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SPORT AND DIPLOMACY IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE RUSSIA UKRAINE WAR

A SPORTS LAW AND POLICY CENTRE AND LAWINSPO RT JOINT SURVEY

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Introduction

Sport can play an important role in the reconstruction of people and places and restoring peace, particularly in a form of soft power in periods of conflicts. As Professor Simon Rofe aptly notes: *“States can reach millions if not billions of people across the world as audiences through... MSE [Mega Sporting Events, such as the World Cup]. Given their transnational character they allow for the dissemination of ‘public diplomacy’ – to win the ‘hearts and minds’... on a grand scale and in more pervasive means than individually or nationally focused programmes...When traditional diplomacy (be it international or domestic) does not appear to provide an avenue for change, athletes and others have used the tremendous audiences at sporting events as a platform for their message...”*¹

The invasion of Ukraine has caused International Organizations, national governments, and sports associations to reflect on, and address, an appropriate response; raising issues of diplomacy, sport policy, and law. At the same time, what organisations may wish to do, and what they can do from a legal, regulatory and/or governance perspective may differ.

On 28 February 2022, only 4 days after the invasion of the Russian military into Ukraine, the International Olympic Committee recommended that Russian and Belarusian athletes be prevented from competing in international events.

All 30 International Sports Associations which have been examined in the present survey have decided to suspend all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, from participation in their competitions until further notice.

On 15 July 2022 the Court of Arbitration for Sport announced that the appeals filed by the Russian Football Association of Russia and four Russian Clubs against the decisions taken by the Bureau of the FIFA Council and the UEFA Executive Committee (the UEFA appeal) to suspend all Russian teams and clubs from participation in their respective competitions until further notice have been dismissed and the Challenged Decisions are confirmed.

In the Panel’s view it is unfortunate that the current military operations in Ukraine, for which Russian football teams, clubs, and players have themselves no responsibility, had, by reason of the decisions of FIFA and UEFA, such an adverse effect on them and Russian football generally, but those effects were, in the Panel’s view, offset by the need for the secure and orderly conduct of football events for the rest of the world.

This survey has no political goal; it exclusively aims to help sport stakeholders globally to be better equipped to address these challenges and develop a clear understanding of how sports organisations could or should react to similar situations, which we sincerely hope never to happen again.

Finally, we sincerely wish to thank all colleagues for their kind availability and for their precious feedback, Aidan Shipman for the thoughtful editing, Khayran Noor for research help, and Antonella Frattini for her patience and professionalism in gathering and putting together the information received from the authors.

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Michele Colucci Sean Cottrell

¹ Professor J, Simon Rofe, Sport and diplomacy (Key Studies in Diplomacy MUP Series), Manchester University Press (2018)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Olympic Movement

On 24 February 2022, the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** strongly condemned the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian Government.

The following day, the IOC urged all International Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events planned in Russia or Belarus.

In addition, the IOC EB urged that no Russian or Belarussian national flag be displayed, and no Russian or Belarussian anthem be played at international sports events not already part of the respective World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctions for Russia.

Furthermore, it set up a special “IOC task force”, led by Sergey Bubka, who was constantly in contact with the Olympic Community in Ukraine to coordinate humanitarian assistance.

On 28 February 2022, to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants, the IOC Executive Board (EB) recommended that International Sports Federations and sports event organisers against inviting or allowing the participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes and officials in international competitions.

Where this was not possible on such short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB strongly urged International Sports Federations and organisers of sports events worldwide to do everything in their power to ensure that no athlete or sports official from Russia or Belarus be allowed to take part under the name of Russia or Belarus; Russian or Belarussian nationals, be it as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams. The IOC confirmed that no national symbols, colours, flags or anthems should be displayed.

On the 11 March 2022, IOC President, Thomas Bach, in his “**Give peace a chance message**” stated that “*sports competitions or events should not take place in the territory of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus. No national or state symbols of any kind of these countries should be displayed at any event organised by the Olympic Movement*”.² Finally, he concluded by urging “*every sports organisation in the world to protect the integrity, fairness and safety of their competitions by not allowing Russian and Belarussian athletes to take part or in special circumstances to at least prohibit any identification of their nationality*”.³

The **European Olympic Committees (EOC)** immediately endorsed the IOC position condemning the breach of the Olympic Truce. The EOC called on all its Members to stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic Community. Russian and Belarus athletes and officials were banned from participating in the 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) held in Vuokatti, Finland, between 20-25 March 2022.

The **International Paralympic Committee (IPC)** initially decided that the RPC and NPC Belarus would participate as neutrals at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. They would compete under the Paralympic flag and not be included in the medal table. Furthermore, the IPC also decided not to hold any events in Russia or Belarus until further notice.

² Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/-give-peace-a-chance> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

³ *Ibidem*.

The day after their initial announcement, however, the IPC Governing Board decided to ban all athletes from the RPC and NPC Belarus for the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

2. The International Sports Federations and the implementing measures

All International Sports Federations examined have implemented the IOC Recommendations towards Russian national teams, clubs, athletes, and officials.

All **of them** have banned – where relevant – the representatives of national and club teams, and officials from Russia and Belarus.

Many Federations have banned, or suspended until further notice, athletes from competing in international competitions. This is the case for **World Archery** (Archery), **World Athletics** (Athletics), **WBSC** (Baseball and Softball), **ICF** (Canoeing), **WFC** (Curling), **FIG** (Gymnastic), **ILF** (Luge), **UIPM** (Pentathlon), **World Rowing** (Rowing), **ISU** (Skating), **FIS** (Skiing), **WORLD TAEKWONDO** (Taekwondo), **ITTF** (Tennis Table), and **WORLD TRIATHLON** (Triathlon).

Some Federations (**FIDE** (Chess), **FIA** (Formula 1), **IJF** (Judo), **World Sailing** (Sailing), **FINA** (Swimming), and **ITF** (Tennis)), have allowed the participation of Russian or Belarussian athletes as “neutrals” under the flag of the relevant international association.

It is then worth noting that some International Federations such as **IBU** (biathlon), **FIDE** (Chess), **World Rugby** (Rugby), **ITF** (tennis), have suspended the Russian and Belarus Federations because they infringed the principles enshrined in their Statutes and Regulations.

World Archery (Archery), **ICF** (Canoeing), **FIDE** (Chess), **WFC** (Curling), **UCI** (Cycling), **FIFA-UEFA** (Football), **FIA** (Formula 1), **FIG** (Gymnastic), **IIHF** (ICE Hockey), **ILF** (Luge), **FIS** (Skiing), **ISA** (Surfing), **WORLD TAEKWONDO** (Taekwondo), **ITTF** (Tennis Table), and **ITF** (Tennis) have explicitly prohibited Russia and Belarus from bidding for or hosting international events.

All of them have prevented the national Russian and Belarus Federations from hosting international events. Flags and anthems from the two countries have also been banned.

Every single Federation has expressed solidarity towards Ukraine and some of them such as **ICF** (Canoeing), **FIG** (Gymnastic), **World Rowing** (Rowing), **World Rugby** (Rugby), and **ITF** (Tennis) have established special solidarity funds for Ukrainian Athletes and their families.

3. Appeals before the Court of Arbitration for Sport

It has been rightly underlined that *“in the light of “the variety of the sanctions imposed in different sports disciplines on the Russian athletes, the reaction of the Russian sports organizations, clubs and athletes differed drastically depending on the severity of the measures and specifics of the sports discipline. Many of the decisions issued by the international sports federations were*

*appealed by the Russian sports federations, clubs and individual athletes to the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the internal judicial bodies of the international sports federations”.*⁴

CAS provided information about ten arbitral proceedings initiated by the various Russian sports organizations, most of which are pending at the time of publication of this report; one appeal had been withdrawn and one procedure suspended.

In the two arbitration proceedings initiated by the Football Union of Russia (FUR) against the decisions of FIFA and UEFA to suspend all the FUR teams from participating in FIFA and UEFA competitions until further notice, namely *CAS 2022/A/8709 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Union of European Football Associations et al.* and *CAS 2022/A/8708 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) et al.*, the Football Union of Russia sought interim relief, namely for CAS to “*grant the suspensive effect to the Appeal and/or if needed, order [FIFA and UEFA] to take all necessary measures to reinstate immediately all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, for participation in [FIFA/UEFA] competitions, including, but without limitation, in the competitions (...)*”

On 8 April 2022 by the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division issued two orders on Requests for Provisional Measures in the afore-referenced proceedings where the applications for provisional measures filed by the Football Union of Russia were rejected.⁵

On 23 June 2022, CAS upheld the appeals filed by the Russian Weightlifting Federation (RWF), Maxim Agapitov, Dmitry Chernogorov and Aleksandr Kishkin against the four decisions rendered on 23 May 2022 by the Eligibility Determination Panel (EDP) IWF by which the RWF was “*prohibited from nominating any candidate for election to the Executive Board, any IWF Commission and any IWF Committee for the IWF elections to be held in June 2022*” and, as a consequence, the three candidates Agapitov, Chernogorov and Kishkin were declared ineligible for the same elections. The CAS Panel set the challenged decisions aside, having found that IWF EDP did not have jurisdiction to prevent the RWF from nominating candidates for the elections.⁶

On 15 July 2022 the Court of Arbitration for Sport announced that the appeals filed by FUR as well as the appeals of four Russian Clubs against the decisions taken accordingly by the Bureau of the FIFA Council and the UEFA Executive Committee (the UEFA appeal) to suspend all Russian teams and clubs from participation in their respective competitions until further notice have been dismissed and the challenged decisions are confirmed.⁷

In the Panel’s view it is “*unfortunate that the current military operations in Ukraine, for which Russian football teams, clubs, and players have themselves no responsibility, had, by reason of the decisions of FIFA and UEFA, such an adverse effect on them and Russian football generally, but those effects were, in the Panel’s view, offset by the need for the secure and orderly conduct of football events for the rest of the world*”.⁸

⁴ See A. Smirnova, the section on “Russia” of this report.

⁵ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8709_reasoned_OPM_publication.pdf and https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8708_Reasoned_OPM_publication.pdf

⁶ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8915_et_al.pdf

⁷ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8708_8709_8865_8866_8867_8868_Decision.pdf (last visited on 16 July 2022).

⁸ *Ibidem*.

4. Appeals before the relevant bodies of the International Sports Associations

4.1. The case of the European Tennis Table Union

Particularly interesting, is the case of the European Tennis Table Union. In March 2022, the ETTU Executive Board decided not to invite Russian and Belarusian players and officials to events hosted by ETTU and to ban Russian and Belarusian national symbols, flags and anthems from being displayed until further notice.

The ETTU Executive Board decided that Russian clubs would not be permitted to compete in any European Club competitions for the 2021-2022 season. This included Russian clubs due to compete in the semi-final and final of the Men's Champions League.

On 27 April 2022, the ETTU Executive Board issued a statement confirming that it had received the decision of the Board of Appeal on the appeal lodged by the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, in which it ruled against the decision to suspend the Russian table tennis clubs Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC from last season's semi-final and final of the Champions League.

The ETTU emphasized that it had no wish to punish athletes for the decisions of their governments, however the decision to suspend the Russian clubs was taken to protect athlete safety and ensure the integrity of its competitions, in line with the recommendations of the IOC and ITTF⁹.

On 16 May 2022, the ETTU stated that the ETTU Executive Board had submitted new information to the Board of Appeal and requested a revision of the judgment on the appeal of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC regarding the Table Tennis Champions League season 2021-2022¹⁰. On the date of this Survey no further information is available in respect of the court and the outcome of these proceedings.

4.2. The case of the International Luge Federation

On 2 March 2022, following the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022, FIL among others, passed the following resolutions, declaring that:

- Russia is ineligible to host any FIL sanctioned events.
- All Russian athletes, coaches and officials are excluded from all FIL sanctioned events.
- Russian representatives appointed by the FIL Executive Board to various commissions and Working Groups are suspended from their positions.
- FIL will initiate an investigation into certain derogatory and disturbing social media posts by Russian athletes directed at Ukraine¹¹.

The decision was appealed by the Russian Luge Federation to the FIL Court of Arbitration and, subsequently, on 7 April 2022, the FIL Court of Arbitration annulled all measures imposed on 2 March 2022 against the Russian Luge Federation.

In response, on 11 April 2022, the FIL Executive Board stated that *“the FIL leadership, together with the FIL Legal Committee, will look for possibilities to solve the unsatisfactory situation caused by the arbitration judgment of the FIL Court of Arbitration by means of a possible change in the*

⁹Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/april/ettu-eb/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁰Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/may/ettu-statement-on-board-of-appeal-decision/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹¹ Available on <https://www.fil-luge.org/en/news/resolution-of-the-fil-executive-board> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

statutes, which would have to be decided by a 2/3 majority at the ordinary FIL Congress on June 18-19, 2022 in Riga/LAT¹².

5. *The national Scenario: A Comparative Analysis*

5.1. *State Responses*

Following the invasion of Ukraine, countries around the world and their national sports organisations moved to take swift action to respond. On 3 March 2022, the UK Secretary of State, Nadine Dorries, and Sports Minister, Nigel Huddleston, with their counterparts in 36 other countries, including the United States, France, Germany, Australia, Japan, Canada and Poland as well as the President of the IPC, convened a meeting to discuss what action to take against Russia and Belarus. This summit resulted in a joint declaration of the 37 countries. Following the summit, many countries applied sanctions against Russia and Belarus including, trade restrictions travel restrictions and the freezing of assets (**Australia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, United Kingdom, Greece, Italy, Moldova, The Netherlands, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey**).

However, from the responses we have received, it is clear some countries have not yet applied sanctions at a national level (**Republic of Belarus, Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria and Serbia**).

The sanctions implemented at national level against Russia and Belarus are well documented. Here are a few examples of the breadth of sanctions and approaches:

- In the **UK** over 1,000 individuals and businesses have been imposed and they include travel bans as well as freezing of all assets held in the UK;
- **Japan** suspended entry visas to Japan for designated individuals related to Russia and froze assets held by designated individuals and entities related to Russia in Japan. The country also took steps to prevent exports of military equipment and other goods;
- **The Netherlands** appointed a National Coordinator for Sanctions Compliance and Enforcement (NCSH) to strengthen the compliance and enforcement of the sanctions. They have applied sanctions against those in the top 200 sanctions list, and across regulated and non-regulated services such as real estate, art and heritage, business property and non-financial services;
- **Switzerland** adopted sanctions on goods prohibiting imports and exports, froze assets and introduced travel sanctions, and a ban on take-off and landing of Russian aircraft; and
- In **Turkey** the government designated the Russian invasion as a “war,” giving it the right under the 1936 Montreux Convention to close the Bosphorus Strait - which leads to the Black Sea - to warships. Although this action applies to any naval vessel, it is clearly aimed at Russia’s fleet in case Moscow seeks to reinforce the firepower it already has there. Turkey’s decision is, at least, an important symbolic one in support of Ukraine.

5.2. *National Olympic Committees responses*

The sports community across the world united to show its opposition to the invasion of the Ukraine. Many of the National Olympic Committees endorsed the IOC recommendations while many

¹² Available on <https://www.fil-luge.org/de/news/statement-of-the-fil-executive-board-on-the-decision-of-the-fil-court-of-arbitration-in-the-case-fil-executive-board-v-russian-luge-federation> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

national sports federations both prohibited the participation of Russian and Belarussian clubs in their competitions, and took measures directed towards officials and athletes.

Some National Olympic Committee endorsed and followed the IOC recommendations (**Australia, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, United Kingdom, Greece, The Netherlands, Portugal, Serbia, Spain and Switzerland**) whereas some have not (yet) endorsed these recommendations (**Republic of Belarus, Brazil, Ghana, Malaysia and Moldova**).

The measure taken by the following NOC's go beyond the IOCs recommendations:

- In **Australia** the NOC has urged member sports to not invite teams/athletes and officials from Russia & Belarus, to rescind any invitations already issued and to withdraw Australian athletes and officials from any sports events where they may be participating;
- In **Croatia** the NOC gave Ukrainian athletes the opportunity to continue training and playing sports with the help of its member national sports federations, as supported by the European Olympic Committees. 157 athletes from Ukraine are training and preparing in 13 sports in Croatia;
- In **Denmark** the NOC and Sports Confederation of Denmark (DIF) has publicly endorsed the ban on Russia and Belarus from all international sports and sporting events. It has also called upon confederations and clubs to not have any sporting relations with the countries in Denmark as well as calling upon the international federations to ban them from all sporting relations;
- **Ecuador** banned all Russian or Belarussian athletes from any sport tournaments inside Ecuadorian territory. Prohibited participation in sports events organized by Russia or Belarus; and,
- In **The Netherlands** the Olympic Committee called on its affiliated sports organisations to urge their international federations to move sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus, and to exclude athletes and sports teams from Russia and Belarus from participating in sports events organised by the international federations elsewhere.

5.3. National sports federations responses

As with the NOCs some national sports federations have responded, often in countries where their NOC and government has implemented or recommended that measures are taken (**Australia, Brazil, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, United Kingdom, Greece & Italy**). Where there has not been this approach the national federations unsurprisingly have not acted (**Ecuador, Ghana**). Examples of the range of measures taken by national sports federations include:

In **Croatia** the support has been provided by sports federations such as rowing, volleyball, boxing & diving. The Football Federation facilitated the registration of players from Ukraine and, at the same time, reopened the transfer market window for players from Russia and Ukraine in accordance with FIFA guidelines. They also hosted a delegation from Ukrainian football club Dynamo Kiev, which played a charity match against Dinamo Zagreb. Croatian football club Hajduk Split played a charity match against football club Shakhtar Donetsk, both former clubs of Darijo Srna (former Croatian National team captain), while Croatian football club Rijeka played a match against the Ukrainian national team.

The **Cyprus Football Association** did not permit any international transfers from Russia and Ukraine, outside its fixed registration periods, despite the provisions of Annex 7 of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. It is worth noting Pafos FC, has been owned by

two Russians (Sergey Lomakin and Roman Dubov) and Aris Limassol FC, owned by a Belarussian (Vladimir Federov). Another Russian investor has recently acquired control of another small first division club and seems to be interested in making a serious investment in the club. The owners of the first two clubs do not seem to have been in any way affected by the measures adopted internationally against Russians and Russian capital with close ties to the Russian government. Interestingly, a small number of Ukrainians play in Cyprus one of whom plays for a team owned by Russian owners. These athletes have openly expressed, during football matches, their support for Ukraine by carrying the Ukraine flag before and after the match, including the Ukrainian playing in the team owned by the two Russian individuals.

In **Denmark** the football league adopted FIFA's temporary regulations. They also urgently adopted a new circular that was specifically targeted at international players from the leagues in Ukraine and Russia and gave all Danish clubs the opportunity to sign contracts with one international player from the Ukrainian and Russian leagues on an ongoing basis until the end of the 2021/22 season.

In **Italy** the Ukrainian referee Kateryna Monzul was helped to officiate womens' Serie A matches. The Italian and Ukrainian national synchronized swimming and judo teams have trained together.

In the **Netherlands** the football association (KNVB) originally decided to boycott games against both Russia and Belarus. However, on 6 May 2022, the KNVB decided to lift the boycott against Belarus. The KNVB mentioned that it had already gone further than UEFA and other countries by boycotting Belarus, but other countries continued to play against Belarus, as a result of which a long-term boycott by the KNVB would have no effect. Moreover, the KNVB mentioned that since the competitors for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualification in fact do play against Belarus, this would have made it difficult for the Netherlands to qualify for the World Cup. Therefore, since 6 May 2022, the KNVB has only limited its boycott to Russia.

In **Poland** the Ministry of Sport and Tourism launched a helpline for sports athletes coming from Ukraine who are currently in Poland or are headed thereto. The helpline is aimed at facilitating athletes in finding accommodation and a base for training. The project is supported by the Polish Anti-Doping Agency (POLADA) and the Polish Football Association (PZPN). Furthermore, as a result of amendments to the relevant regulations adopted by PZPN, Polish football clubs are entitled to register an unlimited number of football players of Ukrainian citizenship, including amateurs, and are not required to present their visa and work permit for such purposes. Additionally, Ukrainian football players can be fielded by their current clubs in particular football matches without any limitations. The Polish National Team supported by PZPN refused to play against Russia in the qualifiers to the FIFA World Cup 2022. This decision was later approved by FIFA who consequently excluded the Russian Team from the competition. On the league level, football clubs tended to welcome Ukrainian players to train at their facilities. Numerous charity matches were played both within professional and amateur football. By way of example, in collaboration with the Ukrainian Football Association and Ukrainian football clubs, two charity matches on the central professional level were organized – a match between Legia Warszawa and Dynamo Kyiv on 12 April 2022 and a match between Lechia Gdańsk and Shakhtar Donetsk on 14 April 2022.

In **Portugal**: The Handball Federation allowed registration of Ukrainian players, free of charge or registration fees, until 1 April, with a view to their participation in official, national and regional competitions. In addition, it has also enacted other support measures of a non-sporting nature, such as allowing these individuals to enroll and attend higher education and polytechnic courses, in accordance with the federation's protocols with those institutions. The Volleyball Federation announced that it was available "to receive, at no cost, Ukrainian athletes, namely the Ukrainian Beach Volleyball doubles teams and, in indoor volleyball, the National Under-17 Women's and

Under-18 Men's teams, so that they could prepare with dignity for the 2nd Qualifying Round of the respective European Championships, being able to extend their stay there for as long as they wanted.

In **Spain** Sports federations, in collaboration with the Spanish Government, agreed a ban on the participation of national teams, clubs and other sports organizations, as well as athletes selected by Russia, or alternatively a ban on athletes competing under the Russian flag, in all international competitions organized in the Spanish territory. Athletes, clubs and all Spanish sports federations were requested not to take part in any sports events organized in Russia. Where possible, organizations were requested to limit sponsorship and any kind of financial support from entities linked to the Russian Federation. All national and international sports organizations and all relevant entities were requested not to sanction athletes, coaches, officials or public workers who opted to unilaterally terminate their contracts with Russian or Belarussian clubs, and not to prosecute or sanction event organizers who decide to ban the participation of athletes or teams selected by Russia. LaLiga condemned the invasion and displayed banners in stadiums and during the broadcast (national and international) of matches with the slogan "no to invasion". They signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukrainian Premier League to promote football development. On 29 March 2022 LaLiga launched the campaign "Hacemos equipo por la Paz" with its clubs and the Spanish Red Cross, with several initiatives, such as a fundraising, solidarity auctions and collecting of medicines and other essential goods. LaLiga's clubs have also carried out numerous activities like donations, fundraisings, collecting food and essential goods and providing their buses for the travel of the Ukrainian refugees. The Royal Spanish Football Federation started a crowdfunding campaign and donated sportswear to Ukrainian refugees. The Royal Spanish Athletics Federation offered in March 2022 to host Ukrainian athletes, and is hosting 18 Ukrainians (athletes, families and trainers) in Spain for 50 days. The federation is also organizing two races whose registrations will go entirely to help this group of Ukrainian athletes.

In **Sweden** the Swedish Bandy Federation intends to recommend Swedish clubs to not enter into any employment contracts with Russian players. Russian players already in Sweden, i.e. prior to the issuance of such a recommendation, should not be affected. In addition to the individual sports associations' response to the Russian invasion, the Swedish Sports Confederation (the umbrella organisation for the Swedish sports movement) has requested 50 million SEK from the Swedish government for the purpose of supporting Swedish clubs' efforts to provide assistance through activities for the people arriving in Sweden from Ukraine.

In the **UK** sanctions against Russian businesspeople extended into sport with the two most high-profile sanctioned individuals being Alisher Usmanov and Roman Abramovich. Usmanov was President of the Fédération Internationale d'Esgrime (fencing's world governing body) and through several companies (USM, Megafon and Yota) was a major sponsor of Everton FC. The standout sanctions were imposed on Roman Abramovich. Unlike Usmanov at Everton, Mr Abramovich was the owner of Chelsea FC and, as a result when sanctions imposed on him, Chelsea was directly affected and was forced to find new owners.

Wimbledon went further than the rest of the sporting world and banned all Russian and Belarussian players from participating at the tournament, whether or not they denounced the war.

5.4. Further National Responses – Supporting Refugees

Whilst the sanctions against Russia and Belarus have been wide and far-reaching, the humanitarian support shown for Ukrainian sports entities, athletes and its citizens has also been significant. Examples of the solidarity with Ukrainians includes:

In **Croatia** 19,000 Ukrainians have found temporary homes in Croatia with the support of the Government. Sports federations focused on supporting Ukrainian athletes. Each national sports federation will take care of Ukrainian athletes in coordination with the NOC of Croatia.

In **Denmark** the NOC through its current programs has focused on the integration of refugees from Ukraine through the “get2sport” initiative.

In **Italy** the Italian Football Federation has eased the procedure to register minors coming from Ukraine. All the registration and insurance fees shall be borne by the Federation.

In **Moldova** 92 refugee centers across the country with over 90 000 Ukrainian refugees (mainly women & children) have been established in collaboration with the Government and the Moldovan Football Association (FAM). FAM also arranged for players and their families from Dinamo Kyiv and Shakhtar Donetsk during their transit through Moldova. FAM, together with its partners, will carry football activities of a mass character for refugee children aged between 5 and 16 years olds.

In **Portugal** the FPF, called “Each Club, a Family”, the aim of which is to transform the clubs into a supportive platform that facilitates integration into Portuguese society and provides hope to a population in emergency situations after fleeing the war in Ukraine. Portuguese coach Paulo Fonseca and his Ukraine-born wife Katerina, both of which had to flee from the war, are the ambassadors of this FPF initiative. The main idea behind this project is for Portuguese clubs to act as a “reception cell”, finding employment for an adult refugee and offering football practice to the household’s children or minors. Dozens have already found a new job and home thanks to this initiative and many clubs are still available to help Ukrainians in need.

In **Turkey** the Union of Clubs brought 126 Ukrainian kids, whose ages were between 7-16 to Turkey via a charter flight. From their arrival until now these kids have been living at the academies of four Turkish Super League Clubs: Trabzonspor, Çaykur Rizespor, Sivasspor and Kayserispor. Several Ukrainian sports teams (National Deaf Basketball Team, National Deaf Orienteering Team and one football club) who were in Turkey when the war began could not return to their country and are still being hosted in Turkey.

5.5. Impact on domestic athletes

Russian and Belarus athletes have been directly and indirect impacted.

The reaction to the invasion of Ukraine by Russian sports organizations, clubs and athletes differed drastically. Many of the decisions issued by the international sports federations were appealed by the Russian sports federations, clubs and individual athletes to the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the internal judicial bodies of the international sports federations.

Russian athletes playing abroad have been impacted in different ways, some have had to return to Russia due to visa issues, some sports organisations such as NHL have stated its concern “*about the well-being of the players from Russia, who play in the NHL on behalf of their NHL Clubs, and not on behalf of Russia*”. Some players have been barred from competition such as the case with Wimbledon which was opposed to the position of the Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) and the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) and Roland-Garros 2022, the French Open.

The situation with Belarus and its athletes are similar to that of Russia. Due to the IOC determined the multiple cases of discrimination in Belarusian sport and has come to the conclusion that the current NOC Belarus leadership has not appropriately protected the Belarusian athletes from

political discrimination. This resulted two packages of provisional measures were implemented by the IOC towards NOC Belarus, including the measure of non-recognition of Viktor Lukashenko to be an elected NOC President.

5.6. Sport in time of war crisis: looking back at history

Some Olympics Games, such as the 1936 Olympics in Nazi Berlin, saw countries threaten to pull out, before deciding to participate. World Wars I and II forced the cancellation of three Olympic Games in 1916, 1940 and 1944. Germany and Japan were banned in 1948 because of their roles in WWII. The same happened to South Africa during the era of apartheid and, more recently, Russia was banned in 2020, because of the infamous doping scandal although individual athletes were ultimately allowed to take part in international competitions under a neutral flag and designation. Six times, however, countries officially boycotted the Olympic Games, with as few as three countries refusing to compete in 1964 and as many as 65 nations staying home in 1980.¹³

Besides the Olympic Games, most of the countries in this survey did not have any previous precedent for how to deal with such a war crisis.

However, Denmark, Malaysia referred to events that may have relevance:

On 30 May 1992 **Denmark** was added into the European Football Championship, following a sporting boycott of Serbia and Montenegro after the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 757, which called on all Member States to take various measures against the remaining vestiges of the former Yugoslavia, i.e. Serbia and Montenegro. Unlike the other embargo areas (trade, capital transfers, transport, etc.), the Danish Government did not introduce any penalties/sanctions for failure to abide by the request in the resolution text to back a sporting boycott of Serbia and Montenegro, but at the same time recommended that the resolution be complied with. DIF decided to follow the sporting boycott as recommended by the United Nations and the Danish Parliament, announcing in this regard that the Danish sports community should take social responsibility by complying with Parliament's foreign policy line. In these circumstances, DIF instructed its special confederations and their members to follow the text of the resolution, but only as far as the instruction would apply to athletes representing "Yugoslavia".

In in 2019, **Malaysia** was stripped of the right to host the World Para Swimming Championships because of the Government's refusal to allow Israeli athletes to participate. Again, in November 2021, the World Men's Team Squash Championship scheduled to take place in Kuala Lumpur from 7-12 December 2021 was cancelled after the Government of Malaysia refused to allow Israeli athletes to take part. The Olympic Council of Malaysia had tried to obtain special permission for these athletes but was unsuccessful. Following the cancellation of the Squash Championship, the IOC in December 2021 threatened to ban countries from hosting major events if they refused to allow athletes from certain countries to compete for political reasons. Since then, the Olympic Council of Malaysia has been proactive and has prepared a paper to the Cabinet of Malaysia on the implications of defying the IOC warning.

5.7. Impact on sponsorship agreements

¹³ The detailed list of countries which boycotted the Olympic Games is available on <https://www.history.com/news/olympic-boycotts> (last visited on 16 July 2022).

A few countries did not have many if any Russian or Belarusian sponsors including **Australia, Brazil, Croatia, Ecuador, Greece**. Others took specific actions against one or more Russian sponsors.

In the **UK**, for instance, some organisations suspended their sponsorship arrangements with Russian companies. Manchester United moved quickly to terminate their contract with Aeroflot, and Everton eventually suspended their sponsorship contracts with Russian companies linked to a sanctioned individual.

In **Italy** AC Milan interrupted its partnership with a local sponsor, the Russian betting online company FonBet.

In **Spain**: Real Madrid cancelled the regional sponsorship contract with the Russian betting company “Fonbet” and decided to donate through its foundation €1m and 13,000 items of clothing and sporting equipment to alleviate the humanitarian needs of those displaced in Ukrainian. FC Barcelona, to date, maintains Russian betting company “1xBET” as one of their global sponsors.

In **Switzerland**: a first division ice hockey club EV Zug suspended its sponsorship agreement with “Nord Stream AG”, a Swiss-based company with close connections to Russian “Gazprom”.

Finally, the sports associations the **European Handball Federation Champions League** announced that clubs were released of their implementation obligations related to the sponsorship with “Nord Stream 2 AG”. The company was granted so-called provisional deferment of debt in accordance with arts. 293a ss. of the Swiss Federal Act on Debt Collection and Bankruptcy (Swiss Classified Compilation no. SR 281.1) by a court ruling of 10 May 2022 until 10 September 2022.

Conclusions

150 days have passed since the beginning of Russia - Ukraine war which threatens the existence of a nation and, unfortunately, its destructive effects will last for generations. While the war is having a substantial impact on the social, economic and political conditions of the countries involved – and not only them - the sporting world has taken a significantly hit as well. It has been rightly said that “*Sporting activities invariably become collateral damage during any geopolitical crisis*”.¹⁴The present survey has clearly showed that the Russian invasion of Ukraine is no exception.

This report highlights the far-reaching impact of the invasion of the Ukraine has had at international and domestically around the world. The action taken by the world’s governments, sports federations at national and international level, and at club/team level has differing legal and regulatory implications.

The speed at which these decisions had to be taken comes with obvious risks, that have already been and surely still will be subject to legal challenges as the basis for the decisions are scrutinised. For example, it is likely that we will see more cases brought against sports institutions, as the Ukrainian football club, Shakhtar Donetsk, did against the FIFA ruling allowing foreign players to unilaterally suspend their contracts in the Ukraine. They are seeking up to €50million in damages according to reports.¹⁵

¹⁴ N. Thakwani, *Impact of war-like situations on the sporting world*, available on <https://sportskhabri.com/impact-of-war-like-situations-on-sports/> (last visited on 18 July 2022).

¹⁵ Adam Crafton, *The Athletic*, 18 July 2022, <https://theathletic.com/3428825/2022/07/18/shakhtar-donetsk-seek-e50m-of-damages-from-fifa-over-lost-transfer-fees/?source=user-shared-article> (last accessed 18 July 2022).

All 30 examined International Sports Associations have decided to suspend the Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, from participation in their competitions until further notice. Only history will show the effectiveness of such measures. However, particularly significant is the fact that recently the Court of Arbitration for Sport has already decided that FIFA and UEFA were legitimate to suspend Russian clubs from their competitions in order to protect the integrity of the game following the IOC recommendations.

What precedent the response to the invasion sets for the sports institutions for future conflict situations in other parts of the world remains to be seen but we hope that this survey will provide a helpful reference document to better understand what is happening across sport at this moment in time.

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PART I

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Overview

On 24 February 2022, the IOC strongly condemned the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian Government. The day after, the IOC urged all International Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus. In addition, the IOC EB urged that no Russian or Belarussian national flag be displayed and no Russian or Belarussian anthem be played in international sports events which are not already part of the respective World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctions for Russia.

Furthermore, it set up a special “IOC task force”, led by Sergey Boubka, constantly in contact with the Olympic Community in the country to coordinate humanitarian assistance.

On 28 February 2022, to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants, the IOC EB recommended that International Sports Federations and sports event organisers not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions.

Wherever this was not possible on short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB strongly urged International Sports Federations and organisers of sports events worldwide to do everything in their power to ensure that no athlete or sports official from Russia or Belarus be allowed to take part under the name of Russia or Belarus.

Russian or Belarusian nationals, be it as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams.

The IOC confirmed that no national symbols, colours, flags or anthems should be displayed.

On the 11 March 2022, IOC President, Thomas Bach, in its “**Give peace a chance message**” stated that “*sports competitions or events should not take place in the territory of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus. No national or state symbols of any kind of these countries should be displayed at any event organised by the Olympic Movement*”.¹⁶

Finally, he concluded by urging “*every sports organisation in the world to protect the integrity, fairness and safety of their competitions by not allowing Russian and Belarusian athletes to take part or in special circumstances to at least prohibit any identification of their nationality*”.¹⁷

Official Statements and Press Releases:

On 24 February 2022, the Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) issued the following press release¹⁸:

¹⁶ Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/-give-peace-a-chance> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

¹⁷ *Ibidem*.

