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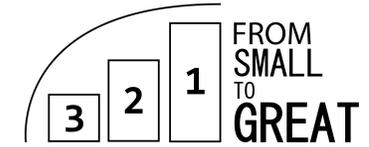
FROM
SMALL
TO
GREAT

From Small to Great

THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL GYMNASTICS
IN SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES



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Background

- **First contact: Sports for Children (Mr. Stefan Groothuis)**
- **Zerin Emic visits Flik-Flak: ‘My Professor must see this!’**
- **Almir Atikovic visits Flik-Flak**
- **Arno (ISLGS) and Jorlan were invited at the International Science Conference in Ljubljana**
- **Almir and Jorlan to write a proposal for the Erasmus+; that could give us the opportunity to meet foreign friends, learn from each other and expand the network**
- **September 26: proposal was granted**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-OGKGmxSbw>

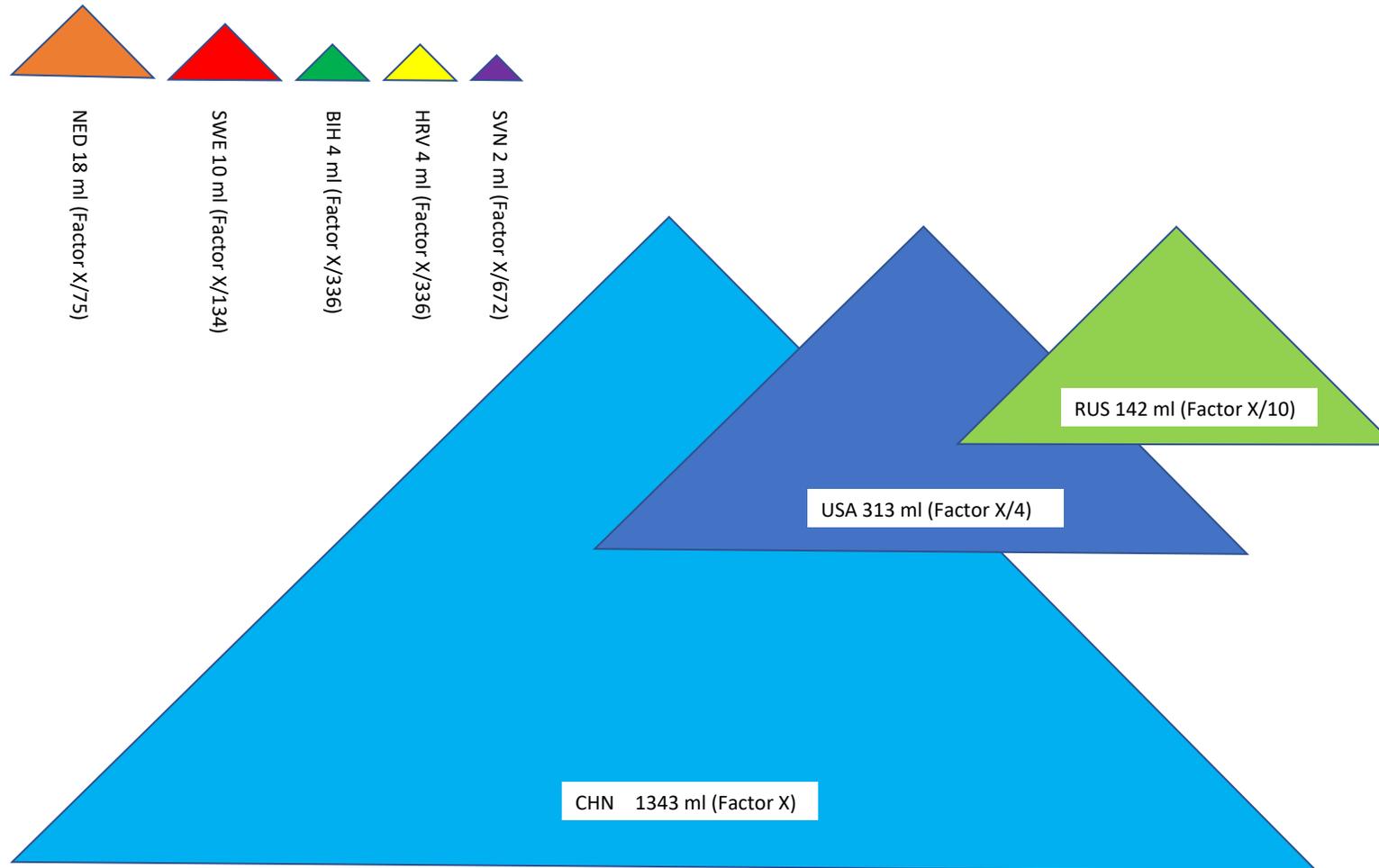
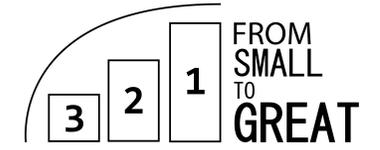


Motivation

- Many European countries are trying to find their own unique way to cope with talent development and high-performance sport that match with their own culture
- There is a big difference between:
 - a) Countries with a large population and an excess of talented athletes
 - b) Countries with a small population and just a few talented athletes
- How does the fact that we are small effect the choices we make concerning talent development and the practice of high-performance gymnastics?
- What can small countries learn from each other in their way to perform?
- What are opportunities and what are treats when we want to learn from large countries?



