

**PRESS REVIEW:
DECEMBER 2017**

INTERNATIONAL

Russia excluded from Winter Olympics

Russia has already proved its strength at Winter Olympics since its first participation in 1994 by reaching the podium twice. But it won't be given the chance to show its skills at the 2018 Games.

Indeed, on December 5th, 2017 Russia was banned from Winter Olympics for doping and will have to pay \$15 million in costs. This decision was made after the Canadian Professor Richard McLaren found in 2016 that the Russian government, security services and sporting authorities were hiding that a thousand Russian athletes were involved in a doping system, according to witness and whistleblower Grigori Rodchenkov. This report is accompanied by the withdrawal of 11 medals won by the Russian state at the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi in 2014.

According to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) this is an "unprecedented attack on the integrity of the Olympic Games and sport" and this must be punished. Therefore, in addition to the exclusion of Russia, the former minister of sport, Vitaly

Mutko, and his former deputy minister, Yuri Nagornykh, suspected to be the main instigators of this doping conspiracy have been banned from the Olympic Games for life.

However, the athletes are not prohibited from participating in the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang. "I am feeling very sorry for all the clean athletes who have suffered from this manipulation" said the IOC president, Thomas Bach. These athletes will compete under a neutral banner, the "Olympic athletes from Russia," and if a Russian athlete wins a gold medal, the Olympic anthem will be played. Here, it's the state that is punished, not athletes. According to the IOC the clean athletes should not be prevented from participating in the Winter Games, but they will have to follow a strict doping control program and even the competitors of Sochi are allowed to participate.

Behind these decisions, there is a strong will to bring back a "clean sport," but the Olympic Winter Games of 2018 are not immune to a possible boycott by the Russian state.

Thomas DURIZOT

CLIMATE

The One Planet Summit

The One Planet Summit, which took place in Paris on December 12, 2017, aims to find financial means to fight against global warming. Nearly 50 countries from all continents, but also personalities such as Bill Gates and the governor of California, as well as the World Bank came together. However, it should be noted that the United States were not part of it.

In parallel, numerous NGOs demonstrated in front of the Pantheon for the defense of the environment.

As a result of this summit, many commitments were made: The World Bank will no longer finance fossil fuels and many companies will need to invest more in green actions and be transparent about their impact on the climate. In addition, financial resources will be made available to young researchers in emerging countries.

Killian ABALLEA



NEWS



Landscapes from Hell

No, this picture isn't a screenshot from the upcoming Hollywood super production but a picture of a wildfire in California. In 2017, in addition to the hottest summer ever recorded in California, was also the worst wildfire season on record with more than 200,000 people forced from their homes skipping even highways and railroad tracks. It's a critical situation; the most obstinate try to save anything within their houses. Civilians and more than 8,700 firefighters continue to fight a fire that already destroyed more than 143,000 acres. Firefighters also have to deal with saving those

people who had to let everything they own and all their lives behind them to survive. Countless are the videos that were shared on the Internet showing giant walls of flame surrounding houses and cars.

Many people take advantage of the situation to recall the problem of global warming and all the disastrous consequences that follow: it seems that people need to be affected directly to really feel the emergency behind the fight to save our planet.

Julien XIE

SPACE

NASA's new mission

On Wednesday 20 December 2017, NASA announced two new missions: the exploration of a comet and sending a probe on Titan. NASA will have to make a choice between one or the others, this exploration will be realized in 2020.

“These two exploration projects seek to address many of the biggest issues in our solar system,” said Thomas Zurbuchen, NASA's Science Program Manager. First mission call « Caesar » (Comet Astrobiology Exploration SAmples Return). They could reveal the origin of our planet. Secondly, call « Dragonfly » nasa would like to bring a titan drone finally to explore this planet because scientists think that life s on this planet.

Tess JEAN



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