

# Chile's social outburst: Major arguments and demands by athletes, coaches, and leaders of the Chilean Olympic Movement

JORGE FLÁNDEZ-VALDERRAMA<sup>1</sup>, PEDRO GARGALLO-BAYO<sup>2</sup>, MARCELO GONZÁLEZ-ORB<sup>3</sup>, MIGUEL CORNEJO-AMÉSTICA<sup>4</sup>, VÍCTOR JACQUES PARRAGUEZ<sup>5</sup>, JOSÉ AGUILAR-NAVARRETE<sup>6</sup>, DANIEL DUCLOS-BASTÍAS<sup>7</sup>, JUAN CARLOS COLADO<sup>8,9</sup> ✉

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Education Sciences, Austral University of Chile, Ciudad de Valdivia, Chile

<sup>2</sup>Department of Physiotherapy, Faculty of Medicine and Health Science, Catholic University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

<sup>3</sup>Faculty of Arts and Physical Education, Metropolitan University of Educational Sciences, Chile

<sup>4</sup>Department of Physical Education, University of Concepcion, Chile

<sup>5</sup>Austral University of Chile, Chile

<sup>6</sup>Institute of Education Sciences, School of Physical Education, Faculty of Philosophy and Humanities, Austral University of Chile, Chile

<sup>7</sup>School of Physical Education, Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaiso, Chile, Chile

<sup>8</sup>Research Unit in Sport and Health, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

<sup>9</sup>Department of Physical Education and Sports, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

## ABSTRACT

The social upheaval in Chile, mainly attributed to inequalities, injustices and inequities, and protected by a political, social and economic systems, among others, was not alien to the Chilean Olympic Committee, its National Olympic Academy and the High Performance Athletes, who convened and developed in Santiago of Chile, the First Citizen Dialogue of the National Federated Sport to address these issues. The purpose of this study, unprecedented for the Chilean situation, was to analyse different points of view and identify the most important and salient arguments relevant to understanding the main demands and proposals made on behalf of Chileans stakeholders. As a methodological approach, the interpretive paradigm was utilized, along with a qualitative approach, based on hermeneutic phenomenology and associated to the main thematic components in Citizen Dialogues. The discussion group comprised athletes, coaches, and national leaders, forming a sample of n = 285 people that congregated in discussion groups. Grounded Theory was used in the analysis, which led to the determination of conclusions regarding the problems facing sport and then, improvements were proposed. In general, there is consensus among the opinions and arguments of the different actors, and very few disagreements. In conclusion, it is clear that sports activity in Chile is still in a precarious stage, with certain characteristics of amateurism in the various spheres, with the absence of adequate resources and an insufficient institutional and organizational framework which has not ensured adequate policies, security, and incentives to the different taking part actors. In-depth measures are clearly needed.

**Keywords:** Social crisis, Sports phenomena, Social phenomena, Olympic movement, Citizen demands.

### Cite this article as:

Flández-Valderrama, J., Gargallo-Bayo, P., González-Orb, M., Cornejo-Améstica, M., Parraguez, V.J., Aguilar-Navarrete, J., Duclos Bastías, D., & Colado, J.C. (2023). Chile's social outburst: Major arguments and demands by athletes, coaches, and leaders of the Chilean Olympic Movement. *Journal of Human Sport and Exercise*, 18(2), 317-335. <https://doi.org/10.14198/jhse.2023.182.04>



**Corresponding author.** Department of Physical Education and Sports, University of Valencia, C/ Gascó Oliag 3. 46010, Valencia, Spain.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3255-3940>

E-mail: [juan.colado@uv.es](mailto:juan.colado@uv.es)

Submitted for publication February 08, 2022.

Accepted for publication April 18, 2022.

Published April 01, 2023 (in press June 06, 2022).

JOURNAL OF HUMAN SPORT & EXERCISE ISSN 1988-5202.

© Faculty of Education. University of Alicante.

doi:10.14198/jhse.2023.182.04

## INTRODUCTION

The latest report by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) points out that the quality of life of Chileans has improved significantly in recent decades, largely due to macroeconomic stability (OECD, 2018). In some dimensions of well-being (balance between work, life and health), this country aligns closely with OECD countries, however, in others, such as employment and education, there is economic and social segregation and inequality. Besides the above, the latest report by United Nations Organization (Baumann, 2021), which joints the Human Development Index (HDI), indicates Chile is in the group of countries with "very high" human development (HDI of 0.847; 42nd position), being the first Latin American country in this list. Nevertheless, when the report focuses on income inequality, Chile drops 14 places in the ranking, leading to the highest level of income inequality. These statistics illustrate that the good macroeconomic indicators conceal the reality. According to the report, inequalities in the first two decades of the 21st century have reached disturbing levels, including segregation in education, obtaining decent employment, gaining access to food, as well as loss of confidence in political systems and institutions, among others. On the other hand, the report of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC, 2020), highlights that Chile's wealth is disproportionately concentrated. In 2017, Chile's poorest 50% owned 2.1% of the nation's net wealth in 2017, while the richest 10% held two-thirds (66%) and the richest 1% held 26.5%. Overall, Chile remains a highly unequal society in terms of income, wealth, and education, which persists from generation to generation and limits the chances of moving up the social ladder (OECD, 2018).

Despite the fact that macroeconomic data have been generally positive, the existing problems have led to a systemic and deep social malaise among Chilean citizens. This is demonstrated through the ongoing cycle of social mobilizations and demonstrations in many different spheres of Chilean society, such as the education system (the well-known Penguin revolution), the pension system, and health care. These social expressions which Mayol (2019) identifies as a "cycle of crisis" and "social imbalances," and which Herrera (2019) calls "hermeneutic crisis or political understanding of society", share four pillars or fundamental reasons (Mayol, 2019): 1) precarious social agenda; 2) moral crisis; 3) low responsiveness of the political system to citizen demands; 4) exacerbated consumer society. Since the advent of social networks in our century, such local movements were nourished by developments elsewhere on earth (e.g., Argentina, 2001; Ecuador and Bolivia, 2019; South Korea, 2017; France, Algeria, Pakistan, and Catalonia, 2019) fighting for similar causes (Croce, 2012), taken on global dimensions, becoming global, intersectoral, and intergenerational, thus giving rise to a social outburst unprecedented in Chile's post-dictatorship period. Thus, the local finds an echo in the global (Castells, 2012). As a movement, it does not have a defined leader and many of them claim to be apolitical. They are also united by a distrust of any delegation of authority (Castells, 2012).

The world of sport is not indifferent to this and echoes the demands of civil society with a range of expressions, serving as a loudspeaker on many occasions during social protests. Among all of them, the Olympic movement and Olympic events have been continuously used as a vehicle for the manifestation and expression of society's problems. Particularly noteworthy are the events that took place in the Olympic Games of Mexico 1968, Munich 1972 and Montreal 1976, with the Three Cultures Square Massacre (against the 68 Movement in this country), the murders at the Munich airport (associated with conflict over Middle East governance) and the rebellion of African and Arab countries (protest against the South African apartheid), respectively (Rodríguez, 2015; Salvador, 2004). Throughout history, Olympic events have served to bring to the forefront social injustices committed by governments. Nevertheless, Olympism's aim is to always place sport at the service of the harmonious development of human beings, thereby promoting the

development of a peaceful society that safeguards human dignity (International Olympic committee, 2019). Its leadership in the federated sphere (sports associationism) is considered one of the most widespread forms of social organization among the population (Irrázaval et al., 2006). As a matter of fact, sport in Chile has been characterized since its inception as a form of social division. The influence of culture and economics has shaped the development and evolution of sport, from sports practiced by the proletarians or the working class to sports practiced by the upper classes or social elite (Bourdieu, 1984b; Wilson, 2002).

