

# ISSA BULLETIN



2024 Issue 3

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## Introduction

Welcome to another edition of our Bulletin. The material in this issue consists of four types of items:

- Calls for submissions, including to our GPA 2025
- The latest on ISSA 2025 in Seoul
- An interview with one of our earliest ISSA members: Vladislav I Stolyarov
- News and new books

First an update on our Communications strategy.

At last we have started the process of stepping away from Twitter. The account is still live and I occasionally post to it. In place of Twitter we now have a bluesky account, a LinkedIn account and we will continue promoting your work on ISSA's Facebook pages.

The Bluesky account handle is @issa1965.bsky.social. It is slowly gaining visibility so feel free to have a look, follow us and post your news. I will occasionally have a look at the list of new followers and follow back, but only if you provide a description that contains relevant details about your interest in sport and physical activity. No descriptions, no following back!

I have just created an ISSA LinkedIn account.

ISSA's Facebook pages are getting quite a lot of traffic and I am pleased about that. Please continue to bear in mind that if you want to join the pages you will have to answer all the questions and agree to the rules. We have not experienced any spam posts for a while and I intend to continue protecting this space for as long as possible.

We will close the Twitter account in 2025. So we look forward to seeing you on Bluesky, LinkedIn and Facebook.

ISSA has a new web host located in Scotland, Arcas. ISSA also has a new professional conference organiser set up and our conference website provider, Fourwaves. We hope you will enjoy a better website experience on our main website and on the Fourwaves site.

Emmanuelle Tulle

VP Communications

Please please please, can I remind all our readers that if you want to join our Facebook pages you need to **answer all the questions and agree to the rules**. The rules are important as they are part of our EDI policy. We also have to screen applications to join our Facebook pages to manage the very real risk of spam, of which we had quite an overwhelming amount last year. Fielding requests to join has been really successful so far and I am pleased to report that dodgy contributors have ceased troubling us. However the 'screening' will remain in place to protect our Facebook site. If you do not answer the questions or agree to the rules, I will have to decline your request to join, even if you are a longstanding member of ISSA. This is to maintain consistency and avoid favouritism. I do apologise in advance for being quite strict about this and I hope that you understand the rationale for this way of operating. But if you are declined, normally a reason will be given and you will be encouraged to apply again. Please do!

Our Bluesky account @issa1965.bsky.social

LinkedIn account: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/issa1965/?viewAsMember=true>

Protect your account against phishing by not answering any emails that might purport to be from ISSA Executive Board members with phoney email addresses. Neither the Association nor its Executive Board members would solicit individual ISSA members for money so please ignore and/or report to your institution as phishing/scam.

## 2025 GPA Award - Last Call

There is still time to submit a paper to our 2025 Graduate Paper Award competition.

**Deadline: January 15, 2025, 4.30pm EST**

All details about how to submit can be found on our website [here](#)

The prizes for GPA Award winners are:

- free registration to participate at the next in-person ISSA Congress
- an ISSA sponsored 2-year membership of ISSA, and
- a Sage Publisher sponsored £150 prize worth of books

## ISSA 2025, Seoul, Korea



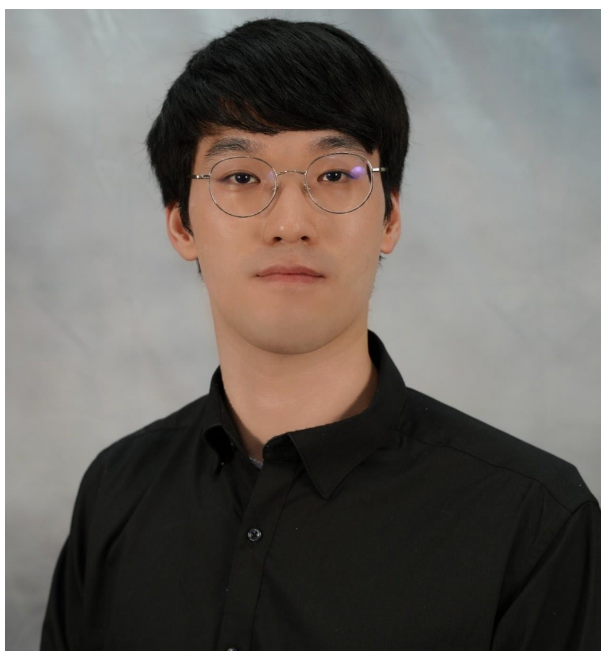
Great news!

