



TOKYO 2020

The Radioactive Olympics

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IPPNW Germany's message to IOC President Bach: "Stop the baseball and softball competitions in Fukushima City and the Olympic torch relay in radioactively contaminated areas."

The idea of Olympic peace and mutual understanding between nations and people is an important aspect for us as a peace organization. But the Japanese government is using the Olympic Games to deflect from the ongoing nuclear catastrophe in the Northeast of the country. Unfortunately, for symbolic as well as political reasons, sports arenas in Fukushima, just 50 km away from the ruins of the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, were selected to hold softball and baseball competitions. The Olympic torch is planned to be carried through areas still full of radioactive hotspots, starting on 26th March 2020 in the so-called J-Village, only 20 km from the reactors.

In 2011, at Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, multiple nuclear meltdowns took place, spreading radioactivity across Japan and the Pacific Ocean – a catastrophe comparable only to the nuclear meltdown of Chernobyl. The situation in the contaminated regions remains volatile, the crippled reactors are still not under control. Every day, they release radioactivity into the environment, threatening the health of the population. Chernobyl is a blueprint for people's future suffering in Japan.

After the meltdowns, the Japanese government raised the legally permitted radioactive dose levels for the general public from 1 mSv/a to 20 mSv/a in order to prevent further evacuations and to pressure evacuees into returning to decontaminated areas. The Japanese authorities are violating international radiation protection regulations with this policy. Especially children and pregnant women are facing relevant health risks as a result.

We stand in solidarity with all those affected by radioactivity in Japan. The Olympic Movement needs to address their situation. We oppose this attempt to use the Olympics to portray a false normality in the affected regions. We demand that the International Olympic Committee and the Japanese government refrain from holding the baseball and softball competitions in Fukushima City and the Olympic torch relay in radioactively contaminated areas.

PSR/IPPNW/CH is supporting this message to the IOC.

IPPNW Campaign: Tokyo 2020 – The Radioactive Olympics

Sign our petition: www.radioactive-olympics.org

Contact us: olympia2020@ippnw.de