



Judo for Peace Report IJF Congress – Tokyo 2019

The IJF is involved in peace building activities throughout the world, in war zones, in post-conflict areas or places with social disorders. Under the leadership of the IJF President, crucial steps were taken over the past 2 years. Thus, all athletes could participate without any kind of discrimination to all IJF events. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea participated as a reunited team at the Baku World Championships in 2018. The IJF is very involved in finding solutions to help refugees. The JFP commission is running long terms programmes and works hand in hand with the other IJF commissions that are involved in education and development.

ONGOING PROGRAMMES

- **Kilis Refugee Camp (Turkey):** launched in 2015, the programme in Kilis (TUR), has been running for more than 5 years. Several visits of the JFP commission were organized to supervise and help with the development of the activities (JFTW: <https://youtu.be/utJCdr5UKIA>). Boys and girls of the camp can practice judo on a weekly basis. On April 6, 2019, the International Day for Sport Development and Peace, an important animation was held with refugee children on the occasion of the Antalya Grand Prix, before a three-day seminar organized in Kilis, together with Pino Maddaloni (Olympic Champion). More than 2,000 children participated in the programme since 2014.
- **Meheba Refugee Settlement (Zambia):** Led by the Zambia Judo Association, the programme has been running in Meheba for more than 3 years, with a strong support of local authorities, UNHCR, government as well a significant input of the Norwegian Olympic Committee (NIF), which financed the construction of a dojo inside the camp. It was inaugurated by the JFP commission in December 2018. The facility is located between 2 schools, offering the possibility to an important development. The judo activities are led by Faustin, a young black belt refugee of Burundi. The IJF, the ZJA and Judo for Fred (Norway) are also leading a programme in Livingston.
- **Dzaleka Refugee Camp (Malawi):** The programme in the Dzaleka Refugee Camp was launched by the JFP commission less than 2 years ago and is in its development phase. Gathering people from a dozen African countries, the camp is located close to the Capital Lilongwe. Judo is now well established in the camp and continues to grow.
- **Judo for the World South Africa:** The IJF is leading an extensive programme in South Africa, called 'Judo for the World South Africa'. The leader of the programme is Roberto Orlando, an IJF Academy Alumni, who is taking care of refugees that are already living in the country but who are facing integration problems. Very active and dedicated, Mr. Orlando is working together with Judo South Africa and has already set up several important partnerships, which help to raise the awareness of the programme.
- **Ethiopia:** The programme is led by Johannes Daxbacher, also a member of the Military and Police commission. Mr. Daxbacher has been active in Ethiopia for several years and helped with the building of the Ethiopian Judo Federation. Roberto Orlando from JFTW South Africa is also involved in Ethiopia. Recently a dojo for urban refugees was open in Addis Ababa. Refugees mostly from Eritrea, DRC and Burundi are training with Ethiopians. Coaches are registered to the IJF Academy Level 1. Judo for Ethiopian is recognized by the German Authorities as part of the initiative 'More Space for Sport – 1000 chances for Africa.'



• **Nepal:** Deepak Bajracharya, President of the Nepal Judo Federation and JFP Commission Member continues to lead an important programme helping orphans throughout the country.

A new initiative was launched within an orphanage home in Kathmandu in which about 40 students (victims of earthquake, floods, landslides and poor children) are regularly doing Judo. The federation provided tatami and judogi.

• **Judo for the World:** On the occasion of the filming of the Judo for the World series (more than 20 films within 4 years), Judo for Peace activities are regularly conducted. Examples: In Argentina, in 2018, the city of Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego, officially declared 'Judo for Peace' as one of the best tools to reduce social disorders. In Northern Canada, the judo activities are including the JFP principles to solve social issues within the aboriginal communities. In Zambia, the programme led by 'Judo for Fred' (Norway) in Livingston embraces the JFP philosophy. In Iran, Gevrise Emame (FRA), member of the JFP commission, helped with the promotion of judo for women.

PARTNERSHIPS

• **UNHCR:** The UNHCR was an active partner of several JFP activities such as the trip of young refugee judoka from the Judo for the World South Africa programme to Port Elisabeth, where they participated in a judo competition. UNHCR has financed the JUDO SOCIAL COHESION CAMP in KwaZuluNatal with the participation of more than 100 judokas from different backgrounds.

• **#withrefugees:** The IJF participated in the #withrefugees campaign initiated by the UNHCR. The movement demonstrates that the global public stands with people forced to flee. Since 2016 With Refugees has mobilized almost 40 million public actions in solidarity for refugees and has established a powerful coalition of influencers.

• **Crans Montana Forum:** The President of the IJF together with the JFP commission participated in several meetings organized by the Crans Montana forum, in Morocco and in Belgium, where the issues of youth and development were addressed.

• **Peace and Sport:** the IJF exchanges on a regular basis with the Peace and Sport organisation and participated in the P&S forums in Monaco and in Greece (Rhodes).

• **April 6:** The IJF participates every year to the International Day for Sport Development and Peace, which takes place on April 6. All National Federation are also invited to participate.

• **Olympism in Action:** In October 2018, on the occasion of the Olympism in Action conference held prior to the YOG 2018, IJF President and JFP and Judo for Children commission made a presentation in front of the representatives of the International Sports Movement.

BRANDING

In 2018, the JFP commission launched, under the leadership of Esa Niemi (Finland), the JFP brand: <https://judoforpeace.net>

The 'Online store' is also physically present during several IJF event. Part of the benefits of the store are redirected towards JFP activities.

Director of the Commission: MESSNER Nicolas.

Members of the Commission: SCHIOTZ Jan Eirik, BIRA Pagva, BARTHELEMY Frederic, MANIRAKIZA Valery, NIEMI Esa, ABAKAR Djermah, BAJRA CHARYA Deepak, EMANE Gevrise, FRESE Peter, BUTE Julius.