The Official Website and Abstract Submission portal for the **ISSA 2025 Congress (Seoul, South Korea, July 8-11)** can be found on the ISSA Events page [here](#). All are warmly welcomed to join us as we celebrate 60 years of the ISSA in Seoul, South Korea. Abstracts are due by January 15, 2025.

## 2024 GPA Award Winner

We are pleased to present the second winner of the 2024 GPA Award. Junbin Yang impressed the GPA Award judges with his paper entitled "Muddying the Waters of Normalized Bodies: Toward a Rhizomatic Assemblage that Matters."

Junbin Yang is a doctoral student in the Physical Cultural Studies research group in the Kinesiology Department at the University of Maryland, where he received his M.A. in 2022. His thesis (re)interpreted Manuel DeLanda's assemblage theory, by synthesizing the theory and the ideas of conjuncture and articulation, and explored three conjunctural moments in South Korea, including a longstanding period of totalitarian regimes, national economic crisis, and contemporary society. Before coming to Maryland, Junbin previously worked as a journalist for several newspapers in Seoul, focusing on topics such as post-utilization plans of stadiums after the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Games, and the relationship between the entertainment and sport industry. Junbin's research interests broadly include sport and politics, the globalization of sport and physical culture, mega-sporting events, disability studies, and assemblage thinking. His current projects include explorations of neoliberalism and its emotional impacts, the rise of conservative parties and political polarization, and the Olympic Games and electronic surveillance systems. Primarily drawing on a qualitative approach, Junbin's research aims to discover different possibilities in particular empirical sites, and illuminate dominant/overlooked elements at play in society that enable and/or constrain prominent and unseen individuals and entities.



2 - Junbin Yang

[Virtual ISSA 2024 on YouTube](#)



3 - #ISSA2024Virtual

The recordings of our ISSA 2024 Virtual event are now available to watch on our YouTube channel [here](#)

[An Interview with Vladislav I. Stolyarov](#)

**[Historical experience of cooperation through the sociology of sports: An interview with Professor Vladislav Stolyarov](#)**

In conversation with *Aleksandr S. Gonashvili*.



*4 - Vladislav I. Stolyarov*

Vladislav I. Stolyarov — Doctor of Philosophy, Professor of the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education RSUFKSMiT and FGBI VNIIFK — was born on February 4, 1937. He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy of Lomonosov Moscow State University (1959), and held an impressive range of research and senior posts at prestigious academic institutions, such as the Institute of Philosophy of the USSR Academy of Sciences (1959-1971), the State Institute of Physical Culture (1972-2006), the Philosophical Society of the USSR (1986-1989), the Spartina Humanist Center, the Coordinating Commission of the Scientific Council of the USSR State Sports Committee on philosophical and sociological problems of physical culture and sports. He also founded an innovative Russian school of philosophical and sociological analysis of physical culture, sports, and Olympism from the standpoint of humanism underpinned by dialectical methodology.

For 12 years he was a member of the Bureau of the International Committee for the Sociology of Sport and the editorial board of the International Journal of the Sociology of Sport. He has been a member of the Olympic Committee for more than 10 years.

***What attracted you to the sociology of sport?***

1972 I moved to the State Central Order of Lenin Institute of Physical Culture.

From 1972 to 1991 I was a head of an international group of scientists from Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Poland, USSR, Czechoslovakia on philosophical and sociological problems of physical culture and sport. The main topic of the joint international research was philosophical and sociological problems on the theme: “Sport, way of life, culture”. Our work straddled philosophy and sociology, theoretical and empirical developments and focused on the broad themes of sport and physical culture as a way of life, with a specific focus on women, children and young people, healthy lifestyles, all in the context of socialism.