¹⁸ Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-strongly-condemns-the-breach-of-the-olympic-truce> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

IOC strongly condemns the breach of the Olympic Truce

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) strongly condemns the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government. The respective UN resolution was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 2 December 2021 by consensus of all 193 UN Member States. The Olympic Truce began seven days before the start of the Olympic Games, on 4 February 2022, and ends seven days after the closing of the Paralympic Games.

Today, IOC President Thomas Bach reiterates his call for peace, which he expressed in his speeches at the Opening Ceremony and the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games.

At the Opening Ceremony, he called on the political authorities: “Observe your commitment to this Olympic Truce. Give peace a chance.”

At the Closing Ceremony, he asked the political leaders “to be inspired” by the “example of solidarity and peace” set by the Olympic athletes.

Following recent events, the IOC is deeply concerned about the safety of the Olympic Community in Ukraine. It has established a task force to closely monitor the situation and to coordinate humanitarian assistance to members of the Olympic Community in Ukraine where possible.

On 25 February 2022, the Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) issued the following press release¹⁹:

IOC EB urges all International Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus

The Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) reiterated today the IOC’s strong condemnation of the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government and the government of Belarus through its support in this. The respective UN resolution was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 2 December 2021 by consensus of all 193 UN Member States. The Olympic Truce began seven days before the start of the Olympic Games, on 4 February 2022, and ends seven days after the closing of the Paralympic Games.

The IOC EB today urges all International Sports Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus. They should take the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian and Belarussian governments into account and give the safety and security of the athletes absolute priority. The IOC itself has no events planned in Russia or Belarus.

In addition, the IOC EB urges that no Russian or Belarussian national flag be displayed and no Russian or Belarussian anthem be played in international sports events which are not already part of the respective World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctions for Russia.

At the same time, the IOC EB expresses its full support to the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for the upcoming Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022.

The IOC EB expresses its deep concerns about the safety of the members of the Olympic Community in Ukraine and stands in full solidarity. It notes that the special IOC task force is in contact with the Olympic Community in the country to coordinate humanitarian assistance where possible.

The IOC EB asks the task force to continue to closely monitor the situation and to keep the IOC EB informed and updated, also with regard to potential amendments of today’s resolution.

¹⁹ Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-urges-all-ifs-to-relocate-or-cancel-their-sports-events-currently-planned-in-russia-or-belarus> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

On 28 February 2022, the Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) issued the following press release²⁰:

IOC EB recommends no participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials

The Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) discussed again today the dilemma the Olympic Movement is currently facing after the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government and the government of Belarus through its support in this.

The Olympic Movement is united in its mission to contribute to peace through sport and to unite the world in peaceful competition beyond all political disputes. The Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games, World Championships and World Cups and many other sports events unite athletes of countries which are in confrontation and sometimes even war.

At the same time, the Olympic Movement is united in its sense of fairness not to punish athletes for the decisions of their government if they are not actively participating in them. We are committed to fair competitions for everybody without any discrimination.

The current war in Ukraine, however, puts the Olympic Movement in a dilemma. While athletes from Russia and Belarus would be able to continue to participate in sports events, many athletes from Ukraine are prevented from doing so because of the attack on their country.

This is a dilemma which cannot be solved. The IOC EB has therefore today carefully considered the situation and, with a heavy heart, issued the following resolution: In order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants, the IOC EB recommends that International Sports Federations and sports event organisers not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions.

Wherever this is not possible on short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB strongly urges International Sports Federations and organisers of sports events worldwide to do everything in their power to ensure that no athlete or sports official from Russia or Belarus be allowed to take part under the name of Russia or Belarus. Russian or Belarusian nationals, be it as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams. No national symbols, colours, flags or anthems should be displayed.

Wherever, in very extreme circumstances, even this is not possible on short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB leaves it to the relevant organisation to find its own way to effectively address the dilemma described above.

In this context, the IOC EB considered in particular the upcoming Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 and reiterated its full support for the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the Games.

The IOC EB maintains its urgent recommendation not to organise any sports event in Russia or Belarus, issued on 25 February 2022.

The IOC EB has, based on the exceptional circumstances of the situation and considering the extremely grave violation of the Olympic Truce and other violations of the Olympic Charter by the Russian government in the past, taken the ad hoc decision to withdraw the Olympic Order from all

²⁰ Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-recommends-no-participation-of-russian-and-belarusian-athletes-and-officials> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

persons who currently have an important function in the government of the Russian Federation or other government-related high-ranking position, including the following:

Mr Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation (Gold, 2001)

Mr Dmitry Chernyshenko, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation (Gold, 2014)

Mr Dmitry Kozak, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office (Gold, 2014)

The IOC EB welcomes and appreciates the many calls for peace by athletes, sports officials and members of the worldwide Olympic Community. The IOC admires and supports in particular the calls for peace by Russian athletes.

The IOC EB reaffirms its full solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic Community. They are in our hearts and thoughts. The IOC EB commits to continue and strengthen its efforts for humanitarian assistance. Therefore, the IOC EB has today established a solidarity fund. In this context, the IOC expresses its gratitude to the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) and International Sports Federations that are already supporting Ukrainian athletes and their families.

The IOC EB, assisted by the IOC Task Force, continues to closely monitor the situation. It may adapt its recommendations and measures according to future developments.

Today's IOC statement builds on the IOC statements made on 24 February 2022 and 25 February 2022.

The IOC reaffirms the call of the IOC President: "Give peace a chance."

On the 11 March 2022, IOC President, Thomas Bach, published the "Give peace a chance message", which reads as follows²¹:

"Give peace a chance...this was the appeal I made to the political leaders across the world in my opening speech of the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022. In my closing speech I expressed the hope that these leaders would be inspired by the "example of solidarity and peace" having been set by the athletes. Just four days later all our hopes for Ukraine were shattered. The horrifying images and reports of the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian army shocked the world. Every day we are more devastated by seeing so much human suffering, anxiety, desperation and destruction. In the meantime, millions of Ukrainians, most of them women and children had to flee from the brutal acts of war to other countries. Our hearts, our feelings, our emotions go out to all these innocent victims. The world community reacted in an unprecedented way to what is widely considered a turning point in world history. The UN General Assembly deplored the aggression by the Russian Federation in the strongest terms with a most exceptional majority. Only three other countries voted with Russia and Belarus against this resolution. Acts of solidarity by millions of people and sanctions by governments across the world followed.

The Olympic Movement immediately strongly condemned the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government, urged the relocation of all sports events planned in Russia or Belarus, and called for no national symbols of any kind of these countries being displayed at any sports events. In doing so we were demonstrating our solidarity with the Ukrainian people. We were sharing the emotions with the people across the globe who, like us, are calling for peace. At the same time we had to share the hard reality with all of them.

²¹ Available on <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/-give-peace-a-chance> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

On the one hand we have a heavy heart. On the other hand we have to keep a cool head to preserve our Olympic values that have withstood the test of time. The invasion has changed the world. The invasion has not changed our values. The invasion has strengthened our commitment to our values of peace, solidarity and non-discrimination in sport for whatever reason. What has changed, however, are the ways to protect and promote them. This situation forces us – and gives us the opportunity – to clearly define the principles and values that constitute the Olympic Movement and guide us. The political consequences of this war and the respective political sanctions confront us with the extremely difficult dilemma of not being able to fully apply these principles at all times.

Our guiding principle is peace. We were entrusted with this mission by our founder Pierre de Coubertin. When he revived the Olympic Games and created the IOC in 1894, with the full support of the International Peace Movement at the time, he said: “Should the institution of the Olympic Games prosper, it can become a potent factor in securing universal peace.”

This means that sport, and in particular the Olympic Games, can be a powerful symbol of peace and understanding. They can be an inspiration for how peaceful the world could be if we all respect the same rules and each other. Everybody in the Olympic community wishes we could be more than a symbol and an inspiration. But we have had to learn once again the hard lessons that sport cannot create peace, and that decisions on war and peace are the exclusive remit of politics. To be at least a powerful symbol, to be an inspiring demonstration of a – maybe utopian – peaceful world, to be a credible polar opposite of war, Olympic sport needs the participation of all the athletes who accept the rules, even and in particular if their countries in the “real” world are in confrontation or at war. A competition between athletes from only like-minded nations is not a credible symbol of peace, it is just another sports event. This is our role: to provide a counter-example to war and division - not to accept, follow and deepen divisions among people. We must be united in the Olympic Movement; we must stand in solidarity together to achieve our unifying mission in all circumstances.

These values, these principles and this mission have guided us in the past and will guide us in the future, acknowledging the historic fundamental changes of the world brought about by the Russian invasion and their unprecedented political consequences.

This means that we will continue to expose the people and organisations responsible for this war in breach of the Olympic Truce. Therefore, sports competitions or events should not take place in the territory of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus. No national or state symbols of any kind of these countries should be displayed at any event organised by the Olympic Movement. We will not fall into the trap of the cheap argument that this would be a politicisation of sport, going against the Olympic Charter which requires political neutrality. Whoever so blatantly violates the Olympic Truce with political and even military means cannot denounce the consequences as being politically motivated.

This clear exposure of the Russian government and its members as being responsible also recognises that this war has not been started by the Russian people, Russian athletes or Russian sports organisations. But we are facing an insoluble dilemma in this respect because we have at the same time the great responsibility to ensure the integrity, fairness and safety of our competitions. Under these unique circumstances we cannot fully uphold this responsibility, we cannot ensure the integrity of the competitions. With the recommendation of the IOC Executive Board, we have brought clarity to our stakeholders, avoided divisions and helped them to maintain unity. Without this, we would have to face the situation where Russian or Belarusian athletes would be competing for titles, while Ukrainian athletes could not, because of the war in their country. Without this, we would have had to experience the politicisation of sports competitions by athletes or teams, some of

them being encouraged by third parties. We also had to consider the safety risks for Russian and Belarusian athletes taking part in international competitions, because of deep anti-Russian and anti-Belarusian feelings following the invasion.

For all these reasons we urge every sports organisation in the world to protect the integrity, fairness and safety of their competitions by not allowing Russian and Belarusian athletes to take part or in special circumstances to at least prohibit any identification of their nationality. This protective approach is also shared by International Sports Federations chaired by Russian nationals. In this context, we will continue to monitor the attitude of Russian or Belarusian athletes and their sports organisations concerning their commitment to peace as enshrined in the Olympic Charter. In doing so we will have to take the situation within Russia into account where, by law, an engagement for peace has been put under the sanction of imprisonment for up to 15 years.

It goes without saying that we will continue our close consultations with all the stakeholders of the Olympic Movement. I would very much like to encourage you also to take the initiative to contact the IOC with regard to any question or comment you may have.

At the same time, we will strengthen our solidarity efforts with the Ukrainian Olympic Community. Many of them are living in Ukraine under unbearable conditions, many of them have had to flee. We are overwhelmed by the show of solidarity from the entire Olympic Movement. To make this assistance as efficient as possible we have not only established a solidarity fund, we have also called on our IOC Member Sergii Bubka in his capacity as President of the NOC of Ukraine, to lead our efforts. His working group has already provided assistance to many of our Ukrainian Olympic friends through the 25 regional offices of the NOC and other NOC institutions. They are in contact with a number of NOCs whose countries have already accepted more than two million refugees, and are offering their help in the Olympic spirit at its best. In this same spirit, we do not forget the other Olympic communities affected by war, warlike situations or acts of aggression. We continue to assist them, like in Ukraine, through their respective NOC.

The war in Ukraine is so unique because of the global response to it and the far-reaching consequences for the world, making it a turning point in world history. This also creates unique challenges for our Olympic Movement. We sincerely hope that these challenges can be overcome as soon as possible and peace can be restored. It does not make us forget the victims of the other too many wars in our fragile world. In solidarity with all of them please join me by appealing, by pleading, by calling on all the political leaders around the globe: “Give peace a chance”

On the 20 May 2022, on the final day of the 139th International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session, IOC President Thomas Bach addressed the IOC membership on the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on the world of sport and the Ukrainian Olympic community:²²

Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission

He elaborated on the IOC’s actions since the outbreak of war, which have included both protective measures for the integrity of competitions and sanctions against those responsible for the war. He also spoke of the dilemma the entire Olympic Movement has been facing, since it cannot fully live up to its mission to unite the entire world in peaceful competition. He concluded this part of the speech by stating:

²² ‘IOC President Thomas Bach: “Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission”, 20 May 2022, <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-president-thomas-bach-our-olympic-mission-is-a-humanitarian-mission>, (last accessed 20 June 2022).

“Our Olympic mission is not a political mission. Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission.” As part of the opening speech, President Bach passed the floor to Sergii Bubka, IOC Member and President of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Ukraine, to provide an update on the Olympic community’s support for the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

“At the end of February, the IOC EB [Executive Board] decided to establish a solidarity fund to help the Olympic community in Ukraine,” he recalled. “Thanks to the help of all of you, the members of the global Olympic community, the fund has now grown to about USD 2.4 million.

“Today there are approximately 3,000 Ukrainian athletes and coaches who stay in different parts of the world, who we continue to support. Through the Olympic solidarity fund, we already support financially 65 individual projects. We are thankful to the IOC and the global Olympic community,” he concluded.

President Bach went on to reflect on the overwhelming response from across the globe to the hosting of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 in unprecedented circumstances. He said:

“Be it from Heads of State, business and cultural leaders, scientists, our Rights-Holding Broadcasters and TOP Partners, from youngsters and kids – we received and still are receiving countless letters and messages saying: thank you for pulling it off.

“This worldwide reaction,” he continued, “has given us confidence to look to the future of the Olympic Movement.” The President highlighted just some examples of the achievements of the Olympic Agenda 2020+5 recommendations, building on the foundations of Olympic Agenda 2020. He said: “We can look to the future from a position of strength, which was never a foregone conclusion in our uncertain times.”

The full Speech of the IOC President is reported here below²³:

“Dear colleagues and friends, We began our 139th IOC Session in Beijing this past February. It was not so long ago, but how much our world has changed since then.

We will dedicate, as planned, a significant portion of today’s schedule to Olympic Agenda 2020+5 and the long-term outlook for our Olympic Movement. But unfortunately I have to begin by giving some perspective on our actions regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

“Give Peace a Chance” – this was my appeal to the political leaders across the world in my opening and closing speeches in Beijing. As it turned out, the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 were but a fleeting moment of hope that peace and the Olympic Truce would prevail.

Unfortunately we could only appeal, because our relationship with the Russian political leadership has dramatically deteriorated over the past years. It deteriorated following the doping scandal, cyber attacks and even personal threats to individuals from the IOC and Olympic Movement.

²³ Available also on https://stillmed.olympics.com/media/Documents/International-Olympic-Committee/Sessions/139th-Session/IOC-Session-May-2022-speech.pdf?_ga=2.56582571.1286695995.1656326613-1571789829.1656326613 (last visited on 27 June 2022).

Since the appeal fell on deaf ears, the IOC and the Olympic Movement took immediate actions after Russia, supported by Belarus, started this war. The position of the Olympic Movement on the war is outlined in my “Give Peace a Chance” message which has been widely shared and appreciated by governments and organisations worldwide.

The Olympic Movement strongly supported the message, by widely following the recommendations and by confirming their support again, only last week when we had 2 consultation calls with representatives from the National Olympic Committees, the International Federations and the athletes. For all this support, I would like to reiterate our deep gratitude to all our stakeholders. Our actions are two-fold: sanctions on the one hand and protective measures on the other.

We condemned the blatant violation of the Olympic Truce on the day of the invasion. We sanctioned the Russian and Belarusian states and governments that are responsible for this war. We did so by recommending that no international sporting events be held in Russia and Belarus; by not allowing national symbols to be displayed; and even for the first time in our history by withdrawing Olympic Orders that had been awarded to the President and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation. At the same time, we also had to take protective measures to ensure the integrity of international competitions. For this we had to recommend not to allow Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials to take part in international competitions, or to at least prohibit any identification of their nationality.

Let me emphasise again that these are protective measures – not sanctions – measures to protect the integrity of competitions. The safety of the Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials could not be guaranteed because of the deep anti-Russian and antiBelarusian feelings in so many countries following the invasion.

We had to move quickly because it was evident that governments wanted to decide who can take part in which international competitions. This is true not only for governments of host countries of such competitions. There are governments who prohibit athletes from their country to take part in any competition with Russian or Belarusian athletes. There are governments who are threatening to withdraw funding from any athlete who would participate in such a competition. There are governments who are putting public and political pressure on National Olympic Committees and national sports federations. We had to and continue to have to consider this situation from the end. Today it is Russia and Belarus, but if we do not act, tomorrow it will be the government from country A not wanting athletes from country B to participate. Or government C demanding its athletes not to compete against athletes from country D and so on and so forth.

This would be a situation that is contrary to all the principles we are based on. If it is in the hands of politicians to decide who can take part in which competition, then the nondiscriminatory foundation of our global sports system is gone. This would be the full politicisation of sport. This would mean that sport and the athletes would become just a tool of the political sanctions system. This was and this is our dilemma. Because of this dilemma, we had to take these protective measures - albeit with a very heavy heart. Following our sanctions and protective measures, we received questions from two angles.

The first question was: why did we react to this war in a different way than to the many other wars around the world? There are two answers to this.

The first is: the war in Ukraine is different because it is a blatant violation of the Olympic Truce. The second is: the far-reaching political, social and economic consequences of the war make it a turning point in world history.

The second question was: why are our sanctions limited to the government and national symbols and not extended to all members of the Russian Olympic community?

The answer is: according to international rule of law, sanctions can and should only be imposed on those who are responsible for something. This war has not been started by the Russian people, the Russian athletes, the Russian Olympic Committee or the IOC Members in Russia.

Imagine where the precedent of such a breach of the rule of law by us would lead to. Every individual, every athlete, every sports official, every sports organisation would have to be punished for any illegitimate political action of their governments.

There is no justice if you paint everyone with the same brush. This would even be counterproductive because it would play into the propaganda of those who are claiming that sanctions are just a part of a wider conspiracy directed against their country.

By the way, our approach is in line with the governments who are also bound by this rule of law when it comes to their sanctioning measures. Also they cannot sanction individuals only because of the passport they hold. Therefore, we are monitoring closely who is supporting this war with their statements or actions and have drawn and will draw the necessary consequences.

This has been demonstrated for example by FINA and FIG, who have sanctioned athletes that have expressed such support for the war. In judging this, we also have to realise that there is a Russian law threatening anyone who speaks out against the war with up to 15 years in prison. Therefore, we can appreciate that, under such circumstances, silence in itself can be a message. Our guiding principle is peace.

The Olympic Games, which unite the entire world in peaceful competition, are a powerful symbol of peace. But in order to unite the entire world, Olympic sport needs the participation of all the athletes who accept the rules, even and especially if their countries are in confrontation or at war. A competition between athletes from only like-minded nations is not a credible symbol of peace. And it is certainly not in line with our mission.

As already our founder, Pierre de Coubertin, said, and I quote: “In truth, the entire work of the Olympic Games is based on concord – it means erasing the memories of old battles or preventing new ones.” End of quote. While our actions brought clarity to all stakeholders of the Olympic Movement and helped us to maintain our unity, they also highlight the dilemma that we are facing: at this moment in time, we cannot fully live up to our mission to unite the entire world in peaceful competition. Therefore we need to be prepared for the day when peace will prevail – hopefully soon. There will come a time when the world will need to rebuild bridges.

When that moment comes, then we in the Olympic Movement need to be ready to overcome our current dilemma and unite the entire world again in peaceful competition. Our Olympic mission is not a political mission.

Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission. Because of this humanitarian mission, we are of course painfully aware of all the too many wars and conflicts in the world. In our Olympic community we are all equal and this is why everyone affected by war deserves our attention and our support.

This is exactly what we are doing through our Olympic Refuge Foundation and through supporting all members of our Olympic community who are suffering from war and conflict. Take Afghanistan as an example. There, too, we had to act quickly following the humanitarian crisis that unfolded after the change of political power. Thanks to a true demonstration of solidarity, we have managed with the active support of many NOCs and IFs to get around 300 members of the Olympic community in Afghanistan to safety.

Together with the UNHCR, we also supported around 2,000 members of the Afghan Olympic community who are remaining in the country with a special winter relief fund to get through the harsh winter. This humanitarian mission also applies to the members of the Ukrainian Olympic community.

Just as in Afghanistan, our humanitarian assistance for Ukraine goes beyond financial aid. We have been overwhelmed with an outpouring of solidarity. I would like to thank everyone in our Olympic community who is so generously contributing to our solidarity efforts. Going beyond purely financial support, we are also offering logistical support.

We are ensuring that Ukrainian athletes can continue to take part in competitions. We are providing travel support, training facilities, accommodation, equipment and uniforms. We will continue to support Ukrainian and Afghan athletes in the same way we support other members of the global Olympic community who are affected by war and conflict.

At the end of the day, all our actions will be judged by the suffering members of the Olympic communities concerned. In this case, the Ukrainian Olympic community. There is nobody better to explain this than our dear colleague and friend Sergii Bubka, President of the NOC of Ukraine, who is leading the coordination of all our humanitarian efforts for Ukraine.

This is why I would like to now hand over to Mr. Sergii Bubka. [Sergii Bubka] Thank you very much Sergii and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for what you are doing to coordinate all our efforts. It is hard to imagine what this means for you, to work day in day out, under such stressful conditions and in a stressful environment. You are with all your feelings and emotions, with all your heart, you are with your compatriots in Ukraine. And still you have to concentrate on your work to see how we can all together help them in the best way. There you are showing great quality and we are with you”.

THE EUROPEAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Overview:

The European Olympic Committees (EOC), whose Executive Committee (ExCo) endorsed the IOC position condemning the breach of the Olympic Truce.

The EOC called all its Members to stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic Community. Russian and Belarus athletes and officials will no longer participate in the forthcoming 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) to be held in Vuokatti, Finland, from 20-25 March

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 25 February 2022, the European Olympic Committee (EOC) issued the following press release²⁴:

EOC STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE

The European Olympic Committees (EOC), whose Executive Committee (ExCo) met virtually today in an extraordinary session, reiterates its endorsement of the communique put forth by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board condemning the breach of the Olympic Truce. The EOC strongly supports President Bach's call for peace and expresses its full support to the Olympic Community in Ukraine.

As already shown by the Baltic National Olympic Committees (NOCs), the EOC calls all its Members to stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic Community.

Many NOCs from the neighbouring countries have already expressed their full assistance and friendship, and the EOC would like to warmly thank them for this valuable sign of solidarity and kindness.

In partnership with the IOC, the EOC will continue to monitor this deeply concerning situation and is ready to cooperate and provide humanitarian assistance where possible.

On 2 March 2022, the European Olympic Committee (EOC) issued the following press release²⁵:

RUSSIA/BELARUS ATHLETES AND OFFICIALS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN EYOF VUOKATTI 2022

The Executive Committee (ExCo) of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) met again yesterday to discuss the worsening situation and humanitarian crisis following Russia's invasion of Ukraine last week.

²⁴ Available on <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-statement-in-support-of-ukraine/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

²⁵ Available on <https://www.eurolympic.org/russia-belarus-athletes-and-officials-will-not-participate-in-eyof-vuokatti-2022/>.

The EOC stands in solidarity with Ukraine and fully supports the statement and all recommended actions issued by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Monday. Therefore, after consultation with Vuokatti 2022 Organising Committee and all relevant stakeholders, and noting the decisions taken by the participating International Federations, the EOC has reached the following decision:

Russian and Belarus athletes and officials will no longer participate in the forthcoming 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) to be held in Vuokatti, Finland, from 20-25 March.

The EOC recognises that the IOC statement did make exceptional provisions for organisers of events due to take place at very short notice. However, in order to safeguard the well-being of such young athletes, as well as protect the integrity of the event, the EOC believes Russian and Belarusian athletes should not compete in Vuokatti in any capacity.

The EOC takes this decision with reluctance due to the exceptional young age of the affected athletes. However, as the IOC stated, “This is a dilemma which cannot be solved”. The EOC continues to monitor the war in Ukraine on an hourly basis and will give further updates in due course on the unified approach of European National Olympic Committees in support of the athletes and people of Ukraine.

On 4 March 2022, the European Olympic Committee (EOC) issued the following press release²⁶:

EOC STATEMENT ON EUROPEAN ATHLETES MEETING IN BRUSSELS

The European Olympic Committees (EOC) Executive Committee (ExCo) has taken the decision to postpone the European Athletes Conference in Brussels, which was set to take place on 9 March 2022.

The decision follows consultation with the EOC Athletes Commission, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the European Commission, and the EOC EU Office. The humanitarian crisis following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine last week has resulted in the European sports movement’s urgent focus being on supporting the Ukrainian Olympic Community. Therefore, it would not have been appropriate or productive to host a wide-ranging meeting on matters affecting European athletes next week. Additionally, the war in Ukraine would have prevented the safe travel to Brussels for a number of participants.

The EOC will communicate updated information on the new dates for this important meeting of European athletes in due course. For now, the EOC is continuing to work with European National Olympic Committees and international stakeholders to support those affected by the ongoing conflict.

On 21 March 2022, the European Olympic Committee (EOC) issued the following press release²⁷:

EOC EXTENDS DECISION REGARDING RUSSIA AND BELARUS

²⁶ Available on <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-statement-on-european-athletes-meeting-in-brussels/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

²⁷ Available on <https://www.eurolympic.org/russia-belarus-athletes-and-officials-will-not-participate-in-eyof-vuokatti-2022/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

In alignment with the recommendation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on 28th February 2022 and consistent with the decision taken by the EOC ExCo on 2nd March 2022 in relation to the EYOF Vuokatti 2022, the EOC ExCo extended the non-participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in the Summer EYOF scheduled in Banska Bystrica in July 2022. The decision was taken in consultation with the Organising Committee of the EYOF Banska Bystrica 2022.

Within this framework, and so as to protect the integrity of the EOC's activities in the current exceptional context, the EOC ExCo has also decided that Russian and Belarusian individuals who hold an EOC ExCo or Commission position will temporarily not be invited to attend ExCo and Commissions' meetings.

On 26 April 2022, the European Olympic Committee (EOC) issued the following press release²⁸:

EOC EXPRESSES GRATITUDE TO EUROPEAN NOCS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF UKRAINE

The EOC extends its heartfelt thanks to the European National Olympic Committees (ENOCs), following their concerted effort to provide support and show solidarity with the Ukrainian Olympic community.

The EOC family first showcased its firm commitment to helping Ukrainian athletes when it came together to ensure a team of 25 young stars were able to compete at the Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) Vuokatti 2022. The Finnish Olympic Committee in particular played a key role in making this possible, supplying training equipment and providing logistical support.

Since then, there have been numerous examples of the ENOCs going above and beyond to help their friends from Ukraine. National Olympic Committee of Ukraine President and IOC Member Sergey Bubka, who has been coordinating the IOC's humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian Olympic community, has expressed his sincere gratitude to ENOCs for their support.

Mr Bubka recently met with Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) President and IOC Member Giovanni Malagò in Rome, thanking him for CONI's role in ensuring over 500 Ukrainian athletes from 20 sports could train in Italy by covering all expenses for an indefinite period of time. The Slovak Olympic and Sports Committee has also demonstrated strong solidarity with Ukraine, welcoming more than 400 athletes to the country that will host the 2022 Summer EYOF.

Amongst multiple other examples, the Swiss Olympic Association is working alongside several of the country's National Federations to help guide Ukrainian athletes from their arrival in Switzerland right through to the start of a regular training programme. Meanwhile, the Slovenian NOC has introduced a range of initiatives, including preparing a project to include refugee children in programmes at local sports clubs.

On 24 – 25 April, German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) President Thomas Weikert and DOSB Executive Board visited the IOC in Lausanne and had the chance to meet with Sergii Bubka to discuss the NOC ongoing support to Ukrainian Olympic Community. There are currently around 160 Ukrainian athletes staying and training at Olympic training centres in Germany as well as an additional hundred Ukrainian athletes who have found a temporary home in some of Germany's sport clubs and federations. A support fund was also set up and currently amounts around to

²⁸ Available on <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-expresses-gratitude-to-european-nocs-for-their-support-of-ukraine/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

250.000€ – sport clubs and federations can request money from this fund for projects that support Ukrainian athletes (e.g. to buy training equipment or to pay coaching fees).

EOC President Spyros Capralos said, “From the bottom of my heart I want thank National Olympic Committees from all across Europe. The manner in which they have responded to the war in Ukraine is a true embodiment of the Olympic values. Sport plays such an integral role in society and it is vital that we continue supporting the Ukrainian Olympic community throughout, and beyond, this crisis.

“My message to all ENOCs is to please keep doing what you are doing. Sport is a key source of light during these dark times, and as our good friend Sergey Bubka has said on many occasions – athletes can inspire others by showing the resilience of the Ukrainian people, whilst sending a message of solidarity and peace.”

INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Overview

On 2 March 2022, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) decided that The RPC and NPC Belarus will participate as neutrals at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. They will compete under the Paralympic flag and not be included in the medal table.

Furthermore, the IPC also decided not hold any events in Russia or Belarus until further notice”. The day after, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Governing Board decided to refuse the athlete entries from the RPC and NPC Belarus for the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

Official Statements and Media releases

On 2 March 2022, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) issued the following press release²⁹:

IPC makes decisions regarding RPC and NPC Belarus

“The RPC and NPC Belarus will participate as neutrals at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. They will compete under the Paralympic flag and not be included in the medal table. IPC to host extraordinary General Assembly in 2022 to vote on whether to make compliance with the Olympic Truce a membership requirement and whether to suspend or terminate the membership of the Russian Paralympic Committee and Belarus Paralympic Committee. IPC will not hold any events in Russia or Belarus until further notice”

On 3 March 2022, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) issued the following press release³⁰:

IPC to decline athlete entries from RPC and NPC Belarus for Beijing 2022

Following a specially convened meeting, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Governing Board has decided to refuse the athlete entries from the RPC and NPC Belarus for the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

This means that Para athletes from these respective countries will no longer be allowed to participate in the Games which open on 4 March 2022.

Andrew Parsons, IPC President, said: “At the IPC we are very firm believers that sport and politics should not mix. However, by no fault of its own the war has now come to these Games and behind the scenes many Governments are having an influence on our cherished event.

²⁹ Available on <https://www.paralympic.org/press-release/ipc-makes-decisions-regarding-rpc-and-npc-belarus> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

³⁰ Available on <https://www.paralympic.org/press-release/ipc-makes-decisions-regarding-rpc-and-npc-belarus> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

“The IPC is a membership-based organisation, and we are receptive to the views of our member organisations.

“When our members elected the Board in December 2021 it was to maintain and uphold the principles, values, and rules of the Paralympic Movement. As Board members that is a responsibility and duty we take extremely seriously.

“In taking our decision yesterday we were looking at the long-term health and survival of the Paralympic Movement. We are fiercely proud of the principles and values that have made the Movement what it is today.

“However, what is clear is that the rapidly escalating situation has now put us in a unique and impossible position so close to the start of the Games.

“Yesterday we said we would continue to listen, and that is what we are doing.

“In the last 12 hours an overwhelming number of members have been in touch with us and been very open, for which I am grateful. They have told us that if we do not reconsider our decision, it is now likely to have grave consequences for the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. Multiple NPCs, some of which have been contacted by their governments, teams and athletes, are threatening not to compete.

“Ensuring the safety and security of athletes is of paramount importance to us and the situation in the athlete villages is escalating and has now become untenable. First and foremost, we have a duty as part of the Paralympic mission, enshrined in the constitution, to guarantee and supervise the organisation of successful Paralympic Games, to ensure that in sport practiced within the Paralympic Movement the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned, the health risk of the athletes is managed and fundamental ethical principles are upheld.

“With this in mind, and in order to preserve the integrity of these Games and the safety of all participants, we have decided to refuse the athlete entries from RPC and NPC Belarus.

“To the Para athletes from the impacted countries, we are very sorry that you are affected by the decisions your governments took last week in breaching the Olympic Truce. You are victims of your governments’ actions.

“Athlete welfare is and always will be a key concern for us. As a result of today’s decision 83 Para athletes are directly impacted by this decision. However, if RPC and NPC Belarus remain here in Beijing then nations will likely withdraw. We will likely not have a viable Games. If this were to happen, the impact would be far wider reaching.

“I hope and pray that we can get back to a situation when the talk and focus is fully on the power of sport to transform the lives of persons with disabilities, and the best of humanity.”

APPEALS BEFORE CAS AGAINST THE IOC DECISION

Overview

Following the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022 and in line with its recommendations, the majority of the international and regional sports federations and organizations issued their resolutions with respect to the sanctions and limitations to be imposed on the athletes and teams originating from Russia and Belarus.

Some of these decisions have been appealed by the Russian sports federations either to the internal judicial bodies of the relevant international sports federations or directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne.³¹

As reported by the colleague Anna, “*considering the variety of the sanctions imposed in different sports disciplines on the Russian athletes, the reaction of the Russian sports organizations, clubs and athletes differed drastically depending on the severity of the measures and specifics of the sports discipline. Many of the decisions issued by the international sports federations were appealed by the Russian sports federations, clubs and individual athletes to the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the internal judicial bodies of the international sports federations*”.

CAS gave information about ten arbitral proceedings initiated by the various Russian sports organizations; one appeal had been withdrawn; one procedure suspended, and the rest were pending.

In the two arbitration proceedings initiated by the Football Union of Russia (FUR) against the decisions of FIFA and UEFA to suspend all the FUR teams from participating in FIFA and UEFA competitions until further notice, namely *CAS 2022/A/8709 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Union of European Football Associations et al.* and *CAS 2022/A/8708 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) et al.*, the Football Union of Russia sought interim relief, namely for CAS to “*grant the suspensive effect to the Appeal and/or if needed, order [FIFA and UEFA] to take all necessary measures to reinstate immediately all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, for participation in [FIFA/UEFA] competitions, including, but without limitation, in the competitions (...)*”

On 8 April 2022 by the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division issued two orders on Requests for Provisional Measures in the afore-referenced proceedings where the applications for provisional measures filed by the Football Union of Russia were rejected.³²

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 18 March 2022 CAS published the following press release³³:

THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) REJECTS THE FOOTBALL UNION OF RUSSIA’S REQUEST TO STAY THE EXECUTION OF

³¹ For an overview of the main International Federations’ decisions and the appeals lodged against them before CAS please see the report on Russia for this survey egregiously written by Anna Smirnova.

³² https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8708_Reasoned_OPM_publication_.pdf and https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8709_reasoned_OPM_publication_.pdf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

³³ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8708_prov.measures.pdf.

THE FIFA COUNCIL'S DECISION TO SUSPEND ALL RUSSIAN TEAMS AND CLUBS FROM ITS COMPETITIONS

Lausanne, 18 March 2022 - The President of the Appeals Arbitration Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has rejected the request filed by the Football Union of Russia (FUR) to stay, for the duration of the CAS proceedings, the execution of the FIFA Council's decision to suspend all Russian teams and clubs from participation in its competitions until further notice (the Challenged decision).

