

## Group identities and self-representation in East German sport: an analysis of supporters' discourse by Julien Beaufils

« Group identities and self-representation in East German sport: an analysis of supporters' discourse »

- Julien Beaufils, Lecturer at the University of Rennes 2

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### Abstract

High-level sport, by virtue of its universalism and symbolic power, is a well-known factor in collective identification (Elias and Dunning 1994). This symbolic power acts like a "social magnifying glass" (De Waele 2008), amplifying social and identity-related phenomena that are present, but diffuse, in society.

This conference, which is intended to be the first step in a future research project, will examine the sense of belonging of supporters of clubs in the new German Länder since reunification to an East German identity that is often difficult to define (Mau 2021). In particular, we will use the various productions of the fans themselves (songs in the stadiums, publications, etc.) as support for this study.

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