In addition, from 1983 to 1992 I was a head of the research on the philosophical and sociological problems of physical culture and sport in our country. During this period several sociological studies I led a number of significant studies, notably:

- A study commissioned in 2007 by the Federal Agency for Education on the topic «Tracking the degree of satisfaction of students in educational institutions with the level of organization of physical education classes. Development of recommendations». A survey of students and physical education teachers in general education schools was conducted. The sample included 24 subjects of the Russian Federation from 7 federal districts. The results of the study are presented in the collective monograph: Modernization of physical education in secondary schools / V.I. Stolyarov, V.K. Balsevich, V.P. Mochenov, L.I. Lubysheva ; edited by Prof. V.I. Stolyarov. - Moscow : Scientific and Publishing Center «Theory and Practice of Physical Culture», 2009. - 320 p.
- A study in 2018 on the topic «Physical culture and sports activity of preschoolers». The results are presented in the monograph: Stolyarov V.I., Okunkov Y.V. Modern problems of physical culture and sports activity of preschoolers: sociological analysis / edited by Prof. V.I. Stolyarov. - Moscow : Sport, 2019. - 320 p.

Since 2018 I have been acting as an expert in large-scale sociological studies conducted annually in our country to identify the factors that promote or, on the contrary, hinder physical culture and sports activity of the population, as well as forms and methods to increase it. Surveys of the population in 85 subjects of the Russian Federation are conducted by the Federal Science Center of Physical Culture and Sport (FSC VNIIFK) in cooperation with specialists from Russian Public Opinion Research Center, Russian State Social University and National Research University – Higher School of Economics. Several reports were written in collaboration with colleague from the Federal Science Center of Physical Culture and Sport,

### ***What memories do you have of the International Sociology of Sport Association?***

I participated in the activities of the International Sociology of Sport Association, was member of the editorial board of the journal of this association, and also an author of articles in this journal during the above-mentioned period from 1972 to 1991,

I have the best memories of my cooperation with the philosophers and sociologists not only from Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia (such as Z. Krawczyk, A. Wohl, T. Feldeshi, J. Mergautova), but also from other countries. First of all, I would like to mention such philosophers and sociologists as G. Lenk, G. Luchen, P. McIntosh, R. Naul, R. Seppänen. K. Heinemann, K. Heinila, S. Gildenpfennig. At numerous international conferences (including those held annually by our international group of philosophers and sociologists in different countries) I often met with them and other sociologists, debated complex problems in the field of sociology of sport, and simply maintained friendly relations.

***What domestic scientists were engaged in the study of the sociology of sport with you in the Soviet period?***

During the Soviet period, a great many researchers were engaged in developing research questions in the sociology of sport. I would like to single out sociologists with whom I jointly developed sociological study programs and conducted these studies, wrote collective papers and published them in the Journal of the International Sociology of Sport Association. These are, for example, such sociologists as P.A. Vinogradov, A.M. Gendin, V.M. Labskir, R.A. Meyer. B.I. Novikov, M.I. Sergeev, A.N. Falaleev.

***Was there any support from the Soviet government for the research on the sociology of sport at that time?***

Yes, there was and it was very substantial.

***What scientific works have you published in recent years and how are they related to the sociology of sport?***

In the course of my career, I have published 16 monographs and textbooks in this area, as well as many research reports and journal articles. Here are the 5 most recent monographs:

1. Stolyarov V.I. Individual needs of persons with disabilities and restraining factors to physical culture and sports (sociological analysis): a collective monograph / A.G. Abalyan, Y.V. Okunkov, V.I. Stolyarov, T.G. Fomichenko; ed. by V.I. Stolyarov. - M., 2022. - 120 p.: color illustration.
2. Stolyarov V.I. Research of the influence on consumer behavior of the population of motivating and restraining factors to physical culture and sports in the Russian Federation: collective monograph. - Moscow: RSSU Publishing House, 2020. - 266 p.
3. Stolyarov V.I. Research of the influence on consumer behavior of the population of motivating and restraining factors to physical culture and sports in the Russian Federation : a monograph / A.G. Abalyan, Y.V. Okunkov, V.I. Stolyarov, T.G. Fomichenko, P.E. Tsarkov, A.Yu. Lukicheva, O.S. Kulyamina, M.V. Vinogradova, E.M. Bronnikova, S.V. Babakaev, L.A. Vasilieva, E.S. Vasyutina, V.A. Vishnyakova, L.V. Matraeva, D.K. Tanatova / Moscow, 2021. - 266 p. ISBN: 978-5-94634-067-0.
4. Stolyarov V.I. Foundations of Sociology of Physical Culture and Sports Activity and Human Bodiness: a Monograph. - Moscow: RUSCENCE, 2017. - 358 p.
5. Stolyarov V.I. Physical culture and sports activity of the population of the Russian Federation: state, factors, ways to increase (sociological analysis): monograph / edited by prof. V.I. Stolyarov. - Moscow: FSC VNIIFK, 2020. - 176 p.

