



JUDO FOR PEACE COMMISSION REPORT

JUDO FOR PEACE COMMISSION



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

Since the last congress, the IJF has continued to develop Judo for Peace programmes and has been actively involved in peace-building activities throughout the world, in war zones, in post-conflict areas or in places with social disorders, with a special focus on refugees.

As it was stated on several occasions by IJF President Marius Vizer, “We are on the side of peace, global friendship and prosperity.”

The JFP commission runs long term programmes and works hand in hand with other IJF commissions which are directly involved in education and development (Judo for Children, Judo in Schools, Education, Gender Equity, Military and Police, Development).

Due to the ongoing health crisis (Covid-19), we needed to adapt to a new situation. Despite these challenges, programmes involving refugees living in refugee camps have been running in Kilis (Turkey), Meheba (Zambia) and Dzaleka (Malawi – Judo for Hope programme) and an extensive Judo for Peace programme, led by Roberto Orlando (IJF), has been running successfully for more than four years in South Africa.

Support refugees: At the end of 2019, the IJF pledged support for refugees ahead of the first ever Global Refugee Forum. The International Olympic Committee and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) announced that a movement consisting of over 70 partners has expressed its commitment to improving sporting opportunities for refugees. Among the signatories is the International Judo Federation, which has been active for many years in the field, providing refugees with educational and sporting opportunities.

Judo For #OneHumanity: The IJF has pledged its commitment to the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations’ (UNAOC) One Humanity campaign, which calls for solidarity, compassion and unity in the face of discrimination and divisiveness.

World Peace Day: On Monday 21st September, on the occasion of World Peace Day (#PeaceDay #peaceday2020), the organisations ‘sportanddev’ and UNHCR have launched a ‘Week of Action’ on the topic of sport and refugees, taking place from 21st to 27th September. The activities helped to raise awareness of sport’s role in addressing challenges faced by refugees, while also encouraging discussion and partnership-building and providing guidance and resources for organisations working on the topic. The IJF and the JFP commission participated in the event actively.

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April 6: Every year, the judo community is involved in the April 6 celebrations (International Day of Sport for Development and Peace). In 2019 activities were held throughout the world in the physical presence of thousands of judoka. In 2020 the celebration was held online due to the Covid-19 situation and gathered people from all continents (<https://whitecard.ijf.org>).

Judo for Peace South Africa (JFPSA): In January 2020, an episode of the Judo For the World series was filmed in South Africa: <https://youtu.be/qAGzDRjdlJg>

JFPSA is a programme funded by the IJF, in collaboration with UNHCR, the main partners for the following activities: Judo South Africa, CleanCitiesSA, Three2six, Dlala Nje, Future Families, Zoe-Life, RSS, Nike Foundation and Grassroots Soccer. JFPSA is a platform for communities to meet, collaborate and contribute to social cohesion, youth and gender empowerment and child protection of both local and refugee communities in South Africa. In 2020 JFPSA participated in several campaigns including campaigns to clean the environment.

Judo for Peace in Zambia: Zambia has been one of the key players of Judo for Peace based programmes in the Southern part of Africa. Under the leadership of ZJA President Alfred Foloko, one refugee camp is up and running in Zambia, with other programmes in their development phase.

Other programmes: Other Judo for Peace related activities have been running in **Ethiopia** (programme led by Dr Degineh Tsegaye, President of the Ethiopian Judo Association and Johannes Daxbacher, member of the Military and Police commission) and in **Nepal** (by Deepak Bajracharya, President of the Nepal Judo Federation and Member of the JFP commission), with an inspirational programme helping orphans. A judo club was also founded at the foot of Mount Everest with the help and support of Sabrina Filzmoser (IJF Climate Ambassador). Judo for Peace based activities are running in the Great Lake Region of Africa (**Burundi, Rwanda**). The Judo for Peace philosophy is spread across the five continents.

Masks for Africa: In 2020, the IJF managed to organise the 'Masks for Africa' operation. The goal was to collect funds and distribute more than 20,000 masks, mainly in Zambia and also in Malawi (<https://donation.ijf.org/>).

Climate Ambassadors: At the end of 2020 the IJF appointed Sabrina Filzmoser (AUT) and Flavio Canto (BRA) as IJF Climate Ambassadors. Both champions are actively involved with activities philosophically related to the Judo for Peace programmes, in the Himalayas and in Brazil.

JudoFest: At the end of 2020 the first edition of JudoFest was held. One panel discussion was dedicated fully to educational activities under the 'Judo for the World' theme. Several experts participated in the discussion and shared their experience. During the JudoFest Awards the Norwegian programme 'Judo for Fred in Afghanistan', was awarded the best Judo for Peace programme of the year.



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PARTNERSHIPS

- **UNHCR:** The UNHCR has been a strong partner of the IJF for several years, especially in South Africa. Other projects are under construction.
- **#withrefugees:** The IJF has been an active contributor to the #withrefugees campaign initiated by the UNHCR.
- **Crans Montana Forum:** The IJF has been an active partner of the Crans Montana Forum for many years and we are pleased to have signed an MoU between the two organisations, in 2020.
- **Leaders for Peace:** The IJF has been actively participated in the working sessions of the Leaders for Peace organization, founded by former French Prime Minister, Jean-Pierre Raffarin.
- **Peace and Sport:** The IJF was nominated by Peace and Sport for the best April 6 initiative in 2020.

BRANDING

Esa Niemi (FIN) from the JFP commission, leads the JFP brand programme: <https://judoforpeace.net>.