep Redžepovski (boxing), Milan Janić (kayak), Refik Memišević (wrestling), Ljubek Nišavić (doubles, canoe), bronze: Yugoslavia- football, Yugoslavia-basketball, Mirko Puzović (boxing), Azis Salihu (boxing), Jožef Tertei (wrestling), Šaban Seidi (wrestling), and duo Stanulov, Pančić (rowing).³⁰



Water polo selection of Serbia, gold (2016, 2020), bronze (2008, 2012).

Photo: N. Negovanović (S. Žurnal).

The SFRY also won a double-digit number of medals at the 24th Summer Olympic Games

(XXIV) in Seoul, the capital of South Korea (September 17-October 2) in 1988.³¹ Gold: Jasna Šekarić (shooting), Goran Maksimović (shooting), Yugoslavia-water polo, silver: Yugoslavia- basketball, Yugoslav-women's basketball, Šaban Trstena (wrestling), table tennis doubles Ilija Lupulescu, Zoran Priorac, bronze: Yugoslavia-handball players, Damir Škaro (boxing) duo Prežen, Mujkić (rowing), table tennis doubles Gordana Perkućin, Jasna Fazlić and Jasna Šekarić (shooting).³² For the athletes of SFRY, it was a painful reminder of the Summer

³⁰ Ibid

³¹ Ibid

³² Ibid

Olympic Games in Barcelona in 1992, when they performed as independent competitors and in small numbers. But even so, they won three medals in archery: Jasna Šekarić, Arenka Bider and Stevan Pletikosić won the bronze. Athletes from 169 countries competed in Spain (July 25-August 9), and the Commonwealth of Independent States (former USSR) won the most medals, 112 (45 gold, 38 silver, 29 bronze).³³



Testimonies from South Korea (Seoul, 1988).
Source: Politika (Belgrade).

Rejoicing Serbs all over the world. Texts
by a reporter from the Belgrade
newspaper Politika(Seoul, 1988).

The representative of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia also participated in the 26th Summer Olympic Games (XXVI) in Atlanta, 1996 (July 19-August 4).³⁴ 197 countries and 10,318 athletes won several medals. Gold: Aleksandra Ivošev (MK rifle-shooting), silver: Yugoslavia-basketball players, bronze: Yugoslavia-volleyball players, and Aleksandra Ivošev (shooting-air rifle).³⁵ The 27th Summer Olympic Games were held in Sydney in 2000 (September 15-October 1). Gold for Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Yugoslavia-volleyball players, silver, Jasna Šekarić (shooting-air rifle) and bronze Yugoslavia-water polo.³⁶

Volleyball players from Federal Republic of Yugoslavia won the first gold medal and joined our team sports players, water polo players, handball players and basketball players, who were already Olympic winners. In Australia (2000), a record number of countries participated (199), and athletes (10,551). USA won the most medals (97) (40 gold, 24 silver and 33 bronze).³⁷ With the name of the

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ Ibid

³⁶ Ibid

³⁷ Ibid

country SCG, our athletes performed only in Athens in 2004. Jasna Šekarić won silver (shooting), as did the SCG water polo team.³⁸

The Seoul Olympics for story and memory

Among the documents from numerous Olympics, it is worth recalling the 24th Summer Olympic Games in Seoul (September 17-October 2, 1988). Announced as the biggest sports spectacle, the Summer Olympic Games in the capital of South Korea brought together 9,627 athletes from 159 countries at the opening ceremony. This time there was no boycott either, but it was to a lesser extent than in Moscow, Los Angeles and Montreal. There were no flags of Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, Nicaragua, Ethiopia and Albania in the ceremonial parade.³⁹ The Games were opened by Roh Tae-woo, President of the Republic of Korea. As in Moscow, the flag of Yugoslavia was carried by Matija Ljubek, in front of the four-member Yugoslav delegation and 155 of our athletes. The Yugoslav Olympic delegation, which included the president of the YOC Ivan Mecanović, the members of the IOC from Yugoslavia Slobodan Filipović and Bora Stanković, the president of the Association for Physical Culture of Yugoslavia Duško Dragin and others, were at a reception with the president of the IOC Juan Antonio Samarán, and presented him with a gift, the book "Belgrade is calling", practically the candidacy of our capital city for the organizer of the Summer Olympic Games. Unfortunately, the wish of the people of Belgrade and Yugoslavia was never accepted.⁴⁰

The special reporters of the Belgrade-based "Politika" from Seoul, who daily informed the public in Yugoslavia about the most significant and interesting details from the Olympics: Zoran Popović, Slobodan Momčilović and Stojan Protić, reported extraordinary news: Goran Maksimović won his first gold.⁴¹ The twenty five year old shooter from Svetozarevo (now Jagodina, then a member of Belgrade's Partizan) won the first gold medal for Yugoslavia in Seoul and the first gold trophy for our shooting at the Olympic Games. Maksimović won gold in air rifle shooting (60 bullets).

Before Maksimović, the gold medal was already won by Jasna Šekarić. At the International Shooting Range in Taenung, a working-class district of Seoul, Yugoslavia celebrated its first gold medal with the anthem "Hey, Slavs."⁴² On the fifth day of competition in Seoul, Yugoslav sport became richer for another medal

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹ Политика, 17. септембар 1988. године.

⁴⁰ Политика, 20. септембар, 1988. године.

⁴¹ Политика, 21. септембар, 1988. године, стр. 23.