Considering that the social outburst caused by a great inequality, due among other reasons to a class division built up over time, can have serious repercussions on the development of national sport (Bourdieu, 1984a; Therborn, 2016), it is necessary for the state to take an active role in developing national sport. Firstly, in the evolution of public policies aimed at the development of "for all or social sport", and secondly, in the development of representative sport in conjunction with private institutions (clubs, sports federations, Olympic Committee of Chile), (Sport Ministry, 2016). In order to achieve this goal, consultation processes through various spaces for participation, such as self-organized town meetings, assemblies and territorial circles, which allow the opening of discussions, reflections, debates, diagnoses and ideas for structural reform can enhance governance by legitimizing the decisions taken (Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, 2006). In within this framework, following previous models of international organizations that have led to public policy improvement in the sports area (De Bosscher et al., 2009; UNESCO, 2013), the Olympic Committee of Chile together with its National Olympic Academy and the High Performance Athletes' Association, who are well-versed in this social phenomenon and who strive to contribute organically, with the relevant actors, created the spaces for reflection and shared points of view, convening and developing in Santiago de Chile, the First Citizens Dialogue of National Federated Sport.

Accordingly, the purpose of this study is to analyse the main points of view and arguments raised by the athletes, high-performance coaches, and federated leaders of the country at the First Citizens Dialogue of National Federated Sport held in Chile in order to identify the main demands of these stakeholders, as well as to identify recommendations for improvement that would be acceptable in the spaces of public policy decision, particularly in a year that contemplated the Olympic Games, postponed until 2022, as well as the implementation of the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile, 2023.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Table 1. Characterization of the sample in the First National Citizens' Dialogue of Federated Sports of Chile.

Gender	Men		Woman		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>Participants</b>						
Federated Athletes	53	49.0	56	51.0	109	38.2
Federated Coaches	69	81.0	16	19.0	85	29.8
Federated Leaders	65	71.4	26	28.6	91	31.9
<b>Total</b>	187	65.6	98	34.4	285	100

### Participants

The sample was comprised by high-performance athletes (men and women), national coaches and presidents of national sports federations affiliated with the Chilean Olympic Committee. A random, non-probabilistic opportunity sample was used to gather responses from athletes, coaches, and national leaders, comprising 285 individuals (109 athletes; 85 coaches; 91 national leaders). The main characteristics of the sample are shown in Table 1. The selection process was planned and coordinated with the support of leaders,

coaches, and athletes of recognized national prestige, along with the sponsorship and participation of authorities from Chile's Ministry of Sport.

### **Procedures**

The First National Citizen Dialogue of Federated Sport in Chile took place in Santiago de Chile. At the event, which was held at Olympic Center, a structured working methodology was applied and high-performance athletes, coaches and sports leaders from across the country attended. This study was conducted based on a qualitative paradigm (Vega-Malagón et al., 2014) and centred on the interpretative paradigm, with phenomenological - hermeneutic underpinnings associated to the main thematic foundations articulated in the citizen dialogue (Martínez Godínez, 2013). The methodology used was non-experimental or ex - post facto and analyses the views, arguments, demands and proposals of key informants.

### *Instruments and information analysis*

The Chilean Olympic Committee provided access to the official database of participants. A group dynamic, based on a panel discussion modality, was used during the First National Citizen Dialogue on Federated Sport. This allowed the gathering of different opinions from a variety of thematic nuclei and key informants who were present at the event. The information was collected by means of an audio recording of MP3 files, accompanied by notes written by the table moderators, allowing for the transcription of the opinions into a digital text processor (Word 2007), in a textual and reliable manner.

The information was analysed using the Grounded Theory method (Strauss & Corbin, 2003). This methodology allows for the creation of theoretical or emerging categories and nodes in a deductive manner, as well as the deployment of key concepts to produce axial maps that demonstrate the connection between categories and subcategories and main, secondary and tertiary nodes in order to achieve the interpretative analysis of the information, investigate significant contexts, and meet the stated objectives (de Gialdino, 2009).

### *Research ethics*

Research was conducted in strict accordance with ethical and scientific principles. It was approved and sponsored by the Chilean Olympic Committee, through its Board of Directors and its educational department. The study was also endorsed by other organizations, such as the High Performance Athletes Association (DAR Chile). Likewise, informed consent was obtained from each participant.

## **RESULTS**

### ***Main points of view and arguments***

The main thematic categories prioritized, selected and developed by the key stakeholders in the First National Citizens' Dialogue of Federated Sport in Chile are shown in Table 2.

### ***An interpretive summary through figures of the main topics discussed in the First National Citizen Dialogue of Federated Sports Chile***

Supplementary material 1 contains the nine figures that represent the main opinions expressed by coaches, managers and athletes in relation to the main themes expressed in the First National Citizens' Dialogue of Federated Sports in Chile, which are summarized below:

Table 2. Prioritized thematic categories, selected and developed by key stakeholders.

Coaches	Leaders/managers	Athletes	Disagreement / Consensus
<b>Infrastructure - Implementation</b>	<b>Governance - State policy</b>	<b>Social protection and post-career</b>	
<b>Meaningful speech</b>			
<p><i>"Infrastructure remains concentrated in the capital. It is imperative that the state, through the MINDEP-IND, has a prioritized infrastructure development program. The new facilities need to be of high quality, with specific environments and material according to the level of practice of the athletes. Furthermore, an efficient administrative and management system is also necessary."</i></p>	<p><i>"Sports must be a constitutional right, and explicitly incorporated into the Chilean constitution, making it a right for all Chileans citizens. The current situation of Chilean society makes it essential for every individual to have the opportunity to participate in a sport or physical activity throughout their lifetimes. Therefore, a state policy that exceeds government policies is also important. The current public policies and Sport law need to be updated and adapted to society's current realities. There must be a relationship between MINDEP-IND-COCH-Federations that points to a synergy of country efforts..."</i></p>	<p><i>"Currently, highly qualified athletes and others see themselves as helpless and in constant social insecurity, as they are unable to contribute to the social security system, cannot access health services, cannot find housing, and are not offered contracts, threatening their stability and tranquillity in the sporting process." A system that accompanies and protects them, before, during, and after their sports careers is needed."</i></p>	Consensus
<b>Higher Education and Training</b>	<b>Scholarships and Awards</b>	<b>Governance - State policy</b>	
<b>Meaningful speech</b>			
<p><i>"The current Sports Law must be binding on the MINEDUC Higher Education Law, in such a way that an education system can be created: sports-studies, for young athletes under 18 years of age with differentiated logic of flexibility. As part of the higher education system, there is a need for legal and programmatic links with universities, technical training centres, and institutes of the country to provide flexible university studies to students of national and international competitive levels, considering scholarships, housing, food, and differentiated evaluations based on the sporting process of each discipline and athlete. This should be part of the criteria for accrediting higher education centres, which is being considered by the CNA."</i></p>	<p><i>"The PRODDAR program in art. 12 needs to be substantially improved. The Olympic and non-Olympic sports federations must also be considered. Scholarships and awards should not be annual but rather multi-year"</i></p>	<p><i>"Sport must be a constitutional right. Policies must be state-based and long-lasting. Athletes are often improving the management of leaders. They must act with greater professionalism and be audited through the appropriate channels. A better management system at the regional and national levels for IND-MINDEP's bureaucracy and administrative processes is needed, focusing on technical aspects rather than other aspects that wear down the sports system."</i></p>	Consensus

