

Stadium in 1961. He notes that Marshall in 1960 privately told attorney Edward Bennett Williams, a part owner of the Redskins, that he would never have an African American player on his team, using a racial epithet for African American. The author describes the picketing of Redskins games by civil rights groups, both in Washington and elsewhere. He also details the NFL's efforts to persuade Marshall to end his discriminatory policy, motivated more by public relations than social justice concerns. In 1962, Marshall finally succumbed and drafted the highly regarded African American running back Ernie Davis in the first round. He then traded Davis to Cleveland for African American star Bobby Mitchell, later inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and signed three other black players for the 1962 season.

The author could have provided additional insight into the civil rights campaigns and opposition to desegregation in the 1950s and early 1960s had he compared the Redskins' resistance to desegregation with the policies of the Washington-area college football programs.

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Orttung, Robert W., and Sufian N. Zhemukhov. *Putin's Olympics: The Sochi Games and the Evolution of Twenty-First Century Russia*. London: Routledge, 2017. Pp. xiv+135. Notes, references, tables, index. \$160.00, hb.

This book is a macro-level study of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Both authors are based at George Washington University: Sufian Zhemukhov is a historian of Russia and the North Caucasus, with expertise on Circassian issues, and Robert Orttung is a political scientist with a background in Russian studies and comparative politics. They synthesize scholarly studies, publically available financial reports, Russian and U.S. media accounts, and Putin's official statements into an admirably compact format. The general argument is that mega-events such as the Sochi Olympics provide a vantage point from which to understand trends in Russian "development" and politics. In particular, they argue that the Sochi Olympics allowed Putin to maintain a centralized authoritarian regime by perpetuating corruption, cracking down on civil society, and building up the state security apparatus (7). The most provocative dimension of their argument concerns the invasion of Crimea, which occurred just after the Sochi Games ended on February 23. They assert that the concentration of military resources and personnel for the Sochi Olympics enabled the Crimean invasion. Sochi was connected to Crimea by a strong organizational link, as two months after the games, Olympstroy, the special state corporation set up to manage the preparation for the games, became Krymstroy, an "entity designed to manage the incorporation of occupied Crimea into Russia" (98).

The book focuses predominantly on the run-up from the IOC selection of Sochi in 2007 to the Olympic Games in 2014, with Chapters 2 to 5 attending to different macro-level dimensions of politics, economics, and security. Chapter 2 is devoted to describing

the political economy of the Sochi Olympics, with a focus on funding and costs based on publicly available information. The authors begin with a familiar framing of Putin's rule as characterized by personalized power, weak institutions, and extensive corruption. The Sochi Games cost an estimated \$50 billion, a significant cost overrun that the authors attribute to the "centralized authoritarian nature of the political system" (32). Chapter 3 draws attention to the widely publicized negative environmental impacts, housing market and infrastructural conflicts, and LGBT issues and activism. Chapter 4 takes on security and is split between a discussion of anti-terrorism measures and the build-up of the military apparatus. Chapter 5, which relies heavily on previously published histories, tells the story of the Circassians, the Indigenous people from the region whom the Russians murdered or deported en masse in 1864. Putin strategically omitted mention of the Circassian genocide in his retelling of Sochi's history to the IOC, which began a pattern of exclusion of Circassians from the 2014 Sochi Olympics, in historical memory and practice.

In Chapter 6, the authors conclude with a preliminary account of the legacy of the Sochi Olympics. They argue that Sochi's potential as a tourist destination was overshadowed by the invasion of Crimea. Further, the large-scale doping scandal that arose following the Sochi Olympics marred Russia's image within the international sporting community. The environmental and human rights issues that arose during Sochi prompted the IOC to approve a set of reforms called "Olympic Agenda 2020" aimed at creating initiatives that support human rights and sustainable economic dimensions of future events. Ultimately, the authors conclude that the games were simply "fodder for Russia's relentless propaganda machine" (114).

One dimension of their argument that requires more development is that Putin's "use of mega-projects as a developmental tool" (7) demonstrated continuity between the Sochi Olympics and the Soviet past. They indicate that there are resonances with the 1980 Moscow Olympics, as well as with Stalinist dimensions of sport and spectacle, although they do not provide elaboration on the nature of these connections. What makes a sportive mega-project symbolically distinct from other mega-projects? Moreover, the authors claim that the Putin era is defined by the lack of a clear ideology (21) and that mega-projects "fill the ideological void created by the collapse of Communism" (22). These are strong claims that require more evidence and discussion than the authors provide in this format.

This monograph offers a decent overview of the big issues that surrounded the preparation for the Sochi Olympics. As it is a synthetic synopsis of readily available materials and analyses, it should be read as a report rather than as original archival or field-based research. Although no methodology section is provided, it appears that neither author traveled to Sochi for this project. Recent social and environmental histories of Sochi, such as the work of Johanna Conterio, would have enriched this study by providing a view of Sochi's place within the Soviet empire. Moving beyond the macro-scale analysis to include perspectives from athletes, coaches, or spectators would have rounded out an otherwise fully structural account. The authors argue that the challenges of staging an Olympic mega-event are universally similar, but that the Russian resolutions in Sochi had particularly high economic and social costs.

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