

Warsaw, October 9, 2007

## **No 2008 Olympics in Beijing!**

### APPEAL to the Polish leaders and public opinion to cease participation in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Less than a year remains before the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The leaders of the People's Republic of China continue to ignore basic human rights. Reports from Amnesty International, Freedom House, Human Rights Watch, the Helsinki Foundation, and the Committee to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong in China, describe examples of execution and jail time for beliefs, organ harvesting from prisoners and other detainees, censoring, spying on reporters and attempts to intimidate people who fight for freedom in communist China.

The Olympic Charter states: "The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity." The International Olympics Committee says, "The role of the IOC is to run the promotion of the Olympics in accordance with the Olympic Charter" and that the IOC can give its support, at any time and in anyway that they see as correct, for the international multidiscipline competitions—regional, continental or world competitions—as long as they are held in absolute accordance to the Olympic Charter. In the case of the CCP we can be completely sure that these requirements are not met.

The decision made by IOC to allow communist China to hold the 2008 Olympics has to be seen as a scandal and disgrace. Poland as well as other countries back out from taking part in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Taking part in the Olympics is voluntary and this is especially the case in the situation where we don't have the slightest problem of proving that the 2008 Olympics in Beijing violate the rules set down in the Olympic Charter and the Olympics itself.

**We would like to appeal to the Polish government and to public opinion to withdraw from taking part in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.**

**No 2008 Olympics in Beijing!**

[www.world-solidarity.org](http://www.world-solidarity.org)

**The following people endorsed the appeal on October 9, 2007 among others:**

***Andrzej Gwiazda* – Solidarity Trade Union activist, Institute of National Remembrance**

***Andrzej Czuma* – Solidarity Trade Union activist, Polish parliamentarian**

***Julia Pitera* – Past Chairperson of Transparency International Poland, Polish parliamentarian**

***Bogusław Stanisławski* – Past Chairman of Amnesty International Poland**

***Jan Jekielek* – International Society for Human Rights**

***Michał Orzechowski* – World Solidarity**

***Krzysztof Łoziński* – 'Kontrateksty' online newspaper**

***Krystyna Murczyk* – President of the The Polish Transplant Sports Association**

***Piotr Cykowski* – Other Space Foundation**

***Jędrzej Karpiński* – Oriental Culture Center**

***Than Htike* – Polish-Burmese Solidarity**

***Ewa Dryjańska* – E-POLITYKA online newspaper**

***Stanisław Biega* – Zielone Mazowsze NGO**