<i>In terms of training and improvement, they must be continuous and effective, and the institutions must learn to collaborate as well."</i>		<i>Professionalization, honourability and training of the federated leaders. Until now, the Federations are not doing well... "</i>	
<b>Social protection</b>	<b>Talent recruitment and development</b>	<b>Scholarships and Awards</b>	
<b>Meaningful speech</b>			
<p><i>"There should be a permanent employment contract, not based upon the interests or motivations of the IND leaders or officials.</i></p> <p><i>There should be several types of contracts for trainers along with decent salaries that are paid on time.</i></p> <p><i>The coaches should also receive awards for their results, just as the athletes do"</i></p>	<p><i>"Consider greater incentives for adolescent athletes and children with international sports projection on a regional and national scale that are currently paid for by their parents.</i></p> <p><i>Organize and coordinate the opening of sports infrastructure in the schools with the corresponding administrators.</i></p> <p><i>Strengthen national and regional competitions and their preparation at different stages of the athlete's development. Also, its financing and in coordination between Mindep, IND , Federations and regional governments.</i></p> <p><i>Enhance incentives and financing lines available from regional governments for exceptional athletes with proven and focused merits and international projection.</i></p> <p><i>Physical Education curriculum changes should be stopped by the Ministry of Education since they will undermine national sports development. At the present, there are fewer and fewer children and young people playing sports.</i></p> <p><i>The Cer and Promesas Chile Program must be managed from Federations and with a technical and not a political approach."</i></p>	<p><i>"Improve the PRODDAR scholarships, review article 12, and support all athletes who are at the national level. PRODDAR does not consider the context of each athlete and sport. PRODDAR should be awarded for more than one year and should be project it more than one Olympic cycle.</i></p> <p><i>There must be a national athlete card system that allows them to travel to training centres, a kind of TNE.</i></p> <p><i>Obtain adequate insurance for sports practice and athletes' representation.</i></p> <p><i>Prior to obtaining the sporting accomplishment, provide the economic resource first, instead of the other way around.</i></p> <p><i>Generate a support line for athletes from JUNAEB."</i></p>	<p>Consensus</p>

### 1. Governance

From the coach's perspective, the suggestion is that rewards (scholarships, insurance, etc.) should be offered to the athletes as well as to the coach for the accomplishments achieved, emphasizing that the sacrifices made by the coach are similar to those of the athletes. As seen from the leaders' perspective, it is important that sports be considered a constitutional right, so as to provide equality and stability to the practice of different sports. Regarding athletes, they also agree that sport should be a constitutional right in order to safeguard access to physical activity, both in the public and private spheres.

### 2. State policy

The coaches emphasize the existence of great labour instability, since the value of their services is reflected primarily in their fees, so they are not eligible for health insurance or housing benefits. Meanwhile, the leaders state that a state policy that protects all those who take part in federations could improve will improve their quality of life and their opportunities. Similarly, athletes assert that they have no employment agreements, no insurance coverage of any kind, nor any benefits that are favourable to health or housing, among others, a situation that only some enjoy as a privilege, without it being established as a duty of fairness for them.

### 3. Social protection and post-career

Among athletes, social protection in the form of health services and the right to social security contributions from the state and private sector are essential. Many athletes experience a post-career with minimal social and working conditions, in circumstances in which it should be a right given the dedicated time to the country.

### 4. Higher education and training

Coaches claim that they need to be updated in terms of sports and physical training. Moreover, the leaders stress the importance of having courses in economics and sports administration, since it is crucial for coaches to have the basic knowledge necessary to develop and strengthen sports training methodologies. They also mention that quality education, both academic and athletic, is essential. Nevertheless, the athletes pointed out that their top priority in this area is the level of flexibility they receive in regards to scheduling, exam dates, admissions, and permanence, considering that not all academic centres offer the same facilities. for all athletes.

### 5. Infrastructure and implementation

Coaches emphasized the importance of highlighting the importance of High Performance Centres and the need to increase their number in the country, as well as the relevance of having equal infrastructure and sports equipment, since there are disparities in this regard among sports disciplines. According to them, facilities and equipment should be matched to the needs and importance of each sport. Additionally, the leaders emphasize that more places for sports should be built, and that there should not only be centres for competition, but also for training, so that the equipment can be adapted to the developmental level of the people who are training. They argue that the same equipment cannot be applied to every age group. Finally, athletes agree that sports centres should be expanded throughout the country rather than centralized. They also declare that certain facilities are not used appropriately, as they are used by athletes for other purposes, which is why they demand they be used for their appropriate and pertinent purposes. Accordingly, it is suggested that standards should be developed by discipline based on a clear diagnosis at the national level.

### 6. Talent recruitment and development

According to the leaders, it is imperative to strengthen the structures of clubs to help develop sports talent, and to improve systems that detect it, as well. Athletes also agree that it would be beneficial to implement improvements in recruiting talent and also in facilitating the inclusion of young athletes in sports.

7. Regionalization

The coaches state that regional structures need to be strengthened, while the athletes state that further infrastructure and equipment needs to be invested in the regions, since the available amounts are centralized, without regard to the needs at the regional level.

8. National competition

Coaches state that national competitions are not equitable since certain sports are prioritized, generating inequality in their participation. However, athletes consider that the greatest obstacle in national competitions is the lack of participation and motivation of regional athletes when it comes to promoting and developing national competitions due to the absence of national policies and guidelines.

9. Public and private financing plus salary allocations

According to the coaches, funds are scarce and resources are delivered late and centralized. Moreover, leaders add that there must be more investment, especially for minor sports, which requires an increase in budget. In addition, they suggest that public funding is bureaucratic, so private funding is more accessible. In a similar vein, the athletes express concern about management, as there is a lack of resources and dissemination of sports. From this perspective, they advocate for the generation of strategies that facilitate the integration of private enterprise into sports development, where the alliance would generate incentives for both the investor and for sport development.

**The three stakeholders' priority macro-issues**

Figure 1 shows, as a summary, information associated with the priorities determined by the three stakeholders (coaches, managers and athletes) with respect to sensitive aspects that in one way or another affect the development and projection of Chilean sport at the national and international levels, including: Governance and Policies, Post-Career Protection, Scholarships and Awards, Higher Education and Training, Infrastructure and Implementation, Sports Science, Regionalization, Transportation, National Competition, Gender and Sexuality.

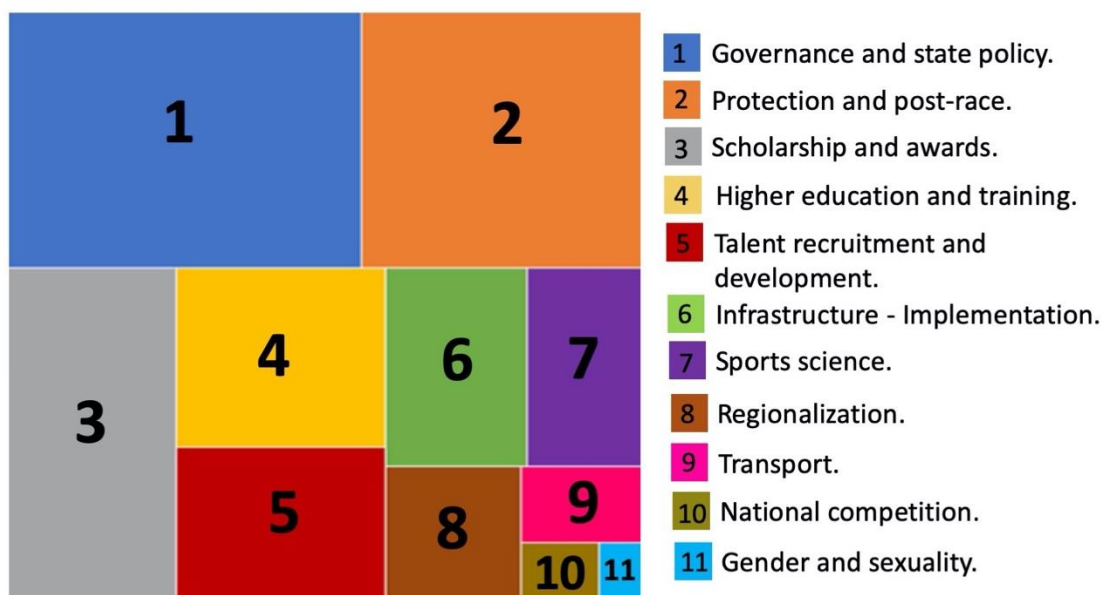


Figure 1. Priority macro-themes of the three stakeholders.