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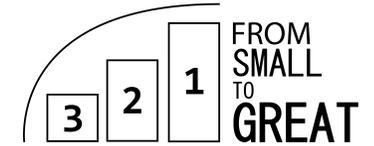
Results for the FIG AG WC Glasgow 2015 WAG Team Qualifications

| Ranking | Country | Population | Ranking | Ratio NED |
|---------|--------------------|---------------|---------|-----------|
| 1 | USA | 321.368.864 | 2 | 18,96 |
| 2 | Russian Federation | 142.423.773 | 4 | 8,40 |
| 3 | Great Britain | 64.088.222 | 8 | 3,78 |
| 4 | China | 1.367.485.388 | 1 | 80,69 |
| 5 | Italy | 61.855.120 | 9 | 3,65 |
| 6 | Japan | 126.919.659 | 5 | 7,49 |
| 7 | Canada | 35.099.863 | 11 | 2,07 |
| 8 | The Netherlands | 16.947.904 | 14 | 1,00 |
| 9 | Brazil | 204.259.812 | 3 | 12,05 |
| 10 | France | 66.553.766 | 7 | 3,93 |
| 11 | Belgium | 11.323.973 | 15 | 0,67 |
| 12 | Germany | 80.854.408 | 6 | 4,77 |
| 13 | Romania | 21.666.350 | 13 | 1,28 |
| 14 | Australia | 22.751.014 | 12 | 1,34 |
| 15 | Republic of Korea | 49.115.196 | 10 | 2,90 |
| 16 | Switzerland | 8.121.830 | 16 | 0,48 |



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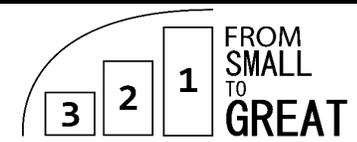
GDP per Capita



| Ranking | Land | GDP per capita | Ranking | Ratio NED |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|
| 16 | Switzerland | 67.560 | 1 | 1,40 |
| 8 | The Netherlands | 48.222 | 2 | 1,00 |
| 1 | USA | 46.381 | 3 | 0,96 |
| 14 | Australia | 45.587 | 4 | 0,95 |
| 11 | Belgium | 43.986 | 5 | 0,91 |
| 10 | France | 42.747 | 6 | 0,89 |
| 12 | Germany | 40.875 | 7 | 0,85 |
| 6 | Japan | 39.731 | 8 | 0,82 |
| 7 | Canada | 39.669 | 9 | 0,82 |
| 5 | Italy | 35.438 | 10 | 0,73 |
| 3 | Great Britain | 35.334 | 11 | 0,73 |
| 15 | Republic of Korea | 17.074 | 12 | 0,35 |
| 13 | Romania | 14.400 | 13 | 0,30 |
| 2 | Russian Federation | 8.694 | 14 | 0,18 |
| 9 | Brazil | 8.220 | 15 | 0,17 |
| 4 | China | 3.678 | 16 | 0,08 |



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| | JUDGEMENT strategy | SUPPORTING systems | OTHERS |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Board/staff/management | <p>How important is it to have judges on international level? What is the influence of international networks? Are their countries who are in advance?</p> | <p>How is support organized on clublevel? How is the support organized on federal level?</p> | <p>Wat is the role of Olympic commitie in your country?</p> |
| Coaches/trainers | | <p>What about the responsibilities and autorities? Relationship between coach and experts</p> | |
| Experts | <p>How much can we change the body in direction of judges preferences?</p> | | |
| Athletes | | <p>Who pay the bills from athletes concerning medical support?</p> | |
| Others | | | |

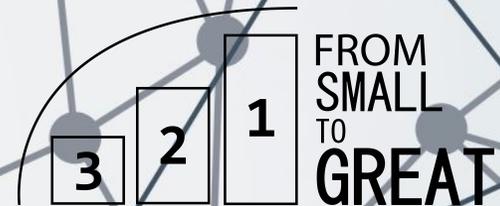


Theses

- A large country can send just one member for the jury; every small country can also send one member for the jury
- A small country has too little gymnasts on top-level to generate enough data for significant research results
- In a small country you can not organize a profitable competition for gymnast. There are not enough high level gymnast for an attractive event.
- A country with a small population generates less income from taxes. Sometimes the money is just too little to support a national team
- In a small country you need a focus on certain sports; there are not enough people to diffuse the attention
- A small country is limited in their their medical specialties because of a lack of casuistic; in a small country a case can be exceptional. In a large country it is maybe less exceptional
- If you have less talents you can not afford to loose a lot of them. What does that mean for all aspects of talent development ?



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Thanks for your attention!
