Public Memory of the Sochi 2014 and Russia 2018 Tournaments and their Mediation

This archive contains files containing data and documentation collected as part of the wider ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship Project " Neo-Authoritarian Nation Projection Strategies and Media Events in the 2010s: The Russian Case" (Ref: ES/W005565/1)

The goal of this data collection is to help assess how the Russian sport mega-events of the 2010s, the Sochi Olympics and the 2018 World Cup, are publicly remembered and what does this suggest about the outcomes of Russia's efforts to influence domestic and international audiences through such projects several years after their conclusion.

The collection is comprised of three sets of research ( (i) follow-up Interviews with Russian fans and media specialists; (ii) Twitter data related to memory of Sochi 2014 following the outbreak of the Russo-Ukraine war; and (iii) Twitter data related to memory of Sochi 2014 and Russia 2018 Football World Cup) contained in respective data files.

(i) follow-up Interviews with Russian fans and media specialists

1. METHODS

Semi-structured interviews with research participants of the previous study conducted in 2018. The participants were re-interviewed in 2022 via online calls.

1. DATA FILES

These files comprise transcripts of four follow-up interviews with research participants, who previously were interviewed as part of my doctoral research. All interviews were conducted on December 28. 2022 via an online call. Participants included:

INT\_B\_Transcript\_Follow\_up\_Interview.docx

Interviewee B: A Russian sports fan, construction worker at the Sochi Olympics

INT\_C\_Transcript\_Follow\_up\_Interview.docx

Interviewee C: A Russian sports fan, construction worker at the Sochi Olympics

INT\_D\_Transcript\_Follow\_up\_Interview.docx

Interviewee D: A Russian sports media specialist

INT\_G\_Transcript\_Follow\_up\_Interview.docx

Interviewee G: A Russian sports fan, with no personal experience at the Sochi Games

1. DOCUMENTATION FILES
   1. Data Collection

Questionnaire RU fans V1 04.08.22.pdf

Standard Questionnaire used as a guide for semi-structured interviews with the Russian language fans

Questionnaire RU media staff V1 04.08.22.pdf

Standard Questionnaire used as a guide for semi-structured interviews with the Russian language media specialists

* 1. Ethical Consent

PIS\_GDPR UoM V3 RU.pdf

Participant information sheet used to inform participants of the goals and methods of research

Consent Script V2 Ru.pdf

Consent script used to obtain a recording of verbal consent of participants to take part in the research. The copies of consent agreements are stored as part of the DMP for the project on the University of Manchester’s research data storage.

(ii) Twitter data related to memory of Sochi 2014 following the outbreak of the Russo-Ukraine war

Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, the research idea was to collect and interpret tweets related to the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympic Games shared in 2022 in the conditions of a war in Europe and its implications for the public memory of the 2014 Games as expressed in the English and Russian Twitterspheres.

1. METHODS

Using Academic Twitter API method, Twitter was search for messages containing the following terms and hashtags:

“Sochi2014” “2014 Olympic” “Sochi Olympics” “Олимпиада 2014” “Сочи 2014” “Сочи2014”

The period of collection included February 20, 2022 to June 21, 2022.

1. DATA FILES

Anonymised\_2022\_War\_Sochi\_2014\_Tweets.csv

CSV file containing ID numbers of tweets collected, sorted by the date of tweet publication.

(iii) Twitter data related to memory of Sochi 2014 and Russia 2018 Football World Cup

1. METHODS

This sample of tweets was generated from a previous collection of Twitter messages related, conducted in 2018. The original collection was conducted by the University of Manchester Research IT team using the Twitter Streaming API method. Between June 15 and August 3, 2018, tweets matching keywords and hashtags below were collected, generating a collection of over 29 million tweets.

“#WorldCup”, “#WorldCupRussia”, “#FIFAWorldCup”,”#Russia2018”, “#Sochi2014”, “#WinterOlympics”, “#WinterGames”, “#FIFA”, “#RussiaWorldCup”, “#RussianWorldCup”, “#WorldCupEkaterinburg”, “#WorldCupMoscow”, “#WorldCupSochi”, “#FIFA2018WorldCup”, “#FIFA2018WorldCupRussia”, “#TeamRussia”, “#RussianFootballUnion”, “#RFS”, “#RussianHooligan”, “#RussianHooligans”, “#RussianFans”, “#RussiaDoping”, “#BBCWorldCup Russia", “#RTWorldCup”, “#IndependentWorldCup”, “@IndyFootball Russia”, “#Instaworldcup”, “#instarussia”, “#Вместемыкоманда”, “#СборнаяРоссии”, “#ЧемпионатМира”, “#ЧемпионатМирапоФутболу”, “#ЧемпионатМиравРоссии”, “#Россия2018”, “#Россия18”, “#ЧМ2018”, “#ФИФА”, “#ФИФА2018”, “#Допинг”, “#Хулиган”, “#Хулиганы”, “#ЧемпионатМираСочи”, “#ЧемпионатМираМосква”, “#ЧемпионатМираЕкатеринбург”, “#Сочи”, “#ЗимняяОлимпиада”, “#Сочи2014”, “#ИгрывСочи”, “@RT\_Russian ЧМ2018”, “#ИнстаЧМ”, “#ИнстаЧМ2018”, “#ИнстаЧемпионатМира”, “#ИнстаРоссия”

More information on the original collection and methods can be obtained via UoM ResearchIT GitHub repository <https://github.com/UoMResearchIT/twidata-code>

In 2023, the collection was searched to generate a new sample of messages relating to the public memory of Sochi 2014, and Russia 2018 tournaments.

“Memory” “memorable” “unforgettable” “vivid” “unforgettable” “indelible” “momentous” “historic” “immortal” “undying” “everlasting” “eternal” “unfading” “perpetual” “imperishable” “timeless” “remembering” “remember” “forgettable” “Память” “памятн” “незабвенн” “неизгладим” “знаменательн” “историческ” “бессмертн” “неумирающ” “вечн” “неувядаем” “нетленн” “вневременн” “запоминающ” “забываем” “припомин” “фиксиров” “помни”

1. DATA FILES

Anonymised\_2018\_Memory\_Tweets.csv

CSV file containing ID numbers of tweets collected and respective dates of publication.