



International
Olympic
Committee

The President

Inauguration of the Olympic Truce Mural Olympic Village, 1 February 2022

It is a truly auspicious moment to inaugurate the Olympic Truce Mural today on Chinese New Year. To all our Chinese athletes and friends: Schin tschuënn kuai-lè! Huh niënn dah dschieh!

This Year of the Tiger is also an Olympic Year. Just like you, the Olympic athletes, the Year of the Tiger stands for ambition, courage and strength.

Over the coming days you will compete fiercely against one another. At the same time, you will be living together peacefully and respectfully under one roof, in the Olympic Village. In this way, you will show us what the world can look like, if we all respect the same rules and each other. This is the true Olympic spirit. This is the message of the Olympic Games: bringing the world together in a peaceful competition.

This message will be all the more important, as the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 enjoy the widespread support of the international community. This is in particular illustrated by the Olympic Truce Resolution, which was adopted by consensus of all 193 Member States of the United Nations General Assembly.

This resolution directly benefits you, the Olympic athletes, by ensuring that you can make your Olympic dream come true, no matter what the political circumstances may be in the world. The resolution also specifically highlights you, recognising that the athletes are ambassadors to promote peace and human understanding.

Three days ago, this Olympic Truce for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 came into effect. It is in fact a 3,000-year old tradition, already put in place for the ancient Olympic Games, thereby highlighting their contribution to peace.

We can only send this message of peace if the Olympic Games stand above and beyond all differences. This is only possible if the Olympic Games are politically neutral and do

not become a tool to achieve political goals. Our commitment to political neutrality is enshrined in the Olympic Charter because it is so central to our mission to unite the world in peaceful competition.

The Olympic Truce Mural is where all of us can show our support for the Olympic Truce and the principles it represents.

Today, we call on all political leaders around the world to observe their commitment to this Olympic Truce.

In this Olympic spirit, I invite you to leave your signature on the Olympic Truce Mural to show your commitment to this mission of peace of the Olympic Games.