

## The Winter Olympics 2018 Flag

South and North Korea will use the same flag at the Winter Olympics in February 2018. They are held in the South Korean city of PyeongChang. People were worried because tensions between the two countries are high because of North Korea missiles testing.

However, both countries decided to use a "unified Korea" flag. There will also be a joint ice hockey team which might improve relations between the two countries.



The better relations could bring peace talks. The Koreas have been divided since the 1950-53 Korean War and the Winter Olympics could help to bring peace. A cross-border road will open for the first time in two years but not all Koreans are happy with this news. Thousands of people asked South Korea's president to forget about the plan. South Korea's hockey coach said a united hockey team could damage South Korea's chances of winning an Olympic medal.

### True or False?

1. South and North Korea will have different flags for the Winter Olympics.
2. The Olympics will take place this January.
3. Each of the countries will have its own hockey team.
4. Many Korean people are unsatisfied with this news.
5. The borders will stay closed during the Olympics.

*Answers:*

1. False, 2. False, 3. False, 4. True, 5. False.

### Zdroj:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-42721417>

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2018/01/356\\_242637.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2018/01/356_242637.html)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2018/01/16/opinions/olympics-diplomacy-north-korea-lemmon-opinion/index.html>

## The Olympic Flame and the Torch Relay

For each Olympics, a new flame is started in the ancient Olympic stadium in Olympia, Elis, Greece, using a parabolic mirror to focus the rays of the sun.

The Olympics flame begins its Olympic Torch Relay by touring Greece. The flame is then taken to the country where the games will be held (usually by airplane). Following that, the flame is carried around the country where the games are to be held, using a series of torches carried by people running, walking, riding horses and camels, scuba diving, and using other means of human conveyance. The last runner uses a torch to light the large Olympic torch which burns throughout the games (this occurs during the opening ceremony of the Olympics). Over the years, it has become a tradition to let famous athletes, former athletes and/or athletes with significant achievements and milestones be the last runner in the Olympic torch relay and have the honour of lighting the Olympic Cauldron.



The Olympics flame is extinguished during the closing ceremony. The design of the torch used in the relay to the Games changes for each Games. They may be designed to represent a classical ideal, or to represent some local aspect of those particular Games.

### History of the Torch

The tradition of the Olympic flame began during the ancient Olympic Games, over 2700 years ago in Greece. A flame was lit for each Olympics, every four years, and burned throughout the games. The flame symbolized the death and rebirth of Greek heroes. There was no torch relay in the ancient Olympics. The torch relay began at the 1936 games in Berlin, Germany.

### True or False?

1. The flame is usually started by a lighter.
2. The flame symbolizes lives of Roman heroes.
3. Each Olympic Games have a different torch design.
4. The Olympic Cauldron is usually lit by a well-known athlete.

*Answers:*

1. False, 2. False, 3. True, 4. True.

### Zdroj:

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