

# Olympics Paris 2024 : *le revers de la médaille* asks for a meeting with the Minister of the Interior.

Paris, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 – **Despite intensive consultations with the many institutions involved in the organisation of the Games, most of the proposals put forward by the "*le revers de la médaille*" collective remain unanswered, mainly in the hands of the Ministry of the Interior, which has so far failed to respond to requests for meetings. The collective is therefore renewing its appeal to the Minister with a new action.**

On the evening of Wednesday 1 May, the "*le revers de la médaille*" collective went to the offices of the Ministry of the Interior on rue des Pyrénées in Paris to project the message "Jeux de l'exclusion" ("Games of exclusion") and place a giant envelope containing a new letter requesting an appointment.

In addition to its lobbying role, the collective is campaigning for consultations to be held with all the parties involved in the organisation of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and is persevering in its efforts to propose a wide range of solutions to combat exclusion.

These include the principle of a direct exchange on public space management policy in order to reconcile safety issues with the impact on vulnerable groups (homeless people, exiles, sex workers, victims of trafficking, drug users, food aid recipients, etc.); setting up an initial reception and orientation centre in the Ile-de-France region for new arrivals as soon as they arrive, similar to the reception centre for displaced persons from Ukraine; and reviewing the policy for directing homeless people to emergency accommodation and relocation services in the region.

The information meetings held by the Préfecture d'Ile-de-France and the Préfecture de Police de Paris did not provide a satisfactory response to the issues we raised, either in terms of emergency accommodation or the impact on vulnerable people. Our meetings with the Ministry of Labour, Health and Solidarity, the Ministry of Sport and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Interministerial Delegation for Poverty Prevention and Combating Poverty, and the City of Paris, revealed a shared concern, but our contacts referred us to the Ministry of the Interior on most issues. The latter has not responded to our letters or questions.

*"It's the ministry's total lack of response that has prompted us to come and make our presence felt under its windows",* said Paul Alauzy, health watch coordinator at Médecins du Monde and spokesperson for the collective, *"In fact, it's the only party whose door has so far remained closed. Today, it is he who bears the responsibility for the social cleansing and these 'Games of exclusion'".*

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Collectif le revers de la médaille

*Olympics Paris 2024 : for a positive social legacy*

<https://lereversdelamedaille.fr/>

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