

Beat: Sports

## **PDT MACRON DECORATED THE 213 ATHLETES WHO WON 65 MEDALS IN TOKYO 2020**

### **LEGION HONNEUR AND GARDEN PARTY**

Paris, Washington DC, 14.09.2021, 22:26 Time

**USPA NEWS** - French President, Emmanuel Macron received at the Elysee the two hundred and thirteen (213) athletes of the Tokyo Games 2020, ranking France in eighth position, are therefore the guests of honor, of the President, this Monday, September 13 to both congratulate them on having won the Olympic and Paralympic medals but also to prepare them for the next Paralympic Olympic Games which will take place in Paris in 2024. Emmanuel Macron wants to make France a "sporting nation", but helping and funding the professionalization of sport, for the next generation to come, and installing everywhere « stadiums, dojo, swimming pool » and enhancing sport activities at schools, nationwide, in order to prepare Paris 2024. In total, the 213 champions, returned medalists from the 2020 Tokyo Games, with sixty five (65) and will receive the total sum of € 9 million, bonuses, including six (6) for the Olympics and three (3) for the Paralympics. The government had raised the level of bonuses a little before the Tokyo Olympics (€ 65,000 for gold, € 25,000 for silver and € 15,000 for bronze).

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### **PDT MACRON WANTS FRANCE TO BE IN THE TOP 5 FOR NEXT OLYMPIC PARALYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024**

President Macron spoke in the tone of a sports coach, asking athletes to improve their performance (already very good), and to reach the goal of 90 medals in Paris 2024, namely to be in the "Top 5" for a ceremony during which he presented them with the Legion of Honor (the most prestigious republican medals in France) or the National Order of Merit. This medal ceremony is a tradition initiated by General de Gaulle. The order of the medals is such that the athlete participates for the first time in the Olympic Games, he is made a Knight of the Legion of Honor in the event of a gold medal and a Knight of the National Order of Merit for the silver or bronze. In 2016 for the Rio Olympics, 92 medalists were awarded the Legion of Honor or the Order of Merit.-----

"The success of the Games will be the success of our athletes because it works like that", he insisted Monday evening in front of the leaders of French sport. "We have to do a lot more, because these are our Games, at home, we are expected", setting the objective of entering "the top 5" but without giving any other number. He promised that the State would not fail to support French athletes, recalling the current philosophy of "concentrating our efforts on disciplines with high potential"

### **"THE BRITISH INVEST LESS PUBLIC CREDIT IN SPORT THAN WE DO, YET HAVE SUPERIOR RESULTS" PDT MACRON SAID-----**

President Emmanuel Macron urged the best athletes in the country to do "much more" in 2024, saying that "the overall results" of this session of the Tokyo Olympics "are not quite at the level we expected". The head of state thus made a comparison between France and the UK which "invest less public funds than us, yet they have better results than ours",

Indeed, According to figures communicated by the Ministry of Sports, the State spent 347.5 million euros in sport in 2021, of which €M110 for "high performance", and €M121 serve to pay the salaries of state executives, in Federations or other, and the remaining €M 75 go to establishments and training structures. However, in the United Kingdom, this sum is almost half as much. According to the latest report from the National Sports Agency, the investment in top-level sport is €M170 .

PRESIDENT MACRON SETS A TARGET OF 90 MEDALS FOR PARIS 2024 BECAUSE "IT WILL BE AT US"-----

France won gold and silver and bronze medals, with fifty four (54), beyond the 35 medals hoped for by the French federation, which is a record, knowing that the Paralympic athletes had won twenty eight (28) medals in Rio in 2016. By comparison, the British won one hundred and twenty fourth (124) medals in the Paralympic Games.-----

France is ranked in eight (8) position, behind the British ranked fourth, with a total of sixty-five medals, (65), Japan third with fifty-eight medals (58), China second with eighty-eight (88), and the USA, in first position with one hundred and thirteen (113) medals in total including thirty nine in gold! One of the most medaled athletes, Teddy Riner, triple Olympic champion in Judo, and ten times world champion, he does not believe that France will be able to win 90 medals at the Paris Olympics « "France is a great sporting nation, but to think that we are going to win 90 medals in Paris 2024, no. We have to do a lot more things to claim 90 medalists in 3 years".

**Article online:**

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-19218/pdt-macron-decorated-the-213-athletes-who-won-65-medals-in-tokyo-2020.html>

**Editorial office and responsibility:**

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Rahma Sophia RACHDI & Jedi Foster

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