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## **International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics: Country Profiles**

Jonathan Grix

Our collection of Country Profiles offers a unique resource for scholars of sports studies more widely. To date we have over 30 Country Profiles from such diverse states as India, China, Turkey, Finland, Switzerland, Slovenia, Iran, Venezuela, Australia, Cameroon, Lebanon, Jamaica, and several countries in Africa (Uganda, Kenya and Zambia). Common to all is a brief history of government involvement in sport; the current administrative structure and funding of sport in the country; the significance of the not-for-profit and commercial sectors involved in sport; the current public policy priorities and funding trends and the key contemporary or emerging issues or debates in sport policy. They also flag up any political issues around the provision of sport in the cases chosen.

Such a wealth of information serves several purposes: first, it offers a launching pad for understanding sport, its development and the key and current issues of today in specific countries; second, most Country Profiles highlight their geo-political regional context, for example, South Korea and Japan in East Asia, or Finland and Sweden in northern Europe, Spain, Portugal and the Netherlands within Europe. Finally, our Country Profiles offer an excellent resource for cross-national sports policy comparisons between similar and diverse states. In short form, you have free access to the cultural, religious and historical developments that have shaped the sports systems in place today in a large number of case studies.

It is our intention to publish and commission more Country Profiles in the future to ensure we have as wide a coverage of sport policies as possible.