



October, 19th 2023

Long lasting legacy for Peace and Sport Middle-East Forum in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

The Peace and Sport Middle-East Forum, powered by the Saudi Olympic and Paralympic committee, a premium platform for dialogue on Peace through sport, assembled decision-makers, Champions for Peace and experts addressing the theme "Sport is an Answer for Peace". One of the highlights of the debates gathered Football stars committed for coexistence and inclusion through Sport. 2023 Champion for Peace of the year Nadia Nadim, Peace and Sport Vice-President Didier Drogba Peace and Sport and Senegal striker Sadio Mané. This forum provided a tangible legacy, focusing on four pivotal pillars, including supporting athletes' social commitment, maximizing the social impact of sports events, building coalitions to foster best practices, and promoting the #WhiteCard campaign as a symbol for peace.

Distinguished guests opened the forum with powerful words and set the tone for the day.

Joël Bouzou, Peace and Sport President and Founder

'We share a vision of sport as a fair and universal tool. A fantastic asset to establish a culture of peace and collective well-being through dialogue. This is not simply a matter of affirming a conviction; it is a matter of demonstrating, through concrete evidence'

H.R.H. Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Faisal

'The values of respect, cooperation and fair play anchored in sport are undoubtedly part of the principle of peace and positive action, in order to achieve a common language that unites us in various parts of the world'

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco

'I share the conviction that sport has a unique and extraordinary vocation to bring people together in a common cause, to enable communities that have been torn apart to re-establish ties, and to help populations' resilience. Putting the values of sport at the service of sustainable peace and making it a driving force for social integration for the most disadvantaged is certainly one of the most beautiful causes that man can defend'

Peace and Sport Awards 2023

The Peace and Sports Awards ceremony concluded the event, promoting the best practices of sport as a tool for peace. Sadio Mané, first laureate of the Socrates Award, created by Peace and Sport and le Groupe l'Equipe/France Football to reward the most committed footballers for the society through solidarity actions. Al-Nassr and Senegal football star declared 'I was really happy when I received the Socrates Award, not for the trophy itself but because I realised the extent of the impact of my actions towards my community'. The ceremony concluded with the induction of new Champions for Peace from Saudi Arabia that will spread the message of Peace through Sport in the Kingdom and a collective #WhiteCard highlighting all the efforts of Peace and Sport to develop a culture of peace through sport.

Here is the complete list of award winners:

Peace through sport initiative of the year: Zalmi Foundation (Pakistan), Georges Malaika Foundation (Democratic Republic of Congo)

Combat Sport Initiative of the year: World Taekwondo,

Special Jury Prize: Gamers without borders (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)

Champion for Peace of the year: Nadia Nadim (Denmark)

[Discover the session reports and best photos of the Peace and Sport Middle-East Forum](#)

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#WhiteCard - #BePartofWhatMatters - #SportisanAnswer

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