***How you would assess the current state of development in the sociology of sport?***



Modern sociology of sport has accumulated huge empirical material from numerous sociological surveys of the population. However, the research methods used do not allow to effectively address the sociological problems of sport. This has been made evident in the difficulties of establishing the determinants of and barriers to physical culture and sports participation among the population, understanding the sociocultural significance of sport and of the modern Olympic movement, the relationship of sport and politics, etc.

The authors would like to express their gratitude to Elizaveta Koptseva for her help in translating the text into English.

*The material was prepared by Aleksandr S. GONASHVILI, Cand. Sci. (Sociol.), Assist. Prof., Deputy Head of Department; St. Petersburg State Technological Institute (Technical University) [a.s.gonashvili@technolog.edu.ru](mailto:a.s.gonashvili@technolog.edu.ru). It was abridged by Emmanuelle Tulle, VP Communications.*

## ISSA Members' Survey

In 2025, the ISSA will be celebrating its 60th year as a vibrant community of scholars from across the world who share a common goal in advancing the sociology of sport. This is an opportune time to reflect on how we operate and on how we can improve. The ISSA Executive Board invites you to share your feedback on your experiences as an ISSA member. Collected data will be available only to the members of the ISSA Executive Board. The survey link is [here](#)

## Your News

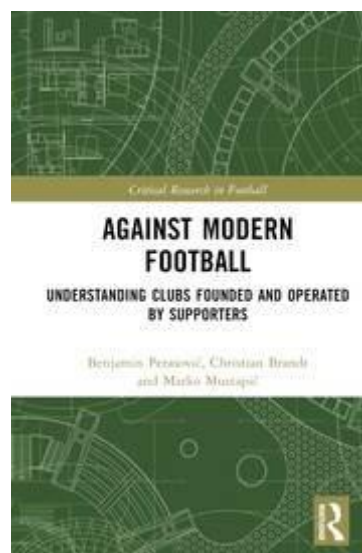
"Sean" Tzu-hsuan Chen has won Taiwan's Excellent Journalism Award in the News Commentary category. This is the most prestigious journalism award in Taiwan, equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize in the USA. It is also the first time this award has been given to a sports column in Taiwan.

## New Books

- This is the first book to offer in-depth analysis of the "Against Modern Football" movement through the comparison of two AMF clubs. The movement has emerged in opposition to the rampant commercialisation of football and the lack of supporters' influence over the governance of the clubs they support.

Drawing on long-term ethnographic research, the book examines the foundation, organisation and governance of new clubs set up by supporters as part of the AMF movement. Centred on detailed case studies of two clubs in particular—HFC Falke in Germany, founded in 2014, and Varteks Varaždin in Croatia, founded in 2011—the book explores supporter cultures and identity and considers the social processes at work in the foundation of new football clubs. By examining the unique local and national contexts in which HFC Falke and Varteks Varaždin have emerged, as well the broader international context that encompasses well-known AMF clubs such as FC United of Manchester, the book makes an important contribution to our understanding of supporters, their activism, the significance of football clubs, and social movements more broadly.

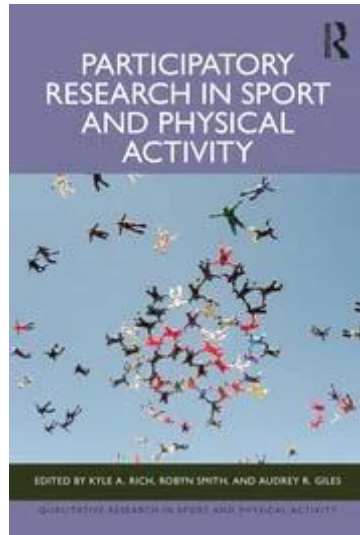
This book is fascinating reading for anybody with an interest in football, the sociology of sport, sport management, the politics of sport, social movements, subcultures, or ethnography.



