**Debates on sport**

Debaters often sound as if there were no impacts -> Good actor analysis

Why is sport important?

- Belonging and rooting is part of identity (you go to matches, have friends there, wear merch, know the history of the club)

- Clubs create communities, communities conditioned their members socially

- This is particularly important in economically weak areas where people need additional incentives to create self-worth and receive a dignified narrative.

Rich owners:

- They buy weak teams and try to revive them (new coaches, new players, infrastructure)

- Promote engagement with the local/club community

- They are driven by profit (potentially bad decisions for fans – selling players, changing locations) trying to reach a wider group than the local one

Money and popularity:

- Development of local regions (academy, infrastructure training, tourism growth)

International Expansion:

- Academies, recruiting players in the Third World, funding academies there.

Identity problem:

- Problem with representation of different social groups (managers, staff, coaches, players in financially less accessible sports)

- Culture of racism and violence

- Gender inequalities

A tool for social progress:

- Players have status and can generate discourse as role models (bad or good)

- Children often socialize also through sports

- „Theory of contact” – better vision of immigrants/minorities but (racist fans will explain defeats by the minority, although in general what they will do)

Debates about sport and IR

- Governments create narratives of pride by organizing sporting events

- Construction --🡪 Bad working conditions because you need to construct quickly -🡪 Destruction of housing / creation of infrastructure

Portraiture in the media:

- Attention in international media allows media/NGOs to highlight current issues (whether individuals pay more attention to official materials of countries or NGOs)

- Athletes will get the most sophisticated picture of the country