

Olympic Games

Olympic Games are more than 2,500 years old.

They began in 776 BC. The Games are called the Olympics because they started in Olympia, Greece.

All wars were stopped in this time.

So, the Olympic Games became the symbol of peace and friendship.

The games took place every four years for more than 1,000 years, until the Romans stopped them in 394 AD.



A Greek legend says that Hercules, son of Zeus, started Olympic games

- According to Greek mythology Heracles had already accomplished his twelve labours, had become free from the service for Eurystheus, when he decided to avenge himself on Augeas for he had not given the promised reward to Heracles. His revenge was terrible. After his victory Heracles gathered his forces and all his rich booty, made sacrifices to the Olympic Gods and founded the Olympic Games. Since that time they have been held in the Holy valley which had been planted by Heracles with olive trees dedicated to the goddess Athena-Pallada.

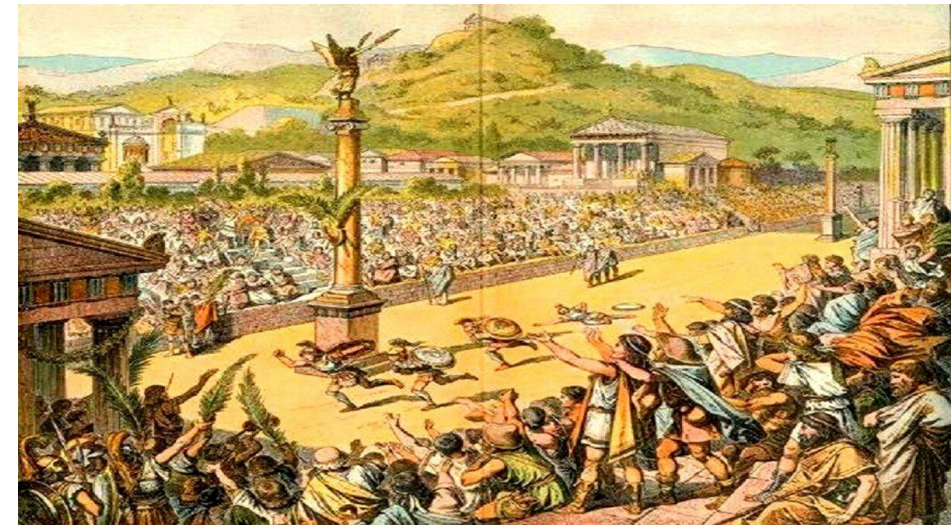


The history of the games

Best athletes arrived to Olympia to compete in running, long jumps, throwing of discus and javelin (['dʒævli:n] копье), wrestling, fighting (boxing) and races.

Only men could take part in the Olympic Games. Women were not allowed even to watch the competitions at the stadium.

Winners were called «olympionics». They were awarded with olive wreaths ([ri:θ] –венок) and cups of olive oil.

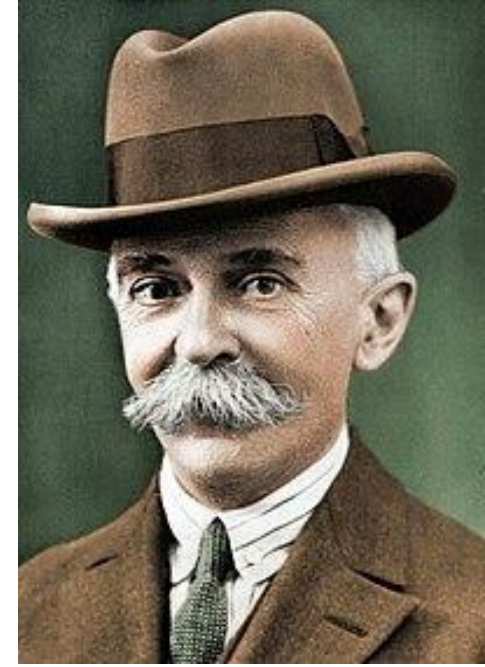


The history of the games

The Games were stopped in 389 A.D. by the Roman Emperor Theodore I the Great. He ordered “to stop this pagan abomination” (остановить эту языческую мерзость). In 426 Olympia was burnt by order of the emperor. All luxurious buildings and the temple of Zeus became ruins. Only the excavations of the 19th century gave us the possibility to get the correct picture of former Olympia and Olympic Games.