Accordingly, the Challenged Decision remains in force and all Russian teams and clubs continue to be suspended from participation in FIFA competitions.

The CAS arbitration proceedings continue. A Panel of arbitrators is currently being constituted and the parties are exchanging written submissions. No hearing has been fixed yet.

On 5 April 2022, CAS issued the following press release³⁴:

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS PENDING BEFORE THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) RELATING TO APPEALS OF RUSSIAN ATHLETES, FEDERATIONS AND TEAMS

“Lausanne, 5 April 2022 – The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) provides the following summary of the proceedings pending before it relating to the appeals of Russian athletes, federations and teams:

CAS 2022/A/8708 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. FIFA, UEFA, Polish Football Association, Swedish Football Association, Czech Football Association, Football Association of Montenegro & Malta Football Association:

On 18 March 2022, the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division rejected the FUR's request to stay, for the duration of the CAS proceedings, the execution of the FIFA Council's decision to suspend all Russian teams and clubs from participation in its competitions until further notice. The reasoned Order on Request for Provisional Measures will be published on the CAS website later this week. The Panel of arbitrators is currently being constituted. No procedural calendar has been established yet.

CAS 2022/A/8709 FUR v. UEFA, Hellenic Football Federation, Association Belarus Football, Danish Football Association, Luxembourgish Football, Austrian Football Association, Malta Football Association, Portuguese Football Federation, The Football Association, Spanish Football Association, Irish Football Association, French Football Association:

On 18 March 2022, the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division rejected the FUR's request to stay, for the duration of the CAS proceedings, the execution of the UEFA Executive Committee's decision to suspend all Russian teams and clubs from its competitions until further notice. The reasoned Order on Request for Provisional Measures will be published on the CAS website later this week. The Panel of arbitrators is currently being constituted. No procedural calendar has been established yet.

CAS 2022/A/8717 FUR v. FIFA, Polish Football Association, Swedish Football Association, Czech Football Association:

On 30 March 2022, the FUR informed the CAS Court Office that it withdrew its appeal. This procedure will be terminated shortly.

³⁴ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_05.04.22_Russian_appeals.pdf (last visited on 27 June 2022).

CAS 2022/A/8714 Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) v. European Olympic Committees (EOC):

The ROC filed an appeal against the decision taken on 2 March 2022 by the EOC Executive Committee not to allow Russian and Belarus athletes and officials to participate in the 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival. The ROC seeks a ruling from CAS setting aside such decision and ordering that ROC athletes and officials be entitled to take part in all competitions organised by the EOC, including the 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival and the 2022 Summer European Youth Olympic Festival. On 18 March 2022, the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division rejected the ROC's request to stay the execution of the EOC Executive Committee's decision. The Panel of arbitrators that will decide this matter is being constituted.

CAS 2022/A/8733 Russian Skating Union, Figure Skating Federation of Russia, Semen Elistratov, Angelika Golikova, Evgenia Tarasova & Vladimir Morozov v. International Skating Union (ISU):

The Russian Skating Union, the Figure Skating Federation of Russian and four Russian speed/figure skaters filed an appeal against the decision issued by the ISU Council on 1 March 2022 in which it was announced that with immediate effect and until further notice, no skaters belonging to the ISU members in Russia shall be invited or allowed to participate in international ice-skating competitions such as ISU Championships and other ISU events. The appellant-parties seek the annulment of the ISU Council's decision. The Panel of arbitrators that will decide this matter is being constituted.

CAS 2022/A/8734 Russian Biathlon Union (RBU) v. International Biathlon Union (IBU):

The RBU filed an appeal against the decision issued by the IBU Executive Board on 2 March 2022 in which it decided not to allow the participation of any Russian or Belarusian athletes and officials at its international events until further notice including non-sports events organised by the IBU for its members, and noted that it would further discuss a potential suspension of the two national federations from their IBU membership. At the request of the RBU, the CAS proceedings are currently suspended.

CAS 2022/A/8755 Russian Rowing Federation (RRF) v. World Rowing:

The RRF filed an appeal against the decision taken by the World Rowing Executive Commission not to allow the participation of Russian athletes and officials in any of its international competitions, with immediate effect and until further notice. The RRF seeks the annulment of such decision.

CAS 2022/A/8761 Rugby Union of Russia (RUR) v. World Rugby:

The RUR filed an appeal against the decision taken by the World Rugby Executive Committee to suspend RUR membership in World Rugby and exclude the RUR teams from all international meetings at all levels. The RUR seeks the annulment of such decision and the reinstatement of all Russian teams for participation in all World Rugby competitions.

CAS 2022/A/8778 Russian Gymnastics Federation, Angelina Melnikova, Nikita Nagornyy, Mikhail Zalomin & Vitalii Ivanchuk v. International Gymnastics Federation (FIG):

The Russian Gymnastics Federation, three gymnasts and a gymnastics judge filed an appeal against the decision taken by the FIG Executive Committee not to allow Russian athletes and officials, including judges, to take part in FIG competitions or FIG-sanctioned competitions from 7 March 2022 until further notice. The appellant-parties seek the annulment of the FIG Executive Committee's decision.

CAS 2022/A/8777 Russian Gymnastics Federation, Angelina Melnikova, Nikita Nagornyy, Mikhail Zalomin, Vitalii Ivanchuk & Irina Karavaeva v. European Gymnastics:

The Russian Gymnastics Federation, three gymnasts, a gymnastics judge and a technical official filed an appeal against the decision taken by the Executive Committee of European Gymnastics not to allow athletes, officials and judges from the Russian Gymnastics Federation to participate in any European Gymnastics

events until further notice. The appellant-parties seek the annulment of the European Gymnastics Executive Committee's decision and a ruling from CAS that Russian athletes, officials and judges be entitled to take part in all European Gymnastics events under the same conditions as all athletes, officials and judges from other countries".

On 23 June 2022 CAS published the following press release³⁵:

**INTERNATIONAL WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION (IWF) ELECTIONS
THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) UPHOLDS THE APPEALS FILED
BY THE RUSSIAN WEIGHTLIFTING FEDERATION, MAXIM AGAPITOV, DMITRY
CHERNOGOROV AND ALEKSANDR KISHKIN**

“Lausanne, 23 June 2022 – “The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has upheld the appeals filed by the Russian Weightlifting Federation (RWF), Maxim Agapitov, Dmitry Chernogorov and Aleksandr Kishkin (the Appellants) against the four decisions rendered on 23 May 2022 by the Eligibility Determination Panel (EDP) of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) (the Challenged Decisions) by which the RWF was “prohibited from nominating any candidate for election to the Executive Board, any IWF Commission and any IWF Committee for the IWF elections to be held in June 2022” and, as a consequence, the three candidates Agapitov, Chernogorov and Kishkin were declared ineligible for the same elections.

The Challenged Decisions have been set aside.

The CAS Panel in charge of the matters found that the IWF EDP did not have jurisdiction to prevent the RWF from nominating candidates for the elections. Indeed, such decision is of a disciplinary nature and, as provided by Article 13 of the IWF Constitution, it was not for the IWF EDP to rule on the suspension of the RWF in the light of Article 13.12 of the IWF Constitution, but only to determine the eligibility of the candidates in accordance with the IWF Constitution.

Therefore, the CAS Panel could only set aside the Challenged Decisions and state that the ground justifying the ineligibility of the three candidates Agapitov, Chernogorov and Kishkin, proposed by the RWF for election, no longer existed”.

³⁵ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8915_et_al.pdf (last visited on 27 June 2022).

PART II

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

**ARCHERY
ATHLETICS
BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
BASKETBALL
BIATHLON
CANOEING
CHESS
CURLING
CYCLING
GYMNASTICS
FOOTBALL
HOCKEY
ICE HOCKEY
JUDO
LUGE
PENTATHLON
ROWING
RUGBY
SAILING
SKATING
SKIING
SURFING
SWIMMING
TAEKWONDO
TENNIS
TENNIS TABLE
TRIATHLON
VOLLEYBALL**

ARCHERY – WORLD ARCHERY

Overview

No Russian and Belarusian athletes, teams and officials or technical official from Russia or Belarus are permitted to participate in any international archery event until further notice. This includes any tournament that offers world ranking points, qualifying events, events run by major organisations, and any competition for which World Archery or World Archery Europe is the ruling body or responsible for appointing technical officials. The term “technical official” includes judges and classifiers.

Russia and Belarus also remain prohibited from bidding for or hosting international events.

Neither World Archery nor World Archery Europe had upcoming events scheduled in either country.

Russian and Belarusian flags and anthems have been removed from all international tournaments. No future events will be awarded to either country.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 26 February 2022 the World Archery issued the following press release³⁶:

Executive board sanctions Russian and Belarusian flags and anthems

“World Archery’s executive board has voted to remove the Russian and Belarusian national flags and anthems from all international tournaments in condemnation of the breaking of the Olympic truce and the current crisis in Ukraine.

The sport currently has no events planned in and no future events will be awarded to either country. Executive board member Vladimir Esheev, who is also the president of Russia’s national archery federation, was not invited to the discussion or vote.

The World Archery Para Championships are currently taking place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. There is a delegation of independent athletes competing at the event under the flag of the Russian Archery Federation, an arrangement in place due to ongoing clean sport sanctions (implementing a decision made by the Court of Arbitration for Sport).

World Archery is actively supporting the team participating from Ukraine.

The organisers of the championships have contributed additional accommodation in Dubai as the situation develops, while travel and safe shelter is being arranged with the National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine and supportive neighbouring archery federations.

World Archery will continue to provide humanitarian support to members of the archery community affected by this crisis wherever possible”.

³⁶ Also available at <https://worldarchery.sport/news/200624/executive-board-sanctions-russian-and-belarusian-flags-and-anthems> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On 28 February 2002 the **World Archery Europe** issued its own press release³⁷:

IOC EB recommends no participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials

By sharing the last IOC statement, World Archery Europe wants to reiterate IOC President Thomas Bach's call for peace: "Give peace a chance" while condemning the military attack on Ukraine.

World Archery Europe supports the IOC statement and will not allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in the European competitions.

On 2 March 2022 the World Archery issued a second press release widening the scope of measures against Russia and Belarus³⁸:

Russia and Belarus prohibited from participating in international events

World Archery's executive board has approved a further round of sanctions on Russia and Belarus, which comply with the latest recommendations from the International Olympic Committee, in response to the crisis in Ukraine.

These new sanctions are in addition to the previous statement and initial sanctions, which were announced following Russia's breaking of the Olympic Truce.

As of 2 March 2022, no athlete, team official or technical official from Russia or Belarus will be permitted to participate in any international archery event until further notice.

This includes any tournament that offers world ranking points, qualifying events, events run by major organisations, and any competition for which World Archery or World Archery Europe is the ruling body or responsible for appointing technical officials.

The term technical official includes judges and classifiers.

Russia and Belarus also remain prohibited from bidding for or hosting international events. Neither World Archery nor World Archery Europe had upcoming events scheduled in either country.

In compliance with the recommendation of the International Olympic Committee, which hosted a meeting of the presidents of all international sports federations on Tuesday, neither the archery federations of Russia and Belarus nor elected officers from either country will be suspended as they are not directly implicated in the breaking of the Olympic Truce.

World Archery has issued the following statement alongside the sanctions:

"World Archery reiterates its position that there is no place in this world for war or violence. Sport is a celebration of peace, friendship and the Olympic values."

"World Archery has no desire to penalise any athlete or official who shares these values but must prioritise the integrity of competition, and the fairness in access to competition, as part of sport's united response to the current crisis in Ukraine."

³⁷ Also available at <https://www.archeryeurope.org/news/ioc-statement-about-russian-and-bielorussian-athletes/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

³⁸ Also available at <https://worldarchery.sport/news/200632/russia-and-belarus-prohibited-participating-international-events#:~:text=Russia%20and%20Belarus%20prohibited%20from%20participating%20in%20international%20events,-2%20March%202022&text=World%20Archery's%20executive%20board%20has,to%20the%20crisis%20in%20Ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

“World Archery hopes that the unified calls for peace, from people of all nationalities, will quickly bring this crisis to an end.”

Further decisions will be taken by the World Archery executive board as and when they become necessary. World Archery will work with the International Olympic Committee, Ukrainian Olympic Committee and Ukrainian Archery Federation to support athletes, and continue to provide humanitarian aid to the members of the community affected by the crisis where possible.

ATHLETICS – WORLD ATHLETICS

Overview:

Russian and Belarusian athletes have been banned from competing in World Athletics Series events.

It is worth mentioning that the Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) has been already suspended from World Athletics since 2015, due to doping violations, and therefore is not currently eligible to host World Athletics events or send teams to international championships.

The so-called Authorised Neutral Athlete (ANA) process remains in place but Russian athletes who have received ANA status for 2022 are excluded from World Athletics Series events for the foreseeable future.

With particular regard to the Belarus Athletic Federation, they are excluded from hosting of any international or European athletics events, they have no representation at Congress or in decisions which require Congressional votes; they have no accreditation to attend any World Athletics Series events, and finally the Federation personnel cannot be involved in any official World Athletics development or professional programmes.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that World Athletics has not only sanctioned the Russian and Belarus Federations but they have also established a special Fund to support Athletes affected by the War.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the World Athletics Council issued the following press release³⁹:

World Athletics Council sanctions Russia and Belarus

“The World Athletics Council has today agreed to impose sanctions against the Member Federations of Russia and Belarus as a consequence of the invasion of Ukraine.

All athletes, support personnel and officials from Russia and Belarus will be excluded from all World Athletics Series events for the foreseeable future, with immediate effect.

Upcoming events include the World Athletics Championships Oregon22, the World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22, and the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Muscat 22, which begin on Friday in Oman (4 March).

The Council also agreed to consider further measures, including the suspension of the Belarus Federation, at its scheduled Council meeting next week (9-10 March).

³⁹ Also available on <https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/world-athletics-council-sanctions-russia-and-belarus> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) has been suspended from World Athletics since 2015, due to doping violations, and therefore is not currently eligible to host World Athletics events or send teams to international championships.

The Authorised Neutral Athlete (ANA) process remains in place but Russian athletes who have received ANA status for 2022 are excluded from World Athletics Series events for the foreseeable future.

This means that all Russian ANA or Belarusian athletes currently accredited for the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Muscat 22 and the World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22 (18-20 March) will have their accreditation withdrawn and entries denied, as will any support personnel and officials.

In an address to the Council, World Athletics President Sebastian Coe said: “The world is horrified by what Russia has done, aided and abetted by Belarus. World leaders sought to avoid this invasion through diplomatic means but to no avail given Russia’s unswerving intention to invade Ukraine. The unprecedented sanctions that are being imposed on Russia and Belarus by countries and industries all over the world appear to be the only peaceful way to disrupt and disable Russia’s current intentions and restore peace.

“Anyone who knows me will understand that imposing sanctions on athletes because of the actions of their government goes against the grain. I have railed against the practice of politicians targeting athletes and sport to make political points when other sectors continue about their business. This is different as governments, business and other international organisations have imposed sanctions and measures against Russia across all sectors. Sport has to step up and join these efforts to end this war and restore peace. We cannot and should not sit this one out.”

World Athletics Athletes’ Commission chairs Renaud Lavillenie and Dame Valerie Adams welcomed the decision.

“We stand in solidarity with our fellow athletes, competitors, and friends from Ukraine who are facing far greater challenges than just disruptions to their training and competition, but are in fear of their lives and the lives of their loved ones,” Lavillenie said.

“While we understand the implications of this decision for Authorised Neutral Athletes from Russia and Belarusian athletes, who may not be condoning their nations’ deplorable military action in Ukraine, we cannot ignore the message that inclusion of these two nations’ athletes would send to our friends in Ukraine and the rest of the world.”

In accordance with World Athletics rules, the Member Federations from Russia and Belarus have been informed of the Council’s decisions and have the right to respond. If necessary, the Council will reconvene to consider that response”.

Sanctions applied to the Belarus Federation

On 10 March 2022, [World Athletics Council agreed](#) to “apply sanctions on the Belarus Athletic Federation while Russia’s war on Ukraine, aided and abetted by Belarus, continues:⁴⁰

The sanctions included:

- *No hosting of any international or European athletics events, which includes World Athletics Series, one-day meetings and other international competitions;*
- *No representation at Congress or in decisions which require Congressional votes;*

⁴⁰ Available on <https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/world-athletics-council-sanctions-russia-and-belarus> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

- *No accreditation to attend any World Athletics Series events, including the World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22 and the World Athletics Championships Oregon22;*
- *No involvement of Federation personnel in any official World Athletics development or professional programmes.*
- *These sanctions will take immediate effect and continue for the foreseeable future.*

Our one-day meetings and tours are discussing the exclusion of Russian Authorised Neutral Athletes (ANA) and Belarusian athletes from their meetings ahead of their events beginning in the next couple of months. World Athletics is confident that these meetings will adopt the same approach that the World Athletics Council has taken.”

World Athletics had established a Russian Task force “The Council approved three recommendations from the Russia Taskforce in regard to the Russian reinstatement process. Taskforce chairman Rune Andersen acknowledged that the Russian invasion of Ukraine had “cast a shadow” over the whole of Russia, including sport. But the Taskforce recommended that the Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) reinstatement process should continue, to avoid the “very real risk” that RusAF would revert to past doping practices if the process was suspended now.”

“Such a loss and backsliding would undermine that cultural change that RusAF has been cultivating and ultimately be detrimental to the interests of clean Russian athletes, the athletes in other countries with whom they compete, and therefore the integrity of future international competitions,” Andersen’s report explains.

Andersen told the Council that RusAF had made significant progress in many areas described in the roadmap, but that it was not yet fit for reinstatement.

Concerns remained around the leadership of RUSADA, Russia’s national anti-doping agency, and the fact that RusAF had not yet paid the reinstatement costs incurred by World Athletics for the third and fourth quarters of 2021.

Andersen warned that if payment was not made as a matter of urgency, this would be regarded as a breach of the reinstatement conditions and would lead to action against RusAF, which could include a suspension of the reinstatement process.

He further acknowledged that restricted travel, due to the invasion, would create challenges for the Taskforce in its oversight and monitoring role, which could lead to changes in the way it operates.

The Council accepted the following recommendations from the Taskforce:

1. The Taskforce continues its oversight and monitoring of RusAF’s implementation of the Reinstatement Plan and KPIs, guided to the extent possible in current circumstances by the international experts. The Taskforce shall report on its work to Council at its next meeting in July 2022 or, if required, earlier.

2. The Taskforce meet with RusAF to discuss progress against the Reinstatement Plan based on the KPIs, to assess and, if necessary, update the Reinstatement Plan and the KPIs, and possibly discuss and/or agree a specific timeline for consideration of reinstatement.

3. The Taskforce review the Post-Reinstatement Conditions⁴¹ including the RusAF’s feedback on them and present them to the Council at its next meeting in July 2022 for approval and/or discussion, as the Taskforce deems appropriate at that time.

⁴¹ Available on [https://www.worldathletics.org/download/download?filename=0ae8e01d-2b08-4542-9090-6f5fe2260fcb.pdf&urlslug=RusAF%20Reinstatement%20Plan%20\(1%20Mar%202021](https://www.worldathletics.org/download/download?filename=0ae8e01d-2b08-4542-9090-6f5fe2260fcb.pdf&urlslug=RusAF%20Reinstatement%20Plan%20(1%20Mar%202021) (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Andersen cautioned that presenting the post-reinstatement conditions to Council for approval in July did not mean that the Taskforce would recommend RusAF be reinstated at that time. He said any consideration of reinstatement would be “subject to further discussions”.

On 8 April 2022 the World Athletics announced the creation of a fund to support athletes affected by the conflict

Ukraine Fund launches to support athletes affected by conflict

“World Athletics, together with the International Athletics Foundation (IAF) and the Members of the Diamond League Association, has today launched a Ukraine Fund to support professional athletes affected by the conflict in their home country.

The fund’s purpose is to ensure that elite Ukrainian athletes and their key support personnel can continue to train, qualify and participate in World Championship events following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

Two groups will be eligible for funding: individual athletes (Group One) and key athlete support personnel and immediate family members (Group Two).

Group One includes athletes who are affiliated to the Ukrainian Athletic Association and have qualified, or have a credible chance to qualify, to compete at any upcoming World Athletics Championships until fund closure. Group Two includes those acting as a designated coach or team leader to athletes in Group One, as well as parents, spouses and children living together with athletes in Group One.

World Athletics President Sebastian Coe commented: “It’s only right that the athletics community provides whatever support we can to the athletes of Ukraine, who have been put in this terrible situation and need our assistance to continue training and competing. I know several of our Member Federations in Europe are already hosting groups of Ukrainian athletes in training camps and I’m grateful for their humanitarian approach to these tragic circumstances. This fund will provide further support for Ukrainian athletes to enable them to have some stability and security as they prepare to represent their country while the war continues.”

Commenting from Ukraine, President of the Ukrainian Athletic Association Yevhenii Pronin said: “In dark times you can clearly see bright people. World Athletics, Diamond League, IAF and all the national federations that offered us their help - this is the standard of unity and support!

“Thousands of victims, millions of refugees, destroyed infrastructure, including sports infrastructure, terrified our hearts, but we believe that the worst is over.

“Every day I thank from my heart the entire world community for opening the doors of their homes for our people, for everyone who helps our athletes and their families and for World Athletics, for creating this fund for our athletes and our sport.

“The entire team of the federation is safe and is working to ensure that the athletes of our country and their families are safe and together with you we will save our favorite sport and make it stronger. Thank you from all Ukraine.”

The fund will provide financial assistance to the following:

For Group One:

- *Enrolment, subsistence and accommodation, at training camps / temporary housing;*
- *Travel and accommodation to compete at qualifying events for World Championships;*
- *Travel and accommodation to compete at World Athletics Championships if not otherwise provided;*
- *Training material and equipment.*

For Group Two:

- *Coach attendance to training and competition;*
- *Travel and accommodation to accompany Group One athletes at qualifying events for World Championships;*
- *Travel and accommodation to accompany Group One athletes at World Athletics Championships.*

The fund opens today with a current budget of US\$190,000, created with contributions from the IAF, Diamond League members and World Athletics. The Diamond League Association has previously donated US\$30,000 directly to the Ukrainian Athletic Association and many of the individual meeting organisers will provide additional travel and accommodation support to athletes wanting to compete in their meetings.

It is expected that up to 100 Ukrainian athletes may require some financial support this year. The fund can receive additional contributions at any time until fund closure which is set for 31 December 2023. Funding per beneficiary will be allocated on a needs-basis.

Potential beneficiaries can register for consideration by emailing UKRFund@worldathletics.org

Other athletics organisations who would like to contribute to the fund, should also contact UKRFund@worldathletics.org

World Athletics will coordinate with the International Olympic Committee's Solidarity Fund for the Ukrainian Olympic community, through senior vice-president Sergey Bubka, to prevent any duplication of efforts".

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL – WBSC

Overview:

The World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) has stated that no Russian or Belarusian athletes or officials will be invited or allowed to participate in international competitions it sanctions.

The WBSC, WBSC Europe and local organising committees have granted support to the Ukraine Baseball Softball Federation to cover a major part of the cost related to accommodation, board and transport during its participation in European Championships in 2022.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 28 February 2022 the WBSC issued the following statement:⁴²

“The World Baseball Softball Confederation fully supports the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board’s announcement and its condemnation of the breach by the Russian government of the Olympic Truce. The WBSC stands in solidarity with Ukraine and the entire international sports movement in its call to end the violence and restore peace.

The WBSC also supports the IOC Executive Board’s request for International Federations to relocate events away from Russia and Belarus and not to invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions.

While the WBSC does not have any events in Russia or Belarus and there are no teams from Russia or Belarus currently qualified for WBSC events, the WBSC will assist the WBSC’s continental body - WBSC Europe - with this measure.

In the meantime, the WBSC will continue to monitor the situation and support the Ukrainian Baseball & Softball National Federation wherever possible as well as any other federation affected by this crisis”.

On the 19 April 2022, the WBSC announced that some “local organising committees have also offered the opportunity to accommodate Ukraine in advance of European tournaments this year to help the teams prepare for the continental events.

The World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), together with WBSC Europe and host federations of WBSC Europe tournaments this year, have granted financial and logistic support to the Ukraine National Baseball and Softball Teams to assist with their potential participation in this year’s European Championships.

In line with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) task force to support the Ukrainian Olympic Community, the WBSC, WBSC Europe and local organising committees will grant support to the Ukraine Baseball Softball Federation to cover a major part of the cost related to accommodation, board and transport during its participation in European Championships in 2022.

In addition, some local organising committees have offered the opportunity to accommodate Ukraine in advance of the tournaments, to help the teams prepare for the continental events.

⁴² Also available on <https://www.wbsc.org/en/news/wbsc-statement-on-ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Ukrainian athletes have also received support from local European baseball and softball leagues, giving them the chance to keep practising and playing this season⁴³.”

⁴³ WBSC, WBSC Europe & National Federations provide support for Ukraine’s national baseball / softball team, <https://www.wbsc.org/en/news/wbsc-wbse-europe-national-federations-provide-support-for-ukraines-national-baseball-softball-teams> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

BASKETBALL – FIBA

Overview

The International Basketball Federation initially declared that Russian teams and officials will not be allowed to participate in FIBA Basketball and 3x3 Basketball competitions until further notice.

Furthermore, the International Federation has decided that no FIBA Official Basketball Competitions are to be held in Russia or Belarus until further notice.

Finally, *Teams from the RBF and the BBF have been withdrawn from the FIBA National Team Competitions.*

FIBA Europe adopted the same measures towards the RBF and the BBF with regard to its own competitions.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 FIBA issued the following:

FIBA statement on Russian teams and officials

“FIBA remains very concerned by the recent events in Ukraine and expresses its deepest sympathies to the victims.

In line with the International Olympic Committee Executive Board resolution and its reasons, FIBA has announced today that Russian teams and officials will not be allowed to participate in FIBA Basketball and 3x3 Basketball competitions until further notice.

FIBA will communicate any further decisions taken by the Central Board at its meeting on March 25, as well as by FIBA's European Zone bodies in the next coming days.

FIBA strongly condemns violence and hopes peace will urgently prevail”.

On 18 May 2022 FIBA issued a press release⁴⁴:

FIBA decisions on Russia and Belarus for upcoming competitions

“Further to the decision taken on March 1, 2022, and confirmed by the Central Board on March 25, 2022, to not allow Russian teams and officials to participate in FIBA Basketball and 3x3 Basketball competitions, the FIBA Executive Committee today has confirmed the following decisions in regard to the Russian Basketball Federation (RBF) and the Belarusian Basketball Federation (BBF) for FIBA Basketball Competitions that will take place over the coming months. FIBA's Executive Committee has decided the following:

⁴⁴ Available on <https://www.fiba.basketball/news/fiba-decisions-on-russia-and-belarus-for-upcoming-competitions> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

- *No FIBA Official Basketball Competitions are to be held in Russia or Belarus until further notice.*
- *Teams from the RBF and the BBF are to be withdrawn from the following **FIBA National Team Competitions**:*

FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Qualifiers

Russia is withdrawn from Group H and Belarus is withdrawn from Group B of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 European Qualifiers, with no replacement teams appointed. All results from both teams are annulled and consequently, the rest of the Group's teams advance to the second round of Qualifiers with 4 games played. To uniformly classify teams across these two groups (H and G; A and B), the first-round games against the last ranked teams of Group G and Group A will not be considered for the classification to Group L and I.

FIBA U17 Women's Basketball World Cup 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U17 Women's Basketball World Cup 2022 to be played in Hungary from July 9 to 17. The replacement team is Serbia, second in Group B of the FIBA U16 Women's European Challenger 2021 and only second team of any group that did not qualify (qualification in that group was given to the host Hungary who finished third).

FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup 2022 to be played in Australia from September 22 to October 1. The replacement team is Puerto Rico, as decided last March given the circumstances surrounding the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup 2022 Qualifying Tournament in Washington D.C.

- *Teams from the RBF and BBF are to be withdrawn from the following **FIBA 3x3 National Team Competitions**:*

FIBA 3x3 World Cup 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 World Cup. The next ranked teams, Israel for women and Slovenia for men, will be invited to participate.

FIBA 3x3 U23 Nations League 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 U23 Nations League. There will be no replacement teams.

FIBA 3x3 Europe Cup (Qualifiers) 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 Europe Cup Qualifiers 2022. There will be no replacement teams.

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 Europe Cup 2022. The replacement teams will qualify through the FIBA 3x3 Europe Cup Qualifiers 2022.

FIBA 3x3 U17 Europe Cup Qualifiers 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 U17 Europe Cup Qualifiers 2022. There will be no replacement teams.

FIBA 3x3 U18 World Cup 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from the FIBA 3x3 U18 World Cup 2022. The next ranked teams, Belgium for women and Lithuania for men, will be invited to participate.

- *Teams representing Russian or Belarusian clubs or cities, as well as Russian and Belarusian players, are not allowed to register and qualifiers will not be held in Russia or Belarus for the following **FIBA 3x3 Pro Circuit events**:*

FIBA 3x3 World Tour

FIBA 3x3 Challengers

FIBA 3x3 Women's Series

FIBA's European Zone Board and the Basketball Champions League Board have been invited to take corresponding decisions for the respective national team and club competitions, which will be communicated in the next coming days. FIBA will continue to closely monitor the situation and take further decisions as needed”.

On 20 May 2022 FIBA issued the following press release⁴⁵:

Russia and Belarus withdrawn from FIBA's European national team and club competitions

“The Board of FIBA Europe, which convened in the Lithuanian capital Vilnius on Friday, decided to apply also to the European national team and club competitions the ruling that FIBA’s Executive Committee reached on Wednesday regarding Russia and Belarus.

Specifically, no official basketball competitions are to be held in either Russia or Belarus until further notice, while the teams of the Russian Basketball Federation and of the Belarusian Basketball Federation are being withdrawn from the upcoming national team competitions and from the club competition season 2022-23.

The decision of the FIBA Europe Board directly affects the following European competitions:

FIBA EuroBasket 2022

Russia is withdrawn from FIBA EuroBasket 2022. Montenegro, as the team with the best win-loss record (3-3) among those who didn’t advance from the EuroBasket Qualifiers, will replace Russia in the tournament and will compete in Group A in Tbilisi.

FIBA EuroBasket 2025 Pre-Qualifiers

A total of 12 teams will compete in the Second Round of the FIBA EuroBasket 2025 Pre-Qualifiers, including: the six teams that won't advance past the First Round of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 European Qualifiers (following the exclusion of Russia and Belarus); the three group winners in the First Round of the FIBA EuroBasket 2025 Pre-Qualifiers; The two best second-placed teams in the First Round of the FIBA EuroBasket 2025 Pre-Qualifiers; Cyprus, as one of the FIBA EuroBasket 2025 co-hosts. These teams will compete in three groups of four teams each, instead of four groups of three teams each, as was the initial format. Cyprus and the three group winners will advance to the Qualifiers. All other teams (from both the First and Second Round) will go on to compete in the Third Round, which is set to start in the summer of 2023.

⁴⁵ Available on <https://www.fiba.basketball/news/russia-and-belarus-withdrawn-from-fiba-european-national-team-and-club-competitions> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

FIBA U20 European Championship 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U20 European Championship. Russia had finished in fourth place in the most recent edition (2019) of the Division B tournament and had been promoted to Division A as the replacement team for Great Britain, which didn't register for 2022. Therefore Poland, which finished 14th in the 2019 edition of Division A, will be the replacement team for Russia (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U20 Women's European Championship 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U20 Women's European Championship. Great Britain, which had taken 4th place in the most recent edition of the Division B tournament (in 2019) would be the replacement team but didn't register for this year. Therefore Portugal, who finished 14th in the 2019 edition of the Division A championship, will replace Russia (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U18 European Championship 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U18 European Championship. North Macedonia, that had finished in fourth place in the most recent edition (2019) of the Division B tournament, will be the replacement team (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U18 European Championship Division B 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from the FIBA U18 European Championship Division B. Since one team will replace Russia in Division A (see above), the 2022 Division B tournament will be played with 22 teams.

FIBA U18 Women's European Championship 2022

Both Russia and Belarus are withdrawn from the FIBA U18 Women's European Championship. Sweden, which took 4th place in the Division B championship in 2019, will be the replacement team for Russia ((subject to confirmation). Bosnia and Herzegovina, which finished in 14th place in Division A in 2019, will replace Belarus (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U18 Women's European Championship Division B 2022

As two teams from Division B will compete in Division A (see above) the FIBA U18 Women's European Championship Division B will take place with 18 competing teams, instead of 20.

FIBA U16 European Championship 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U16 European Championship. Montenegro, which had finished in 4th place in the 2019 edition of the Division B tournament, will replace Russia (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U16 European Championship Division B 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from FIBA U16 European Championship Division B and since one team will replace Russia in Division A (see above), this year's Division B tournament will be played with 22 teams.

FIBA U16 Women's European Championship 2022

Russia is withdrawn from the FIBA U16 Women's European Championship. Norway, which had taken 4th place in the 2019 edition of the Division B competition, will be the replacement team (subject to confirmation).

FIBA U16 Women's European Championship Division B 2022

Belarus is withdrawn from the FIBA U16 Women's European Championship Division B and, since one team is replacing Russia (see above), the 2022 edition of the Division B tournament will be played with 19 teams.

EuroLeague Women 2022-23, EuroCup Women 2022-23 and FIBA Europe Cup 2022-23

No clubs from either Russia or Belarus will be eligible to register for any of these three continental club competitions for the 2022-23 season”.

On the same day FIBA issued a second press release⁴⁶:

Russia and Belarus withdrawn from Basketball Champions League 2022-23

“The Basketball Champions League Board, which convened today, decided to apply the decision that FIBA's Executive Committee reached on Wednesday regarding Russia and Belarus.

Specifically, teams of the Russian Basketball Federation and of the Belarusian Basketball Federation are being withdrawn from the upcoming national team competitions and from the club competition season 2022-23.

As a consequence, no clubs from Russia or Belarus will be eligible to register to the Basketball Champions League 2022-23 season”.

⁴⁶ Available on <https://www.championsleague.basketball/21-22/news/russia-and-belarus-withdrawn-from-basketball-champions-league-2022-23> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

BIATHLON – IBU

Overview:

Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials are currently suspended – even as “neutral athletes” from participating in International Biathlon Union events.

The IBU has also decided to suspend the Russian and Belarus federations for violation of their humanitarian obligations for member federations under the IBU Constitution.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 2 March 2022 the IBU issued the following press release ⁴⁷:

Russian and Belarussian biathletes banned from IBU events

“The IBU Executive Board (EB) met last night to agree on further action against Russia and Belarus in light of the ongoing war against Ukraine and the latest IOC recommendations.