## DISCUSSION

The set of observations and appreciations put forward by the various actors in the Chilean sports world, although they vary in terms of the points addressed given the fact that they perform different activities in the sports process, allows us to present a generic diagnosis of the Chilean sports activity, which is characterized by a notorious and insufficient development, and a substantial projection of a pattern of unequal development. Accordingly, it appears that, over time, the sports sector has lacked an effective development policy from governments, which explicitly strives for the integration of the young into the world of sports on a massive and homogeneous scale. According to Retamal et al., (2020), it is necessary and transcendent to consider all citizens in the construction of public policies that support their needs. Indeed, according to the results obtained, it is clear that sports activity in Chile is still in a precarious phase, with certain features of amateurism in the different dimensions, where a lack of resources and the existence of a meagre institutional and organizational framework that has not guaranteed adequate policies, security and incentives to the different stakeholders.

Moreover, the lack of a coordinated and inclusive policy has hindered the institutional growth of the activity. National sport has progressed mainly due to a spontaneous development, appearing mainly in those areas with the greatest opportunities, so that a relative and inorganic growth is apparent, characterized by a concentrated activity, mainly in the capital. As a consequence, this centralized process has accentuated a significant sporting inequality and geographical exclusion and has produced also a notorious stratification according to the type of sport. As a result of centralism, a dearth of regional development in the field of sports stagnates progress at the cultural and social levels, among other dimensions.

It appears that the development of a country's sporting life, especially where there are significant economic and social inequalities, requires compensatory policies in each of the analysed dimensions to ensure a certain levelling of opportunities. This would facilitate the incorporation of those sectors that have traditionally been left behind in the access and projection of sporting life. These difficulties and inequities are also significantly evidenced in high performance sport, becoming determinant and relevant at the time of sports competition (Jacques et al., 2016). Fernández & Torregrosa (2009), based on this perspective of the sports life cycle, analyse the reasons for elite athletes' withdrawal from competition, an aspect that is often overlooked, and that gravitates on both high-performance and amateur athletes. Moreover, Fernández & López (2008) discuss the importance of analysing sports withdrawal from a psychological point of view so as to have a comprehensive view of the entire sporting career of an athlete. Accordingly, it is recommended to follow the contribution of Piñeiro (2015), who goes beyond the sports field, visualizing the contribution of sports innovation to economic growth, but from a proposal implemented in European development, which can be perfectly replicated in the South American context, and in Chile in particular.

As far as the positions of the actors are concerned, there is a transversal view regarding the development of sport in general, which ought to serve as a wake-up call for those in charge of organizations at the national level, aiming to optimize the system, but starting from the bases that fundamentally consider the actors, namely, the leaders, coaches and athletes, since they are the most impacted. The arguments reported must be viewed from different perspectives, which include those associated with economic allocation, infrastructure, as well as projection, within which the importance of training, the allocation of technical resources, and participation at the international level are to be highlighted on the occasion of reducing the existing gap at the South American, Pan American, and world levels (Vásquez Recalde, 2018).

The comparison of reality with other contexts is important in order to identify gaps that exist and in order to overcome the shortcomings manifested, thus offering a contrast with other international realities, which can serve as a model to be emulated (Deloitte, 2018). This look outside the country is established as a strategy to seek sporting success. In order to reach this level of introspection, however, it is necessary to consider both the psychological aspects that differentiate an athlete from one sport discipline from another (Sánchez & Valenzuela, 2013) as well as the economic costs associated with going in search of a sports medal (Contreras & Gómez-Lobo, 2006). It should be noted that, in order to reduce the gaps in relation to the Latin American context and worldwide, it is essential to develop integration processes from the expansion of sports practice throughout the continent, with global projection, under the concept of "*beyond political-social differences, as a basis for true integration and development of peoples and their members*", with spaces for advocacy and public policy decision (Fernández, 2017; Retamal et al., 2020).

As such, universities must play a prominent role in the process and in sport development, as highlighted by Pérez et al., (2014), for the purposes of facilitating the administration and implementation of programs that account for progressive and lasting development over time, considering in the process those who have the knowledge, beyond people and times. Vilanova & Puig (2013) approach it from a different perspective, from the viewpoint of the athlete and protagonist of a sports career with academic projection, attempting to point out that universities are not necessarily tombs for athletes if they really look for ways to overcome barriers. There are many reasons for the withdrawal from elite sport, as highlighted by Jordana Casas et al., (2017). As Gil (2015) points out, it is necessary a model that "*Synchronizes University and Sport*" to reduce the impact of sports withdrawal. It can be argued from the above considerations that there is a need for the establishment of policies in order to facilitate its development and prominence at universities, an aspect that is reaffirmed by Navarro (2008), which emphasize the impact that university training has on high-level athletes. In others words, it could be described as stated by García & Burillo (2018) and Sánchez-Pato et al., (2018) who define academic success as a dual university model for motivation in the integration of student-athletes with the motive of fostering their practice in the university system.

Finally, it is possible to mention that the current times show a diversity of differences and gaps at the social level that offer opportunities for dialogue between the various actors that make up the environment, in order to achieve improvements from the perspectives of each sector. Whenever governance is installed as a governing body and engine of reformulating constitutional rights, we must consider whether it is exercised from an administrative-political or from an emotional-empirical angle, where the promotion of values and leaders of sport allow for creation of new sports policies as they unfold. Those issues are addressed by Muñoz & Marrugo (2017) by analysing the social coverage of athletes and their impact on the economy and society level. This is in line with what is pointed out by Piñeiro (2015) who highlights the sports contribution in the economic growth of a country, which should be considered in the implementation of regional governments. Nevertheless, when talking about governance from the perspective of the different actors, it can be concluded that sport should be considered a constitutional right, as mentioned by Tejero-González, (2016, p.5), who consider four transversal arguments: 1.- sport increases the physical, mental, and social well-being of citizens, 2.- sport encourages unity and cohesion of society, 3.- sport promotes mostly democratic principles, and 4.- sport revitalizes the economy.

In general, there is a consensus among the opinions and arguments of the different actors and very few disagreements. Hence, through this opportunity, it is possible to generate legal, institutional and human synergies that facilitate the calm and overall welfare of this person (athlete, coach and leader) and thus, feel more socially accompanied, recognized and valued. Besides giving peace of mind to the environment, they also can improve the sporting excellence of nations on international stages, whose technical goal is to

achieve the mark, the record and the position and the political goal is to express the national image on the international medal standings.

Future studies following a similar format need to be evaluated from different perspectives, with arguments which would enable the development of corrective measures to promote participation in physical activity, from schools to high performance, as a longstanding social movement. Furthermore, the priorities demanded by the actors and citizens should be determined, in order to generate proposals, based on interpretations rooted in quantitative (defined in goals) and qualitative approaches (evaluation of the importance of sports practice and development of physical activity) by the population, from schools to high performance levels. As the hermeneutic phenomenological basis is associated with the main thematic themes developed in the Citizen Dialogues, it must be an ongoing activity, even more so when we take into account that the governance of the country will have new actors, such as the regional governments, which will simply taking decisions according to the realities at the country level (Ministerio del Deporte, 2016). It should be kept in mind that a vital element in formulating public policies is to establish the opinions of athletes, coaches, and national leaders, as well as making adjustments and readjustments in the short, medium, and long term. Unfortunately, this aspect has been overlooked throughout the development of sport and the practice of physical activity, which has led to a decline in standards over time.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

This research provides unprecedented empirical evidence regarding the effects of the social outburst in Chile on sport, gathered through the main arguments and points of view of the actors involved (coaches, leaders and athletes) in the First Citizen Dialogue of National Federated Sport convened by the Chilean Olympic Committee, its National Olympic Academy and the High Performance Athletes Association. The document reflects that this area was not alien to the country's dialogic process, highlighting the inequalities and urgent needs to overcome them.