- Pierre de Coubertin, a young French nobleman, brought the Olympic Games back to life.
- He organised the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. Of course, the first competition was held in Greece , Athens.
- [Baron Pierre de Coubertin](#) founded the [International Olympic Committee](#) (IOC) in 1894.
- They agreed that every four years the Olympics would move to other great cities of the world.



1896 год - открытие Первых Олимпийских игр



Women didn't take part in competitions till 1912.



the Olympic symbols

Five interlocked rings of blue, black, red (the upper row), yellow and green (the lower row) colours symbolize the five continents united into the Olympic movement. De Coubertin suggested this symbol in 1913 and since 1920 it has been used.

What do the Olympic rings mean?

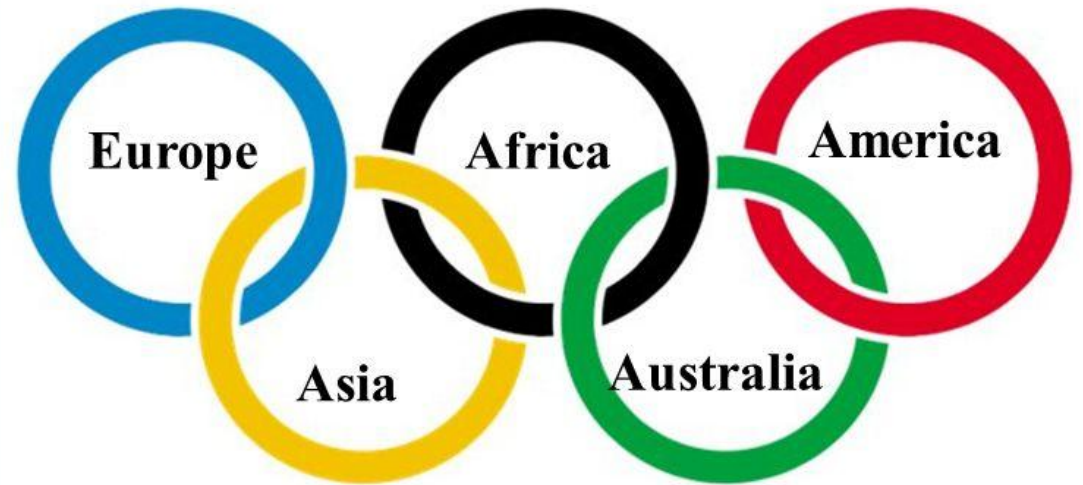


The five interlocking rings stand for friendship of five continents.

Olympic rings

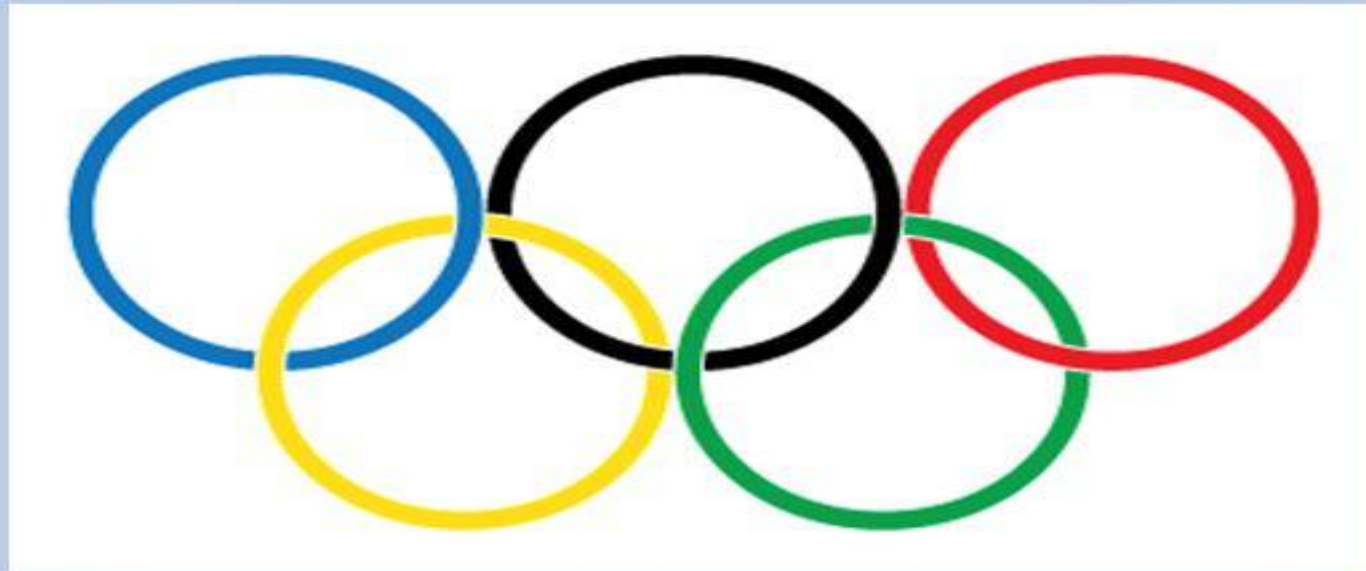
- The blue ring symbolizes Europe, the black ring – Africa, the red ring – America, the yellow ring – Asia, the green ring – Australia.