⁴² Ibid

brought to us by shooters again. Twenty three year old Osijek woman Jasna Šekarić, after the bronze in small-caliber pistol shooting, won the gold medal in her discipline, air pistol shooting, and with 489.5 rounds, set a world and Olympic record. She left behind two great competitors from the Soviet Union, Nina Salukvadze and Marina Dobrancheva, who were awarded "silver" and "bronze."⁴³ Jasna Šekarić's medal was the jubilee medal, the 25th that our athletes had won at the Summer Olympic Games until then.⁴⁴

After the swimming and gymnastics competitions, three fantastic athletes became the heroes of the 24th Summer Olympic Games in Seoul. According to the number of medals awarded, they were swimmers Christine Oto (DR Germany) and Matt Biondi (USA), as well as Romanian gymnast Daniela Silvan.⁴⁵ In their shadow were the winners in the gymnastics all-around, Soviet athletes Yelena Shushunova (two gold and one silver and bronze medal each) and Artyomov (four gold and one silver). The great German swimmer Christine Oto was the first in the history of women's swimming to win six of the most prestigious trophies.

Matt Biondi won the largest number of medals, but one less gold medal (5, 1, 1), while after a narrow defeat to Shushunova in all-around, the Romanian Silivan won three gold and two silver medals in the apparatus competition.⁴⁶

Remembering everything would take up a lot of space. One of the most beautiful headlines was: IN WATER POLO: 1. YUGOSLAVIA, 2. USA, 3. USSR!⁴⁷ In the regular course, the final match of the Olympic water polo tournament ended 6:6. In many ways, it was a repeat of the final from Los Angeles, and the goals of Igor Milanović decided. For the history of the dramatic final, the numbers remain: Yugoslavia-USA 6:6 (1:2, 1:2, 3:1, 1:1) in regular time, and after two overtimes of three minutes each-9:7 and the gold medal.⁴⁸ For the coach of Yugoslavia, Ratko Rudić, this was the second consecutive gold after Los Angeles and the 23rd Summer Olympic Games. And in Seoul, the following fought for the gold: A. Shostar, R. Posinković, D. Lušić, D. Šimenc, P. Bukić, V. Đuho, D. Andrić, M. Vičević, I. Gočanin, M. Bezmalinović, T. Paskvalin, I. Milanović and G. Radjenović.⁴⁹

The first participation of table tennis players at the Olympic Games in Seoul will remain a fond memory for sports fans in Yugoslavia. From the 24th Summer Olympic Games men's and women's doubles, they returned decorated with

⁴³ Политика, 22. септембар, 1988.

⁴⁴ Ibid

⁴⁵ Политика, 29. септембар 1988. године.

⁴⁶ Ibid

⁴⁷ Политика, 2. октобар, 1988. године.

⁴⁸ Ibid

⁴⁹ Ibid

medals. With outstanding performances, Ilije Lupulescu and Zoran Primorac won the silver medal, and Gordana Perkućin and Jasna Fazlić won the bronze medal. The men's doubles team lost the final to the Chinese, the current world and Olympic champions (Chen and Longchuan), while our table tennis players lost in the semifinals to the world's best, Chen Jing and Jiam Zhimin. In the fight for third place, the opponents were the Japanese women Hoshimo and Ishido.⁵⁰

The Olympic fraud of the century happened right at the Summer Olympics in Seoul. The winner and world record holder, Canadian Ben Johnson, was irrevocably found to have taken illegal drugs and therefore disqualified.⁵¹ This decision was made by the IOC Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Medical Commission. Ben Johnson was stripped of his gold medal.

Which he won with a new world record at 100 meters: 9.79. In the fastest 100m race in history until then, Ben Johnson won superiorly with a fantastic world record of 9.79. Second was Carl Lewis (9.92), third was Linford Christie (9.99), and fourth was Calvin Smith (9.99). Ben Johnson was suspended for two years, and his competitors Lewis, Christie and Smith won gold, silver and bronze medals.⁵² After two Olympic cycles, when in Moscow and Los Angeles the leading world powers, the USSR and the USA, divided the Olympic sports world (in 1980 and 1984), the 24th Summer Olympic Games in Seoul united the world in 1988 and under the Olympic flag was gathered by 160 countries. The credit was primarily attributed to the president of the IOC, Juan Antonio Samarano.

The final balance of medals at the Seoul Olympics (September 17-October 2, 1988), which was often attended by 159 countries with 8,466 athletes, of which 2,186 were women: 1. USSR, with a total of 132 medals (including 55 gold), 2. DR Germany with 102 medals (37 gold), 3. USA with 94 medals (36 gold).⁵³

CONCLUSION

A large number of documentaries and TV stories were published about the biggest event in the history of world sports competitions. About the heroes of the Olympic Games, from Athens (in 1896) to Paris (in 2024), feature films and numerous artistic paintings and photographs were published. And never enough testimonies, illustrations and documents from past Olympics. Each new story is eagerly awaited. Older people to remind themselves, refresh their memories, check their memory. New generations, to learn something interesting, hear and

⁵⁰ Политика, 5. октобар 1988. године.

⁵¹ Политика, 27. септембар 1988. године.

⁵² Ibid

⁵³ Ibid

remember that the spirit of unity conceived at the games in Olympia (776 BC) was interrupted in 394 AD. That the Games came to life only after 1500 years thanks to Baron Pierre de Coubertin. He wanted and managed to unite the whole world by restoring the Games. And contributed to the participants becoming heroes, fighting for an honorable victory. And in the paper, which ends with a conclusion, valuable points of interest are listed and described in a limited space.

Especially in the period from 1896-2020. year, at the Olympics where Serbian flags were carried and Serbian athletes and national teams competed. With faith, that the Olympic flame in the temple of the goddess Hera in Olympia, with the help of sunlight and metal mirrors, will burn for many more years.

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