In general, there is a consensus among the opinions and arguments of the different actors and very few disagreements. It is clear that sports activity in Chile is still in a precarious phase, with certain features of amateurism in the different dimensions, where a lack of resources and the existence of a meagre institutional and organizational framework that has not guaranteed adequate policies, security and incentives to the different participating actors can be observed. Chilean sports are still in a precarious position, with certain features of amateurism in the different dimensions. In addition there is a limited number of resources and a meagre institutional and organizational structure unable to guarantee adequate policies, security and incentives to the different stakeholders taking part in the analysis. The need to implement profound measures is clearly evident, but based on establishing dialogue that will allow, based on evidence and a critical mass, to generate policies for its creation. This act constitutes the starting point to assume the challenge of overcoming it, counting on the internal support of the organizations as well as that of the different participating agents associated with it such as the state, through the formulation of ad-hoc policies, but also through the international level support.

## **AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS**

The authors: Jorge Flández Valderrama, Pedro Gargallo Bayo, Marcelo González Orb, Miguel Cornejo Améstica, Víctor Jacques Parraguez, José Aguilar Navarrete, Daniel Duclos Bastías, and Juan C. Colado; have contributed to research design, data collection, paper writing and paper revision.

## SUPPORTING AGENCIES

This work has been carried out within the framework of the VIDCA -2020-01 Research Project of the Directorate of Research, Development and Artistic Creation of the Austral University of Chile, to which the FGI-17 Project of the Metropolitan University of Education Sciences is added.

## DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are hereby grateful for the contribution of the Chilean Olympic Committee and its Education area. In a special way, to the leaders, athletes and coaches, who, in a disinterested way, participated in this first National Dialogue convened by the Olympic Committee of Chile in the city of Santiago of Chile.

## REFERENCES

- Banco interamericano de desarrollo. (2006). La política de las políticas públicas: Progreso económico y social en América Latina: Informe 2006. Retrieved from: <https://publications.iadb.org/es/publicacion/16950/la-politica-de-las-politicas-publicas-progreso-economico-y-social-en-america>
- Baumann, F. (2021). The Next Frontier—Human Development and the Anthropocene: UNDP Human Development Report 2020. *Environ.Dev.Sustain.* 63(3), 34-40. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00139157.2021.1898908>
- Bourdieu, P. (1984a). La distinción. Criterio y bases sociales del gusto. Taurus.
- Bourdieu, P. (1984b). *Questions de sociologie*. Minuit.
- Castells, M. (2012). *Redes de indignación y esperanza*. Madrid: Alianza Editorial.
- Comisión económica para América latina y el caribe. (2020). Informe del Trigésimo Cuarto Período de Sesiones del Comité Plenario de la CEPAL.
- Comité Olímpico internacional. (2019). Carta olímpica: Vigente a partir del 17 de Julio de 2020. Retrieved from: <https://library.olympics.com/Default/doc/SYRACUSE/208119/carta-olimpica-vigente-a-partir-del-26-de-junio-de-2019-comite-olimpico-internacional>
- Contreras, D., & Gómez-Lobo, A. (2006). En busca del oro: ¿Qué determina el éxito en competencias deportivas internacionales? *TE*, 73(290(2)), 241-263. <https://doi.org/10.20430/ete.v73i290.544>
- Croce, M. (2012). El canon latinoamericano o esa comunidad imaginada que impulsa la utopía de América. *Revista Investigações*, 25(1), 11-34.
- De Bosscher, V., De Knop, P., van Bottenburg, M., Shibli, S., & Bingham, J. (2009). Explaining international sporting success: An international comparison of elite sport systems and policies in six countries. *Sport Manage. Rev.*, 12(3), 113-136. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.smr.2009.01.001>
- de Gialdino, I. V. (2009). Ontological and Epistemological Foundations of Qualitative Research. *Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung / Forum Qual. Soc. Res.*, 10(2), Article 2. <https://doi.org/10.17169/fqs-10.2.1299>
- Deloitte. (2018). Estudio comparativo internacional de los modelos de deporte de alto nivel.
- Fernández, I. (2017). Las políticas de la Unión Europea en el ámbito del deporte. *Educació Social. Revista d'Intervenció Socioeducativa*, 65, 57-74.

- Fernández, M. D. G., & López, J. B. (2008). Después del deporte, qué? Análisis psicológico de la retirada deportiva. RPD/JSP, 17(1), 61-69.
- Fernández, M. D. G., & Torregrosa, M. (2009). Análisis De La Retirada De La Competición De Élite: Antecedentes, Transición Y Consecuencias. RIVED, 4(1), 93-104.
- García, P. B., & Burillo, P. (2018). Los deportistas de élite en el sistema universitario español. Retos: nuevas tendencias en educación física, deporte y recreación, 33, 162-168. <https://doi.org/10.47197/retos.v0i33.55773>
- Gil, A. (2015). Llega el «erasmus» Deportivo Entrevista a Susana del Río Villar, Directora de Erasmus Agm+: “queremos un Modelo que Sincronice Universidad y Deporte”. DKH prensa. Retrieved from: <https://dkh.deusto.es/comunidad/press/recurso/llega-el-erasmus-deportivo-entrevista-a-susana/339d49ba-6fcd-4bce-9e12-29da82b93b7b>
- Herrera, H. (2019). Octubre en Chile: Acontecimiento y comprensión política: Hacia un republicanismo popular. (Vol. 77). Katankura. <https://doi.org/10.4067/s0718-43602020000100273>
- Irrázaval, I., Hairel, E., Sokolowski, S. W., & Salamon, L. M. (2006). Estudio comparativo del sector sin fines de lucro, Chile. Santiago: Johns Hopkins University, PNUD, Estudios y Consultorías FOCUS.
- Jacques, V., Flandez, J., Monrroy, M., Arismendi, A., Vergara, G., Maureira, F., Vargas, R., Cornejo, M., Martínez, C., & Gajardo, R. (2016). Determining factors in the performance of Chilean athletes. A case study of high performance athletes/Factores determinantes del desempeño de los deportistas en Chile. El caso de los deportistas de alto rendimiento. Motricidade, 12(S2), 165-175.
- Jordana Casas, A., Torregrossa, M., Ramis Laloux, Y., & Latinjak, A. T. (2017). Retirada del deporte de élite: Una revisión sistemática de estudios cualitativos. RPD/JSP, 26(4), 68-74.
- Martínez Godínez, V. L. (2013). Paradigmas de investigación. Manual multimedia para el desarrollo de trabajos de investigación. Una investigación desde la epistemología dialéctico-crítica. Retrieved from: <http://148.202.167.116:8080/xmlui/handle/123456789/3790>
- Vergara-Perucich, José Francisco. (2020). Big Bang. Estallido Social 2019. Modelo Derrumbado - Sociedad Rota - Política Inútil. Universum (Talca), 35(1), 430-435. <https://doi.org/10.4067/s0718-23762020000100430>
- Ministerio del Deporte, G. de C. (2016). Política nacional de actividad física y deportes 2016-2025. (1a). Fidel Oteiza 1956. Retrieved from: <http://biblioteca.digital.gob.cl/handle/123456789/380>
- Muñoz, S. M., & Marrugo, E. A. B. (2017). Análisis de las coberturas sociales de los deportistas en España y Colombia. Retos. Nuevas Tendencias en Educación Física, Deporte y Recreación, 32, 152-157. <https://doi.org/10.47197/retos.v0i32.52073>
- Navarro, J. (2008). Políticas deportivas de las instituciones de educación superior. Sapiens: Revista Universitaria de Investigación, 9, 203-218.
- Organización para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Económico. (2018). Estudios económicos de la OCDE: Chile 2018. Better policies for better lives. 72.
- Pérez, P. R. Á., Jorge, D. P., Ramallal, M. E. G., & Aguilar, D. L. (2014). La formación universitaria de deportistas de alto nivel: Análisis de una compleja relación entre estudios y deporte. Retos: nuevas tendencias en educación física, deporte y recreación, 26, 94-100. <https://doi.org/10.47197/retos.v0i26.34408>
- Piñeiro, R. S. (2015). Contribución de la innovación deportiva al crecimiento económico europeo. Sport TK, 4(2), 25-32. <https://doi.org/10.6018/242911>
- Retamal, F. C., Castillo, C. M., Contreras, C. V., Canan, F., Starepravo, F. A., & de Oliveira, A. A. B. (2020). Participación ciudadana en la elaboración de las políticas públicas de actividad física y deporte: El caso de Chile. Retos: nuevas tendencias en educación física, deporte y recreación, 38, 482-489. <https://doi.org/10.47197/retos.v38i38.76340>