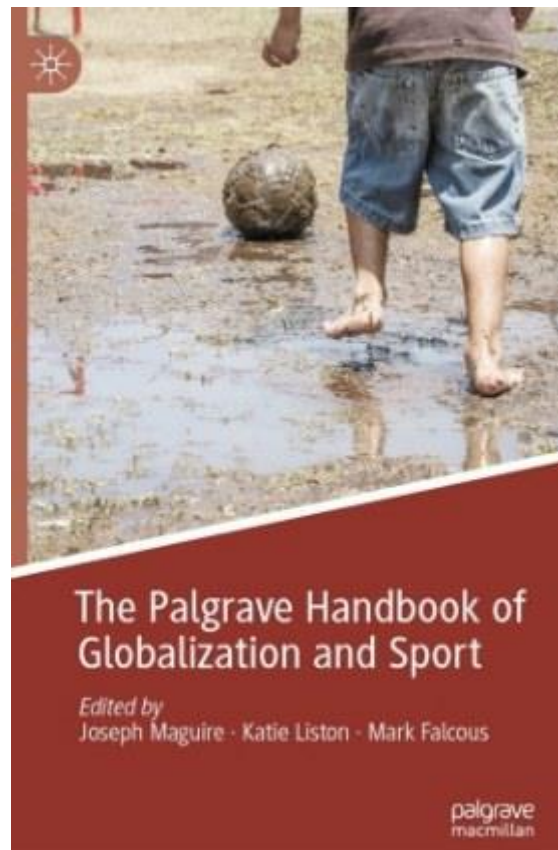
- This is the first book to focus on participatory research in the context of sport and physical activity. It explores the transformative potential of participatory research methods and provides an introduction to the practicalities of doing participatory research in sport and physical activity.

The book is structured around phases of the research process, covering research design, data collection, data analysis, and knowledge mobilization and translation. Chapters cover research design topics such as building research partnerships, reflexivity and ethical issues; methods such as social photo-elicitation, go-along interviews, and biographical mapping; analytical approaches such as collective memory work and collaborative analysis; and knowledge mobilization and translation topics such as podcasting, digital tools, and peer review. Every chapter includes a review of key developments, a guide to how that approach can be employed, an example from the author's own work, and critical reflections on how that approach can shape future research and have an impact on public discourse.

This book is an invaluable resource for students and researchers working in sport studies, the sociology of sport, sport and exercise psychology, sport management and policy, and human movement and health studies more broadly. It will be particularly useful for those interested in diverse and inclusive approaches to qualitative research methodologies.



- This insightful Handbook explores how sport intersects the experiences of asylum seekers, refugees, workers and migrants. Editors Joseph Maguire, Katie Liston and Mark Falcous bring together esteemed experts who draw on globally diverse cases studies to capture the complexities surrounding sport and migration, revealing how it is embedded in the wider power struggles that characterize global sport.



## Call for Papers

Special Issue - Leisure and Social Cohesion - of the [International Journal of the Sociology of Leisure](#)

### Important dates:

**Abstract submission deadline:** January 31, 2025

**Notification of Acceptance:** April 15, 2025

Social cohesion, a fundamental sociological concept, seeks to understand how societies can collectively move towards shared goals. Despite its significance, the term remains ambiguously defined, often laden with assumptions and contradictions. Scholars have critiqued the broad nature of some definitions, the conflation with economic objectives, and the assumptions about values and metrics that best represent social cohesion.

In recent discourse, both popular and academic, the relationship between leisure and social cohesion has gained prominence. Policies and studies increasingly recognize social cohesion as a precursor to leisure participation, while leisure-based programs are viewed as potential tools to enhance social cohesion within communities. This intertwined relationship raises several questions: How is social cohesion conceptualized within local leisure programming? How do leisure-related policies define or operationalize social cohesion? How does leisure support social cohesion, and vice versa?

This Special Issue invites scholars to explore and clarify the relationship between leisure and social cohesion.

