

AAFI AFICS *Newsletter*

ASSOCIATION DES ANCIENS FONCTIONNAIRES INTERNATIONAUX - Genève
ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS - Geneva

Geneva, 25 May 2026

Dear members,

AAFI-AFICS has the pleasure to enclose the invitation to the Greycells coffee morning of Thursday, 11 June 2026, 10:00 – 12:00, at Club Suisse de la Presse, Château de Penthes, Genève

Interested persons are invited to register by sending an email to greycells08@gmail.com

With best regards.

Odette Foudral, pour l'AAFI-AFICS

AAFI-AFICS : aafi-afics@un.org

Office A.569, Palais des Nations, 1211 GENEVE 10

+41 22 917 3330

<https://afics.unog.ch>

Invitation to a Greycells Coffee Morning
TOWARDS A NEW GLOBAL SPORTING ORDER

Thursday, 11 June 2026
10:00 – 12:00
Club Suisse de la Presse, Château de Penthes, Genève
(Bus 20 • Parking available)

Hosted by Greycells, with Guest Speaker Jean-Loup Chappelet

Join us for the **fifth in our series of Greycells Coffee Mornings**, featuring **Professor Jean-Loup Chappelet**, who will guide us through the exciting world of global sports.

Why organise the Olympic Games in the 21st century? Elected officials and citizens are legitimately asking this question. Faced with the growing scale of the events, which nothing seems to be able to curb, Olympic bids are becoming rare whereas at the turn of the last century, many cities were vying to host the biggest event organised in peacetime on earth. Why and how did we arrive at this situation, which affects a thousand-year-old tradition?

In his presentation to the Greycells Café Morning, Professor Jean-Loup Chappelet will try to shed light on this question.

A graduate of Cornell University (MSc) and University of Montpellier (PhD), Jean-Loup is a professor at IDHEAP Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration at the University of Lausanne, where he has taught for the last 32 years. Prior to that he was Senior Project Management Consultant at KPMG FIDES Informatique, Head of the IT Department of the International Olympic Committee, and Science Attaché at the French Embassy in Beijing, China.

He is also an Olympic games enthusiast...

During his long career, he has published several articles and books on the Olympic movement. In his publications, Jean-Loup dissects the Olympic system, outlines the costs and benefits associated with organising the Games, and weighs up the real advantages, false expectations and potential problems of staging the event. In doing so, he opens a debate that is too often based on positive or negative preconceptions, with finesse, while exploring the role of the main sports organisations involved, many of which are based in Switzerland.

He also published articles on sports and human rights. Following the report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the deeply concerning situation in Xinjiang province (China) during the Olympic Games, the IOC published its Human Rights Policy Framework, several months after the Winter Olympics in Beijing and shortly before the World Cup in Qatar. Human rights represent an issue relevant to the countries hosting the events and to the conditions of the athletes participating in them.

Professor Chappelet talk promises to be informative and energising. Not to be missed!

What to Expect

- Discover the world of sports and its geopolitics
- Enjoy lively discussion with coffee, tea, pastries, and good company

Learn about Greycells (and perhaps join us by becoming a member)!

Learn, share, make new friends and laugh together as we explore and share knowledge.

Free admission – coffee, tea & pastries included (a small donation from non-Greycells members would be appreciated)

Bring a friend and enjoy the magnificent garden views!