- Rodríguez, A. (2015). Geopolítica de la raza. Sudáfrica, Estados Unidos y boicot en los juegos olímpicos de 1968. *Estud. de Hist. Mod. Contemp. de Mex* 50, 45-62. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehmcm.2015.10.001>
- Salvador, J. L. (2004). *El deporte en occidente*. Cátedra.
- Sánchez, D. M., & Valenzuela, A. V. (2013). Análisis del perfil motivacional de diversos grupos de atletas y su repercusión en el nivel de satisfacción deportiva. *Sport TK*, 2(2), 9-19. <https://doi.org/10.6018/194571>
- Sánchez-Pato, A., Pascual, E. C., García, L. M., Estero, J. L. A., & García-Roca, J. A. (2018). Estudio del éxito académico de un modelo universitario de carrera dual en deportistas-estudiantes según género, nivel de estudios y deporte. *Rev. esp. educ. fis. deportes*, 421, 35-47.
- Strauss, A., & Corbin, J. (2003). *Bases de la investigación cualitativa técnicas y procedimientos para desarrollar la teoría fundamentada*. Universidad de Antioquia.
- Tejero-González, C. M. (2016). Sobre la importancia del deporte como acción política: Razones y medidas de gobernanza. *Cult. Cien. y Deporte*, 11(31), 5-6.
- Therborn, G. (2016). *Los campos de exterminio de la desigualdad (2a)*. Fondo de Cultura Económica.
- UNESCO. (2013). Conferencia Internacional de Ministros y Altos Funcionarios Encargados de la Educación Física y el Deporte (MINEPS). Retrieved from: <https://es.unesco.org/themes/deporte-y-antidopaje/mineps>
- Vásquez Recalde, L. E. (2018). Relación de la inversión pública en deporte de alto rendimiento y los resultados deportivos obtenidos. Período 2009-2016. Retrieved from: <http://repositorio.puce.edu.ec:80/xmlui/handle/22000/15471>
- Vega-Malagón, G., Ávila-Morales, J., Vega-Malagón, A. J., Camacho-Calderón, N., Becerril-Santos, A., & Leo-Amador, G. E. (2014). Paradigmas en la investigación. Enfoque cuantitativo y cualitativo. *Eur. Sci. J*, 10(15).
- Vilanova, A., & Puig, N. (2013). Compaginar la carrera deportiva con la carrera académica para la futura inserción laboral: ¿Una cuestión de estrategia? *RPD/JSP*, 22(1), 61-68.
- Wilson, T. C. (2002). The Paradox of Social Class and Sports Involvement: The Roles of Cultural and Economic Capital. *Int Rev Sociol Sport*, 37(1), 5-16. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1012690202037001001>



## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

Figure 1 shows the views expressed by coaches, leaders and athletes in relation to the governance.

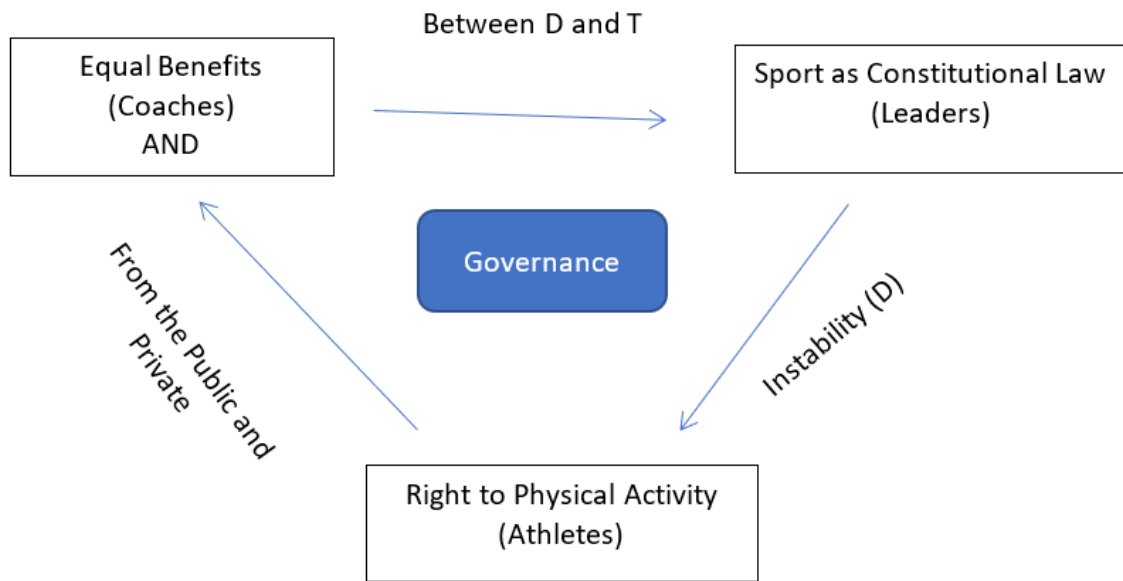


Figure 1. Governance.

Figure 2 presents the opinions expressed by leaders, coaches and athletes in relation to state policy.

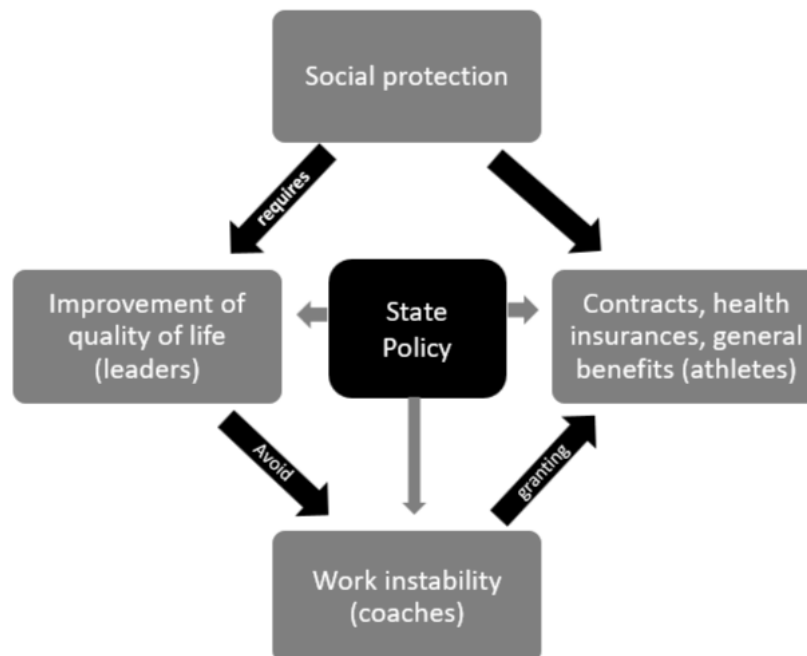


Figure 2. State policy.

Figure 3 allows to visualize the desires of the athletes in relation to social protection and post-career.