The IBU EB previously decided that it would prohibit any Russian or Belarussian representation, flags, anthems and uniforms at its remaining World Cup and IBU Cup events. In addition, the EB announced it would go beyond the IOC recommendations at that time and only allow Russian and Belarusian athletes to compete as neutral athletes, with no Nations Cup points being awarded for either of the two nations.

Following the new IOC recommendations, the IBU EB has decided now not to allow the participation of any Russian or Belarusian athletes or officials at its international events until further notice including non-sports events organised by the IBU for its members. The EB will further discuss a potential suspension of the two national federations from their IBU membership, latest at the regular EB meeting on 17 March. The Russian Biathlon Union (RBU) has been relegated to provisional membership already in 2017, which means that there are no events held or planned in Russia until 2026 and no RBU representatives are holding any official’s position in the IBU.

The EB believes this decision is necessary in order to stand in solidarity with Ukraine and the Olympic community and to protect the integrity of IBU competitions and the safety of its participants in sport and non-sports events.

Above all, the EB expresses its deepest condolences on the loss of former Ukrainian biathlete Yevhen Malyshev (19), who died this week serving in the Ukrainian military. The EB once again condemns the Russian attacks on Ukraine and the support provided by Belarus and reiterates its hope for an immediate end to the war”.

On 29 March 2022 the IBU issued the following press release⁴⁸:

IBU Suspends National Federations of Russia and Belarus

⁴⁷ The IBU [on Russian and Belarussian](https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/russia-belarus-ban-biathlon/5ZE0Cw161gYi3hJpeXsiAw) biathletes ban from IBU events, <https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/russia-belarus-ban-biathlon/5ZE0Cw161gYi3hJpeXsiAw> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁴⁸ Available on <https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/ibu-suspends-russia-belarus/6qaHB3J4ixd M880SXCL79D> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

“The IBU Executive Board (EB) has unanimously decided to suspend the National Federations of Russia (RBU) and Belarus (BiFB) with immediate effect.

Both federations have violated the humanitarian obligations for member federations under the IBU Constitution. These violations by RBU and BiFB bring the IBU and the sport of biathlon into disrepute, and their active membership would undermine the IBU’s and its members’ efforts to promote its constitutional principles and purposes with credibility.

In addition, the EB agreed that given the Russian invasion of Ukraine has stopped the activities of the Ukrainian Biathlon Federation it would be unfair for the NFs of the attacking countries to continue to enjoy the full rights of IBU membership when their nations have disrupted the conduct of sport in Ukraine.

The EB will monitor the developments of this situation very closely and will review this decision in the event of a change of circumstances. The decision shall also be reviewed by the 2022 IBU Congress in its meeting on 15-19 September 2022, if it has not been lifted by the IBU Executive Board before”.

CANOEING – ICF

Overview:

Russian and Belarusian athletes are suspended from competing at any International Canoe Federation events.

Officials from the Russian and Belarus federations have also been suspended from officiating at any event sanctioned by the governing body, and from attending or taking part in any ICF meetings.

The national flags, national anthems and federation images of Russia and Belarus will be removed from all ICF international competitions, websites and graphic materials until further notice.

Finally, the IBU has also announced an emergency fund in favour of Ukrainian Athletes.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the ICF issued the following press release:

The Athletes from Russia and Belarus will be suspended from competing at any International Canoe Federation events until further notice because of hostilities in Ukraine, it was announced today.

“Athletes from Russia and Belarus will be suspended from competing at any International Canoe Federation events until further notice because of hostilities in Ukraine, it was announced today.

In addition to athletes, the executive committee of the ICF also voted unanimously to suspend all officials from Russia and Belarus from officiating at any event sanctioned by the governing body, and from attending or taking part in any ICF meetings, committees and forums, until further notice.

The suspension follows the decision taken last week to remove the three ICF events scheduled to be held in Russia this year – a SUP World Cup, and two canoe sprint Super Cups.

ICF President Thomas Konietzko said the ICF executive committee was unanimous in its support for the strong stand taken by the International Olympic Committee, and had no hesitation in taking its own strong decisions to condemn the behavior of the two countries.

‘We have been in constant contact with our canoeing family in Ukraine, and it is obvious this is a very stressful and worrying time for everyone,’ Mr Konietzko said.

As a global sport, we have an important role to play and need to show leadership on issues like this. We know that innocent athletes and officials in Russia and Belarus who do not support the actions of their government are being punished, but the cost for our athletes, coaches and officials in Ukraine is much higher.

On behalf of the ICF, we urge the Russian and Belarus governments to not only uphold the meaning of the Olympic Truce, but also to read the room. Their actions have very few friends anywhere on the planet, and the long term damage to their own reputation will be hard to repair’.

The ICF executive committee has also voted to remove Russian and Belarusian flags from all international events, and to ban those countries national anthems and federation images from ICF website and social media accounts.

The committee also agreed to set up a donation account to raise money for Ukrainian athletes caught up in the hostilities, and has asked national federations to donate if possible to the cause.

The ICF will continue to monitor the ongoing situation with a view to amend the sanctions if necessary.

The full ICF executive committee decision is as follows;

The ICF Executive Committee decided today on the following measures based on chapter 4; paragraph d of our ICF statutes.

The sanctions are a response to the disregard of Russia and Belarus of the objectives of the ICF as stated in Article 2, and of the violation of the IOC Code of Ethics and the clear breach of the Olympic Truce.

The ICF Executive Committee (Exco) strongly condemns the war of aggression against the sovereign state of Ukraine by the Russian government, currently being supported by the Belarusian Government. The breach of the Olympic truce is a clear abuse of the UN rules recognised by all countries, and the war of aggression is a blatant violation of all principals of human rights and constitutes an ongoing war crime. The Russian government is disregarding all the values of humanity and sport.

The ICF Exco therefore expressly supports the decisions of the IOC EB of 28.02.2022.

We are aware that necessary measures have an effect upon innocent athletes and officials from both Russia and Belarus, which we deeply regret. However we must take into account the effect Russian actions are having on innocent Ukrainian athletes.

The ICF Exco has therefore agreed unanimously today on the following measures:

- 1. The Russian Canoe Federation will be stripped of the right to host three ICF international competitions it had been awarded for 2022 – an ICF SUP World Cup and two ICF Super Cups.*
- 2. Russian and Belarusian athletes, officials and judges will be suspended from all ICF international competitions and executive committee, board, committees, commissions and forums of discussion until further notice.*
- 3. The national flags, national anthems and federation images of Russia and Belarus will be removed from all ICF international competitions, websites and graphic materials until further notice.*
- 4. The International Canoe Federation supports the Ukrainian canoe family, and calls upon national canoe federations and members of the broader paddling community to donate to an emergency fund, which will be administered by the ICF, and will provide assistance to the Ukrainian Canoe Federation and its athletes and officials during this difficult time”.*

On 5 March 2022 the European Canoe Association issued the following press release⁴⁹:

⁴⁹ Available on <https://www.canoe-europe.org/news/eca-stands-by-the-ioc-and-icf-decisions-2265> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

European Canoe Association stands by the IOC and ICF decisions on Russia

“The European Canoe Association stands with the international community in these times and supports the decisions and actions taken by the International Olympic Committee and International Canoe Federation.

Athletes from Russia and Belarus will be suspended from competing at any European Canoe Association events until further notice because of hostilities in Ukraine.

In addition to athletes, the board of directors of the ECA also voted to suspend all officials from Russia and Belarus from officiating at any event sanctioned by the governing body, and from attending or taking part in any ECA meetings, committees and forums, until further notice.

The ECA will continue to monitor the ongoing situation with a view to amend the sanctions if necessary”.

CHESS – FIDE

Overview

No Russian and Belarusian national flag will be displayed or anthem be played in all FIDE-rated international chess events.

Russian and Belarusian flags and anthems will not be raised or played at any International Chess Federation events. All existing sponsorship deals with sanctioned Russian / Belarusian companies and/or companies controlled by the State will be terminated.

National teams of Russia and Belarus have been excluded from participation in official FIDE tournaments until further notice. In the individual tournaments of the FIDE World Championship cycle, players from these countries will be allowed to participate under the FIDE flag.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 2 March 2022 the FIDE issued the following statement⁵⁰.

The Official Statement of FIDE Council

“On February 27, 2022, an extraordinary meeting of the FIDE Council was held on the current situation and the urgent measures to be taken after the military action launched by Russia in Ukraine.

As stated by the FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich, the FIDE Council regards its main mission in preserving the unity of FIDE and respecting the basic human rights enshrined in the FIDE Charter.

In this regard, the FIDE Council has adopted a number of important emergency decisions.

FIDE Council approves the following statement condemning the military action:

“FIDE expresses its grave concern about the military action started by Russia in Ukraine. FIDE stands united against wars as well as condemns any use of military means to resolve political conflicts. FIDE will take any necessary action to ensure the security of chess players and other members of the chess community. No official FIDE chess competitions and events will be held in Russia and Belarus.”

Following the call from IOC, the FIDE Council decides that no Russian and Belarusian national flag be displayed or anthem be played in all FIDE-rated international chess events. Instead – the national chess federation’s flag or the official symbol/logo shall be used. A simplified procedure for performing under the FIDE flag would be followed where it is crucial for the players or any other chess officials under the current geopolitical situation.

In order to safeguard FIDE from reputational, financial, and any other possible risks, FIDE terminates all existing sponsorship agreements with any Belarusian and Russian sanctioned and/or

⁵⁰ Available on <https://www.fide.com/news/1603> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

state-controlled companies and will not enter into new sponsorship agreements with any such companies.

FIDE Council condemns any public statement from any member of the chess community which supports unjustified military action and brings the case of chess grandmasters Sergey Karjakin and Sergey Shipov to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

The FIDE Council reaffirms the FIDE Congress dates, welcomes the AICF's bid to host the 44th Chess Olympiad, and suggests 10 days for other bids.

The FIDE Council suggests that regardless of the organization of the Chess Olympiad 2022, FIDE will organize the annual FIDE Congress during the previously planned dates – from 27.07.2022. till 02.08.2022. with the election date on 01.08.2022. The preference is to combine the FIDE

Congress with the Chess Olympiad 2022. However, consultations with the potential organizers of the Chess Olympiad 2022 will be carried out and adjustment of the FIDE Congress dates is possible if it does not imply a notable delay of elections. The FIDE Council confirms that the continental elections shall be organized within their constitutional terms.

The FIDE Council confirms its commitment to the continuation of all the established development programs for national federations, zones, continents, and affiliated organizations”.

On 2 March 2022 there was the following update:

“After receiving the opinion of Mr Rivello, the Chair of FIDE Constitutional Commission, the FIDE Council decides to suspend the title of the FIDE Ambassador for Life for Anatoly Karpov and asks the General Assembly to take a decision on the matter. The FIDE Council also approves that sanctioned persons would be denied to hold any honorary or official positions in FIDE and would not be invited to any official FIDE events. Both decisions have been taken by the majority of votes”.

On 16 March 2022 FIDE issued the following Press Release⁵¹:

Russia and Belarus teams suspended from FIDE competitions

Taking into account the current recommendations of the IOC, the FIDE Council suspends the national teams of Russia and Belarus from participation in official FIDE tournaments until further notice. In the individual tournaments of the FIDE World Championship cycle, players from these countries will be able to participate under the FIDE flag.

On 23 March 2022 FIDE issued the following press release⁵²:

FIDE Council Meeting, March 15, 2022: List of decisions

*“The FIDE Council held on March 15, 2022, in online format, made several important decisions:
1. To award the organisation of the 44th Chess Olympiad to the All India Chess Federation to be organised in Chennai within the period from 28.07.(opening ceremony) till 10.08. (departure).*

⁵¹ Available at <https://www.fide.com/news/1638> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁵² Available on <https://www.fide.com/news/1750> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

2. To award the organisation of the 94th FIDE Congress to the All India Chess Federation to be organised in Chennai within the period from 31.07. (arrival) till 09.08. (departure) and to approve 07.08. as the date for FIDE elections.

3. To note strong preference to organise the Chess Olympiad for people with disabilities at the same dates as the 44th Chess Olympiad.

4. Taking into account the current recommendations of the IOC, to suspend the national teams of Russia and Belarus from participation in official FIDE tournaments until further notice. In the individual tournaments of the FIDE World Championship cycle, players from these countries will be allowed to participate under the FIDE flag.

5. To postpone the Women's Candidates Tournament 2022 to the last quarter of 2022 and to continue consultations with players regarding the format of the tournament.

6. To approve the proposals of the FIDE Medical Commission in principle. To request the FIDE Management Board and FIDE Medical Commission to prepare details regarding practical steps in respect of the implementation.

7. To hold the next meeting of the FIDE Council on 27-29 April 2022 in the United Arab Emirates.

8. To approve the bid of the Isle of Man for the organisation of the Grand Swiss 2023 and Women Grand Swiss 2023”.

On 11 May 2022 FIDE issued the following press release⁵³:

FIDE awards grants to Ukrainian seniors and disabled players

“A dedicated FIDE panel under the chairmanship of FIDE Director-General **Emil Sutovsky** awarded grants for an amount of €2,000 each to 5 prominent Ukrainian veteran trainers.

The panel would like to thank the leading Ukrainian players for their recommendations, and for their concern about chess veterans.

FIDE has also contributed €1,500 to allow the IM Ukrainian Igor Yarmonov to take part in the 21st IPCA World Individual Chess Championship 2022 that is currently being held in Ashdod, Israel”.

On 14 May 2022 FIDE issued the following press release:

FIDE extends simplified procedure for playing under FIDE flag

On March 6, 2022, the FIDE Council approved a simplified procedure for Russian/Belarusian players to perform under the FIDE flag. This procedure was initially planned to stay in place until May 31, 2022.

The FIDE Council has now approved extending this measure as follows:

⁵³ Available on <https://www.fide.com/news/1750> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

1. The right to play under the FIDE flag is granted until 31 December 2022. After this period, in the absence of other requests, the player will automatically be returned to the previous federation.

2. All players who have previously been transferred to play under the FIDE flag according to the resolution, will continue to perform under the FIDE flag unless they send a request to return to the flag of Russia/Belarus.

CURLING – WFC

Overview

Following the IOC recommendations, the World Curling Federation (WCF) removed:

- (i) the European Curling Championships 2022 from Russia;
- (ii) the Russian Curling Federation entries from the 2022 International Curling sports events.
- (iii) all Russian athletes from the recent World Championships.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 25 February 2022 the World Curling Federation issued the following press release⁵⁴:

World Curling Federation remove European Curling Championships 2022 from Russia

After an emergency convening of the World Curling Federation Board, a decision was made to remove the hosting of the European Curling Championships 2022 from the Russian city of Perm.

The World Curling Federation shares the international community's concern for the ongoing situation in Eastern Europe and together with the International Olympic Committee, strongly condemns the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government.

The World Curling Federation works tirelessly to promote its values of friendship and respect through the Spirit of Curling worldwide and we hope for a swift and peaceful resolution to the current situation.

Further details of a new host for the European Championships will be determined in due time.

On 28 February 2022 the World Curling Federation issued the following press release.

World Curling Federation adopts emergency regulation for sanctioned competitions

“The World Curling Federation Board today adopted an emergency ruling following a legal consultation regarding the situation surrounding Russian athletes competing at World Championship events.

Using the powers available to the Board under the World Curling Constitution Article 16.13.5 (in full below), the World Curling Federation Board has inserted the following new rule into the Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition:

Rule C1(b) The Board of the WCF may remove a team or Member Association from any WCF event if in the sole opinion of the Board their presence at the event would damage the event or put the safety of the participants or the good order of the event at risk.

⁵⁴ Available on <https://worldcurling.org/2022/02/statement-ecc2022/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The remaining clauses within Rule C1 shall be renumbered to incorporate this rule addition.

This new regulation has been passed to the Member Associations of the World Curling Federation, who now have three days to voice their objections to its adoption.

Should there be no objections, then at the conclusion of the three-day evaluation window, the World Curling Federation will then begin the process of removing the Russian Curling Federation entries from the upcoming World Championships.

The World Curling Federation strongly condemns the military action undertaken by the Russian Government in their invasion of Ukraine and continues to hope for a swift and peaceful resolution to the situation.

Constitution Article 16.13.5

“when urgent, take decisions normally assumed by the General Assembly (as per Art.15) except election of Board Members, expulsion of a Member Association, changes to the Constitution and dissolution of the WCF. In addition, in emergency situations between General Assemblies, the Board may propose changes to the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition. Any changes proposed by the Board in an emergency situation will be circulated to the Member Associations and if more than 10% of the Member Associations, holding full membership and being in good standing object in writing to the Board within 3 working days of notice being given, the rule change will not be implemented and the matter will be referred to the next General Assembly of the WCF. Otherwise the Board’s decision to revise the rule(s) for the emergency situation will stand until the next General Assembly”.

On 4 March 2022 the World Curling Federation issued the following press release.

World Curling Federation adopts new rule and excludes RCF for 2021–2022 season

“The World Curling Federation have now adopted Rule C1(b) into the Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition for the remainder of the 2021–2022 season following the conclusion of a three day evaluation window by the Member Associations.

Rule C1(b) states: The Board of the WCF may remove a team or Member Association from any WCF event if in the sole opinion of the Board their presence at the event would damage the event or put the safety of the participants or the good order of the event at risk.

With this rule adoption, the World Curling Federation Board have now approved the removal of the Russian Curling Federation entries from the following events:

World Women’s Curling Championship 2022

World Men’s Curling Championship 2022

World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022

World Senior Curling Championships 2022

World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022

World Junior Curling Championships 2022

Decisions on the 2022–2023 season will be taken following the 2022 Annual General Assembly, at which Rule C1(b) would need to be adopted by the Member Associations on a permanent basis”.

CYCLING – UCI

Overview

The International Cycling Union has declared that Russian and Belarusian national teams or selections are not authorised to take part in any events it sanctions.

Russian and Belarusian teams will have their UCI Team status withdrawn.

Russian and Belarusian athletes are allowed to participate in UCI events as neutrals.

No events will take place in Russia or Belarus, including the Russian and Belarusian National Championships. Russian and Belarusian emblems, names, acronyms, flags and anthems have been banned at UCI events.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the UCI issued the following press release⁵⁵:

The UCI takes strong measures in the face of the situation in Ukraine

The Management Committee of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) met at an extraordinary session today to discuss the situation in Ukraine and the measures that the UCI means to take in this respect.

The UCI again expresses its very great concern over the situation in Ukraine and firmly condemns the aggression of the Russian and Belarusian governments and their non-respect of the Olympic Truce. The UCI wishes to see a return to peace as rapidly as possible and calls for the respect of Olympic values. Indeed, sport in general and cycling in particular are vehicles of peace, friendship, solidarity and tolerance.

First of all, the UCI has decided to offer its support to the Ukrainian cycling community and has committed to welcoming Ukrainian athletes to the UCI World Cycling Centre (WCC), its education and training centre in Aigle, Switzerland. In this respect, the UCI is in permanent contact with the National Federation of Ukraine. The UCI President David Lappartient, together with the President of the Union Européenne de Cyclisme (UEC) Enrico Della Casa, will meet the President and representatives of the Ukraine National Federation during the UEC Congress in Denmark this weekend to define the procedures for coming to the aid of Ukraine's cycling community.

Moreover, the UCI welcomes the strong decisions taken by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on 28 February and has decided to apply them to cycling.

The UCI, which remains a politically neutral organisation, laments that the decisions of their government can impact Russian and Belarusian athletes, but it is necessary to be firm in the defence of the Olympic values.

⁵⁵ Available on <https://www.uci.org/pressrelease/the-uci-takes-strong-measures-in-the-face-of-the-situation-in-ukraine/6V8FrkqsPbhbeMIc8rgb3t> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

As pointed out this morning during an emergency meeting of International Federations organised by the IOC and presided over by the President Thomas Bach - with the participation of David Lappartient and UCI Director General Amina Lanaya -, it is a question of taking preventive measures with the objective of ensuring the integrity and security of sporting competitions and the respect of the Olympic values.

In light of the situation, the UCI Management Committee has unanimously taken the following decisions:

1. Russian and Belarusian national teams and / or national selections are not authorised to take part in any events on the UCI International Calendar, with immediate effect.

2. UCI Team status is withdrawn from all teams under Russian or Belarusian nationality and the UCI shall not consider any further applications for UCI status from teams from these two countries. The withdrawal of UCI Team status concerns the following teams:

UCI ProTeam Gazprom – RusVelo (RUS)

UCI Continental Team Vozrozhdenie (RUS)

UCI Track Team Marathon – Tula Cycling Team (RUS)

UCI Continental Team CCN Factory Racing (BLR)

UCI Continental Team Minsk Cycling Club (BLR)

UCI Women's Continental Team Minsk Cycling Club (BLR).

3. The UCI withdraws all Russian and Belarusian events from the 2022 UCI International Calendar and shall not consider any further registration requests. The following events are concerned by the withdrawal from the UCI International Calendar:

Grand Prix Moscow 1: class 2 track event (20-21 May 2022)

Granfondo Moscow: UCI Granfondo World Series event (21-22 May 2022)

Grand Prix Moscow 2: category 2 track event (22 May 2022)

Grand Prix Saint-Petersburg: category 2 track event (26-29 May 2022)

Five Rings of Moscow: class 2.2 road event (8-12 June 2022).

4. The Russian and Belarusian National Championships are also withdrawn from the UCI International Calendar.

5. The appearance of all emblems, names, acronyms, flags and anthems linked to Russia and Belarus are prohibited at all events on the UCI International Calendar. The Russian and Belarusian National Champions' jerseys are therefore banned.

6. Any bids from Russian and Belarusian candidates for the organisation of UCI events shall not be considered.

7. The UCI forbids organisers of events on the UCI International Calendar from inviting Russian and Belarusian club, regional or mixed teams.

8. The UCI will not appoint Russian or Belarusian International Commissaires to UCI International Calendar events until further notice.

The UCI wishes to clarify that Russian and Belarusian licence-holders are authorised to take part in events on the UCI International Calendar with their respective teams provided they are

registered with a UCI Team that is neither Russian nor Belarusian. Russian and Belarusian riders can also participate in UCI International Calendar events if individual registration is authorised.

Any participation of Russian or Belarusian athletes must be in a neutral capacity, and organisers are requested to withdraw any reference to Russia or Belarus, including the name, emblems, acronyms and flags, and replace them with a neutral reference or denomination on all event-related documents and in line with instructions to be provided by the UCI.

The decision not to impose a blanket ban on Russian and Belarusian athletes at all international events is based on obtaining a balance of all interests. In particular, it is a question of taking into account the contractual rights of the riders and teams concerned, and not to unjustly penalise teams that are not Russian or Belarusian.

The UCI asks organisers, spectators and competitors to respect Russian and Belarusian riders at races in which they would be authorised to participate.

Moreover, the UCI Management Committee has decided to introduce a specific regulation enabling Russian and Belarusian licence-holders with multiple nationalities to request a change to their sporting nationality without any restriction. It will be possible to accelerate the procedure concerning this measure, which already exists in the UCI Regulations.

Specific measures will be studied with a view to allowing riders and staff members of Russian and Belarusian teams to register with a UCI Team that is neither Russian nor Belarusian outside of the registration periods.

Concerning the Russian and Belarusian National Federations, and in line with responses given by the IOC this morning during the meeting with International Federation Presidents, it is not necessary to suspend these because they are not implicated in the violation of the Olympic Truce. In the same vein, concerning Russian and Belarusian members of UCI bodies and commissions, the UCI has chosen to act in line with the IOC's position presented this morning, which means that they may continue to serve as long as they are not directly implicated in the violation of the Olympic Truce; indeed the priority of the measures taken today is to ensure the integrity and security of sporting competitions.

As part of its decisions, the UCI Management Committee has also taken stance on sponsoring by Russian or Belarusian brands and companies. As it considers that this would damage the image of the UCI and cycling in general, such sponsoring will not be authorised. Teams and event organisers have therefore been requested not to grant any visibility to Russian or Belarusian sponsors at events on the UCI International Calendar.

For the sake of clarity, all measures apply with immediate effect regarding both Russia and Belarus and cover all categories and disciplines. They will remain in effect until further notice. In the coming days, the UCI will publish ad hoc rules providing further guidance on the measures adopted today by the UCI Management Committee. Directives will also be communicated to event organisers concerning the ban on displaying references to Russia and Belarus.

The UCI specifies that in the event of a State decreeing stricter measures regarding the participation of Russian or Belarusian riders or teams at competitions on their territory, these measures would take precedence over the decisions taken by the UCI.

The UCI welcomes the courageous stance taken by Russian and Belarusian cyclists and officials in a bid for peace. It calls for restraint from all sides of the conflict as well as for the protection of civilians, and hopes that peace will rapidly be restored.

The UCI's position could evolve as the situation in Ukraine develops”.

On the 24 May 2022, the UCI released a statement on concerning the situation of the former Gazprom – RusVelo team ⁵⁶:

UCI statement concerning the situation of the former Gazprom – RusVelo team

“As soon as Russia invaded Ukrainian territory, in violation of the Olympic Truce, the UCI took strong measures, following those taken by the IOC a few days earlier, aiming to ensure the integrity and safety of sporting competitions and the respect of the Olympic values.

In particular, on 1st March, the UCI withdrew UCI team status from all Russian and Belarusian teams. One of these teams was the UCI ProTeam (2nd division) Gazprom - RusVelo.

Moreover, the UCI took a second measure directly affecting the team, that of declaring any sponsorship by Russian and Belarusian companies or brands as harmful to the image of cycling. Under article 1.1.089 of the UCI Regulations, any display of the sponsor Gazprom, as well as the name RusVelo, is therefore prohibited from all events on the UCI International Calendar until further notice.

The UCI understands that as a result of this latest measure in particular, the main sponsor has terminated its contract with the team, leaving the paying agent unable to ensure the team's funding for the 2022 season.

Faced with this difficult situation for the athletes, the UCI immediately informed the paying agent of the possible solutions and conditions for a return to competition. These mainly concern the nationality of the team, which may be modified given the paying agent's domiciliation in Switzerland, and the financial capacity of the team.

These conditions still apply and will be considered in determining any request from the paying agent.

Besides the information provided to the team concerning a possible return to competition, the UCI has also replied to all communications and requests from riders. The requests made to the UCI - whether from the team or the riders - could unfortunately not be considered as they required the UCI to bear the costs of the team.

Regarding the protection for riders, the UCI reminded them and the Cyclistes Professionnels Associés (CPA) of the existence of a bank guarantee imposed by the UCI Regulations that enables three months' salary to be covered for all riders and staff in the event of default of payment.

Despite several reminders of this possibility to the riders and the CPA, the UCI has not, to date, received any request in this regard and is not informed of the payment status of salaries.

⁵⁶ Available on <https://www.uci.org/pressrelease/uci-statement-concerning-the-situation-of-the-former-gazprom-rusvelo-team/6H7vBFFEOKD2CozQysUno>

Furthermore, following the decision of the UCI Management Committee on 1st March, a derogation to the rules governing transfers was granted to the riders concerned in order to allow them to change teams at any time during the season and thus facilitate the pursuit of their careers in another team.

Some of the team's riders have taken advantage of this provision to join other UCI Teams.

Since 1 March 2022, the UCI has never ceased to communicate regularly with the teams concerned and to respond to all their requests and those of their riders. The UCI remains at the disposal of the team management and the riders to work with them towards the best possible solution.”

FOOTBALL – FIFA – UEFA

Overview

FIFA has been among the first international sports federations to take immediate first measures, in line with recommendations from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and that will be applicable until further notice:

- No international competition shall be played on the territory of Russia, with “home” matches being played on neutral territory and without spectators;
- The member association representing Russia shall participate in any competition under the name “Football Union of Russia (RFU)” and not “Russia”;
- No flag or anthem of Russia will be used in matches where teams from the Football Union of Russia participate.

FIFA and UEFA have suspended Russian international and club teams from their competitions until further notice.

At the same time, FIFA adopted some important temporary employment and registration rules in order to provide players and coaches in Ukraine with the opportunity to work and receive a salary. They will be deemed automatically suspended; i.e. out of contract without any consequences, until the end of the football season in Ukraine (30 June 2022), and they will be free to be registered for a foreign club even if the transfer window in the host country is closed.

At the same time, foreign players and coaches will have the right to unilaterally suspend their employment contracts with the FUR-affiliated clubs in question until the end of the season in Russia (30 June 2023).

Finally, the prohibition on international transfer of minors shall not apply to those fleeing from Ukraine to other countries due to the armed conflict.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 27 February 2022 FIFA issued its first press release on the War in Ukraine⁵⁷:

Bureau of the FIFA Council takes initial measures with regard to war in Ukraine

“First and foremost, FIFA would like to reiterate its condemnation of the use of force by Russia in its invasion of Ukraine. Violence is never a solution and FIFA expresses its deepest solidarity to all people affected by what is happening in Ukraine. FIFA calls again for the urgent restoration of peace and for constructive dialogue to commence immediately. FIFA remains in close contact with the Ukrainian Association of Football and members of the Ukrainian football community who have been requesting support to leave the country for as long as the current conflict persists. To address

⁵⁷ Available on <https://www.fifa.com/tournaments/mens/worldcup/qatar2022/media-releases/bureau-of-the-fifa-council-takes-initial-measures-with-regard-to-war-in> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

football-related matters and in coordination with UEFA, the Bureau of the FIFA Council - involving the FIFA President and the six Confederation Presidents - has unanimously decided to take immediate first measures, in line with recommendations from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and that will be applicable until further notice:

- *No international competition shall be played on the territory of Russia, with “home” matches being played on neutral territory and without spectators*
- *The member association representing Russia shall participate in any competition under the name “Football Union of Russia (RFU)” and not “Russia”*
- *No flag or anthem of Russia will be used in matches where teams from the Football Union of Russia participate FIFA will continue its ongoing dialogue with the IOC, UEFA and other sport organisations to determine any additional measures or sanctions, including a potential exclusion from competitions, that shall be applied in the near future should the situation not be improving rapidly.*

The Bureau of the FIFA Council remains on standby to take any of these decisions. Importantly, FIFA strongly believes that the sport movement should be united in its decisions on this topic and that sport should continue being a vector of peace and hope. With regard to the upcoming FIFA World Cup 2022 qualifiers, FIFA has taken good note of the positions expressed via social media by the Polish Football Association, the Football Association of the Czech Republic and the Swedish Football Association and has already engaged in dialogue with all of these football associations. FIFA will remain in close contact to seek to find appropriate and acceptable solutions together. FIFA’s thoughts remain with everybody affected by this shocking and worrying situation”.

On 28 February 2022 FIFA and UEFA issued a joint statement announcing that they had suspended all Russian international and club teams from their competitions until further notice⁵⁸:

FIFA/UEFA suspend Russian clubs and national teams from all competitions

“Following the initial decisions adopted by the FIFA Council and the UEFA Executive Committee, which envisaged the adoption of additional measures, FIFA and UEFA have today decided together that all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, shall be suspended from participation in both FIFA and UEFA competitions until further notice. These decisions were adopted today by the Bureau of the FIFA Council and the Executive Committee of UEFA, respectively the highest decision-making bodies of both institutions on such urgent matters. Football is fully united here and in full solidarity with all the people affected in Ukraine. Both Presidents hope that the situation in Ukraine will improve significantly and rapidly so that football can again be a vector for unity and peace amongst people”. (emphasis added)

On 7 March 2022 FIFA published the following press release⁵⁹:

FIFA adopts temporary employment and registration rules to address several issues in relation to war in Ukraine

Following the escalation of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, which has led to an ongoing and distressing humanitarian crisis, the Bureau of the FIFA Council has decided – in coordination with

⁵⁸ Available on <https://www.fifa.com/tournaments/mens/worldcup/qatar2022/media-releases/fifa-uefa-suspend-russian-clubs-and-national-teams-from-all-competitions> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁵⁹ Available on <https://www.fifa.com/about-fifa/organisation/fifa-council/media-releases/fifa-adopts-temporary-employment-and-registration-rules-to-address-several> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

UEFA and after consultation with various stakeholders – to temporarily amend the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP) in order to provide legal certainty and clarity on a number of matters. The principles are set out in the form of a temporary annexe to the RSTP (Annexe 7) entitled “Temporary rules addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine”.

The following decisions have been taken:

Concerning the situation in Ukraine, in order to provide players and coaches with the opportunity to work and receive a salary, and to protect Ukrainian clubs, unless the parties to the relevant contract explicitly agree otherwise, all employment contracts of foreign players and coaches with clubs affiliated to the Ukrainian Association of Football (UAF) will be deemed automatically suspended until the end of the season in Ukraine (30 June 2022), without the need for any action from the parties to this effect.

In order to facilitate the departure of foreign players and coaches from Russia, in the event that clubs affiliated to the Football Union of Russia (FUR) do not reach a mutual agreement with their respective foreign players and coaches before or on 10 March 2022 and unless otherwise agreed in writing, the foreign players and coaches will have the right to unilaterally suspend their employment contracts with the FUR-affiliated clubs in question until the end of the season in Russia (30 June 2022).

The suspension of a contract as per the paragraphs above will mean that players and coaches will be considered “out of contract” until 30 June 2022 and will therefore be at liberty to sign a contract with another club without facing consequences of any kind.

Additional Flexibility

Furthermore, in order to provide flexibility to players whose registration was with the UAF or the FUR and who have left or may be intending to leave the territory of Ukraine or Russia as a consequence of the war in Ukraine, foreign players whose previous registration was with the UAF or the FUR will be allowed to be registered even if the registration period is closed at the association of the club with which they conclude a new contract. In order for this exception to be applicable and to protect the integrity of competitions, the registration with the new club needs to occur before or on 7 April 2022. To further protect the integrity of competitions, clubs are entitled to register a maximum of two players who have benefited from the exception.

Protection of players

In relation to the protection of minors, minors fleeing from Ukraine to other countries due to the armed conflict will be deemed to fulfil the requirements of article 19 paragraph 2 d) of the RSTP, which exempts refugee minors from the rule preventing the international transfer of players before the age of 18. FIFA would like to reiterate its condemnation of the ongoing use of force by Russia in Ukraine and calls for a rapid cessation of hostilities and for a return to peace.

On 16 March 2022 FIFA published the following press release⁶⁰:

⁶⁰ Available on <https://www.fifa.com/legal/media-releases/fifa-adapts-temporary-rules-to-provide-clarification-regarding-the-movement> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

FIFA adapts temporary rules to provide clarification regarding the movement of Ukrainian players

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, FIFA has been closely monitoring the situation in order to remain in the best possible position to assist Ukrainian clubs and players in any way, including by adopting temporary amendments to its regulations.

On 7 March 2022, the Bureau of the FIFA Council decided to temporarily amend the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP) to provide urgent legal certainty and clarity on a number of regulatory matters, and an Interpretative Note was enclosed with circular no. 1787 to provide appropriate guidance to member associations and their stakeholders.

