

Will Israel allow Palestine's Olympic Gear to reach Brazil? Confiscates Athletes Equipment and Uniforms

By [Rayana Khalaf](#)

Global Research, August 03, 2016
[Step Feed](#) 2 August 2016

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Police State & Civil Rights](#),
[Women's Rights](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

According to the [Associated Press](#), Palestine's National Olympic Committee declared that the Israeli authorities have taken hold of the Palestinian 2016 Olympic team's uniforms and equipment, forcing the Palestinian team to travel to Brazil without its gear.

The Secretary-General of the Palestinian NOC Munther Masalmeh [stated](#) that the gear has not cleared customs yet. On the other hand, [Daily Herald](#) reports that "Israel Tax Authority, which oversees customs, says it has heard nothing of the matter but would be happy to assist if approached by the Palestinians."



Therefore, [Palestine's athletes](#) are headed for the Rio 2016 Olympics without uniforms or equipment. The Olympians include two swimmers, two runners, a judoka and a dressage rider.

Mayada Sayyad has qualified to the 2016 Olympic marathon, while Christian Zimmerman booked his spot at the dressage riding event. Meanwhile, swimmers [Mary Al-Atrash](#) and [Ahmed Gebrel](#) were granted Universality Tickets to the 50-meter freestyle and

200-meter freestyle races at Rio 2016. Additionally, Simon Yaacoub was invited to compete in the extra-lightweight category at the judo tournament and [Mohammed Abu Khoussa](#) will run in the 100-meter sprints.

Israeli authorities have made a habit of intruding on Palestinian sports. The Palestinian NOC's official [website](#) actually includes a report titled "[Israeli Occupation Transgressions against Palestinian Sports](#)," which illustrates a series of unexplained detentions of the national team, athletes and sports personnel.

Palestine has previously [asked](#) the football governing body FIFA to ban Israel for hindering the movement of Palestinian athletes based on alleged security reasons. These efforts were unsuccessful.

The original source of this article is [Step Feed](#)
Copyright © [Rayana Khalaf](#), [Step Feed](#), 2016

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Rayana Khalaf](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.
For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca