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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SOLUTIONS IN THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to identify the level of understanding of young people regarding environmental protection and sustainability solutions at the Olympic Games. A questionnaire was developed and applied online that referred to socio-demographic characteristics, awareness and interests, environmental practices to promote environmental awareness regarding the OG. 235 university students (men: 47.2%, women: 52.8%) from Latvia (48.9%) and Romania (51.1%) in bachelor's (82.1%) and master's (17.9%) programs. 35.7% practice individual sports, 34.5% team sports, and 29.8% do not practice sports. 71.9% of respondents say they watch sporting events like the Olympics, while 19.4% say they don't. Descriptive analyses, Spearman correlation, Mann-Whitney U and Wilcoxon tests, and Two Way ANOVA were performed. The results highlighted the existence of positive correlations regarding the level of awareness and interest in environmental protection policies among university students, suggesting the possibility of collaboratively developing a guide to be implemented at the university level.

Key words: environment, higher education institutions, Olympic education, Olympic Games, sustainability

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