The recent developments in Ukraine have led to a need for further clarification concerning the registration of players of Ukrainian nationality with clubs affiliated to other member associations.

Accordingly, the Bureau of the Council has today decided to amend Annexe 7 of the RSTP to provide Ukrainian players with the opportunity to be registered, should they be allowed to leave the country in accordance with current rules on the cross-border movement of Ukrainian nationals.

Therefore, Annexe 7 now clearly explains that Ukrainian players may be allowed to be registered with another club even if that registration period is closed in the association of the club with which they intend to be registered.

In addition, the new amendments clarify that clubs are entitled to register a maximum of two professional players who have benefited from the exceptions provided in Annexe 7. The Interpretive Note to Annexe 7 has also been amended where relevant to provide clarity and precision on these latest amendments.

FIFA will continue to monitor the situation in Ukraine closely to ensure that the regulatory framework reflects any developments.

It also continues to condemn the ongoing use of force by Russia in Ukraine and calls for a rapid cessation of hostilities and for a return to peace.

On 22 June 2022 FIFA published the following press release⁶¹:

FIFA extends temporary employment rules to address issues relating to war in Ukraine

The Bureau of the FIFA Council has decided to extend the temporary employment rules established in the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP) with the aim of effectively assisting players, clubs and coaches impacted by the war in Ukraine.

The decision follows the RSTP amendments approved by the Bureau of the Council on 7 March 2022 and 16 March 2022, which provided urgent legal certainty and clarity on a number of important regulatory matters.

⁶¹ Available on <https://www.fifa.com/legal/media-releases/fifa-adapts-temporary-rules-to-provide-clarification-regarding-the-movement> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Under the RSTP provisions approved by the Bureau of the Council, should clubs affiliated to the Ukrainian Association of Football (UAF) or the Football Union of Russia (FUR) not reach a mutual agreement with their respective foreign players and coaches before or on 30 June 2022, and unless otherwise agreed in writing, these players and coaches will have the right to suspend their employment contracts with their clubs until 30 June 2023.

These provisions give players and coaches the opportunity to train, play and receive a salary, while protecting Ukrainian clubs and facilitating the departure of foreign players and coaches from Russia.

Additionally, in relation to the protection of minors, it has been clarified that minors fleeing Ukraine to other countries with their parents due to the armed conflict will be considered to have fulfilled the requirements of article 19 paragraph 2 a) of the RSTP, exempting them from the rule preventing the international transfer of players before the age of 18.

FIFA will continue to monitor the situation in Ukraine closely to ensure that the regulatory framework is adapted according to any new developments. FIFA also continues to condemn the ongoing use of force by Russia in Ukraine and calls for a rapid cessation of the war and a return to peace.

FORMULA 1 – FIA

Overview

The FIA has instigated a ban on competitions held in Russia and Belarus.

No Russian/Belarusian national teams to participate in international/zone competitions (e.g. FIA Motorsport Games), until further notice.

Individual drivers from Russia or Belarus can still compete, but only in neutral capacity under the FIA flag, subject to specific commitment and adherence to the FIA's principles of peace and political neutrality.

There is a prohibition of both countries' flags and anthems in international/zone competitions until further notice.

On 2 March 2022, FIA terminated its contract with Russian Grand Prix promoter⁶² and, as a consequence, there will be no F1 Grand Prix in the future.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the FIA issued the following press release⁶³:

FIA Announces World Motor Sport Council Decisions in relation to the situation in Ukraine

FIA President Mohammed Ben Sulayem today chaired an extraordinary meeting of the World Motor Sport Council (WMSC) to address matters relating to the ongoing situation in Ukraine.

In his opening remarks to the meeting, the FIA President said: “As you know, the FIA is watching the developments in Ukraine with sadness and shock and I hope for a swift and peaceful resolution to the present situation. We condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine and our thoughts are with all those suffering as a result of the events in Ukraine. I would like to stress that the FIA, together with our promoters, proactively acted on this matter last week and communicated accordingly on the Formula 1, Formula 2, WTCR and the Intercontinental Drifting Cup. An updated version of the different FIA International Calendars will be presented to the WMSC meeting in Bahrain for approval.”

In accordance with the International Olympic Committee recommendations, Council members approved the following decisions to be implemented with immediate effect:

Competitions organized on the territory of Russia and Belarus

⁶² Available on <https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article.formula-1-terminates-contract-with-russian-grand-prix-promoter.5geFNbONEePwRCSQj25Xg3.html> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁶³ Available on <https://www.fia.com/news/fia-announces-world-motor-sport-council-decisions-relation-situation-ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

- *No international/zone competition to take place in Russia and Belarus, until further notice*
- *No flag/symbol or anthem of Russia/Belarus to be used in international/zone competitions, until further notice*

Drivers, competitors and officials

- *No Russian/Belarusian national teams to participate in international/zone competitions (e.g. FIA Motorsport Games), until further notice*
- *Russian/Belarusian drivers, individual competitors and officials to participate in international/zone competitions only in their neutral capacity and under the “FIA flag”, subject to specific commitment and adherence to the FIA’s principles of peace and political neutrality, until further notice*
- *No Russian/Belarusian national symbols, colours, flags (uniform, equipment and car)- should be displayed or anthems should be played at international/zone competitions, until further notice*

FIA Elected officers/Commissions’ members

- *Representatives from Russian/Belarusian FIA Members to step aside temporarily from their roles and responsibilities of elected officers/commissions’ members **

FIA grants

- *No FIA grant to be awarded to the Russian/Belarusian FIA Members, until further notice*
- *No existing FIA grant funding will be paid to the Russian/Belarusian FIA Members**

** Subject to the approval of the World Council for Automobile Mobility and Tourism*

FIA International Sporting Calendar

Upon proposal of the F1 Commercial Rights Holder, cancellation of the 2022 Russian F1 Grand Prix for reason of Force Majeure.

The FIA President added: “I want to thank the Council members for their prompt action in deciding these measures in the interests of sport and peace. We stand in solidarity with Leonid Kostyuchenko, the President of the Federation Automobile d’Ukraine (FAU) and the wider FIA family in the country. The measures taken today recognise the authority of the FAU in Ukraine and are also aligned with the recommendations recently made by the International Olympic Committee. We are in active discussions with our members as we continue to extend our compassion and support in their time of need. We sincerely hope for a peaceful resolution to their intolerable hardship.”

HANDBALL - IHF – EHF

*Overview*⁶⁴

“Handball in its essence as a team sports is in a specific situation: on the one hand ,the International Handball Federation (IHF) has the right and responsibility to issue a decision for the sport worldwide, and, on the other hand, handball is a sport very much dominated by European activities on a national team and at club level. As a consequence, the harmonisation of decisions plays an important role in respect to the rundown and the effectiveness.

According to the recommendation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the IHF suspended the activities of Russia and Belarus ([Full version](#)). Prior to that, the International Handball Federation coordinated with the European Handball Federation (EHF) the procedures to be followed on a continental level based on the relevant timetable of men’s and women’s national teams qualification stages and the knockout phases of the club competitions.” – Michael Wiederer, EHF President.

In this respect, and in the view of the development of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the European Handball Federation, via its Executive Committee, with regard to the decision making, has chronologically adopted the following approach in order to guarantee the integrity of the competitions.

On 18 February 2022, the EHF informed its stakeholders on its close cooperation with clubs and the relevant authorities, regarding the safe organisation of matches to be played in Ukraine or close to the border with Russia, and that further decisions might be coming in this regard ([Official Statement](#)).

On 22 February 2022, the EHF, always with the objective of ensuring the smooth running of the matches but with the safety of the teams, players and officials as a highest priority, endeavoured to relocate the matches to be played by the teams located in a high-risk area ([Official Statement](#)).

On 23 February 2022, the EHF published a follow-up on the Ukraine/Russia situation and introduced the discussion with regard to its sponsor *Nord Stream 2*. ([Full version](#)).

On 25 February 2022, the EHF Executive Committee decided to officially relocate all matches intended to be played in Ukrainian and Russian at neutral venues, until further notice. ([Official Statement](#)).

On the same day, the EHF and its marketing daughter company the EHF Marketing GmbH, released the clubs of the EHF Champions League Men of the obligation to implement the presence of the competition’s official partner, i.e. Nord Stream 2 ([Official Statement](#)). Furthermore, the EHF took the decision not to prolong the sponsorship with Nord Stream 2.

On 26 February 2022, the EHF communicated to its stakeholders on upcoming decisions regarding EHF Champions League as well as EHF European League following the report of difficulties to continue to participate in EHF competitions ([Official Statement](#)).

⁶⁴ This overview has been kindly provided by Sophia Touiker, EHF Legal Management, in-house Lawyer.

On 27 February 2022, the EHF released an official statement informing its handling in a separate procedure, the consequences linked to the impossibility to play matches due to the factual situation in Russia and Ukraine ([Official Statement](#)).

On 28 February 2022, the EHF released an official statement with regard to the decision of the Russian government to invade Ukraine. The EHF called for an extraordinary congress of its Executive Committee in order to evaluate the necessity for further decisions ([Official Statement](#)).

On the same day, the EHF informed on the decision of its Executive Committee to suspend until further notice Russian and Belarussian from participating in all EHF activities ([Official Statement](#)).

On 4 March 2022, the EHF published an overview of the structures of the EHF competitions as they were impacted by the publication of the decision of the EHF Executive Committee taken earlier on 28 February 2022.

In June 2022, the EXEC confirmed further procedures regarding the upcoming system of the 2022/23 season.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 18 February 2022, the EHF published the following statement:⁶⁵

STATEMENT ON HANDBALL MATCHES IN AND AROUND THE UKRAINE

As over the next days and weeks a number of European club and national team handball matches are scheduled to take place in Ukraine as well as within closer proximity to the Ukraine border and given the current overall situation in the region, the European Handball Federation issues the following statement:

For all those matches, the European Handball Federation is in close contact with the clubs and federations in question. Information and advice from the relevant authorities is being sought and the development of the situation is constantly being monitored.

As the monitoring over the past days has shown, the situation is constantly evolving with changes and interpretations of the overall situation happening regularly.

With this in mind and with the health and safety of the players and officials as well as the integrity of its competitions being the highest priority, the European Handball Federation assesses the situation for each match individually and bases any eventual decision on the information available.

Following this approach, the EHF Champions League Men match, HC Motor Zaporozhye vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, initially scheduled for 17 February, was postponed earlier this week.

The EHF European Cup Women match, Galychanka Lviv vs H71 scheduled for 13 February, was also postponed with the further handling coordinated by the EHF.

⁶⁵ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/statement-on-handball-matches-in-and-around-the-ukraine/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

Furthermore, the upcoming EHF European Cup Men match, SKIF Krasnodar vs Drammen HK on 19 February, will not be played as scheduled.

Decisions for forthcoming matches in handball competitions governed by the European Handball Federations will be made in the same way and the decisions taken will subsequently be communicated to all stakeholders.

On 7 March 2022 the IHF published the following statement:⁶⁶

DECISION OF THE IHF REGARDING THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

The International Handball Federation (IHF) strongly condemns the actions taken by Russia in its invasion of Ukraine and would like to convey their support and solidarity to everyone who is affected by this war situation.

The invasion of Ukraine represents a breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government, with a corresponding United Nations (UN) resolution having been signed on 2 December 2021 by consensus of all 193 UN Member States. This breach is not acceptable and, therefore, the IHF Council decided the following:

With immediate effect and until further notice, the IHF bans all teams, officials, referees, lecturers and experts from Russia and Belarus from taking part in IHF events and activities.

As a consequence, Russia will not take part in the 2022 IHF Women's Junior (U20) and Youth (U18) World Championships as well as the 2022 IHF Men's Beach Handball World Championship this summer, for which they had already qualified.

This decision corresponds with the recommendation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and validates the decision taken by the European Handball Federation (EHF) to suspend the "national teams of Russia and Belarus as well as Russian and Belarusian clubs competing in European handball competitions" and not nominate Russian and Belarusian referees, officials, lecturers and commission members, expanding it to a global level.

Further details regarding the implementation will follow in due course.

The IHF strongly believes in "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal", with the promotion of peace through sports being a main topic in the UN resolution.

The IHF hopes for a return to peace and calls for the involved parties to stop the military action to preserve the life of their citizens, also wishing that a return to a normal situation will be possible so that all players can at some point get back to action on the handball courts.

On 22 February 2022, the EHF published this statement:⁶⁷

IMPACT OF THE UKRAINE/RUSSIA SITUATION ON EUROPEAN HANDBALL

⁶⁶ Available on <https://www.ihf.info/media-center/news/decision-ihf-regarding-situation-ukraine-and-russia> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

⁶⁷ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/impact-of-the-ukraine-russia-situation-on-european-handball/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

The current situation between Ukraine and Russia has an impact on upcoming matches organised under the umbrella of the EHF, as several European men's and women's top handball clubs and national teams are located in the region.

“The European Handball Federation always aims to safeguard the integrity of its competitions and is of the opinion that the best option is a decision on court,” says EHF President Michael Wiederer. “At the same time, the safety of teams, players and officials is of highest priority.”

Given that several competitions have reached the knockout stages and therefore with time also playing a role, the EHF has taken the following decisions, looking at the next four weeks.

The European Handball Federation currently sees no option to have matches played in Ukraine.

In the EHF Champions League Men, in which 11 out of 14 rounds in the group phase have been played, the group B matches HC Motor vs Paris Saint-Germain Handball, initially scheduled for 17 February, and HC Motor vs Barça, scheduled for 3 March, are planned to be played on neutral ground.

On 1 March, HC Motor will face PSG Handball in Prešov, Slovakia. The match against Barça will remain scheduled for 3 March and is planned to be also held in Prešov.

The upcoming Women's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers matches between Czech Republic and Ukraine, currently scheduled for 2 and 5 March, is planned to be played as a double-header on 4 and 5 March in the Czech Republic.

The further organisation of the Men's World Championship 2023 Phase 1 Play-Offs between Finland and Ukraine, with the matches scheduled for 16 and 20 March, will be handled by the European Handball Federation together with the federations of Finland and Ukraine.

Over the past 10 days, two matches were not played as scheduled. This concerns the EHF European Cup Women match, HC Galychanka Lviv (UKR) vs H71 (FAR), which was scheduled for 13 February, and the match Skif Krasnodar (RUS) vs Drammen HK (NOR), scheduled for 19 February.

For the further handling of both matches, legal procedures have been opened by the European Handball Federation.

Subsequently for the case of the match Skif Krasnodar vs Drammen HK, only the “winner of” this tie has been drawn on Tuesday's EHF European Cup Men quarter-final draw.

The EHF continues to monitor the situation between Ukraine and Russia from a European handball perspective and will issue updates on the matches mentioned as well as on future matches whenever necessary.

On 23 February 2022, the EHF published the following statement:⁶⁸

FOLLOW-UP ON THE UKRAINE/RUSSIA SITUATION AND EUROPEAN HANDBALL

⁶⁸ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/follow-up-on-the-ukraine-russia-situation-and-european-handball/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

On Tuesday, the European Handball Federation issued a statement outlining the organisation of club and national team matches which are affected by the current conflict between the Ukraine and Russia.

There is constant communication with all stakeholder groups, namely the clubs and the national federations, as the EHF continues to monitor the developments also because decisions on the level of sport and business need to be made.

“We aim to keep the sport as much as possible away from the political developments,” says EHF President Michael Wiederer.

“The athletes, no matter where they are coming from, and everyone, who is involved in our activities, deserve that their competitions are organised in the best possible way.

“At the same time, the sport of handball is dependent on political decisions and those made by the respective authorities. This related to the most recent pandemic as it relates now to current questions of safety and security.”

The European Handball Federation and its 50 member federations have managed several major crises in the past, and in all challenges a close cooperation was put in place in the best possible way, taking into consideration the situation of everyone involved. This also applies to partnerships on the business level.

The current topic of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline is one that touches questions which need to be solved on the political and economic level.

A sponsoring agreement is in place with the Swiss-based company, Nord Stream 2 AG, as official partner of the EHF Champions League Men, which was brokered by EHF Marketing, the marketing arm of the European Handball Federation.

The implementation of the agreement in 13 European countries is coordinated with all parties involved, and the partnership between Nord Stream 2 and the EHF Champions League Men has been reliable since its introduction in 2018.

There is a constant communication between the partners, as there is an impact on the rundown and organisation of the competition which the EHF has to manage.

The European Handball Federation has no direct contract with Nord Stream 2. However, the federation will continue to monitor the development of the situation to evaluate and coordinate any future steps.

“We hope that some principles of our sport can also serve as example in the current crisis,” says Michael Wiederer.

“In handball every situation is solved in the spirit of fair play directly between the protagonists. The EHF hopes that despite the critical situation solutions via dialogues can be found to resolve the current conflict in the interest of the people concerned, and from our side the many protagonists being part of the world of handball.”

On 25 February 2022, the EHF published the following media release:⁶⁹

DECISION OF THE EHF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

⁶⁹ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/decision-of-the-ehf-executive-committee/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

In the light of the situation in Ukraine, the Executive Committee of the European Handball Federation has taken the following decisions on Friday.

For competitions organised by the European Handball Federation, national teams and clubs from Russia and Ukraine will be required to play their home matches at neutral venues until further notice.

In order to protect the integrity of the competition and to ensure the safety of the participating teams, players and officials, the Women's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers between Poland and Russia, scheduled for 3 and 6 March, will be postponed.

The Women's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers between Czech Republic and Ukraine, scheduled for 4 and 5 March, will be postponed as well.

The Men's World Championship Phase 1 Play-offs between Finland and Ukraine, scheduled for 16 and 20 March, will be played as a double header in Finland.

While the EHF remains of the opinion that the best option is that matches are decided in a sportive contest on the handball court, it continues to closely monitor the development of the situation to evaluate the possible necessity for further decisions.

On the same day, the EHF published the following decision:⁷⁰

DECISION ON THE PRESENCE OF NORD STREAM 2 IN THE EHF CL

The European Handball Federation and its marketing arm, EHF Marketing GmbH, have released the clubs of the EHF Champions League Men of the obligation to implement the presence of the competition's official partner, Nord Stream 2, as of today (25 February).

This relates among others to the presence of Nord Stream 2 on LED boards, floor stickers, cube spots and on the teams' sleeve badge during EHF Champions League Men matches.

Nord Stream 2 is a reliable partner of the EHF Champions League Men since the 2018/19 season.

The decision was taken on Friday in close coordination and cooperation with the Nord Stream 2 AG in the light of current developments in the situation between Russia and Ukraine.

EHF Marketing together with its media & marketing partners, Infront and DAZN Group, will adapt the advertising setup in the EHF Champions League Men accordingly and until further notice and will inform all participating clubs.

On 26 February 2022, the EHF published the following communication:⁷¹

UPCOMING EHF CL AND EHF EL MATCHES

⁷⁰ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/decision-on-the-presence-of-nord-stream-2-in-the-ehf-cl/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁷¹ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/decision-on-upcoming-ehf-cl-and-ehf-el-matches/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

The EHF Champions League Men club of HC Motor (UKR) has informed the European Handball Federation on Saturday that because of the current situation in Ukraine it is impossible for the team to travel to its upcoming EHF CL matches.

This relates to HC Motor's match against Paris Saint-Germain Handball, scheduled for 1 March in Prešov (SVK), the match against Barça, scheduled for 3 March in Prešov, and the away match against FC Porto on 10 March.

Also on Saturday, the EHF European League Men club of HBC Nantes (FRA) informed the EHF that based on the current situation in Ukraine the club cannot host its home match against the Russian club of Chekhovskie medvedi, which has been scheduled for 1 March.

Following the two clubs' information, the European Handball Federation has decided that the four matches concerned will not be played as scheduled.

The further handling of those matches as well as its consequences will be dealt with by the European Handball Federation in a separate procedure.

On 27 February 2022, the EHF released this official statement:⁷²

DECISION ON UPCOMING MATCHES IN THE EHF CL AND 2022 QUALIFIERS

The European Handball Federation has released the following decision on Sunday, as the current situation and its developments do not make possible to play the following matches:

- The EHF Champions League Men match between HC Meshkov Brest (BLR) and HC Vardar 1961 (MKD), initially scheduled for 2 March 2022 in Brest.
- The Women's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers double header between Greece and Belarus, initially scheduled for 2 March in Chalkida, Greece and for 6 March in Minsk, Belarus.

All three matches will therefore not be played as scheduled.

The European Handball Federation will deal with the further handling of those matches and the consequences in a separate procedure.

It continues to closely monitor the development of the situation to evaluate the possible necessity for further decisions.

On 28 February 2022, the EHF released this official statement:⁷³

STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION

The European Handball Federation releases the following statement:

The European Handball Federation underlines that there is no acceptance nor understanding for the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This also extends to all parties being actively involved in or supporting such an act of violence.

⁷² Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/decision-on-upcoming-matches-in-the-ehf-cl-and-2022-qualifiers/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

⁷³ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/statement-of-the-european-handball-federation/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

As several handball competitions organised by the European Handball Federation have reached decisive marks in the season calendar, solutions had to be found for the national team and club matches which were impacted by the current situation.

It was therefore announced that matches with the participation of Russian and Belarusian teams will not be played as scheduled this week. This refers to matches in the EHF Champions League Men, the EHF European League Men and the Women's EHF EURO 2022 Qualifiers. Matches involving teams from Ukraine were also suspended in the light of the situation and for organisational reasons.

For further steps, the European Handball Federation also depends on public information, and the EHF is in the active process of gathering this information from i.e. European governmental institutions and the International Olympic Committee.

Beyond this, the EHF currently establishes coordination platforms with the Association of European Team Sports.

Based on the information gathered, the EHF calls for an extraordinary meeting of its Executive Committee on Monday night to evaluate the necessity for further decisions.

Topics of the meeting will include the situation of Russian and Belarusian teams in European handball competitions on the club and national team level based on the latest info from the IOC, including the Men's World Championship 2023 Play-offs, the Women's EHF EURO 2022 and the Men's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers.

Contact with the International Handball Federation has been sought as potential suspensions and their consequences would have effects on competitions organised by the IHF.

On the same day, the EHF informed about the following:⁷⁴

DECISIONS OF THE EHF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

With a view on the war situation in Ukraine and with reference to the recent recommendations of the International Olympic Committee, the Executive Committee of the European Handball Federation convened on Monday night for an extraordinary meeting.

The EXEC's 13 members discussed the inputs received from National Federations as well as from the International Olympic Committee and the European Team Sports Association in the light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The following decisions were taken

1. With immediate effect, the national teams of Russia and Belarus as well as Russian and Belarusian clubs competing in European handball competitions are suspended. This holds true until further notice and relates to all current competitions on the club and national team level.

⁷⁴ Available on <https://www.eurohandball.com/en/news/en/decisions-of-the-ehf-executive-committee/> (last visited on 1 July 2022).

2. Referees and officials from Russia and Belarus will not be nominated for future matches until further notice. Lecturers and commission members from Russia and Belarus will not be called upon for future meetings and activities.
3. New organisers will be sought for the YAC 16 EHF Beach Handball EURO and the Qualifier Tournaments for the Beach Handball EURO 2023. Both events were scheduled to be held in Moscow in July 2022.

These measures had to be introduced with immediate effect as the war in Ukraine continues to rage, jeopardising the EHF's principles of cooperation on European Level and the spirit of fairness.

The European Handball Federation regrets the consequences for individuals, clubs and national teams and hopes that a return of peace will allow for renewed considerations.

Within the next days, a restructuring of the various competitions on the club and national team level will take place following sports principles and existing regulations.

GYMNASTICS – FIG

Overview

Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials, including judges, are not allowed to take part in FIG competitions or FIG-sanctioned competitions from 7 March 2022 until further notice.

All events in Russia and Belarus sanctioned by International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) will be removed and no further events will be awarded to either country.

Russian and Belarusian flags and anthems will not be used at FIG events.

It is particularly important to underline that the FIG updated its own Code of Conduct prohibiting any type of demonstration or the use of political, religious and racial propaganda in tournaments."

This followed the incident involving Russian gymnast Ivan Kuliak during the FIG Apparatus World Cup in Doha in March 2022. Kuliak wore the letter "Z", a symbol associated with Russia's military operation, on his singlet during the competition and also during the medal ceremony for the parallel bars, a competition won by Ukrainian Iliia Kovtun. At the time, a FIG statement described Kuliak's action as "shocking behaviour". Eventually, the Gymnastics Ethics Foundation (GEF) banned Kuliak for a year as punishment for the incident.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that a "*Special Aid for Ukraine*" Fund managed by the Foundation for Solidarity has been set up to financially support the Ukrainian federation and their FIG-licensed athletes.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 26 February 2022 the FIG issued the following press release⁷⁵.

FIG decision regarding the conflict in Europe

"During its meeting today, the Executive Committee of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) expressed its concern following the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and decided on the following measures:

The Russian and Belarussian national flags must not be displayed, and the Russian and Belarussian anthems must not be played at any FIG-sanctioned events until further notice.

All FIG World Cup and World Challenge Cup events planned to take place in Russia and Belarus are cancelled, and no other FIG events will be allocated to Russia or Belarus until further notice.

All FIG-sanctioned events planned to take place in Russia and Belarus are removed from the FIG calendar and will no longer be recognised by the FIG. No other events taking place in Russia and Belarus will be sanctioned by the FIG until further notice.

⁷⁵ Available on <https://www.gymnastics.sport/site/news/displaynews.php?urlNews=3439838> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

“As a sporting governing body, our first duty is to protect all our athletes, including to protect them from political pressure,” said FIG President Morinari Watanabe.

“Our thoughts go to the members of the Gymnastics community in Ukraine. Sport is friendship and solidarity. We must show solidarity with the members of our family who are in despair and offer them a helping hand to ensure their future.”

The FIG will ask the FIG Foundation for Solidarity to allocate special aid to support Ukrainian athletes and other members of the Ukrainian Gymnastics Federation hit by the war”.

On 4 March 2022 the FIG issued the following press release⁷⁶ :

FIG adopts further measures against Russia and Belarus

“Given the massive escalation of the Russian military invasion of Ukraine, the Executive Committee (EC) of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) held an emergency meeting today to discuss the necessity of adopting further emergency measures against Russia and Belarus, following those announced on 26 February.

The EC took into account the latest recommendations from the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the stance of the FIG Athletes’ Commission and the deep concerns and positions expressed by many national Gymnastics federations, and decided that:

Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials, including judges, are not allowed to take part in FIG competitions or FIG-sanctioned competitions from 7 March 2022 until further notice.

This means that athletes and officials from these two federations will not participate in the Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships in Baku, Azerbaijan from 10 to 13 March 2022.

The FIG would like to stress that these exceptional and emergency measures are decided and issued in view of the above-mentioned extraordinary circumstances. They constitute preventive measures aiming at preserving the integrity of Gymnastics, the safety and integrity of members and all athletes and participants, and at fighting against all forms of violence and of sports injustice. Russian and Belarusian nationals who are members of the FIG Executive Committee or of FIG technical committees are not affected by this measure when acting in their capacity as FIG Authorities.

The EC will continue to monitor the situation closely and may further adapt these exceptional measures according to future developments”. (emphasis added)

On 28 March 2022 the FIG issued the following press release⁷⁷ :

Special aid for Ukraine

⁷⁶ Available on <https://www.gymnastics.sport/site/news/displaynews.php?urlNews=3444611> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁷⁷ Available on <https://www.gymnastics.sport/site/news/displaynews.php?urlNews=346843> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Since Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, many members of the Gymnastics community worldwide have spontaneously made generous offers to help our friends from Ukraine who have been hit by the war.

The FIG has consulted the Ukrainian Gymnastics Federation on how these various offers of help can be coordinated in order to ensure the most efficient process and, above all, avoid creating additional complications on top of the tragic situation they have been facing.

If you want to offer help or financial support and do not know how to proceed, here are some contacts:

Ukrainian Gymnastics Federation

The Ukrainian Gymnastics Federation remains the main contact. National federations which wish to offer logistical support or assistance can contact them directly at the following email addresses: info@ugf.org.ua or ugf@ukraine-rg.com.ua

FIG Foundation for Solidarity

At the FIG level, a "special aid for Ukraine" fund managed by the Foundation for Solidarity has been set up to financially support the Ukrainian federation and their FIG-licensed athletes.

National federations which would like to contribute to this special fund by making donations can contact the FIG at the following email address: aidforukraine@fig.sport.

National Olympic Committee of Ukraine

The NOC of Ukraine's President, the pole vault legend Sergii Bubka, has been tasked by the International Olympic Committee with coordinating the numerous humanitarian offers by the Olympic Movement to the Ukrainian Olympic community. You can find more info here.

On 3 June 2022 the FIG published the following press release⁷⁸:

The new Code of Conduct sets standards for positive change in Gymnastics

The International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) has introduced a new Code of Conduct aimed at promoting a positive culture based on fundamental principles of integrity, respect, honesty and fairness in the sport of Gymnastics.

This new version of the Code outlines the standards of behaviour expected of all those involved in Gymnastics, and helps to draw a clear line between what is considered good practice and what is not tolerable.

The Code lists general principles of integrity and respect to which everybody who takes part in Gymnastics must commit, and also specific principles for athletes, coaches, judges, officials and the managers of Gymnastics federations.

Its scope of application has also been broadened compared with the previous Code, to encompass all aspects of training, competition, sporting operations and communication.

Code of Conduct

⁷⁸ Available on <https://www.gymnastics.sport/site/news/displaynews.php?urlNews=3527780> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

FIG President Morinari Watanabe says of the new Code: “We cannot change years of bad practice in the sport overnight. While in some parts of the world, new generations of practitioners, coaches and executives developed approaches based on respect and wellbeing, abusive training methods still prevail in some places, with the strong conviction that it is part of the path to success. That cannot prevent us as the governing body from setting up standards applicable everywhere, and by so doing, reminding everyone that they have rights, duties and responsibilities.”

Clear rules for the Gymnastics community

Since 2018, the FIG has been strengthening its rules and policies regarding youth protection, and fighting against abuse of all kinds. The biggest step was made in 2019 with the establishment of the Gymnastics Ethics Foundation, one section of which is dedicated to safeguarding.

At the same time, the FIG has been working on an overhaul of its main rules in order to set up a simpler and more relevant legal framework suiting the needs and expectations of the Gymnastics community.

This legal framework is mainly made of:

the FIG Statutes, which are the “Constitution” of the Gymnastics governing body

the Code of Ethics, which sets the core ethical values

the Code of Conduct, which sets restricted or forbidden behaviours based on these ethical values

the Code of Discipline, which defines proceedings in case of infringement and refers to the sanctions set in the Statutes.

Having clear rules regarding behaviours was one of two commitments made by the FIG at the conclusion of the e-conference on safeguarding held in October 2020.

The revision of the Code of Conduct was primarily conducted by members of the Gymnastics community, and especially the 15 athletes – active and retired – who comprise the FIG Safeguarding Working Group.

The Executive Committee approved the final document last week. It comes into force immediately”.

HOCKEY – FIH

Overview

No Russian, nor Belarusian officials will be considered for appointment at any FIH events for the foreseeable future.

Russia was banned from the FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup which took place between April 1 to 12 in South Africa.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 27 February 2022 the FIH issued the following press release⁷⁹:

FIH expresses solidarity with the hockey community in Ukraine

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) is deeply concerned about the safety of the members of Ukraine's hockey community and ensures all of them of its full solidarity at this terrible time.

FIH is in regular contact with the Hockey Association of Ukraine and is doing its utmost to offer any support it can, in the hope that the Ukrainian team will be able to participate in the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup scheduled from 1 to 12 April in Potchefstroom, South Africa, for which it qualified.

On 1 March 2022 the FIH issued the following press release.

Russia excluded from upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup

“Following yesterday's recommendation by the IOC to avoid the participation of Russian athletes and officials in international competitions - in order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all participants – the Executive Board (EB) of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) has taken the decision to exclude Russia from the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup scheduled from 1 to 12 April in Potchefstroom, South Africa.

Earlier this week, FIH had expressed its full solidarity to the members of Ukraine's hockey community at this terrible time.

FIH is in regular contact with the Hockey Association of Ukraine and is doing its utmost to offer any support it can, in the hope that the Ukrainian team will be able to participate in the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup.

FIH expresses its strong hope for a peaceful resolution rapidly”. (emphasis added)

⁷⁹ Available on <https://www.fih.hockey/events/junior-world-cup/women/fih-hockey-womens-junior-world-cup-2021-1301/news/fih-expresses-solidarity-with-the-hockey-community-in-ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On 17 March 2022 the FIH issued the following press release⁸⁰:

FIH reiterates full support to Ukraine's hockey community

“Meeting today virtually for the second time of the year, the Executive Board (EB) of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) received reports on the preparation status of the upcoming FIH events, including the next one, namely the FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup South Africa 2021, which will start on 1 April at the North-West University of Potchefstroom, the venue which last month hosted 14 FIH Hockey Pro League matches.

FIH has been in regular contact with the Hockey Association of Ukraine to offer any support it can to the Ukrainian team, whose participation in the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup is not confirmed at this stage. Furthermore, FIH has extended its appreciation and thanks to the Hockey Associations of Poland and the Netherlands for the support they've been providing to Ukrainian hockey.

The EB has expressed again its full solidarity with the Ukrainian hockey community at this awful time and reiterated its strong hope for a peaceful resolution rapidly.

On 1 March, following the recommendation by the IOC to avoid the participation of Russian athletes and officials in international competitions - in order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all participants – the EB had excluded Russia from this event. Also, no Russian, nor Belarusian officials will be considered for appointment at any FIH events for the foreseeable future.

The FIH Hockey Women's World Cup Spain and Netherlands 2022 will celebrate its “100 days to go” milestone next week, on 23 March. On this occasion, the name of the event's mascot – as chosen by the fans – will be revealed!

The EB has approved to launch a global Penalty Corner consultation project, to gather input from across the hockey world on how we can maintain the excitement and spectacle of the penalty corner set piece, whilst reducing the potential danger for defenders and the need for a large amount of protective equipment to be worn. This consultation project could lead to trials of new rules, but no permanent rule change will be implemented until at least after the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

FIH EB Member and Oceania Hockey Federation President Clare Prideaux, Chair of the Sustainability Task Force, gave an update on the works of the Task Force which was created last year in order to help FIH shape the future sustainability strategy of hockey around the world. The Task Force includes representatives from Continental Federations, athletes, officials and event organisers as well as external experts. The FIH Sustainability Strategy, which is being built around the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and includes the three main pillars of “People, Planet and Prosperity” will be introduced at the next FIH Congress in November 2022”.

⁸⁰ Available on <https://www.fih.hockey/general/news/fih-reiterates-full-support-to-ukraine-s-hockey-community> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

ICE HOCKEY – IIHF

Overview

The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) suspended Russian and Belarusian international and club teams at every age group from competitions or events.