Potential topics for submission include, but are not limited to:

- Conceptualizations of social cohesion within leisure programming and policies
- Trends and developments in literature relating to leisure and social cohesion
- Critical evaluations of the assumptions surrounding leisure and social cohesion
- Studies on the impact of social cohesion on leisure participation
- The role of leisure-based programs (e.g., sports, recreation) in enhancing social cohesion
- Evaluations or case studies of specific leisure programs or organizations
- Historical perspectives on the evolution of leisure policies and programming

We encourage contributions that not only explore these themes but also engage critically with the concept of social cohesion itself, offering new insights and perspectives on how leisure and social cohesion intersect and influence one another.

Authors are invited to submit original research articles, review articles, and theoretical papers. Submissions should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words (excluding references) and should follow the journal's formatting guidelines. More information can be found [here](#).

#### **Abstract submission:**

Abstract should be submitted to the Guest Editors:

Louis Moustakas, University of Applied Sciences, Austria - [Louis.Moustakas@fh-kufstein.ac.at](mailto:Louis.Moustakas@fh-kufstein.ac.at)

Arnost Svoboda, Palacky University Olomouc, Czech Republic - [arnost.svoboda@upol.cz](mailto:arnost.svoboda@upol.cz)

[All details here](#)

### [Joining ISSA or Renewing your Membership](#)

To become a member of ISSA and/or renew your membership please go to our website and [follow this link](#). This will take you straight to the IRSS Sage web pages. You will find all the membership categories on the right hand side of the page (under subscription +). You can purchase a membership for 1 year, 2 years or 5 years. All memberships include the following benefits:

- Print and online subscriptions to *IRSS* (including access to the full back archive to volume 1)
- The ISSA eBulletin

- Information about discounts for the ISSA conference and events
- Access to the member area of the ISSA website

Please note: payment is made directly to Sage who handle our membership and IRSS subscriptions.

## Submissions to Our Journal



Our journal's General Editor, Brent McDonald, encourages the submission of diverse research articles seated in the sociology of sport, broadly defined, that shed light on social and cultural understandings of sport.

### Book/Media Reviews

Authors wishing to review books or media (films, videos, interactive media) or contribute to a comparative review, please contact the book and media reviews editor directly: Dr. Kass Gibson, Plymouth Marjon University, [kgibson@marjon.ac.uk](mailto:kgibson@marjon.ac.uk)

Manuscripts for both research articles and book/media reviews may be submitted [here](#)

### Becoming a Reviewer

Being a reviewer gives you an insight into the publication process and a better understanding of how to develop your own research and publications. The easiest way to become a reviewer is to create an account through [this link](#)

### Managing your Account

If you already have an account for the *IRSS* do remember to keep it updated.

Please visit the journal website for more information about its Aims & Scope, the Editorial Board, manuscript submission guidelines, and sample issues [here](#)

## Regular ISSA Calls

### Members' News

ISSA is happy to share information about conferences, seminars, awards, jobs and recently published books. We will gladly include your news in our eBulletin and the ISSA website.

ISSA is always looking for ways to improve communication and serve our members. We encourage you to submit comments and suggestions.

Please send any feedback and information to Emmanuelle Tulle, our VP Communications [via our contact page](#) (as a Word document with a free to use picture of your university or city). Remember that ISSA also has its own Facebook page, and you are welcome to share information via this group.

### **Call for ISSA Archives**

The ISSA Executive Board is calling on all past and current members to submit photos, documents and other materials that document the history of the association, congresses and journal. We will gladly accept any items either in digital or hard copy format. We will be happy to copy and return these to you, or to add relevant items to the ISSA Archive as part of our ongoing efforts to record the history of the ISSA and IRSS. We are particularly hoping to obtain copies of ISSA Congress programs and Books of Abstract prior to 2011. For further information about the Archive and/or to donate items, please contact Mike Sam, Past President, [via our contact page](#)

### **Share Your Reading Recommendations**

Have you read a good sports related book lately? Send us your favourite titles (not your own books, see earlier announcement!) that you think ISSA colleagues might also be interested in reading, with a short blurb to entice us.

Contact Emmanuelle Tulle, VP Communications, [via our contact page](#)



ISSA's Affiliate Organisations:

Sub-Committee of ICSSPE

Research Committee 27 of ISA

Affiliated with UNESCO