

Rio 2016: My community is being torn apart

“I am Naomy, a 12 years old girl from Vila Autódromo, Rio. I saw everything I love being ripped apart to make way for the 2016 Olympic Park. You have seen it in the newspapers: my community is facing forced evictions in preparation for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. I have never imaged my family will go through all this. Every wall they tear down is a piece of our life. We can’t allow this community to disappear.”

**Join us in demanding Olympic Games that are good for people, not business.
STOP the violence and displacement related to the 2016 Olympic Games.**

SEND THIS MESSAGE TO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) PRESIDENT, DR. THOMAS BACH:

Subject: Stop human rights violations related to the Olympic Games

Dear Dr. Thomas Bach,

The Olympic Charter elevates the principle of human dignity and proclaims that “the goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society.”

Families and children of the city of the Olympics 2016, Rio de Janeiro, find themselves confronted with:

- Forced evictions without due process and compensation;
- Police and army violence;
- Huge public spending in times of dramatic financial shortages in the education and health funds.

The Olympic Games should not harm the local population at any time. Although host states bear the responsibility for the abuses that occur in their countries, sport governing bodies as the IOC also have the responsibility to respect and assure human rights.

In December 2014 you launched the reform program called “Agenda 2020”, that includes human rights protections for the first time. Yet, the IOC has failed to include an explicit requirement to respect and protect human rights in the Host City Contracts for the 2024 Olympics.

In order to meet human rights requirements, I ask you and your board to:

- Live up to your own values and your Agenda 2020.
- Take human rights seriously and make a clear public human rights commitment including an implementation plan for a new era of ‘zero tolerance’ for any human rights abuses around Mega Sporting Events.
- Put pressure on the local government to halt human rights violations at the upcoming 2016 Games in Rio.

Yours sincerely,