Russia will also be stripped of its right to host the World Junior Championship in 2023.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 25 February 2022 the FIH issued the following press release⁸¹:

Statement from the IIHF

The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) is saddened and deeply concerned by the recent events in Ukraine. The IIHF and its Council condemn the use of military force and urge the use of diplomatic means to solve conflicts. Our thoughts are with the people in Ukraine and the Ukrainian ice hockey family.

As the IIHF has a duty of care to all its Championship participants, the IIHF Council is reviewing and considering the implications of this conflict on our events. A Council meeting has been called for Monday late afternoon on 28 February.

On 28 February 2022 the FIH issued the following press release⁸²:

IIHF Council takes definitive action over Russia, Belarus

During an extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday, 28 February, the IIHF Council evaluated the impact of the current war. The IIHF strongly condemns the use of military force and urges the use of diplomatic means to solve conflict.

The IIHF Council has decided to take the following actions:

-Suspension of all Russian and Belarusian National Teams and Clubs from participation in every age category and in all IIHF competitions or events until further notice

-Withdrawal of the 2023 IIHF World Junior Championship hosting rights from Russia

These two actions have been initiated by the Council in order to enable the IIHF to ensure the safety of IIHF Championships and all participating players, officials, and fans.

⁸¹ Available on https://www.iihf.com/en/news/32285/statement_from_the_iihf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁸² Available on https://www.iihf.com/en/news/32301/iihf_council_announces_decisions_over_russia_belar (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Under the current conditions, this decision would have an impact on the following events:

2022 IIHF Continental Cup (4-6 March 2022)

-Belarus club team HK Gomel would not participate

2022 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship (21 April-01 May 2022)

-Russia and Belarus men's U18 teams would not participate

2022 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship (13-29 May 2022)

-ROC and Belarus men's national teams would not participate

2022 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship (Dates TBD)

-Russia women's U18 national team would not participate

2022 IIHF World Junior Championship (Dates TBD)

-Russia men's U20 national team would not participate

2022 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship (26 August-4 September 2022)

-ROC women's national team would not participate

Any potential sportive impact of the Council decision on tournament seeding and promotion/relegation will be announced in the coming weeks.

The 2023 IIHF World Junior Championship was scheduled to take place from 26 December 2022 to 5 January 2023. The IIHF will initiate discussions in the coming months to find a new host for the event.

The decision to relocate the event was taken primarily out of concern for the health and well-being of all participating players, officials, and fans. The IIHF Council also expressed deep concerns over the safe freedom of movement of players and officials to, from, and within Russia. The IIHF Council also took into account the Russian government's breach of the Olympic Truce, which was adopted in December 2021 as a UN resolution by United Nations General Assembly. The breach of the Olympic Truce led to a condemnation by the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board last week.

The IIHF Council has not left out the possibility of further actions impacting future events or other IIHF activities but hopes above all for a swift and peaceful resolution to the war.

"The IIHF is not a political entity and cannot influence the decisions being taken over the war in Ukraine," said IIHF President Luc Tardif. "We nevertheless have a duty of care to all of our members and participants and must therefore do all we can to ensure that we are able to operate our events in a safe environment for all teams taking part in the IIHF World Championship program."

"We were incredibly shocked to see the images that have come out of Ukraine," added Tardif. "I have been in close contact with members of the Ice Hockey Federation of Ukraine and we hope for all Ukrainians that this conflict can be resolved in a peaceful way and without the need for further violence."

On 24 March 2022 the FIH issued the following press release⁸³:

IIHF Council refers cases to Ethics Board

During its last meeting the IIHF Council has decided to refer two cases to the independent IIHF Ethics Board.

The purpose of the newly-created Ethics Board is to determine if the actions of an IIHF Member National Association or an individual associated with the IIHF or its members could constitute an ethical conduct violation. As such, none of the cases referred below automatically require disciplinary action. If the Ethics Board finds that a violation has occurred, the case is then subsequently referred to the IIHF Disciplinary Board for further review.

The IIHF Council has referred the Russian Ice Hockey Federation to the Ethics Board for review, due to reports that the RIHF allegedly sent instructions to Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) teams to take demonstrative actions in support of the Russia-Ukraine war. As such an action would constitute a violation of the IIHF Ethics Code, the Ethics Board will investigate further and determine whether this case will be referred to the IIHF Disciplinary Board.

The IIHF Council also decided to refer IIHF Life President René Fasel to the Ethics Board for review, following reports of his involvement with Russia and the KHL as well as public statements made about the war.

The IIHF has referred this matter to the independent Ethics Board in order to determine whether Fasel's actions have violated the IIHF Integrity Book. The IIHF Ethics Code, which is an integral part of the IIHF Integrity Book, requires "[a Life President to] conduct themselves in accordance with the principles of dignity, integrity, loyalty and responsibility in all relations of a competitive, economic, social (including social media) and moral nature." The IIHF Integrity Book is applicable specifically when a Life President is acting within the scope of his duties for the IIHF or whenever his conduct reflects upon the IIHF or might otherwise undermine the objectives of the IIHF.

The Ethics Board will subsequently decide whether to refer these cases to the IIHF Disciplinary Board for further review. Currently, no disciplinary action has been brought against the IIHF Life President or the Russian Ice Hockey Federation.

⁸³ Available on https://www.iihf.com/en/news/32301/iihf_council_announces_decisions_over_russia_belar (last visited on 23 June 2022).

JUDO – IJF

Overview

Early in March 2022 the International Judo Federation has removed Vladimir Putin and oligarch Arkady Rotenberg from their positions in the governing body.

Immediately after that, the Russian Judo Federation and the Belarussian Judo Federation decided that it is in their best interests and in the best interests of their athletes, for reasons of both logistics and safety, that for the foreseeable future they withdraw from all international events. There will be no Russian or Belarussian athletes participating in IJF and EJU events, with immediate effect”.

The International Judo Federation decided to allow Russian and Belarussian athletes to participate in IJF competitions only under the IJF Flag, anthem and colours, as neutral athletes, respecting all the requirements of neutrality.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 2 March 2022 the International Judo Federation issued the following press release⁸⁴:

Statement of the International Judo Federation

“Last week, following the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the International Judo Federation sanctioned the Russian Judo Federation by cancelling the Kazan Grand Slam, 20-22 May 2022. Further to that, the International Judo Federation now cancels all judo competitions on the territory of the Russian Federation.

As sporting events and sport itself promote peace and solidarity worldwide, we consider that those athletes who participate in international sporting events are promoting peace and international solidarity.

On this basis, the global decision to sanction all Russian athletes, regardless of the different opinions many have expressed, is not considered to be justified.

Any radical decision to obstruct the participation of athletes in sporting competitions would only continue the escalation of violence and nurture the feeling of injustice for those athletes who did not participate in any decision regarding the conflict. We cannot condemn the athletes for what is happening.

Therefore, in line with the Olympic Charter and its fundamental principles, as the IJF did in the past during other difficult conflicts between certain states and nations, we will provide the Russian athletes with the opportunity to participate in IJF events only under the IJF flag, logo and anthem.

Therefore, we can continue to guide all judo athletes from Russia in an appropriate direction and keep them far from any possibility to choose a path against their moral principles, taking into consideration the combat profile of our sport as well as its values.

We encourage Russian athletes to pursue a dialogue with their judoka friends worldwide, to travel and to promote, at home and away, the Olympic values and the judo principles of mutual aid and prosperity”.

⁸⁴ Available on <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/official-announcement-of-the-international-judo-federation> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On 6 March 2022 the International Judo Federation issued the following press release⁸⁵:

Official announcement of the International Judo Federation

“The International Judo Federation announces that Mr. Vladimir Putin and Mr. Arkady Rotenberg have been removed from all positions held in the International Judo Federation”.

On 14 March 2022 the International Judo Federation issued the following press release⁸⁶:

Official information about IJF events

“Following official communications received by the International Judo Federation, the Russian Judo Federation and the Belarussian Judo Federation have decided that it is in their best interests and in the best interests of their athletes, for reasons of both logistics and safety, that for the foreseeable future they withdraw from all international events. There will be no Russian or Belarussian athletes participating in IJF and EJU events, with immediate effect”. (emphasis added)

On 10 June 2022 the International Judo Federation published the following statement⁸⁷:

Judo is the Sport for Peace, Unity and Friendship

“The International Judo Federation announces that athletes from the Russian Judo Federation have registered for participation in the Ulanbataar Grand Slam 2022, as neutral IJF athletes.”

In this context, the International Judo Federation stands by its decision to allow Russian and Belorussian athletes to participate in IJF competitions only under the IJF Flag, anthem and colours, as neutral athletes, respecting all the requirements of neutrality. This decision gives equal chances to all athletes, to rise above discrimination, politics, conflicts or any other non-sport related matter. Sport is an important social tool, a bridge for rebuilding communities and a better society, at world level.

At present, the world is struggling due to a conflict between two countries whose national judo federations are both IJF members. The conflict is not created or fueled by sport. Athletes are not to be punished for issues which are out of their control and, as Mr Thomas Bach, IOC President recently declared, “Everybody who is supporting the war, can and should be sanctioned, but everybody who does not support the war, their rights must be respected, under our own rules and the rules of international law; there is no sanction and there should be no sanction for holding a passport.”

The IJF President, Mr Marius Vizer, declared, “The sport of judo is a sport of education. It teaches values such as respect, friendship, courage, mutual aid. Judo has always strived to avoid political interference or any form of discrimination, against athletes or any other judo representatives. In our philosophy and communication, we often refer to ourselves, the global judo community, as the judo family and this is based on the very principles that guide us: friendship and respect. Moreover, the International Judo Federation has been running dedicated Judo for Peace programmes for many years, which we are using as a tool to bring communities together, to enhance dialogue and social cohesion in areas marked by different kinds of conflict.”

⁸⁵ Available on <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/IJF-announcement-06032022> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁸⁶ Available on <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/official-information-ijf-events-14032022> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁸⁷ Available on <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/in-judo-there-is-no-place-for-politics-war-and-discrimination> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The IJF is aware of various governments' conditions for certain national federations which are, at the moment, banned from taking part in competitions where Russian or Belarussian athletes are present. The IJF welcomed President Bach's remarks during the ASOIF General Assembly 2022, which clarify the correct position that sports should take in today's complicated political context, "How can you guarantee then, in your sport, a fair international competition, if the governments are deciding according to their own political interests, who can take part in a competition and who cannot take part? Then, if you open this gate, today it is Russia and Belarus, tomorrow it is your country; there is no country in the world which is loved by every other government. This is against all the principles we are standing for. If we leave this to the governments then we are becoming a political tool and we cannot guarantee any more fair competition. Our task is to realise that we have to get back to the day when we can unite the entire world in peaceful competition. This is not the day, but we can only hope that peace prevails."

We consider that athletes competing under the IJF flag, in a status of complete neutrality, are not representatives of any country and as such, competing with them is not a violation of any government decision pertaining to Russian or Belarussian athletes. We strongly believe that to discriminate against a neutral athlete is against human rights.

The International Judo Federation strongly condemns the war in Ukraine and we hope that peace will be restored very soon. As the sport movement is recognised for its powerful impact on world peace, we believe that this decision will represent a bridge towards restoring peace”.

On 16 June 2022 the International Judo Federation published the following statement ⁸⁸:

Answer to the Letter of the Ukrainian Judo Federation: In Judo There Is no Place for Politics, War and Discrimination

“Dear Mr. President,

Judo is an art, a philosophy and a way of life. The values of our sport are those which have always prevailed over the decision of some governments to create division and hate between nations.

Sport is and will always be the unique bridge between nations. We are certainly against the war, but also against hate. Young people, and especially athletes, must be role models for their generations and for the generations to come. Athletes cannot be held responsible for the decisions of some leaders, especially in a context where they chose to compete, instead of going to war. Sport means friendship, unity, solidarity, and peace.

Throughout history, humanity has faced wars and horrors, but it seems we have not learned our lessons. Unfortunately, as long as the military industry is prosperous, at world level we can only dream of peace. This is a tragedy for humanity.

In Judo, we will not encourage division and hate. We must live together now and in the future. No negative force should be allowed to divide a family like the Judo Family and moreover, I consider that we must be an example also for other communities.

I am deeply disappointed by the fact that in this conflict we are only talking about the victory of one side or the other, instead of peace. We should be the ones to inspire through sport the conflicting parties and to show them that peace is the unique solution in order to stop the conflict and bring back global stability.

⁸⁸ Available on <https://www.ijf.org/news/show/in-judo-there-is-no-place-for-politics-war-and-discrimination> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

We must be united in good times and in bad times. We cannot punish people who are not responsible for the deeds of others. This would mean to discriminate, and in our sport war, politics and discrimination have no place.

With best regards,

*Marius L. Vizer
President International Judo Federation”*

LUGE – ILF

Overview

On 2 March 2022, following the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022, FIL among others, passed the following resolutions, declaring that:

- Russia is ineligible to host any FIL sanctioned events.
- All Russian athletes, coaches and officials are excluded from all FIL sanctioned events.
- Russian representatives appointed by the FIL Executive Board to various commissions and Working Groups are suspended from their positions.
- FIL will initiate an investigation into certain derogatory and disturbing social media posts by Russian athletes directed at Ukraine⁸⁹.

The decision was appealed by the Russian Luge Federation to the FIL Court of Arbitration and, subsequently, on 7 April 2022, the FIL Court of Arbitration annulled all measures imposed on 2 March 2022 against the Russian Luge Federation.

In response, on 11 April 2022, the FIL Executive Board stated that *“the FIL leadership, together with the FIL Legal Committee, will look for possibilities to solve the unsatisfactory situation caused by the arbitration judgment of the FIL Court of Arbitration by means of a possible change in the statutes, which would have to be decided by a 2/3 majority at the ordinary FIL Congress on June 18-19, 2022 in Riga/LAT”*⁹⁰.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

*On 2 March 2022 the FIL published the following press release:*⁹¹

The military invasion into Ukraine by the Russian and Belarus governments is condemned in the strongest terms by the leadership of the International Luge Federation (FIL). The war being waged against the Ukrainian people is unacceptable and is in stark contrast to all the principles that we, as an international Olympic sports federation, stands for. The very serious and tragic situation in Ukraine is being monitored by the FIL with great concern.

The FIL is in regular contact with the Ukraine Luge Federation and will support them with all available resources. The FIL stands with the Ukraine Luge Federation and the people in Ukraine in this difficult time, and will use every opportunity to support the Federation, its athletes, coaches and officials.

⁸⁹ Available on <https://www.fil-luge.org/en/news/resolution-of-the-fil-executive-board> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁹⁰ Available on <https://www.fil-luge.org/de/news/statement-of-the-fil-executive-board-on-the-decision-of-the-fil-court-of-arbitration-in-the-case-fil-executive-board-v-russian-luge-federation> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁹¹

In response to the situation in Ukraine, the FIL Executive Board convened an emergency meeting on March 2, 2022, and has therefore taken the following action effective immediately and will last until further notice:

The FIL hereby condemns in the strongest terms, the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian and Belarus governments.

Russia is ineligible to host any FIL sanctioned events.

All Russian athletes, coaches and officials are excluded from all FIL sanctioned events.

Russian representatives appointed by the FIL Executive Board to various Commissions and Working Groups are suspended from their positions.

The FIL will initiate an investigation into certain derogatory and disturbing social media posts by Russian athletes directed at Ukraine.

On 11 April 2022 FIL published the following statement⁹²:

Statement of the FIL Executive Board on the decision of the FIL Court of Arbitration in the case FIL Executive Board v. Russian Luge Federation

Berchtesgaden (FIL) The FIL Executive Board takes note of the verdict of the FIL Court of Arbitration of April 7th, 2022, in which the Court of Arbitration annulled all measures imposed on March 2nd, 2022 against the Russian Luge Federation as a consequence of the war between Russia and Ukraine for legal reasons.

The FIL Executive Board intends to have it checked in a suitable manner as to whether any sanctions of any kind against the Russian Luge Federation are actually legally permissible for reasons of “political neutrality”, anchored in the FIL statutes.

The members of the FIL Executive Board, but also the majority of the member federations of the FIL, cannot and do not want to behave neutrally regarding the war of aggression by Russia against the Ukraine.

Even knowing that the measures against the Russian Luge Federation have been lifted for legal reasons, the FIL Executive Board is still fully committed to the measures decided on March 2nd, 2022 until revoked, such as:

- The FIL Executive strongly condemns the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and Belarus;*
- Russia is not authorized to host events sanctioned by the FIL;*
- All Russian athletes, coaches and officials are barred from all FIL sanctioned events;*
- Russian representatives in various commissions and working groups appointed by the FIL Executive will be suspended from their offices.*

The FIL leadership, together with the FIL Legal Committee, will look for possibilities to solve the unsatisfactory situation caused by the arbitration judgment of the FIL Court of Arbitration by

⁹² Available on <https://www.fil-luge.org/de/news/statement-of-the-fil-executive-board-on-the-decision-of-the-fil-court-of-arbitration-in-the-case-fil-executive-board-v-russian-luge-federation> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

means of a possible change in the statutes, which would have to be decided by a 2/3 majority at the ordinary FIL Congress on June 18-19, 2022 in Riga/LAT.

In international sport, too, it should be possible to impose sanctions on sports associations and members of a country's association that demonstrates behavior contrary to international law that has been confirmed by a UN body or the IOC.

The FIL Executive Board would like to assure our so severely tested luge family and the entire population in the Ukraine their unbroken and unrestricted solidarity once again. An urgent appeal is made to Russia to end this cruel and unjustifiable war of aggression against Ukraine immediately.

PENTATHLON – UIPM

Overview

World Pentathlon has suspended Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from competing and taking part in its international competitions.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 28 February 2022 the UIPM issued the following press release⁹³:

UIPM Follows IOC Guidance and Take Measures with regard to WAR in Ukraine.

“With the escalating tensions and worsening humanitarian situation in Ukraine in the wake of the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government and the government of Belarus through its support, the UIPM Executive Board made the following decisions during an emergency meeting today:

To condemn the breach of the Olympic Truce by the governments of Russia and Belarus as announced by the IOC Executive Board on February 25.

To express its full support to the people of Ukraine as well as the athletes and the Modern Pentathlon community in Ukraine, including offering humanitarian assistance where possible. The UIPM President already wrote to the Ukrainian Modern Pentathlon Federation President with a full expression of support on February 24.

To adopt the IOC Executive Board recommendation published today, February 28, to not allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in UIPM-sanctioned international competitions, to protect the integrity of the sport and for the safety of all the participants.

UIPM will continue to closely monitor the situation before making further decisions and will make other announcements in due course.

⁹³ Available on <https://www.uipmworld.org/news/uipm-follows-ioc-guidance-and-take-measures-regard-war-ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne takes the safety and security of the athletes as paramount and strongly calls for peace with the wish for a better world through peaceful sporting competitions”.

ROWING – WORLD ROWING

Overview

World Rowing has suspended all Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from competing and taking part in its international competitions.

It is worth mentioning that in early March 2022, World Rowing launched a GoFundMe campaign in support of the Ukrainian Rowing community.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the World Rowing issued the following press release⁹⁴:

WORLD ROWING CONFIRMS SPORTING SANCTIONS FOR RUSSIA AND BELARUS

“World Rowing strongly condemns the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and the ensuing violation of the Olympic Truce. Our organisation stands in absolute solidarity with the Ukrainian people, including our friends at the Ukrainian rowing family, at this time of grave international crisis.

The World Rowing Executive Committee strongly supports the recommendations issued by the IOC on February 28. These include recognition that many Ukrainian athletes will be prevented from participating in international competitions as a result of the attack on their country. Accordingly, World Rowing confirms that it will not allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in any of its international competitions, with immediate effect and until further notice.

World Rowing also clarifies that no events are scheduled to take place in Russia or Belarus in 2022.

World Rowing remains in regular contact with the Ukrainian Rowing Federation and would like to thank many of our Member Federations that have already offered to help those of the Ukrainian rowing team impacted by this situation. We call on the entire rowing community to join in support wherever may be required.

World Rowing will continue to monitor the situation closely and may further adapt its measures according to future developments”.

⁹⁴ Available on <https://worldrowing.com/2022/03/01/world-rowing-confirms-sporting-sanctions-for-russia-and-belarus/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

RUGBY – WORLD RUGBY

Overview

Russia's and Belarus' national teams are suspended from all international rugby activities, and their clubs are suspended from cross-border club rugby activities until further notice.

World Rugby has also suspended the membership of the Rugby Union of Russia.

In March, Rugby Europe estimated that 3,000 active Ukrainian rugby players were either on the road to exile or in the street defending their country as it launched a fundraiser to help the country's rugby community.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 25 February 2022 the World Rowing issued the following press release⁹⁵:

World Rugby Statement: World Rugby strongly condemns the use of military force in the Ukraine and stands in solidarity with all those affected

“World Rugby strongly condemns the use of military force in the Ukraine and stands in solidarity with all those affected.

The safety of the rugby family in the Ukraine is paramount and World Rugby continues to closely monitor the situation in partnership with the relevant stakeholders, including Rugby Europe.

World Rugby fully supports Rugby Europe's suspension of matches and activities hosted in Russia in line with the IOC position. World Rugby does not have any planned events in Russia”.

On 28 February 2022 the World Rowing issued the following press release⁹⁶:

World Rugby confirms sporting sanctions for Russia and Belarus

“World Rugby's Executive Committee has confirmed new rugby sanctions for Russia and Belarus and reaffirmed its strong condemnation of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

World Rugby reiterates its condemnation of Russia's aggressive invasion of Ukraine and the facilitation of this action by Belarus. The global rugby family is united in standing in solidarity with everyone affected by these deeply disturbing events and joins the global community in calling for the restoration of peace.

⁹⁵ Available on <https://www.world.rugby/news/691618/world-rugby-statement> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁹⁶ Available on <https://www.world.rugby/news/693011/world-rugby-confirms-sporting-sanctions-for-russia> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The World Rugby Executive Committee has today decided to take immediate additional steps to protect the rugby family and take a strong stance against the conflict in line with recommendations by the International Olympic Committee (IOC):

The full and immediate suspension of Russia and Belarus from all international rugby and cross-border club rugby activities until further notice.

The full and immediate suspension of the Rugby Union of Russia from World Rugby membership until further notice.

The decision has been taken with the interests of rugby's values of solidarity, integrity and respect at heart. World Rugby also remains in contact with colleagues at the Ukraine Rugby Federation and has pledged its full support to the rugby community in the country". (emphasis added)

On 10 March 2022 the World Rowing issued the following press release⁹⁷:

Rugby sevens competitions update following suspension of Russia

"Russia's suspension means they cannot compete in the remainder of the women's HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series 2022, the men's World Rugby Challenger Series 2022 or participate in the qualification process for Rugby World Cup Sevens 2022.

Russia has been suspended from all international and cross-border rugby since 28 February World Rugby EXCO met on Wednesday to confirm impacts on rugby sevens competitions

Russia's suspension means they cannot compete in the remainder of the women's HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series 2022, the men's World Rugby Challenger Series 2022 or participate in the qualification process for Rugby World Cup Sevens 2022

The remaining two women's HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series 2022 events will include Japan and Mexico as invitational teams in Langford, Canada in April, and Scotland and South Africa as invitational teams at the final event in Toulouse, France in May

Following World Rugby's suspension of Russia and Belarus from all international and cross-border rugby competitions, the World Rugby EXCO has confirmed the resulting implications for rugby sevens competitions in 2022.

World Rugby EXCO has confirmed that Russia's suspension means they cannot compete in the remainder of the women's HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series 2022, the men's World Rugby Challenger Series 2022 or participate in the qualification process for Rugby World Cup Sevens 2022.

Russia is a core team on the women's HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series and their suspension means they cannot compete in the remaining two rounds of the 2022 Series, in Langford, Canada in April and Toulouse, France in May.

⁹⁷ Available on <https://www.world.rugby/news/696691/rugby-sevens-competitions-update-following-suspension-of-russia> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Invitational teams from Japan and Mexico will compete in Langford, while Scotland and South Africa will participate as invitational teams at the final event in Toulouse. This means the updated pools for Langford see Australia, Canada, Spain and Mexico together in Pool A, with Ireland, France, Brazil and Japan contesting Pool B, and England, USA, Fiji and New Zealand in a very strong looking Pool C”.

SAILING – WORLD SAILING

Overview

Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials are suspended from participating in international competitions sanctioned by World Sailing.

Where not possible due to short time frames, or organisational or legal reasons, Russian and Belarusian athletes will participate “neutrally, without national symbols, colours, flags or anthems”.

The suspension applies also to the participation of any boat owned or effectively controlled or managed by a Russian or Belarusian individual or entity.

Similarly, World Sailing’s guidance to our MNAs, Class Associations, affiliated bodies, and all event organisers is to implement the same measures.

Where this is not possible, for organisational, or legal reasons, World Sailing is advising event organisers do everything in their power to ensure that Russian or Belarusian athletes (be it as individuals or teams), officials or boats participate neutrally, without national symbols, colours, flags or anthems.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 24 February 2022 the World Sailing issued the following press release⁹⁸:

World Sailing statement concerning the situation in Ukraine.

World Sailing is very concerned about the situation in Ukraine and we are troubled about the safety of our friends in the Ukrainian sailing community.

Sport can be a force for good, bringing competitors from around the world together, united by the values of equality, inclusion, respect and fairness.

World Sailing joins many international sports organisations calling for an immediate end to all hostilities and a resumption of dialogue for a peaceful resolution in place of military action.

There are no World Sailing organised regattas planned to be held in Russia or Belarus in 2022, and the Executive Board are supporting the relocation of training and education events in Russia.

We remain in contact with all our Member National Authorities to offer our support at this incredibly difficult time.

On 18 April 2022 the World Sailing issued the following press release⁹⁹:

⁹⁸ Available on <https://www.sailing.org/2022/02/28/world-sailing-statement-5/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

⁹⁹ Available on <https://www.sailing.org/2022/05/25/world-sailing-statement-24-may-2022/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

World Sailing follow-up statement concerning the situation in Ukraine.

This update follows the statement issued on 1 March 2022 regarding World Sailing's decision in relation to the suspension of the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in World Sailing owned and sanctioned competitions and events until further notice which is available [here](#).

The World Sailing Board met on 6 April 2022 to consider extending these measures. The World Sailing Board:

- agreed to set in motion the processes and approvals from its stakeholders to enable in extraordinary circumstances the temporary suspension of the participation of members of committees, commissions, working parties, the Council and any other relevant body of World Sailing.*
- intends to clarify that its position in relation to the participation of athletes from Russia and Belarus also excludes the participation of any boat owned or effectively controlled or managed by a Russian or Belarusian individual or entity.*

The Board considers these to be proportionate measures appropriate to our sport and the World Sailing Legal Team is now working through the necessary next steps, which will include: Reviewing World Sailing's constitution and all applicable Regulations to ensure due process is followed; and

Preparing regulatory and constitutional changes for approval by Council and Member National Authorities (respectively).

The World Sailing Board is aiming to conclude this matter in advance of the Mid-Year meeting due to take place in Abu Dhabi between 26-29 May 2022.

On 24 May 2022 the World Sailing issued the following press release¹⁰⁰:

World Sailing follow-up statement concerning the situation in Ukraine.

Following on from the World Sailing Statement of Intent, published on the 18 April 2022, the Board put a vote to the eligible World Sailing Member National Authorities (MNAs) to change World Sailing's articles of association by inserting a new article 104 and Schedule D, that if adopted, would allow the MNAs and Council (respectively) to temporarily suspend individuals from Council and other World Sailing bodies in extraordinary circumstances.

The MNAs agreed (on a 75% majority of votes cast) to change World Sailing's articles of association and following on from that:

The MNAs agreed (on a 75% majority of votes cast) there were extraordinary circumstances to temporarily suspend the relevant World Sailing's Council member in accordance with Article 104 and Part 1 of Schedule D of the Articles of Association.

¹⁰⁰ Available on <https://www.sailing.org/2022/05/25/world-sailing-statement-24-may-2022/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Council agreed (on a 75% majority of votes cast) there were extraordinary circumstances to temporarily suspend the relevant World Sailing members of Committees, Commissions, working parties and other relevant bodies in accordance with Article 104 and Part 2 of Schedule D of the Articles of Association.

Therefore, with immediate effect, those individuals have been temporarily suspended and will not participate in relevant World Sailing events, activities or conferences until further notice. Under the new article, the Board shall review the situation every three months.

This matter has been carefully considered by the World Sailing Board over recent months with the best interests of sailing as its priority. Their direction to give this important decision to our Member National Authorities and Council ensured it was democratically made.

Clarification relating to participation of any boat owned or effectively controlled or managed by a Russian or Belarusian individual or entity

In addition to the World Sailing statement of 1 March (found here) World Sailing confirms this includes the suspension of the participation of any boat owned or effectively controlled or managed by a Russian or Belarusian individual or entity. Similarly, World Sailing's guidance to our MNAs, Class Associations, affiliated bodies, and all event organisers is to implement the same measures.

Where this is not possible, for organisational, or legal reasons, World Sailing is advising event organisers do everything in their power to ensure that Russian or Belarusian athletes (be it as individuals or teams), officials or boats participate neutrally, without national symbols, colours, flags or anthems.

The World Sailing Board thanks all stakeholders for their cooperation and support during what is a very difficult time for many people in our sport around the world.

World Sailing follow-up statement concerning the situation in Ukraine

“Today World Sailing joined the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and global sports organisations in taking the decision to suspend participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in World Sailing owned and sanctioned competitions and events until further notice.

By implementing these measures, World Sailing is supporting a united and coordinated approach within the global sports movement.

This decision is in line with the IOC Executive Board's recommendation, aimed at preserving the integrity of competitions and ensuring the safety of all participants, and has been unanimously agreed by the World Sailing Executive Board.

We are now strongly urging our Member National Authorities, Class Associations, affiliated bodies, and all event organisers to implement the measure to suspend the participation of Russian or Belarusian athletes and officials in their respective events and competitions.

Where this is not possible, due to short time frames, for organisational, or legal reasons, World Sailing, in line with the IOC Executive Board recommendation, is advising event organisers do everything in their power to ensure that Russian or Belarusian athletes (be it as individuals or teams), and officials participate neutrally, without national symbols, colours, flags or anthems.

Both on and off the water, our sport is united by the values of equality, inclusion, respect and fairness.

We are now asking our sailing family to come together as a sporting force for good by working with us at this incredibly difficult time”.

SKATING – ISU

Overview

The International Skating Union has banned Russian and Belarusian skaters from participating in all ISU international ice skating competitions.

The same applies to Officials listed in the respective ISU Communications and/or Regulations under Russia and Belarus.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 27 February 2022 the ISU issued the following press release¹⁰¹:

ISU Statement on Ukraine and remaining event in season 2021_22

The ISU is witnessing with great disbelief the events unfolding in Ukraine and is deeply concerned about the safety of the skating family in Ukraine. Our hearts go out to all those affected and our thoughts are with the entire Ukrainian people and country. The ISU expresses its solidarity with all those affected by this conflict.

The ISU is closely monitoring the situation in Ukraine and also in the neighbouring countries where ISU Events are scheduled to be held during the coming weeks. Based on the currently available information, the ISU maintains all scheduled ISU Events as planned. It is to be noted that for the remainder of the current season 2021/22, there are no ISU Events planned in Russia and Belarus.

The ISU holds the safety of all Skaters as the highest priority and if additional security requirements are needed, the ISU will financially assist the organizing ISU Members in coping with this new situation.

Besides the developments in the Ukraine, the ISU is continually monitoring the pandemic situation and in particular the entry conditions in countries hosting ISU Events, as well as travel restrictions around the World. The ISU is currently faced with a critical situation for the holding of two ISU Championships in Canada during the ongoing season, namely the ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships, scheduled to be held in Montreal on March 18-20, 2022 and the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, scheduled to be held in Hamilton on April 7-9, 2022. Since the beginning of 2022, the Canadian Government has imposed a requirement that only foreign nationals who are fully vaccinated with a World Health Organization approved vaccine are permitted to enter Canada without a 14-day quarantine. Despite all possible efforts by the Canadian ISU Members (Speed Skating Canada and Skate Canada), it has been confirmed that there will be no exemption program in place for sporting events moving forward.

¹⁰¹ Available on <https://www.isu.org/isu-news/news/145-news/14022-isu-statement-on-ukraine-and-remaining-isu-events-season-2021-22?templateParam=15> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Even though the current restrictions might concern only a few ISU Members participating in the above-mentioned ISU Championships in Canada, it nevertheless results in an unsatisfactory situation for those ISU Members. Until today, the ISU Council had adopted a policy that does not allow the staging of ISU Championships under these circumstances and before the outbreak of the Ukrainian crisis, the ISU Council was prepared to consider re-allocation of the above-mentioned Championships to other ISU Members. However, due to the Ukrainian situation and related serious uncertainties, such relocation on short notice has become extremely complex and difficult.

Considering these truly extraordinary and exceptional circumstances the Council agreed that exceptional solutions must be applied. The Council consequently decided that:

The planned ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2022 in Montreal, CAN and the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2022 in Hamilton, CAN are maintained.

The ISU will financially support teams that have team members who do not fulfil the Canadian entry/vaccination requirements and who are required to undergo a 14-day quarantine.

The ISU will financially support organizing ISU Members for additional expenses arising from either the pandemic and/or additional security requirements.

The ISU Council strongly emphasizes that this is an exceptional decision based on the truly extraordinary and exceptional circumstances resulting from both the pandemic and the Ukrainian crisis situation.

The possible re-allocation of the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2022, which cannot be held as planned in Sofia, Bulgaria, remains under evaluation for a decision as soon as possible.

The ISU will keep ISU Members informed of any new developments

On 1 March 2022 the ISU issued the following press release¹⁰²:

ISU Statement on the Ukrainian crisis - Participation in international competitions of Skaters and Officials from Russia and Belarus

“The ISU Council reiterates its solidarity with all those affected by the conflict in Ukraine and our thoughts are with the entire Ukrainian people and country. The ISU Council reaffirms its full solidarity with the ISU Members in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Speed Skating Federation and the Ukrainian Figure Skating Federation. The ISU Council will evaluate possibilities for swift humanitarian assistance to its Ukrainian ISU Members.

The ISU Council carefully evaluated the IOC Statement of February 28, 2022 as well as appeals received from ISU Members and others calling for a ban on the participation of Skaters and Officials from Russia and Belarus in ISU Events and other International Skating competitions.

Following the IOC recommendation, in order to protect the integrity of ice skating competitions and for the safety of all the participants of international ice skating competitions, the ISU Council based on Article 17.1.q)i) of the ISU Constitution, agreed that with immediate effect and until

¹⁰² Available on <https://www.isu.org/media-centre/press-releases/2022-4/27825-isu-statement-on-the-ukrainian-crisis-01-03-2022/file> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

further notice, no Skaters belonging to the ISU Members in Russia (Russian Skating Union and the Figure Skating Federation of Russia) and Belarus (Skating Union of Belarus) shall be invited or allowed to participate in International ice skating Competitions including ISU Championships and other ISU Events. The same applies to Officials listed in the respective ISU Communications and/or Regulations under Russia and Belarus.

