

Abstract

The thesis "The Olympic Games in Munich as a Venue for the Political Rivalry between the FRG and the GDR" deals with the use of sport for political purposes by the two German states on the specific example of the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972. These Olympic games were a breakthrough for both countries. For the FRG as a host country, they created an opportunity to show the world, a new and modern Germany. However on the other hand, the GDR could use it's first equal participation with an independent team in the Olympics to it's own advantage. The first part of the thesis is focused on the development of German-German rivalry in the Olympics. The next chapter describes the Olympic games in Munich and also answers the question; what the two German states wanted to achieve, how they wanted to achieve their goals and which one of the German states was more succesful in overall rivalry through the use of the games. Attention is also paid to the influence on political rivalry between the two states of the Palestinian assassination at the games. The conclusions of the thesis are supported by the analysis of the response of the political rivalry of the GDR and the FRG at the Munich Olympics in print media. With a focus specifically on the East German newspaper- Neues Deutschland and West German newspaper- Berliner Morgenpost.