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Fight against doping in the top level sport of West-Germany – the case of the sports medicine of the Freiburg University

Ethics and moral standards: Conflict with the provision of performance

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- **Methods:** time witnesses, analysis of thousands of documents, etc.
- **Results:** confirmation of former statements, new insights on details, complex resistance against the investigation commission
- **Conclusions**

# Example: Rise and fall of the Freiburg sports medicine

- **Starting point:** Telekom-Scandal 2007
- **1st commission:** Analysis of the involvement of Freiburg doctors in the doping of professional cyclists
- **2nd commission:** Evaluation of the quality of the sports medicine of the university of Freiburg: Enlighten the history and judge it

# two possible hypothesis

- 1.: Doping as a problem only of individuals with a weak character – deviating doctors who have doped athletes are out now, everything is ok.
- 2.: Doping as a structural problem – not only individual deviation but also deviating structures – need to change structures

**Follower of the 2nd hypothesis seem to be heretics who disturb the public consensus between sports, politics and the public.**

**The commission 2 too investigated the second hypothesis and therefore the investigation became dangerous for the reputation not only of the University and the city of Freiburg**

## Other problems for the commission

- **Sport is friendship and reliability**
  - One does not hurt a friend or cause problems for him or her even if he or she did something awfully wrong!?!? – witnesses?
- **fascination for sports can blur the view!**
  - possible witnesses prefer to treat doping as a problem of other sports, of other countries
- **Whistleblowers and persons telling the truth = liars???** (honor president of the russian OC Leonid Tyagachev says, Grigory Rodchenkov ‘should be shot for lying’)

# The trap

The trap not only for the representatives of the Freiburg sports medicine

- **Obedience to the expectations** for medals/personal ambitions (being the best doctor ...) or
- **Good governance**, respect to the rules, the health and the future of the athletes

**Often decision for the first position (disregard of the personality of athletes, decision for cheating and manipulation, diffamation for and exclusion of critical minds)**

**Special dilemmata for medical staff, temptation for researchers (role conflict)**

# Conclusion 1: The wall of silence is nearly stable till today

Only if we know the past and the present we can shape a better future, but

- Most of the possible witnesses don't want to speak
- German sports associations are reluctant and hardly interested in supporting the investigation – functionaries fear that their sport will come to a bad light.
- The university of Freiburg, the town of Freiburg, the former governments of Baden-Württemberg and the national ministry of interior affairs fear the results of our investigations – fear of negative headlines and negative image.
- **Behind the Freiburg Case lies the largest scandal in the history of West German Sports the Freiburg Sports medicine as a center of West German doping.**

**Conclusion 2:** Doping does not improve the image of a society/state

**Did the Freiburg doping support demonstrate the image of the west german society/republic? No, you cannot demonstrate the quality of a society/of a state by the number of medals won by athletes of that country.**

# Good governance - your position?

<b>Expectation: Medals</b> (society/ country/federation)		<b>Expectation: Development of personality</b>
<b>Chance</b> The end (result) justifies the means	<<< ----- ??? ----- >>>	<b>Chance</b> Doping free sport (accepting limits and rules)
<b>Risk</b> Going beyond natural limits, against rules		<b>Risk</b> limited success on an international level

# **Development of the personality** **–automatic result of practising** **sports???**

**Development of the personality is no automatic result of practising sports, you have to develop it intentionally, i.e. respect for other athletes, respect for the rules, responsibility for oneself and the sports structures ....**

# Pressure on the commission to finish their work

- First deadline: 2011
- Second deadline: 2012
- Help of relevant media against the pressure
- August 2012: A lot of Keul's files appeared for the first time (5 years hidden in her garage by a secretary of the rector)
- Next deadline: November 2014
- December 2014 appearance of 60 binders concerning financial cheating actions of Klümper (police investigations 1984 – 1988)
- February 2016: The university didn't guarantee our absolute independence -> resignation of five of the six members of the commission
- -> <http://www.uni-freiburg.de/universitaet/einzelgutachten>