The ISU Council will continue to closely monitor the situation in Ukraine and its impact on the ISU activity and will take additional steps if and when required”.

SKIING – FIS

Overview

The International Ski Federation (FIS) has cancelled all remaining FIS World Cup events scheduled to be held in Russia this season. Russian and Belarusian skiers are suspended from competing in all FIS competitions.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the FIS issued the following press release¹⁰³:

Russian and Belarusian Athletes not to take part in FIS Competitions

“The FIS Council met today to discuss the International Olympic Committee’s Executive Board recommendation that all International Federations not allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes in their competitions. The recommendation followed escalating security and safety issues faced by the athletes and local organisers.

The IOC EB stated: “In order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants, the IOC EB recommends that International Sports Federations and sports event organisers not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions.”

To ensure the safety and security of all athletes at FIS competitions, the FIS Council decided unanimously, in line with the IOC recommendation, that with immediate effect, no Russian or Belarusian athlete shall participate in any FIS competition at any level through the end of the 2021-2022 season.

The FIS Council does not take the decision lightly not to allow any athlete to participate in any competition and is only doing so in accordance with the FIS Statutes, which states ‘FIS shall conduct its activities in a politically neutral manner’, which is a cornerstone of the FIS values adopted by its 140 member nations.

FIS calls on its National Ski Associations to support the involved athletes as they travel back to their homes and for the full support of the international ski community during these difficult times.

The Council expressed its deepest and sincerest hope that the conflict in Ukraine will come to an end quickly and that the international sports community can begin the process of healing and once again compete with all athletes and nations present.

As previously announced, FIS, in solidarity with the Ski Federation of Ukraine, is providing immediate financial, logistical and technical support to Ukrainian athletes and teams until they are safely able to return home”.

¹⁰³ Available on <https://www.fis-ski.com/en/international-ski-federation/news-multimedia/news-2022/russian-and-belarusian-athletes-not-to-take-part-in-fis-competitions> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

SURFING – ISA

Overview

The International Surfing Association Athletes has suspended all officials from Russia from participating in its events.

No ISA events will be organized for the foreseeable future.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the ISA issued the following press release¹⁰⁴:

ISA Confirms Sporting Exclusions for Russia

“At an extraordinary meeting on February 28th, the ISA Executive Committee decided to impose strict sporting exclusions on athletes and officials from Russia. These measures are the result of the ISA’s strong condemnation of the Russian government’s invasion of Ukraine and the terrible and unprovoked military assault on the Ukrainian people.

In line with the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) recommendations, the ISA’s sanctions mean no athletes and officials from Russia will be invited to participate or attend ISA events until further notice.

This action follows an earlier confirmation that the ISA will not consider staging any ISA events in Russia for the foreseeable future.

The global surfing community is shocked and appalled by the awful act of aggression by Russia and Belarus’ role to facilitate their invasion of Ukraine. We are unequivocal in our views on this crisis and we stand in full solidarity with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. This is a human tragedy that requires us all to take a strong stance and send a message that such violence will not be tolerated nor forgotten.

The ISA’s decisions serve to ensure the safety of the public, athletes and officials, and protect the integrity of our competitions. We remain in contact with the Ukrainian Surfing Federation to offer support to the Ukrainian surf community and we hope peace is restored as quickly as possible”.

¹⁰⁴ Available on <https://isasurf.org/isa-confirms-sporting-exclusions-for-russia/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

SWIMMING – FINA

Overview

The International Swimming Federation (FINA) has suspended all Russian or Belarusian from competing under the name of Russia or Belarus, and must compete as neutral athletes or neutral teams.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has the FINA Order award withdrawn.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the FINA issued the following press release¹⁰⁵:

FINA Order award withdrawn

“With Russian aggression continuing in Ukraine, the FINA Bureau has today made further decisions:

The FINA Order awarded to Russian President Vladimir Putin in 2014 has been withdrawn.

Until further notice, no athlete or Aquatics official from Russia or Belarus be allowed to take part under the name of Russia or Belarus. Russian or Belarusian nationals, be it as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams. No national symbols, colours, flags should be displayed or anthems should be played, in international Aquatics events which are not already part of the respective World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctions for Russia.

FINA remains deeply concerned about the impact of the war on the aquatics community and the wider population of Ukraine. FINA will continue to carefully monitor the grave situation and make further decisions as appropriate”. (emphasys added)

¹⁰⁵ Available on <https://www.fina.org/news/2509860/press-release-fina-order-award-withdrawn> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

TAEKWONDO – WORLD TAEKWONDO

Overview

World Taekwondo has banned Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from participating at World Taekwondo events until further notice.

No Russian or Belarusian national flags or anthems will be displayed or played at World Taekwondo events. World Taekwondo and the European Taekwondo Union will not organise or recognise Taekwondo events in Russia and Belarus.

World Taekwondo has also stripped Russian President Vladimir Putin of his honorary black belt.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 28 February 2022 the World Taekwondo issued the following press release:¹⁰⁶

Peace is more precious than triumph

World Taekwondo strongly condemns the brutal attacks on innocent lives in Ukraine, which go against the World Taekwondo vision of “Peace is More Precious than Triumph” and the World Taekwondo values of respect and tolerance.

In this regard, World Taekwondo has decided to withdraw the honorary 9th dan black belt conferred to Mr. Vladimir Putin in November 2013.

In solidarity with the International Olympic Committee, no Russian or Belarusian national flags or anthems will be displayed or played at World Taekwondo events. World Taekwondo and the European Taekwondo Union will not organise or recognise Taekwondo events in Russia and Belarus.

World Taekwondo’s thoughts are with the people of Ukraine and we hope for a peaceful and immediate end to this war.

On 3 March 2022 the World Taekwondo issued the following press release:¹⁰⁷

Russia and Belarus athletes and officials prohibited from competing in international events

“The World Taekwondo Council today met for an extraordinary meeting to decide on further actions that the federation will take in view of the ongoing war in Ukraine and following the IOC’s recommendations.

¹⁰⁶ Available on <http://www.worldtaekwondo.org/wtnews/view.html?nid=138702&mcd=C02&page=4> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁰⁷ Available on <http://www.worldtaekwondo.org/wtnews/view.html?nid=138702&sc=ne&w=russia> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The Council began by reiterating its condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine and the attacks on innocent lives, and expressed its sincere sympathies to the victims. The Council expressed its hope for a peaceful and immediate end to this war.

In support of the IOC's recommendations, the Council decided that Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials will not be permitted to compete at World Taekwondo events until further notice. The Council also approved amendments to its Statutes to reflect this decision.

The Council expressed its reluctance to penalise athletes for decisions of their governments outside of their control. The Council, however, agreed that for the safety of all participants and in the interests of protecting the integrity of its competitions, this was a difficult but necessary decision.

Following the Council's decision not to organise events in Russia or Belarus, the Council also approved the re-opening of the bid process for the 2023 World Taekwondo Championships until the end of March.

World Taekwondo reiterates that "Peace is more Precious than Triumph" and its values of respect and tolerance".

The World Taekwondo Council today met for an extraordinary meeting to decide on further actions that the federation will take in view of the ongoing war in Ukraine and following the IOC's recommendations.

The Council began by reiterating its condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine and the attacks on innocent lives, and expressed its sincere sympathies to the victims. The Council expressed its hope for a peaceful and immediate end to this war.

In support of the IOC's recommendations, the Council decided that Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials will not be permitted to compete at World Taekwondo events until further notice. The Council also approved amendments to its Statutes to reflect this decision.

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World Taekwondo reiterates that "Peace is more Precious than Triumph" and its values of respect and tolerance.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁸ Available on <http://www.worldtaekwondo.org/wtnews/view.html?nid=138706&sc=ne&w=russia> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

TENNIS TABLE – ITTF – ETTF

Overview

Until further notice, no Russian or Belarusian players and officials will be invited or allowed in events hosted by the ITTF Group, and no Russian or Belarusian national symbols, colours, flags, or anthems will be displayed. Please note no ITTF Group events are currently scheduled in Russia or Belarus.

An ITTF Task Force, which will monitor the situation and co-ordinate efforts to allow Ukrainian players to continue participating at international events as soon as possible.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 12 March 2022 the ITTF published the following statement¹⁰⁹:

The ITTF Group is very concerned about the conflict in Ukraine (26 February 2022).

We are monitoring the situation and have tasked the ITTF Foundation with reaching the Ukraine Table Tennis Federation to offer support where possible.

The ITTF Group is aligned with the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee and will follow its recommendations. We ask the Continental Federations and the Member Associations to act accordingly.

On the same day the ITTF published the following statement¹¹⁰:

Russian and Belarusian Players and Officials Not Allowed in ITTF Group Events

“The ITTF Group remains highly concerned by the outbreak of war in Ukraine. It expresses its solidarity with the people of Ukraine and wishes to send a powerful message of peace and unity to the entire world.

The ITTF Executive Committee met on March 1st, 2022, after consulting with the sport community, and took the decision to follow the recommendations made by the IOC Executive Board with immediate effect.

Therefore, until further notice, no Russian or Belarusian players and officials will be invited or allowed in events hosted by the ITTF Group, and no Russian or Belarusian national symbols, colours, flags, or anthems will be displayed. Please note no ITTF Group events are currently scheduled in Russia or Belarus.

The ITTF Athletes’ Commission also expressed their deep concern and sympathy, and fully support these decisions.

¹⁰⁹ Available on <https://www.ittf.com/2022/02/26/ittf-group-statement-situation-ukraine/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹¹⁰ Available on <https://www.ittf.com/2022/03/01/russian-belarusian-players-officials-not-allowed-ittf-group-events/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The ITTF Group will continue to monitor the situation and will review its decision in light of future developments.”

On 12 March 2022 the ITTF published the following statement¹¹¹:

The ITTF Group is very concerned about the conflict in Ukraine.

We are monitoring the situation and have tasked the ITTF Foundation with reaching the Ukraine Table Tennis Federation to offer support where possible.

The ITTF Group is aligned with the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee and will follow its recommendations. We ask the Continental Federations and the Member Associations to act accordingly.

Ping Pong Diplomacy has been at the heart of our sport for more than half a century. The ITTF Group strongly believes that constructive dialogue is the solution to any disputes. We hope for a rapid return to peace.

On 16 March 2022 the ITTF published the following statement¹¹²:

ITTF Creates Task Force to Support Ukraine Table Tennis community

One of the major items discussed during the meeting of the ITTF Executive Committee held in Singapore on 15 and 16 March was the outbreak of war in Ukraine. The ITTF Executive Committee remains very concerned and reaffirmed its full solidarity with the Ukrainian Table Tennis community.

The outcome of discussions is the formation of a Task Force, which will monitor the situation and co-ordinate efforts to allow Ukrainian players to continue participating at international events as soon as possible.

Members of the Task Force comprise Petra Sörling, ITTF President, fellow Executive Committee colleagues, Khalil Al-Mohannadi and Wahid Oshodi, alongside Zoran Primorac, Athletes' Commission Chair, and Steve Dainton, ITTF Group Chief Executive Officer.

Previous decisions and future developments will be constantly evaluated.

¹¹¹Available on <https://www.ittf.com/2022/03/01/russian-belarusian-players-officials-not-allowed-ittf-group-events/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹¹²Available on <https://www.ittf.com/2022/03/16/ittf-creates-task-force-support-ukraine-table-tennis-community/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

European Tennis Table Union

Overview:

In March 2022, the ETTU Executive Board agreed not to let Belarusian and Russian players and officials be invited or allowed in events hosted by ETTU and no Belarusian or Russian national symbols, flags or anthems will be displayed until further notice.

The ETTU Executive Board today decided that Russian clubs will not be permitted to compete in any European Club competitions for the 2021-2022 season. This includes Russian clubs due to compete in the semi-final and final of the Men's Champions League.

On 27 April 2022, the ETTU Executive Board issued a statement confirming that it had received the decision of the Board of Appeal (BoA) on the appeal lodged by the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, in which it ruled against the decision to suspend the Russian table tennis clubs Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC from last season's semi-final and final of the Champions League.

The ETTU emphasized that it had no wish to punish athletes for the decisions of their governments, however the decision to suspend the Russian clubs was taken to protect athlete safety and ensure the integrity of its competitions, in line with the recommendations of the IOC and ITTF¹¹³.

On 16 May 2022, the ETTU stated that the ETTU Executive Board had submitted new information to the Board of Appeal and requested a revision of the BoA's judgement on the appeal of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC regarding the Table Tennis Champions League season 2021-2022¹¹⁴. On the date of this Survey no further information is available in respect of the court and the outcome of these proceedings.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹¹⁵:

ETTU Statement

The European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) shares concerns about the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and hopes for its fast resolution. ETTU is ready to help Ukrainian table tennis athletes and will be working hard to guarantee their participation at all future ETTU events.

ETTU supports the latest announcement of International Table Tennis Federation and will follow its recommendation as ETTU did during our latest event Europe TOP-16 in Switzerland.

¹¹³ <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/april/ettu-eb/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹¹⁴ <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/may/ettu-statement-on-board-of-appeal-decision/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹¹⁵ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/february/ettu-official-statement/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

ETTU believes in unity and mutual respect together with constructive dialogue as the solution to disputes.

The ETTU Secretary General is to set the number of ETTU events and suggest the plan for implementation of the ITTF recommendation taking into account all possible travelling issues.

Also ETTU would like to thank the Europe TOP-16 Local Organising Committee in Montreux for hosting a fantastic table tennis event.

On 2 March 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹¹⁶:

ETTU Executive Board decision

Due to the decision made during ITTF Executive Committee meeting on March 1st, 2022, ETTU Executive Board agreed not to let Belarusian and Russian players and officials be invited or allowed in events hosted by ETTU and no Belarusian or Russian national symbols, flags or anthems will be displayed until further notice.

On 3 March 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹¹⁷:

ETTU Statement on Clubs Competitions

The ETTU Executive Board today decided that Russian clubs will not be permitted to compete in any European Club competitions for the 2021-2022 season. This includes Russian clubs due to compete in the semi-final and final of the Men's Champions League.

Today's announcement is in line with the recommendations of the ITTF Group and follows on from the Executive Board's decision to not invite or allow Belarusian and Russian players and officials to participate in events hosted by ETTU until further notice.

On 3 March 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹¹⁸:

ETTU Letter to Member Associations

"Dear friends,

The ETTU Executive Board met today to discuss further action needed to protect the integrity of our competitions and the wellbeing of our athletes. After careful deliberation, the ETTU Executive Board decided that Russian clubs will not be permitted to compete in any European Club competitions for the 2021-2022 season. This includes Russian clubs due to compete in the semi-final and final of the Men's Champions League.

¹¹⁶ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/march/ettu-executive-board-decision/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

¹¹⁷ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/march/ettu-statement-on-clubs-competitions/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

¹¹⁸ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/march/ettu-letter-to-member-associations/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

This decision is in line with the previous ETTU decision to not invite or allow Belarusian and Russian players and officials to participate in events hosted by ETTU until further notice and follows the recommendations set by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and ITTF. In addition, no Belarusian or Russian national symbols, flags or anthems will be displayed at ETTU events until further notice.

The ETTU Executive Board also informs that both Vladimir Samsonov and Polina Mikhailova have self-suspended from their positions on the Executive Board, immediately after Igor Levitin's self-suspension from the Presidency, until further notice.

The ETTU Executive Board accepts their decision and will continue to operate as normal, in full compliance with the ETTU Constitution, in order to best serve European table tennis. As the ITTF has repeatedly stated, Ping Pong Diplomacy has been at the heart of our sport for more than half a century and we join them in hoping that constructive dialogue can be the solution to any disputes.

As a table tennis family, we are united in our hope that peace will soon return to Europe.

Yours sincerely,

ETTU Executive Board"

On 31 March 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹¹⁹:

ETTU Executive Board meeting on 30th March

"On Wednesday 30th March a meeting of the ETTU Executive Board was held virtually under the leadership of Acting President Pedro MOURA.

Mr Moura reported on the recent meeting of the ITTF Continental Council at Singapore during the first WTT Grand Smash event which he had attended. He thanked ITTF President Petra SÖRLING, ITTF Executive Committee members and Continental Presidents for their discussions and exchanges of ideas.

Mr MOURA reported to the Executive Board members on the Paris 2024 Olympic Games qualification system proposals and the implications for European players. He also reported on the latest World Table Tennis Championships updates for Chengdu 2022 and Durban 2023.

The Executive Board discussed arrangements for the 2022 European Youth Championships to be played at Štark Arena Belgrade SRB from Wednesday 6th to Friday 15th July 2022.

Vice President for Finances Sandra DEATON reported on the current 2022 budget and the impact of the conflict in Ukraine on finances and expenditure.

The Executive Board approved financial compensation for the Acting President, Pedro MOURA, while carrying out his duties as ETTU Acting President.

The Executive Board clarified that Russian and Belarusian players and coaches registered to clubs outside of Russia and Belarus can continue to compete for their clubs in ETTU competitions.

¹¹⁹ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/march/ettu-executive-board-meeting-on-30th-march/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

A report was received on the recent meeting of the Women's Champions League management board and the arrangements for the newly introduced Europe Trophy competition due to start next month.

It was agreed to meet at Malmö SWE on 20th and 21st April 2022.

Mr MOURA thanked members and staff for their contributions to the meeting” (emphasis added).

On 27 April 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹²⁰:

ETTU Board of Appeal decision

The ETTU Executive Board has received the decision of the Board of Appeal (BoA) on the appeal of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC.

The ETTU welcomes the BoA's ruling to uphold the decision that Russian and Belarusian national teams are banned from ETTU competitions until further notice and that no Russian or Belarusian national symbols, flags or anthems will be displayed at ETTU events until further notice.

The ETTU notes with disappointment that the BoA has ruled against its decision to suspend Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC from last season's semi-final and final of the Champions League.

While the ETTU has no wish to punish athletes for the decisions of their governments, the decision to suspend the Russian clubs was taken to protect athlete safety and ensure the integrity of its competitions, in line with the recommendations of the IOC and ITTF.

The ETTU Executive Board will meet to discuss the next steps following the BoA's decision.

On 16 May 2022 the ETTU published the following statement¹²¹:

ETTU statement on Board of Appeal decision on TT Champions League season 2021-2022

The ETTU Executive Board has submitted new information to the Board of Appeal (BoA) and requested a revision of the BoA's judgement on the appeal of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC regarding the Table Tennis Champions League season 2021-2022.

The BoA is currently reviewing the ETTU's request and no further comment will be provided until the BoA has come to its decision.

The ETTU reiterates its commitment to protecting the safety of its athletes and all stakeholders and ensuring the integrity of its competitions.

¹²⁰ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/april/ettu-eb/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

¹²¹ Available on <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/may/ettu-statement-on-board-of-appeal-decision/> (last visited on 27 June 2022).

TENNIS – ITF

Overview

The WTA and ATP Boards have made the decision to suspend the WTA / ATP combined event, scheduled this October in Moscow.

The ITF Board has made the decision to suspend the Russian Tennis Federation and Belarus Tennis Federation membership and to withdraw their entries from all ITF international team competition until further notice. This action follows the cancellation of all ITF tournaments in Russia and Belarus indefinitely.

At this time, players from Russia and Belarus will continue to be allowed to compete in international tennis events on Tour and at the Grand Slams. However, they will not compete under the name or flag of Russia or Belarus until further notice.

On 16 June 2022 the USTA announced that will allow individual athletes from Russia and Belarus to compete in the 2022 US Open, but only under a neutral flag.

The ITF has postponed the ITF World Tennis Tour M15 event due to take place in Ukraine this April and has cancelled all ITF events taking place in Russia indefinitely.

WTA, ATP, ITF and the four Grand Slams will make a joint charitable donation of \$700,000 USD in aid of humanitarian relief and to support the Ukraine Tennis Federation

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 25 February 2022 the ITF published the following statement¹²²:

ITF STATEMENT REGARDING THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

The International Tennis Federation has issued a statement regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine:

“Our first and highest priority is to protect the safety of tennis players and all those travelling to and participating at ITF events. Due to heightened security concerns, the ITF has postponed the ITF World Tennis Tour M15 event due to take place in Ukraine this April and has cancelled all ITF events taking place in Russia indefinitely.

“We will continue to monitor this situation closely and review on an ongoing basis. Any further course of action will be decided based on a thorough risk assessment and the advice we receive from security experts and the relevant authorities.”

On 1 March 2022 the ITF published the following statement:

¹²²Available on <https://www.itftennis.com/en/news-and-media/articles/itf-statement-regarding-the-russian-invasion-of-ukraine/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES OF TENNIS

A deep sense of distress, shock and sadness has been felt across the entire tennis community following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in the past week. Our thoughts are with the people of Ukraine, and we commend the many tennis players who have spoken out and take action against this unacceptable act of aggression. We echo their calls for the violence to end and peace to return.

The safety of the tennis community is our most immediate collective priority. The focus of the WTA and ATP in particular in recent days has been on contacting current and former players, and other members of the tennis community from Ukraine and neighboring countries, to check on their safety and offer any assistance.

The international governing bodies of tennis stand united in our condemnation of Russia's actions and, as a result, are in agreement with the following decisions and actions:

- *The WTA and ATP Boards have made the decision to suspend the WTA / ATP combined event, scheduled this October in Moscow.*
- *The ITF Board has made the decision to suspend the Russian Tennis Federation and Belarus Tennis Federation membership and to withdraw their entries from all ITF international team competition until further notice. This action follows the cancellation of all ITF tournaments in Russia and Belarus indefinitely.*
- *At this time, players from Russia and Belarus will continue to be allowed to compete in international tennis events on Tour and at the Grand Slams. However, they will not compete under the name or flag of Russia or Belarus until further notice.*

On 1 March 2022 the ITF published the following statement¹²³:

ITF SUSPENDS RUSSIA, BELARUS FROM ITF MEMBERSHIP AND TEAM COMPETITION

ITF Statement

“The International Tennis Federation (ITF) condemns Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its facilitation by Belarus. In addition to the cancellation of all ITF events in those countries, the ITF Board has today announced the immediate suspension of the Russian Tennis Federation (RTF) and Belarus Tennis Federation (BTF) from ITF membership and from participation in ITF international team competition until further notice.

The ITF remains in close contact with the Ukraine Tennis Federation and stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.”

Does this mean Russian and Belarusian tennis players are banned from competing?

Players from Russia and Belarus will continue to be allowed to compete in international tennis events as individuals. However, they will not compete under the name or flag of Russia or Belarus until further notice.

¹²³Available on <https://www.itftennis.com/en/news-and-media/articles/itf-statement-itf-suspends-russia-and-belarus-from-itf-membership-and-international-team-competition/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The suspension is for an indefinite period, but Russia and Belarus have been withdrawn from or are ineligible to compete in all 2022 ITF international team competitions

Which team competitions will this include in 2022?

DAVIS CUP AND BILLIE JEAN KING CUP

Davis Cup World Group I Play-off: Belarus v Mexico 4-5 March

Billie Jean King Cup Qualifier: Belarus v Belgium 14-15 April

Both RTF teams had qualified for the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup Finals as 2021 champions

WHEELCHAIR

World Team Cup – Qualification event – Antalya, Turkey – 17-21 March

World Team Cup – World Group event – Vilamoura, Portugal – 2-8 May

SENIORS

Seniors & Super Seniors World Team Championships – w/c 26 April Young Seniors World Team Championships – w/c 1 August

JUNIORS

Tennis Europe European Summer Cups – used as qualification events for World Junior Tennis (14U) and Junior DC/BJKC (16U)

BEACH

Beach Tennis World Cup – Rio, Brazil – 7-13 November

On 8 March 2022 the ITF published the following statement¹²⁴:

TENNIS UNITES FOR TENNIS PLAYS FOR PEACE INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT UKRAINE

WTA, ATP, ITF and the four Grand Slams will make a joint charitable donation of \$700,000 USD in aid of humanitarian relief and to support the Ukraine Tennis Federation

Activations will take place across the digital platforms of all seven organizations, including the launch of an emotive video featuring Ukrainian players Elina Svitolina and Sergiy Stakhovsky

The upcoming BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells will see WTA & ATP players wearing ribbons in the colors of Ukraine

The WTA, ATP, ITF, and the four Grand Slams – the Australian Open, Roland-Garros, Wimbledon and the US Open – have announced today a new initiative to support the humanitarian relief efforts for the war in Ukraine.

Following unified condemnation of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in a statement issued by the seven organisations on March 1, further efforts to support those affected by this crisis will take place as part of the newly created Tennis Plays For Peace campaign over the coming weeks.

¹²⁴Available on <https://www.itftennis.com/en/news-and-media/articles/tennis-family-unites-for-tennis-plays-for-peace-initiative-to-support-ukraine/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Today each of the seven entities has donated \$100,000 USD to the humanitarian relief efforts, with donations supporting Global Giving's Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund which will provide immediate help on the ground across the region, as well as the Ukraine Tennis Federation.

The seven bodies will also signal support via their social and digital platforms by prominently featuring the Ukraine ribbon icon, with everyone in the tennis ecosystem encouraged to use the hashtag #Tennis Plays for Peace. In addition, physical ribbons will be distributed for ATP & WTA players to wear at the upcoming BNP Paribas Open tournament in Indian Wells.

Ukrainian tennis players Elina Svitolina and Sergiy Stakhovsky, who has himself returned to Ukraine to join the reserve army, have produced a powerful and emotive short video with a message of hope for their country.

Tournaments and tennis federations across the world, along with the entire playing spectrum - from juniors, seniors and wheelchair athletes - will be sent a digital toolkit to further drive awareness and support the relief efforts.

All seven organizations thank players, tournaments, staff and fans for their incredible efforts already, and further plans for Tennis Plays for Peace will be communicated in the coming weeks.

On 16 June 2022 the ITF published the following statement¹²⁵:

USTA statement regarding Russian and Belarusian players at the 2022 US Open

The USTA will allow individual athletes from Russia and Belarus to compete in the 2022 US Open, but only under a neutral flag. Alongside the other Grand Slams, the ITF, the ATP and the WTA, the USTA, which owns and operates the US Open, has previously condemned, and continues to condemn, the unprovoked and unjust invasion of Ukraine by Russia. The USTA, standing with these other tennis entities, supported the banning of the Russian and Belarusian Tennis Federations from the ITF, and therefore all international team competitions, and the directive for players from those countries to play under a neutral flag when competing outside of international team competitions.

We recognize that each organization has had to deal with unique circumstances that affect their decisions. Based on our own circumstances, the USTA will allow all eligible players, regardless of nationality, to compete at the 2022 US Open.

The USTA will work with the players and both Tours to use the US Open as a platform to further the humanitarian effort of the "Tennis Plays for Peace" program. In addition, the USTA will introduce a broad, comprehensive set of initiatives to amplify existing Ukrainian humanitarian efforts, including committing to significant financial support, for which details will be announced soon.

Mike McNulty, USTA Chairman of the Board and President:

"Tennis has done much through Tennis Plays for Peace for humanitarian support of Ukraine. Unfortunately, the need for help only continues to grow. The USTA will be responding very soon with a broad set of initiatives that will include significant financial assistance and other programs to further support humanitarian relief and the people of Ukraine."

¹²⁵Available on <https://www.itftennis.com/en/news-and-media/articles/tennis-family-unites-for-tennis-plays-for-peace-initiative-to-support-ukraine/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

TRIATHLON – WORLD TRIATHLON

Overview:

World Triathlon will not allow Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from participating in international competitions or official events. This decision is to be reviewed on a monthly basis based on “how the situation evolves”.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 1 March 2022 the World Triathlon issued the following press release:¹²⁶

World Triathlon bans participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials

“World Triathlon stands in absolute solidarity with the Ukraine triathlon family and the entire country at this time of grave international crisis. Following the recommendation by the International Olympic Committee, World Triathlon Executive Board has unanimously decided not to allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes or officials in all international competitions or official events, following the principles of the Olympic Charter. This decision will be reviewed by the Executive Board at its monthly meetings in accordance with how the situation evolves.

This extreme measure is taken to protect the integrity and safety of all athletes participating in the events and the integrity of the global sports competitions.

Regarding the recommendation of the IOC not to organise any sports events in Russia or Belarus, World Triathlon had previously suspended the Russian Triathlon Federation, due to the high number of doping cases, in December 2021 for one year, and no events were permitted to take place in the country in 2022. World Triathlon strongly condemns the actions against Ukraine taken by Russia, through which the Russian government also breaches the Olympic Truce.

World Triathlon will work with Ironman and Challenge in order for them to follow these recommendations as well.

World Triathlon has contacted all National Federations, especially those closest to Ukraine or bordering the country, as well as Europe Triathlon, to help coordinate our support to Ukrainian athletes, coaches, officials and staff.

World Triathlon has set up an email account (welcome@triathlon.org) where members of the Triathlon community in Ukraine who are leaving the country or willing to do so, can reach out to find families in other countries that are able to host them. The email address is also available for all prospective host persons anywhere in the world who can offer their support to those fleeing

¹²⁶Available on https://www.triathlon.org/news/article/world_triathlon_bans_participation_of_russian_and_belarusian_athletes_and_o#:~:text=Following%20the%20recommendation%20by%20the,principles%20of%20the%20Olympic%20Charter (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Ukraine. World Triathlon will keep all contacts confidential but will help to put the parties in touch with each other.

World Triathlon and Europe Triathlon are coordinating support for those in need in Ukraine, as well as Ukrainian athletes and entourage who are abroad and either looking for support while unable to return to their country, or to relocate near the border awaiting further development of the situation. World Triathlon has already received more than 60 offers of assistance from all over the world from individuals, clubs and Federations offering help, and we are already in touch with some Ukrainian athletes and entourage that have requested this support.

World Triathlon has contacted the IOC task force monitoring the situation to offer our help to coordinate humanitarian assistance to members of the Olympic Community in Ukraine - and more specifically the Ukrainian triathlon family - where possible. We will continue to closely monitor the situation in Ukraine and how it affects our community and events in the region. Athletes, officials, coaches, staff and the TriathlonLive support personal based in Ukraine... you all have all our support and we stand with you in these terrible times. Stay safe and take care”.

VOLLEYBALL – FIVB

Overview

The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) has stripped Russia of hosting rights for this year's men's Volleyball World Championship as well as the Volleyball Nations League (VNL). FIVB has also suspended all Russian and Belarusian national teams, clubs and officials, as well as beach and snow volleyball athletes, from its events until further notice.

Official Statements and Media Releases:

On 26 February 2022 the FIVB issued the following press release.¹²⁷

FIVB REMOVES VNL FROM RUSSIA

In response to the worsening situation in Ukraine, the FIVB has today informed the Russian Volleyball Federation that two rounds of the upcoming Volleyball Nations League (VNL) to be held in Russia in June and July have been relocated with immediate effect.

The FIVB will continue to closely follow the situation and will review other events due to be held in Russia, including the Men's World Championship scheduled for the second semester of 2022.

The FIVB is listening to, and in touch with, its stakeholders including National Federations, and shares their grave concern for the people of Ukraine.

On 1 March 2022 the FIVB issued the following press release:¹²⁸

FIVB VOLLEYBALL MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2022 TO BE REMOVED FROM RUSSIA

Following Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, the FIVB remains gravely concerned by the escalating situation and for the safety of the people of Ukraine.

The FIVB Board of Administration has come to the conclusion that it would be impossible to prepare and stage the World Championships in Russia due to the war in Ukraine. It has accordingly decided to remove from Russia the organisation of the FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship scheduled to be held in August and September 2022.

The Russian Volleyball Federation and the Organising Committee Volleyball 2022 have been informed accordingly.

¹²⁷ Available on https://www.fivb.com/en/media/news_pressrelease/fivb%20removes%20vnl%20from%20russia?id=96821 (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹²⁸ Available on https://www.fivb.com/en/media/news_pressrelease/fivb-volleyball-men's-world-championship-2022-to?id=96822 (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The FIVB will seek an alternative host nation(s) to ensure that the global Volleyball Family, including the National Federations, athletes, officials and fans all feel safe and proud to participate in a joyous and peaceful festival of sport.

On 1 March 2022 the FIVB issued the following press release.¹²⁹

FIVB Declares Russia And Belarus Not Eligible For International And Continental Competitions

“The decision comes into force with immediate effect and until further notice

Following the initial decisions adopted by the FIVB to remove official events from Russia, the FIVB Board of Administration has confirmed that all Russian and Belarusian national teams, clubs, officials and beach volleyball and snow volleyball athletes are not eligible to participate in all international and continental events until further notice.

The FIVB remains gravely concerned by the ongoing war in Ukraine and its horrific impact on the lives of so many and stand in full solidarity with the volleyball community and people of Ukraine, and sincerely hopes a peaceful resolution can be found urgently”.

¹²⁹ Available on <https://www.fivb.com/en/about/news/fivb%C2%A0removes%C2%A0vn1%C2%A0from%C2%A0russia?id=96821> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

PART III

NATIONAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

**AUSTRALIA
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
CROATIA
CYPRUS
DENMARK
ECUADOR
ENGLAND
GHANA
GREECE
ITALY
KENYA
MALAYSIA
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
THE NETHERLANDS
NIGERIA
JAPAN
POLAND
PORTUGAL
RUSSIA
SERBIA
KINGDOM OF SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
UKRAINE
REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY**

AUSTRALIA

By Anthony Lo Surdo S.C.¹³⁰ and Daniel Lo Surdo¹³¹

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

Australia has imposed autonomous sanctions in response to the Russian threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. They were first imposed in 2014 and extended in 2015 and 2022.

The Russia/Ukraine sanctions regime imposes measures extending to restrictions on: the export or supply of certain goods; the import, purchase or transport of certain goods; certain commercial activities; the provision of certain services; providing assets to designated persons or entities; dealing with the assets of designated persons or entities and travel bans on designated persons.

Australian sanction laws apply to activities in Australia and to activities undertaken overseas by Australian citizens and Australian-registered bodies corporate. In some circumstances, it may be possible to obtain a permit from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to engage in an activity that would otherwise be prohibited by a sanctions measure. The penalties for breach include up to ten years in prison and substantial fines.

Australia has also joined with 36 other countries in issuing a joint declaration on 3 March 2022 affirming its support for the position taken by international sports organisations that:

- *Russia and Belarus should not be permitted to host, bid for or be awarded any international sporting events.*
- *Individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs.*
- *Wherever possible, appropriate actions should be taken to limit sponsorship and other financial support from entities with links to the Russian or Belarusian states.*¹³²

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) supports the International Olympic Committee's recommendation to exclude Russian and Belarusian athletes from international sporting competitions.