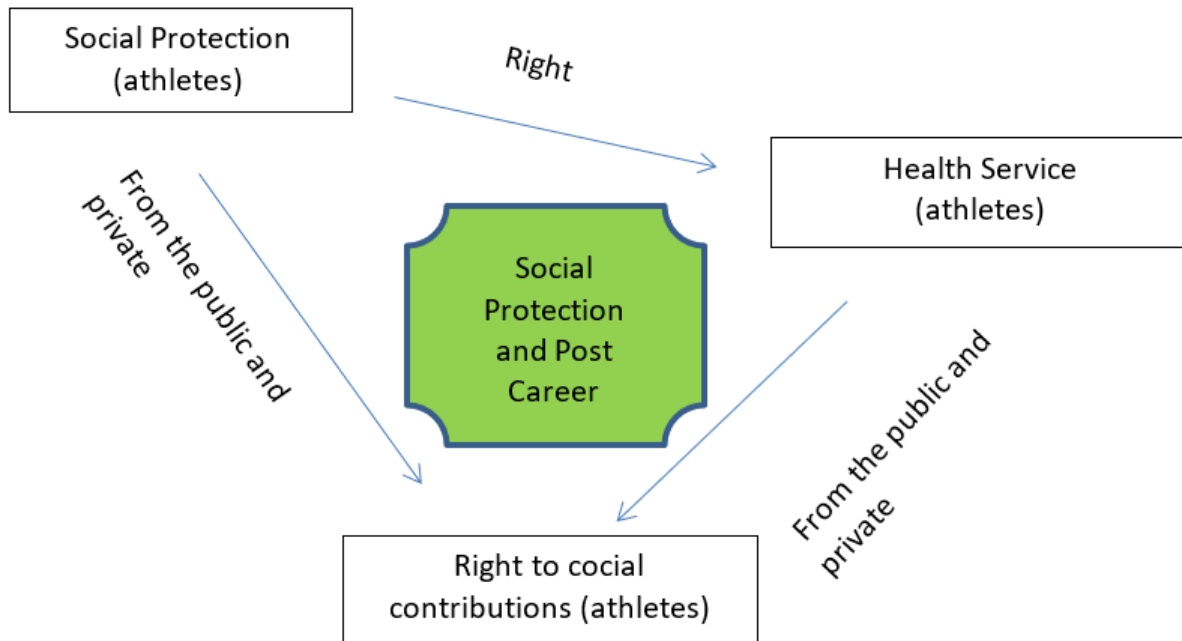


Figure 3. Protection and post-race.

Figure 4 shows the opinions of coaches, leaders and athletes regarding the subject of higher education and training.

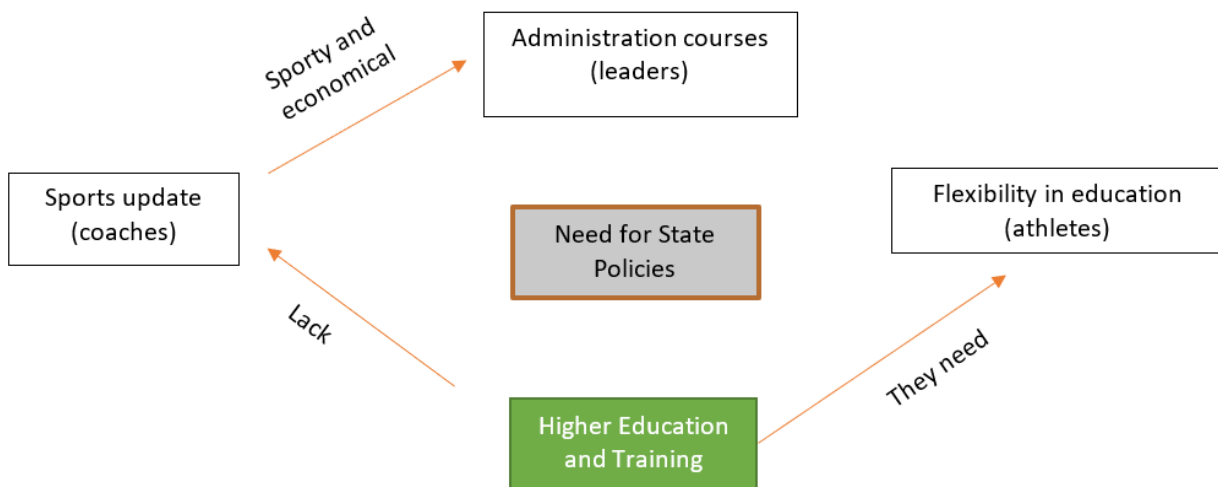


Figure 4. Higher education and training.



Figure 5 presents the opinion of coaches, leaders and athletes based on the infrastructure and implementation issue.

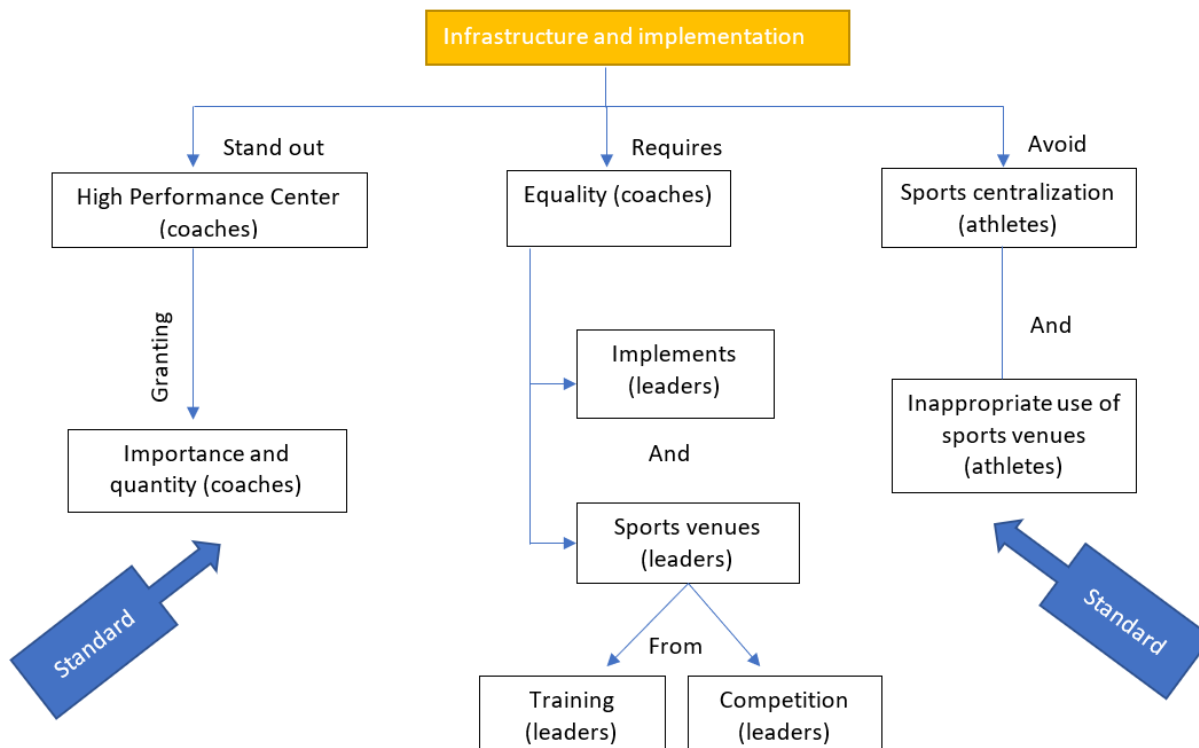


Figure 5. Infrastructure and implementation.

Figure 6 shows the opinions of leaders and athletes in relation to the recruitment and development of talents.

