

## Quotations of Juan Antonio Samaranch



1980

The Olympic Movement must no longer be a pleasant topic for declarations and conferences, but a galvanizing reality which can overcome the challenges of bad politics, ambitions and hatreds,

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We were all once athletes, occasionally in extremely troubled times. For this reason we continually seek a closer union between participants and administrators. It is necessary that everywhere the worthiest athletes prepare for the time when they will in turn become administrators, regardless of their level, for what gives sport its noble character is the brotherhood and the joys of effort

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Since its creation, in 1894 in Paris, the Olympic Movement has weathered many storms and numerous crises, and each time has emerged victorious and stronger. Victorious, because the Olympic idea is generous and more than transcends individual and selfish interests.

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1981

The IOC is convinced that a single united front will enable it to fight effectively against this scourge (doping), particularly through the setting up of an effective and believable control during the training periods of athletes wherever they are.

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Whether we wish it so or not, the IOC is the true historical leader of the Olympic Movement. We wish to exercise this responsibility jointly, as an expression of our unity. When stressing "jointly", this is not only the IOC, but also the IFs, the NOCs, the athletes and the coaches, the educators, the Organizing Committees of the Games, the information media, and the millions of well-wishers throughout the world who sacrifice their time, their efforts and their energy to our ideal.

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Indeed, modern sport can no longer claim to perform the role that it has assigned itself if it gives in to the current tendency: that of cheating in all areas. Cheating is the antithesis of the sporting spirit, particularly sportsmanship and fair play. We must be careful that the dangers which today seriously threaten this spirit do not end up defeating it. If violence, cheating, doping and excesses of all kinds become the rule, they will naturally turn young people, who are seeking absolutes and ideals, away from watching and practising sport.

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1982

But one must keep this principle in mind: the aim of the Olympic Movement in negotiating with television networks is not just to obtain money but also to ensure the greatest possible coverage of the Olympic Games, and also of each sport.

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If we wish to have the closest cooperation in many domains, we must at the same time completely respect the IFs and their independence. We have, on both sides, our tasks to accomplish. They vary, and this independence measures the success of the policies defined by our respective assemblies.

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In the world as it is today, characterized by deep concerns relating to peace, sport offers mankind a valuable instrument in fighting against alienation in our society. It represents a means of uniting the youth of the world by encouraging awareness and respect of all others, and thus finally peace and fraternity.

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1983

It is obvious that the work achieved by voluntary organizations throughout the world represents a major force that it would be futile to refuse or ignore.

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1984

Like governments, the Olympic Movement has no measurable conventional "strength". However, if it were suddenly necessary to remunerate all the volunteers who work quietly for it, very few governments would be capable of doing so [...]. That is why it is important that we be recognized for what we are, that our way of doing things and our rules be respected and acknowledged by all.

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The Olympic Movement, like all other human activity, must naturally suffer the effects of the upheavals which disturb our society and more particularly the international situation. Our role and our usefulness are in favouring fraternization between peoples, a greater understanding of others and thus mutual respect.