Modern Olympic Symbol



The Olympic rings were created in 1913 and present the five continents.

The Olympic symbol, better known as the Olympic rings, consists of five intertwined rings and represents the unity of the five inhabited continents (Africa, America, Asia, Australia, Europe).

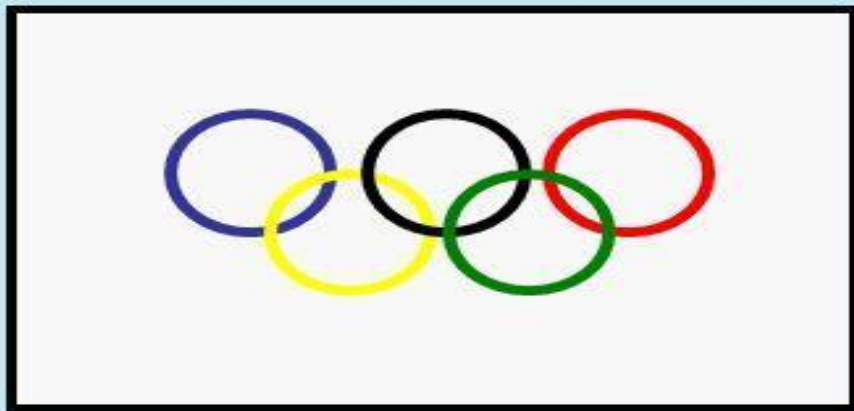


The colors—Blue, Yellow, Black, Green, & Red — over a white field forms the Olympic flag. These colors were chosen because every nation had at least one of them on its national flag.

Olympic symbols



Olympic flag is a white banner with five connected rings



Blue ring – Europe

Black ring – Africa

Red ring – America

Yellow ring – Asia

Green ring – Australia

White banner is the symbol of peace during the Olympic Games

The motto of the Olympic Games is

«**Faster! Higher! Stronger!**»

Do you know when and where the Olympic Games took place?

I – 1896 Athens, Greece
II – 1900 Paris, France
III – 1904 Saint Louis, USA
V – 1912 Stockholm, Sweden
VII – 1920 Antwerp, Belgium
VIII – 1924 Paris, France
IX – 1928 Amsterdam, Netherlands
X – 1932 New York City, USA
XI – 1936 Berlin, Germany
XIV – 1948 London, Great Britain
XV – 1952 Helsinki, Finland
XVI – 1956 Melbourne, Australia
XVII – 1960 Rome, Italy
XVIII – 1964 Tokyo, Japan
XIX – 1968 Mexico, Mexico
XX – 1972 Munich, West Germany
XXI – 1976 Montreal, Canada
XXII – 1980 Moscow, Russia
XXIII – 1984 Los Angeles, USA
XXIV – 1988 Seoul, South Korea
XXV – 1992 Barcelona, Spain
XXVI – 1996 Atlanta, USA
XXVII – 2000 Sydney, Australia
XXVIII – 2004 Athens, Greece

The Olympic Games VI, XII, XIII were cancelled because of World War I and II.

