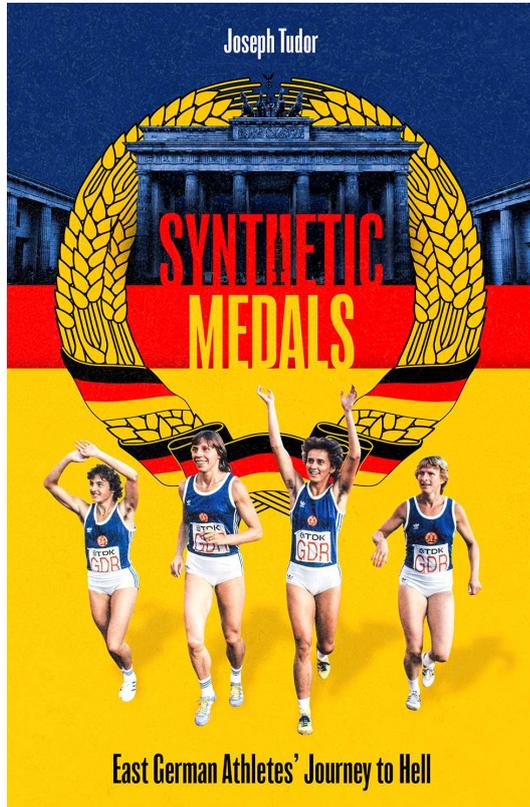




## Title information



### Synthetic Medals

East German Athletes' Journey to Hell

By Joseph Tudor

#### Key features

- Shocking real-life story of the state-imposed doping of East German athletes – told for the first time in full
- After serving their country, many ex-medal winners have been abandoned and today live in poverty and sickness; former athlete Professor Ines Geipel reveals how she is helping them
- Many of the former athletes suffer from mental-health disorders because of the imposed doping – the book features an exclusive contribution from Dr Richter, a leading psychologist who cares for them
- This English-language release follows a widely acclaimed Italian-language first edition
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

#### Description

In the early 1970s, the athletes of the German Democratic Republic started to achieve incredible sports results, winning medals and setting new world records with astonishing frequency. For many years, their sporting supremacy was hailed as a triumph of the socialist government's commitment to scientific research and innovative training methods. But after the Cold War ended, the Stasi archives revealed a sinister secret behind the successes: a perverse doping system imposed by the government itself. Drugs were administered to young athletes, often without their consent, and the price their bodies are now paying is very high, both physically and mentally. Through the athletes' personal stories, *Synthetic Medals* reveals the events that led to the discovery of the state-doping system and the subsequent trial. It also explores the state's motives for this crime against its own people – people who were sacrificed on the altar of a distorted ideology, for the simple purpose of achieving glory on the international chessboard.

#### Details

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