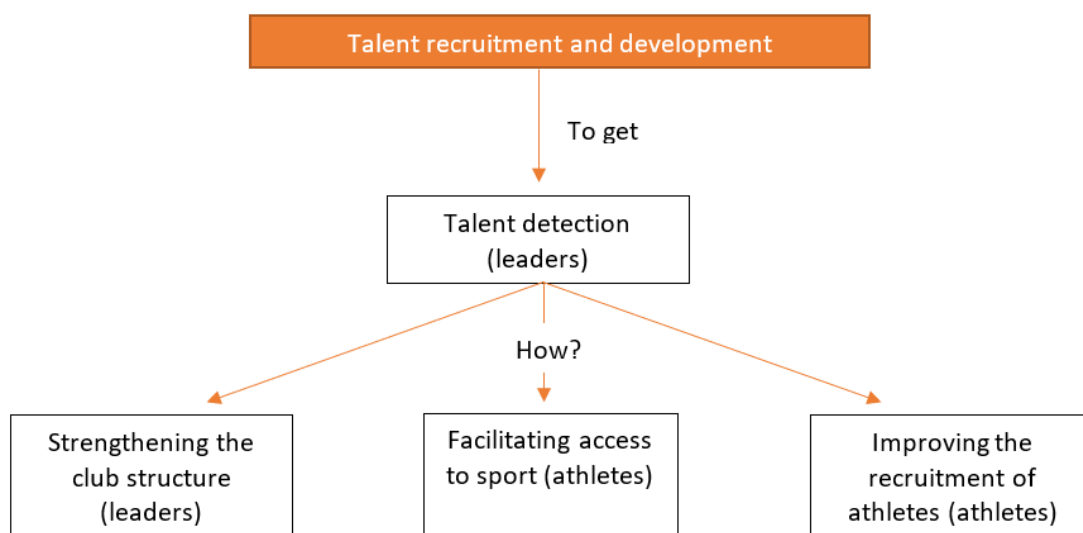


Figure 6. Recruitment and development of talents.

Figure 7 reflects the opinion of coaches and athletes in relation to regionalization.

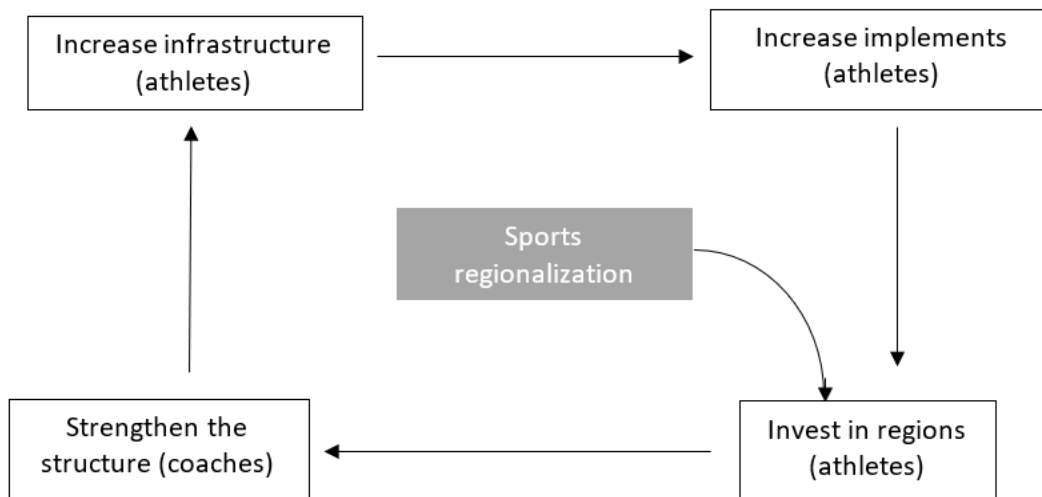


Figure 7. Regionalization.

Figure 8 shows the opinions of coaches and athletes, based on the national competition theme.

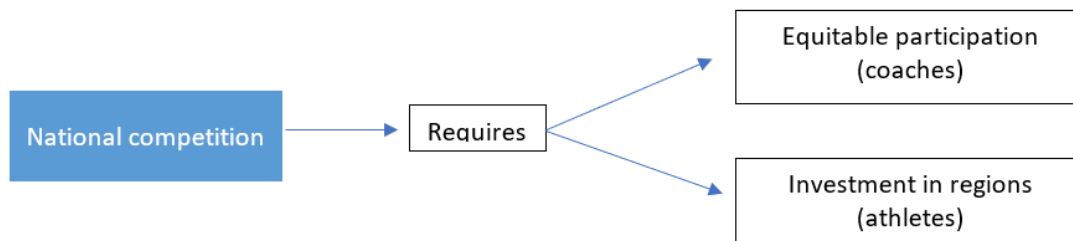


Figure 8. National competition.

Figure 9 provides information on coaches, leaders and athletes, regarding public and private financing, plus resource allocations.

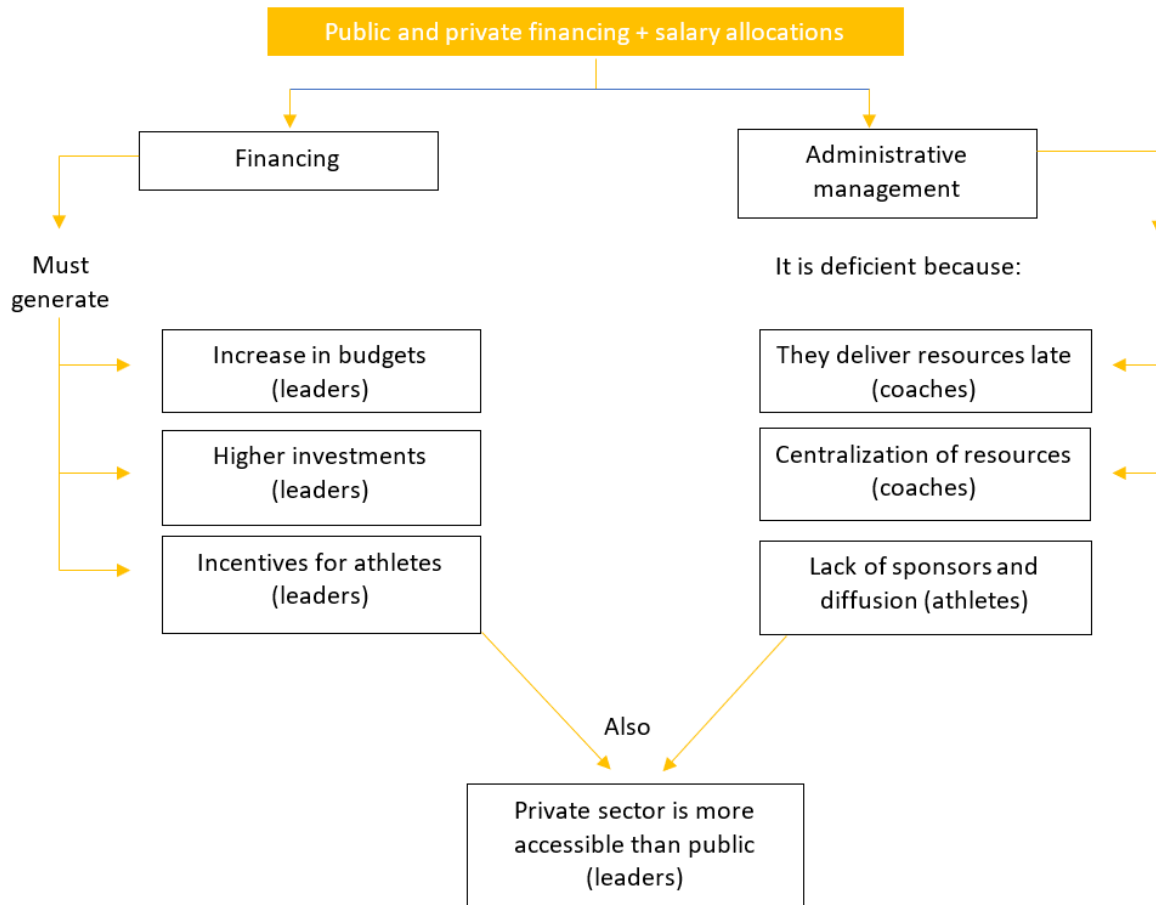


Figure 9. Public and private financing plus salary assignments.