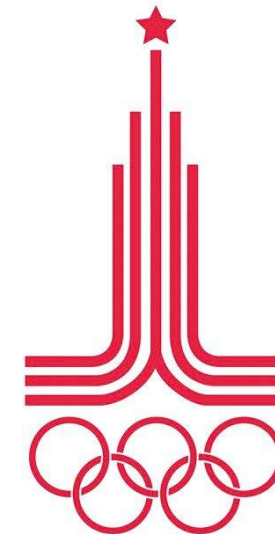
Russia joined the Olympic movement in 1952. Since then it has won many gold, silver, and bronze medals. The Soviet Union hosted the [1980 Summer Olympics](#) in [Moscow](#), and the Russian Federation hosted the [2014 Winter Olympics](#) in [Sochi](#).



Mascot of the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games

The **Olympic Mishka** is the name of the [Russian Bear mascot](#) of the [1980 Moscow Olympic Games](#).

During the closing ceremony of the 1980 Olympic Games, Misha the bear appeared with a tear in its eye.



Игры
XXII Олимпиады
МОСКВА
1980

Symbols of the Olympic Games 2014: A White Hare, A Snow Leopard, A White Bear.



Olympic Medal Count



1	 People's Republic of China	38	31	18	87	2
2	 United States of America	36	39	33	108	1
3	 Japan	27	12	17	56	5
4	 ROC	20	26	23	69	3
5	 Great Britain	20	21	22	63	4
6	 Australia	17	7	22	46	6
7	 Germany	10	11	16	37	8
8	 Netherlands	10	11	12	33	9
9	 Italy	10	10	19	39	7
10	 France	9	12	11	32	10
11	 New Zealand	7	6	7	20	12



International
Olympic
Committee

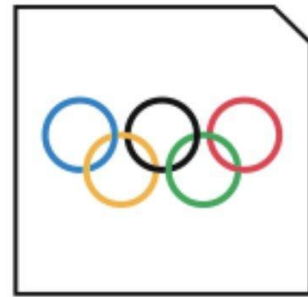
The **International Olympic Committee (IOC;** [French](#): *Comité international olympique*, **CIO**) is a non-governmental [sports organisation](#) based in [Lausanne](#), [Switzerland](#). It is constituted in the form of an association under the [Swiss Civil Code](#) (articles 60–79). Founded by [Pierre de Coubertin](#) and [Demetrios Vikelas](#) in 1894, it is the authority responsible for organising the modern Summer and Winter [Olympic Games](#).¹²

The official emblem of the Olympic Games is a colourful flag with five interlinked rings. The colours of the rings are blue, red, yellow, green and black.

- In the 20th and 21st centuries appeared the [Paralympic Games](#) for athletes with disabilities, the [Youth Olympic Games](#) for athletes aged 14 to 18, the five Continental games ([Pan American](#), [African](#), [Asian](#), [European](#), and [Pacific](#)), and the [World Games](#) for sports that are not contested in the Olympic Games



2012 London Paralympic Games 29 Aug ~ 9 Sept



Traditions

- One tradition at the beginning of the Olympic Games is bringing the Olympic **torch** through the **host city** (the city where the games will be held) to light the flame at the arena.
- As a symbol of spreading peace, athletes set free doves during the inaugural ceremony of Olympic Games?



Summer and Winter Games

- Summer and Winter Games are held separately. There are always several cities wishing to host the Games. The International Committee selects the most suitable. After that the city of the Games starts preparations for the competitions, constructs new sports facilities, stadiums, hotels, press centers. Thousands of athletes, journalists and guests come to the Games, and it takes great efforts to arrange everything. There is always an interesting cultural programme of concerts, exhibitions, festivals, etc., for each Games.

Paris was chosen to host the 2024 Olympics with Los Angeles awarded the 2028 Games



**Paris will host the 2024 Games
- 100 years after their last
Olympics**