¹³⁰ Barrister | Arbitrator | Mediator; Arbitrator and Mediator, Court of Arbitration for Sport (Football and General Lists); 8 Wentworth Chambers, Sydney; Lonsdale Chambers, Melbourne; William Forster Chambers, Darwin; Outer Temple Chambers, London and Dubai (www.silkmediator.com.au; losurdo@8wentworth.com.au)

¹³¹ Journalist, Sydney, Australia (www.daniellosurdo.com)

¹³² See the "England" section for a full summary of the joint declaration.

The AOC is urging member sports not to invite teams or athletes and officials from Russia and Belarus, or to rescind any invitations that may have been issued and to withdraw Australian athletes and officials from any sports events where Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials may be participating.

The AOC also supported the resolution by the IOC to withdraw the Olympic Order from various Russian officials, including President Vladimir Putin.

Athletics Australia has banned Russian and Belarusian athletes from Australian domestic competition for the foreseeable future.

The AusCycling governing body has declared that no Russian or Belarusian national teams would be permitted to compete in the UCI Road World Championships due to be held in Australia in September, 2022.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There is little, if any, known Russian sponsorship of sport in Australia.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

Not aware.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

BELGIUM

By Sébastien Ledure and Loïc Darcis¹³³

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

As a member state of the European Union (“EU”), Belgium fully participates to all the restrictive measures imposed on Russia by the EU, including the six (6) packages of sanctions against Russia first introduced d.d. February 23, 2022.¹³⁴

These sanctions include but are not limited to travel bans and asset freezings of the members of the Russian state Duma, the Russian government and Russian oligarchs, various trade restrictions, bans for transactions with the Russian Central Bank, the exclusion of Russian banks from SWIFT and logistical and military support to Ukraine.

On July 4, 2022, the Flemish, French-speaking and German-speaking Communities -which are competent for sports in Belgium- represented by Valérie Glatigny, participated to the “Second statement on Russia’s war on Ukraine and international sport” released by the UK government,¹³⁵ per which thirty-five (35) like-minded countries reiterated their government’s position that:

- *“Russian and Belarusian sport national governing bodies should be suspended from international sport federations.*
- *Individuals closely aligned to the Russian and Belarusian states, including but not limited to government officials, should be removed from positions of influence on international sport federations, such as boards and organising committees.*
- *National and international sports organisations should consider suspending the broadcasting of sports competitions into Russia and Belarus.”*

The participation to that statement evidences that the Belgian authorities recognise sports as a pressuring mechanism against the Russian invasion of Ukraine, besides the sanctions imposed by the EU.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The Belgian Olympic Interfederal Committee (“BOIC”) issued a press release strongly condemning the Russian breach of Ukraine’s territorial integrity.¹³⁶ As a part of the Olympic movement, it is one of the BOIC’s purposes to strive for peace through sports. In its press release, the BOIC points out that the Russian invasion of Ukraine amounts to a breach of the United Nation’s Olympic Truce Resolution, according to which all signatory states shall maintain peace, particularly during the

¹³³ Sébastien Ledure is a Belgian sports lawyer based in Brussels (Belgium), where he is managing partner of Cresta the Sports Law Firm. He is a board member of AIAF (Association Internationale des Avocats du Football). Loïc Darcis is a Belgian sports lawyer based in Brussels (Belgium), where he is associate of Cresta the Sports Law Firm.

¹³⁴ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/sanctions/restrictive-measures-against-russia-over-ukraine/history-restrictive-measures-against-russia-over-ukraine/>

¹³⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/second-statement-on-russias-war-on-ukraine-and-international-sport>

¹³⁶ <https://teambelgium.be/nl/artikel/het-boic-veroordeelt-ten-strengste-de-militaire-aanval-van-rusland-op-oukrajne;>

period going from seven (7) days before and seven (7) days after any Olympic or Paralympic (winter) Games.¹³⁷

In accordance with the IOC, the BOIC requested its national sporting federations to annul or postpone any participation to sporting competitions in Russia and Belarus. The equestrian-¹³⁸, table tennis-¹³⁹ and football¹⁴⁰ federation, amongst others, publicly stated they would adhere to said request and condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Besides focussing on the restrictive measures taken by the Belgian sporting federations, it must be applauded that the federations also endeavoured to utilise their role as societal actors to help the integration of Ukrainian refugees coming to Belgium, especially for minors, by facilitating membership requirement, through a lowering of membership fees, allowing of registering outside of registration periods, supporting participating clubs, etc.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

Even though the circumstances are not similar, Belgium once played an important sporting role during the diplomatic crisis between Russia and Israel in the seventies. After a decade of diplomatic turmoil, the Russian club CSKA Moscow and Israeli club Maccabi Tel-Aviv were unable to play the semi-final of the FIBA European Champions Cup due to political reasons. In the end, the small Belgian town of Virton hosted the game on neutral ground, which became one of the most legendary events in Israeli sporting history in a true David and Goliath win for Maccabi that went on to win the Champions Cup.¹⁴¹ Today, however, such a solution would not be possible as Russian clubs have been disqualified from European club competitions across different team sports.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There has not been such a reaction due to the mere fact that no Belgian federation nor club is sponsored by Russian companies. However, it must be noted that Cercle Brugge, the only Belgian football club under Russian ownership, has not been adversely affected by the restrictive measures taken by the relevant authorities. On the contrary, the club made sure to donate to the Red Cross for humanitarian help in Ukraine, realising that it would come under scrutiny of its non-Russian stakeholders.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia ? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?

National team basketball players Julie Van Loo (former Krasnojarsk) and Emma Meesseman (former Jekaterinenburg) left their respective Russian clubs after their disqualification from the European club competitions, while two other national team players decided to stay in Russia. As such, the consequences for Belgian nationals in Russia need to be analysed on a case-by-case basis

¹³⁷ <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N21/368/53/PDF/N2136853.pdf?OpenElement>

¹³⁸ <https://paardensport.vlaanderen.nl/nieuws/Algemeen-KBRFSF-Paardensport-Vlaanderen-en-LEWB-veroordelen-militaire-aanval-van-Rusland-op-Oekraïne>

¹³⁹ <https://www.vttl.be/oorlog-oekra%C3%AFne>

¹⁴⁰ <https://www.rbfa.be/nl/nieuws/conflict-oekraïne-statement-van-de-kbvb>

¹⁴¹ Joseph Siegman (2000), “Jewish sports legends: the International Jewish Hall of Fame”.

taking into account the player's personality and the pressure exercised on that player. From practical experience, high-profile players are generally more likely to be subject to external social and/or political pressure exercised by federations, (social) media and sponsors, which makes them more prone to leaving their club in case of a crisis.

The Belgian authorities did not impose any specific restrictions on Russian athletes exercising their sporting activities on the Belgian territory. Nevertheless, the restrictions imposed by sporting federations organising events on Belgian territory were not disputed by the Belgian authorities. For instance, (i) Russian and Belarussian cyclists participating to the Belgian classic races in spring were only allowed to participate under a white flag, as imposed by the UCI and (ii) the Russian and Belarussian national teams were excluded to participate to the 3x3 basketball World Championships in Antwerp.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

By Dr. Aliaksandr Danilevich¹⁴² and Master of Law Maryia Zhurava¹⁴³

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

The Belarusian government currently led by Aliaksandr Lukashneko has not introduced any provisions, measures or sanctions in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

On the contrary, the international community recognised the current Belarusian authorities as a partner in crimes committed by Putin in Ukraine¹⁴⁴ This is due to Belarus's support of the Russian Federation's violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, which constitutes a grave breach of international peace and security that has resulted in a serious international crisis.

Consequently, according to the statements and regulations issued by those democratic states, sanctions on Russia must be mirrored for Belarus.¹⁴⁵ With regard to the international criminal liability, G-7 leaders have already stated that Lukashenko regime in Belarus shall be held accountable for its actions in its aggression towards Ukraine accordance with international law.¹⁴⁶

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

There have been no provisions, measures or sanctions introduced by National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Belarus (NOC Belarus) or any other national federation. On the contrary, the sanctions have been imposed on Belarusian sport.

On February 25, 2022, the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC EB) urged all International Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴² Belarusian sports lawyer, CAS arbitrator, Partner at Danilevich Law Office.

¹⁴³ Belarusian sports lawyer, disciplinary officer of Rugby Europe.

¹⁴⁴ European Parliament resolution of 19 May 2022 on the prosecution of the opposition and the detention of trade union leaders in Belarus (2022/2664(RSP)): https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0215_EN.html (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Resolution on the aggression of russia and Belarus against Ukraine of Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania:

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAP/cf09e8b0957811ec9e62f960e3ee1cb6> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁴⁵ European Parliament resolution of 19 May 2022 on the prosecution of the opposition and the detention of trade union leaders in Belarus (2022/2664(RSP)): https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0215_EN.html (last visited on 23 June 2022).

EU fifth packages of restrictive measures against Russia: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_2332 (last visited on 23 June 2022).

EU sixth packages of restrictive measures against Russia: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_2802

US sanctions on Bealrus: <https://www.state.gov/belarus-sanctions/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Special Economic Measures (Belarus) Regulations: <https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2020-214/FullText.html> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁴⁶ G7 Leaders' Statement: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/08/g7-leaders-statement-2/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁴⁷ EB IOC Decision: <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-urges-all-ifs-to-relocate-or-cancel-their-sports-events-currently-planned-in-russia-or-belarus> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On February 28, 2022, IOC EB developed a resolution, including *inter alia* the recommendations that:¹⁴⁸

- International sports federations and sports event organisers not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions.
- Russian or Belarusian nationals, whether as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams. No national symbols, colours, flags or anthems should be displayed.
- The IOC EB maintain its urgent recommendation not to organise any sports event in Russia or Belarus, which it had issued on 25 February 2022.

Consequently, the international sports federations followed the recommendations of the IOC EB and separately introduced sanctions on Belarusian sport: some of included the total ban on the representation of Belarus in the international sports arena, while others limited conditions of such participation.

For instance, Rugby Europe decided to suspend the Rugby Union of Belarus from membership of Rugby Europe and from participating in all continental rugby competitions at all age grades.¹⁴⁹ At the same time, UEFA's decision was limited to banning Belarus from playing international matches at home and to stop Belarusian teams from facing Ukraine.¹⁵⁰

As a result, the Belarusian and Russian sports authorities took the decision to deepen Russian-Belarusian sports cooperation and increase the organisation of competitions.¹⁵¹

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no such precedents.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There has been no reactions. There are not a lot of Russian sponsors in Belarusian sport. However, those that sponsor sport in Belarus continue to finance it, for instance Fonbet, Russian betting company, is a sponsor of Belarusian FC "BATE Borisov".

¹⁴⁸ EB IOC Decision: <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-recommends-no-participation-of-russian-and-belarusian-athletes-and-officials> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁴⁹ Following the initial decisions communicated at the end of February, the Rugby Europe Board of Directors gathered on 1 March to decide on the additional sanctions following the ongoing Russian military invasion of Ukraine and the related support of Belarus: <https://www.rugbyeurope.eu/news/rugby-europe-statement-russia-and-belarus-suspension/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁵⁰ UEFA Statements: <https://www.uefa.com/insideuefa/mediaservices/mediareleases/news/0272-148740475a92-1b97baa3e9d7-1000--decisions-from-today-s-extraordinary-uefa-executive-committee-m/>; <https://www.uefa.com/insideuefa/mediaservices/mediareleases/news/0275-153ea78d3e8e-5758f9cec33b-1000--teams-from-belarus-and-ukraine-prevented-from-being-drawn-again/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁵¹ Belarus, Russia to develop ski sports together: <https://www.noc.by/en/news/belarus-russia-to-develop-ski-sports-together/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Joint meeting of Athletes Commissions of NOC of Belarus and ROC in Minsk: <https://www.noc.by/en/news/joint-meeting-of-athletes-commissions-of-noc-of-belarus-and-roc-in-minsk/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The Ministries of Sport of Belarus and Russia held the meeting on cooperation: <https://www.noc.by/en/news/main-takeaways-of-meeting-of-collegiums-of-sports-ministries-of-belarus-russia-/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no such consequences. The Belarusian and Russian athletes could play in each other's country without any contractual/economic/social/political consequences.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

Belarusian sport have been under a range of sanctions since 2020. As a consequence, after 9 August 2020, the political overtone taken by the sports organisations strengthened and the discrimination of athletes and sports specialists started. The basis for such discrimination was the enjoyment of the fundamental human right to express an opinion: in case of Belarus, it was the opinion contrary to that laid by the Lukashenko Presidency.

The IOC determined the multiple cases of discrimination in Belarusian sport and has come to the conclusion that the current NOC Belarus leadership has not appropriately protected the Belarusian athletes from political discrimination within the NOC Belarus, their member sports federations or the sports movement. This is contrary to the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, and therefore seriously affects the reputation of the Olympic Movement.

As a result, two packages of provisional measures were implemented by the IOC towards NOC Belarus, including the measure of non-recognition of Viktor Lukashenko to be an elected NOC President.¹⁵²

¹⁵² Full text of the IOC decisions could be found by the link: DC-P2-NOC-of-Belarus-7-December-2020.pdf (olympic.org); <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-decides-further-provisional-measures-against-noc-of-belarus> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

BRAZIL

By *Stefano Malvestio* and *Vitor Hugo Almeida*¹⁵³

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

Brazil has adopted a rather neutral stance on the Russia-Ukraine war since the beginning of the conflict, also in light of the friendly relationship between the two presidents Jair Bolsonaro and Vladimir Putin. Indeed, Brazil has for instance recently decided to abstain in the vote that decided on the suspension of Russia from the UN Human Rights Council.

Despite this, the Brazilian Ministry of Relations had previously voted in favor of the resolution which condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine in the UN General Assembly.

In a recent letter, the Brazilian government reaffirmed the need to seek a negotiated solution, that takes into consideration the legitimate security interests of Russia and Ukraine.

Therefore, we do not expect the imposition of any sanction from the Brazilian government against Russia in the immediate future.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

The Brazilian Olympic Committee (CBF) and Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) have not announced any specific sanctions or measures in response to the war. The South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL), however, has supported FIFA in the sanctions announced against Russia.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

During World War II, one of the most traditional football teams in Brazil at the time was "Palestra Itália", which was originally formed by Italian immigrants based in São Paulo and Belo Horizonte.

However, since the team's name made reference to Italy, a Brazilian rival in World War II, the Brazilian government pressed for a name change, thus the São Paulo branch was renamed to "Sociedade Esportiva Palmeiras" and the Belo Horizonte's branch was renamed to "Cruzeiro Esporte Clube", which, until nowadays, have both remained as two of the most traditional and successful clubs in Brazilian football.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

¹⁵³ Lawyers at Bichara e Motta Advogados. E-mails: stefano.malvestio@bicharaemotta.com.br and vitor.almeida@bicharaemotta.com.br.

There aren't any Russian sponsors in Brazilian clubs or federations.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

Brazil has the evergrowing quality of being a great exporter of talents to the whole world, and Russia and Ukraine have, in the last decade, been among the main destinations.

For that reason, many Brazilian players were impacted by the war. An emblematic case was that of the 13 Brazilian players who played for the Ukrainian club Shakhtar Donetsk and, after terrifying nights locked up in a hotel in Kiev, were forced to leave the Ukrainian capital in a convoy which led them to the border with Poland, from where they managed to return to Brazil.

One of them, the striker Junior Moraes, faced an even more difficult situation, as he had recently concluded the naturalization process in Ukraine in order to be eligible to play for their national team. Due to this he was reportedly called by the Ukrainian army to fight in the war; at the end, however, Moraes managed to leave Ukraine and is currently playing for Corinthians.

Besides him, there were many other Brazilian athletes who played in Russia and/or Ukraine and returned to play in "Brasileirão", either on loan or permanently, as a result of the war, such as the players Pablo and Ayrton Lucas, who left Lokomotiv Moscow and Spartak Moscow respectively to join Flamengo, and the players Maycon and Alan Patrick, who left Shakhtar Donetsk to sign with Corinthians and Internacional respectively.

Initially, during the outbreak of the war, Brazil was one of the few countries in the world that had its international registration period open. Therefore, Brazil presented itself as one of the best opportunities available for players playing in Russia and Ukraine who wanted to leave said countries. Nonetheless, the "*Temporary rules addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine*" announced by FIFA on 7 March 2022 made it possible for such players to transfer to other countries as well.

On the other hand, there have also been cases of Brazilian players who had transfers to Ukraine agreed but which fell through because of the outbreak of war. This situation led to discussions on whether the player could justifiably refuse to join the club or if this would represent a contractual breach.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

There are Brazilian players who play in Ukraine and are trying to be transferred/loaned to Brazil while the Ukrainian League is suspended. However, at the moment, they are not allowed to do so as the Brazilian international registration period closed on 12 April 2022 and FIFA Special Regulations allowed the registration only until 7 April 2022.

It can therefore be fairly said that the FIFA Special Regulations had no impact on the possibility for Brazilian clubs to exceptionally register players coming from Ukraine or Russia, since the registration period was open until 12 April 2022 anyway.

It would therefore be reasonable for FIFA to consider re-opening the registration period for players coming from Ukraine or Russia, at least for countries like Brazil, whose season follows the annual calendar, since, in these cases, the national championship has just begun and, therefore, the

permission for these players to be registered would not have any negative impact on the integrity and balance of the competition.

CROATIA

By *Vanja Smokvina*¹⁵⁴ and *Krešimir Šamija*¹⁵⁵

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

Like other EU member states, Croatia participates in EU sanctions against Russia. These include the closure of EU airspace to Russian-owned and controlled aircraft, the blocking of major Russian banks from the global payment system SWIFT, and the prohibition of all transactions with the Russian Central Bank. It should be emphasised that the Croatian Postbank (HPB) took over the Russian Sberbank Croatia and that the Croatian government managed to ensure this transaction in a record short time. Based on the EU sanctions against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine, Croatia has also blocked the assets, more precisely the real estate of Russian citizens in Croatia, mostly located on the Adriatic coast.

The Republic of Croatia undoubtedly supported the suspension of Russia from the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), which was voted on the Extraordinary General Assembly of the UNWTO, held on 27 April 2022 in Madrid.

On 23 February 2022, the Polish Minister of Sport, Mr. Kamil Bortniczuk sent a letter to all EU Ministers for Sport, announcing that joint action should be taken, as soon as possible to limit any cooperation with the Government of the Russian Federation within the area of responsibility of the Ministry of Sport.

Ms. Nadine Dorries (UK minister for Culture, Sports, Digital Affairs and Media) called for a ministerial meeting at the beginning of March this year while a draft of the joint Statement was sent to all EU member states, stating, among other things, that ministers should not allow Russia and Belarus to host or compete in any international sport event. In addition, the joint Statement asserted that individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs etc. Also, wherever possible, appropriate actions should be taken to limit sponsorship and other financial support from entities with links to the Russian or Belarusian states. At the same time, an invitation was sent to all international sports federations to agree with these principles, as well as to welcome organizations that have already reacted in similar ways.

The Republic of Croatia highly appreciates the UK initiative to mobilize the sports movement during the escalating Russian aggression to Ukraine. On behalf of Croatia, Ms. Nikolina Brnjac, minister of tourism and sport, signed the joint Statement on Russia's war on Ukraine & international sport. Croatia were among 37 countries who supported this initiative.

In this context, the Republic of Croatia strongly welcomes and supports a common position between the EU and other like-minded countries, as well as the principles contained in the joint

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Statement. Croatia will certainly continue to make efforts in this regard and continue the cooperation to support these principles.

Other provisions instead aim to make it easier for people from Ukraine to enter the country. Croatia, as an EU Member State, has applied Council Implementing Decision 2022/384¹⁵⁶ to help people fleeing the war in Ukraine. The Directive allows refugees from Ukraine to enter Croatia and receive certain benefits without having to apply for asylum. In addition, the Croatian Ministry of Interior has launched an online portal that provides information about newly arriving refugees from Ukraine and their rights and entitlements, as well as opportunities for potential civil society volunteers who wish to get involved. The website is available in both Croatian and Ukrainian and is updated daily to ensure that all information provided is in line with current national, local and international developments.¹⁵⁷

So far, almost 19,000 Ukrainians have found their temporary home in Croatia. The Croatian Government has provided them with the necessary services such as health care, social welfare, integration into the labour market and inclusion in education, also covering the costs of private accommodation and utilities for refugees in the amount of € 480.00 (HRK 3.600,00) per month.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports associations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The actions of sports federations focused on supporting Ukrainian athletes. The National Olympic Committee of Croatia (NOC of Croatia) in February 2022 gave Ukrainian athletes the opportunity to continue training and playing sports with the help of national sports federations as its members, as supported by the European Olympic Committees.¹⁵⁸⁻¹⁵⁹ Each national sports federation will take care of Ukrainian athletes in coordination with the NOC of Croatia.¹⁶⁰ This support was provided, for example, by the Croatian Rowing Federation,¹⁶¹ the Croatian Volleyball Federation,¹⁶² the Croatian Boxing Federation and the Croatian Diving Federation.¹⁶³ The Croatian Football

¹⁵⁶ Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC, and having the effect of introducing temporary protection, *OJ L 71*, 4.3.2022, p. 1–6.

¹⁵⁷ Croatian for Ukraine (In Croatian: Hrvatska za Ukrajinu), available at: <https://hrvatskazaukrajinu.gov.hr/>. Accessed 10-05-2022.

¹⁵⁸ EOC Statement in support of Ukraine, 28-02-2022, available at: <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-statement-in-support-of-ukraine/>. Accessed 11-05-2022.

¹⁵⁹ EOC Expresses gratitude to European NOCs for their support of Ukraine, available at: <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-expresses-gratitude-to-european-nocs-for-their-support-of-ukraine/>. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶⁰ NOC of Croatia Assembly: Each sports federation will also take care of athletes from Ukraine (In Croatian: Skupština HOO-a: Svaki sportski savez skrbit će i o sportaši(ca)ma iz Ukrajine), available at: <https://hoo.hr/hr/olimpizam/olimpijske-vijesti/7116-skupstina-hoo-a-svaki-sportski-savez-skrbit-ce-i-o-sportasima-iz-ukrajine>. Accessed 10-05-2022.

¹⁶¹ CRF and NOC gave unreserved support to Ukrainian rowers who are preparing in Croatia (In Croatian: HOO i HVS dali bezrezervnu podršku ukrajinskim veslači(ca)ma koji su na pripremama u Hrvatskoj), available at: <https://www.hoo.hr/hr/olimpizam/medunarodna-suradnja/7198-hoo-i-hvs-priredili-druzenje-na-kojem-su-dali-bezrezervnu-podrsku-ukrajinskim-veslaci-ca-ma-u-hrvatskoj>. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶² CVF and NOC welcomed Ukrainian volleyball players at the Airport who arrived in Nedelišće for one-month preparations (In Croatian: HOS i HOO dočekali u Zračnoj luci ukrajinske odbojkašice koje su stigle na jednomjesečne pripreme u Nedelišće), available at: <https://www.hoo.hr/hr/hrvatski-olimpijski-odbor/nacionalni-sportski-savezi/112-savezi-olimpijskih-sportova/hrvatska-odbojkaski-savez/7180-hos-i-hoo-docekali-u-zracnoj-luci-ukrajinske-odbojkasice-koje-su-stigle-na-jednomjesečne-pripreme-u-nedelisce>. Accessed 18-05-2022.

¹⁶³ Help to Ukrainian athletes - boxers and divers arrive (In Croatian: Pomoć ukrajinskim sportaši(ca)ma - stižu boksači i skakači(ce) u vodu), available at: <https://www.hoo.hr/hr/olimpizam/medunarodna-suradnja/7129-pomoc-ukrajinskim-sportasi-ca-ma-stizu-boksaci-i-skakaci-ce-u-vodu>. Accessed 20-05-2022.

Federation gave a lot of support to Ukraine by condemning the Russian invasion and showing solidarity with the Ukrainian people. At the beginning of March, at every 26th round match of Croatian Men's First League, the players showed a sign "Croatian football with Ukraine".¹⁶⁴ Furthermore, the Croatian Football Federation facilitated the registration of players from Ukraine and, at the same time, reopened the transfer market window for players from Russia and Ukraine in accordance with FIFA guidelines.¹⁶⁵

On May 11, 2022, the Croatian National Olympic Committee (NOC) announced that 157 athletes from Ukraine are training and preparing in 13 sports in Croatia.¹⁶⁶

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no precedents.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

None, due to the lack of sponsors linked to Russian companies.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

Some Croatian athletes have been indirectly affected by the measures taken by the international sports federations against the Russian sports federations. They have been prevented from participating in certain competitions because events that were supposed to take place in Russia have been cancelled (e.g. the Gymnastics World Tour) or Russian teams have been excluded from official competitions (e.g. in football FC Zenit's Dejan Lovren & FC Dynamo Moscow's Nikola Moro).

On the other hand, Croats who work or play in Ukrainian sports teams are also affected by the consequences of the conflict. One of the best known is the former captain of the Croatian national football team, Darijo Srna, who currently is the director of the Ukraine side Shakhtar Donetsk and has publicly participated in vocal propaganda against the war in Ukraine.¹⁶⁷

Russian players playing for Croatian teams have not faced any direct consequences. Russian athletes who wish to participate in international events in Croatia, on the other hand, must expect

¹⁶⁴ Solidarity in action, Croatian stands by Ukraine (In Croatian: Solidarnost na djelu, hrvatski nogomet uz Ukrajinu), available at: <https://hns-cff.hr/en/news/23810/croatian-football-stands-by-ukraine/>, Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶⁵ FIFA Circular No. 1788 (In Croatian: FIFA Cirkularno pismo br. 1788), available at [https://hns-cff.hr/files/documents/23629/FIFA%20Cirkularno%20pismo%20br.%201788%20-%20Daljnje%20privremene%20izmjene%20Pravilnika%20o%20statusu%20i%20transferima%20igra%C4%8Da%20\(RSTP\)%20%20kojima%20se%20daje%20poja%C5%A1njenje%20u%20pogledu%20kretanja%20ukrajinskih%20igra%C4%8Da%20\(Dodatak%207\).pdf](https://hns-cff.hr/files/documents/23629/FIFA%20Cirkularno%20pismo%20br.%201788%20-%20Daljnje%20privremene%20izmjene%20Pravilnika%20o%20statusu%20i%20transferima%20igra%C4%8Da%20(RSTP)%20%20kojima%20se%20daje%20poja%C5%A1njenje%20u%20pogledu%20kretanja%20ukrajinskih%20igra%C4%8Da%20(Dodatak%207).pdf). Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶⁶ NOC and CRF gave unreserved support to Ukrainian rowers who are preparing in Croatia (In Croatian: HOO i HVS dali bezrezervnu podršku ukrajinskim veslači(ca)ma koji su na pripremama u Hrvatskoj), available at: <https://www.hoo.hr/hr/olimpizam/medunarodna-suradnja/7198-hoo-i-hvs-priedili-druzenje-na-kojem-su-dali-bezrezervnu-podrsku-ukrajinskim-veslaci-ca-ma-u-hrvatskoj>. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶⁷ Mirror, Croatia legend Darijo Srna explains Ukraine evacuation "chaos" as UEFA chief intervened, available at: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/sport/football/news/srna-shakhtar-ukraine-evacuation-war-26422927>. Accessed 19-05-2022.

measures from the relevant international sports federation that may limit their participation in such events.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

At all sports competitions, federations, athletes and fans have openly expressed their solidarity with Ukrainian athletes. Since football is the most popular sport in Croatia, several initiatives to promote solidarity were carried out by the Croatian Football Federation and Croatian clubs. In addition to the aforementioned slogan at the beginning of the 26th round of the Croatian Men's First League, the Croatian Football Federation hosted a delegation from Ukrainian football club Dynamo Kiev,¹⁶⁸ which also played a charity match against Dinamo Zagreb.¹⁶⁹ Croatian football club Hajduk Split played a charity match against football club Shakhtar Donetsk, both former clubs of Darijo Srna,¹⁷⁰ while Croatian football club Rijeka played a match against the Ukrainian national team.¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁸ Support to Ukraine, Kustić with associates welcomed the delegation of Dynamo Kiev (In Croatian: Podrška Ukrajini, Kustić sa suradnicima primio delegaciju kijevskog Dynama), available at: <https://hns-cff.hr/news/24038/kustic-sa-suradnicima-primio-delegaciju-kijevskog-dynama/>. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁶⁹ Charity match to help friends from Ukraine (In Croatian: Humanitarna utakmica za pomoć prijateljima iz Ukrajine), available at: https://gnkdinamo.hr/hr/Novosti/Clanak/humanitarna-utakmica-za-pomoc-prijateljima-iz-ukrajine_. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁷⁰ Hajduk and Shakhtar Donetsk Play 'Football for Peace' Humanitarian Friendly in Split, available at: https://www.total-croatia-news.com/sport/62477-hajduk-and-shakhtar-donetsk_. Accessed 20-05-2022.

¹⁷¹ Rijeka in a charity match hosted the Ukraine national team (In Croatian: Rijeka u humanitarnoj utakmici ugostila Ukrajinu), available at: https://hns-cff.hr/news/24135/rijeka-u-humanitarnoj-utakmici-ugostila-ukrajinu/_. Accessed 20-05-2022.

CYPRUS

By *Loizos Hadjidemetriou*¹⁷²

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

Since the collapse of the USSR, Cyprus has been one of the most favourable destinations for both Russians and Ukrainians, not only for touristic purposes but also for business. This was primarily because of the country's low corporate tax (currently 12.5%) but also due to the fact that both countries share the same religion, i.e. Christian Orthodox. During the last few decades, there have been many Russian and Ukrainian businesses based in Cyprus and, as a result, the country's economy is materially influenced by the capital passing through these companies and the Cyprus banks. Many Russian and Ukrainian nationals have also acquired citizenship of Cyprus, making them EU citizens as well.

Nevertheless, Cyprus is also an EU member state and therefore could not refrain from implementing all the sanctions which the EU decided to impose on Russian businesses, oligarchs and individuals.

Consequently, all EU measures were fully applied and adopted by the Cyprus government as well. Not only that but about one month after the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the imposition of the various measures and restrictions on Russian oligarchs and Russian capital, a local bank with Russian interests, RCB Cyprus, was forced under political pressure to terminate its operations by selling its assets and loans, and returning deposits to their owners.

Property belonging to a small number of Russian oligarchs, including estates, yachts and capital, has also been seized by the authorities.

Separately, the Cyprus government has adopted a number of measures to assist and support refugees coming from Ukraine.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

On a sporting level, the Cyprus Football Association did not permit any international transfers from Russia and Ukraine, outside its fixed registration periods, despite the provisions of Annex 7 of the FIFA RSTP.

No other sport associations, or the National Olympic Committee, have implemented any specific measures related to the war in Ukraine.

Traditionally, there have been very few or no athletic ties at all between Cyprus and Russia or Ukraine; neither were there any real possibilities for Russian or Ukrainian athletes (or foreigners playing in those countries) to move to Cyprus for sporting reasons. As a result, the sporting landscape of Cyprus was not affected in any way by the invasion.

¹⁷² Sports Lawyer.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No, the current situation is unprecedented and there has never been anything similar.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

One club in Cyprus, Pafos FC, has been owned by two Russians (Sergey Lomakin and Roman Dubov) for approximately five years and another club, Aris Limassol FC, has been owned by a Belarussian (Vladimir Federov) for under one year. These clubs used to be small first division clubs but with the foreign investment they succeeded building strong and competitive teams which, finished 4th and 6th in the 2021-22 championship. What is more, another Russian investor has recently acquired control of another small first division club. The company which he set up to manage the club has not yet been licenced by the CFA but there should not be any problem because rumors say that this individual has been living and operating in Cyprus for many years now.

Until today, the owners of the first two clubs do not seem to have been in any way affected by the measures adopted internationally against Russians and Russian capital with close ties to the Russian government.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?

At present, there are no Cypriot athletes working in Russia. Neither are there any Russian nationals playing in Cyprus.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

There are a small number of Ukrainians playing in Cyprus, one of whom is in the team owned by two Russians. These athletes have openly expressed, during football matches, their support for Ukraine by carrying the Ukraine flag before and after the match, including the Ukrainian playing in the team owned by the two Russian individuals.

The Cypriots are very sympathetic with the Ukrainians and many people relate this invasion and the Russian reason for it with the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974 which was also based on a similar premise (that the invasion was to protect the Turkish minority of Cyprus).

DENMARK

By Lars Hilliger and Morten Bro¹⁷³

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the EU has adopted a series of sanctions packages against Russia and Belarus, imposing export and import bans and financial sanctions. As an EU Member State, Denmark is covered by the sanctions packages that have been adopted as the situation evolves. In connection with the roll-out of sanctions, the Danish Government has announced that it advocates the most severe sanctions against Russia as possible.

Denmark has also partnered with a large number of countries, including Germany, France, the United Kingdom and the United States, on a joint statement announcing the banning of Russia and Belarus from sporting events. The statement sets out the position that Russia's invasion of Ukraine constitutes an unacceptable and outrageous breach of international obligations and that sport is a vital tool in holding Russia accountable.

Furthermore, Denmark has enacted a bill to make it easier for Ukrainian refugees to obtain residence permits in Denmark. The new Act on Temporary Residence Permit for Persons expelled from Ukraine suspends and departs from the current asylum rules. Ukrainians who are granted residence permits under the special statute are, for instance, exempt from the requirement of a work permit and can therefore start working as soon as they have obtained their residence permits under the special statute.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The overarching governing body for competitive sports, the National Olympic Committee and Sports Confederation of Denmark (DIF), has publicly announced that:

“Russia and Belarus should be banned from all international sports and sporting relations.”

In this context, DIF has called on both confederations and clubs not to have any sporting relations with Russia or Belarus in Denmark and has also called on the international federations to ban Russia and Belarus from all sporting relations. However, to the best of our knowledge, no actual legal initiatives have been launched by the confederation in this regard.

Moreover, DIF has heightened its focus on the integration of refugees, including refugees from Ukraine, through sports, for instance through the “*get2sport*” approach, which aims to ensure the smooth functioning of sports associations by relieving the volunteers in sports associations in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, allowing the volunteers to concentrate on training sessions and club operations rather than dealing with practical and social problems.

¹⁷³ Attorneys-at-law with Advice Law Firm in Copenhagen, Denmark, who have made sports law their specialist practice area. Lars Hilliger is an arbitrator with the CAS and Chairman of the Appeals Panel for the Danish FA Club Licensing System, and Morten Bro is Chairman of the Appeals Panel for the Danish Squash Federation.

With regard to football, and in compliance with FIFA's "temporary rules addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine", the Danish League urgently adopted a new circular that was specifically targeted at international players from the leagues in Ukraine and Russia and gave all Danish clubs the opportunity to sign contracts with one international player from the Ukrainian and Russian leagues on an ongoing basis until the end of the 2021/22 season, in a limited transfer window during the period ending on Thursday, 31 March 2022.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

On 30 May 1992, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 757, which called on all Member States to take various measures against the remaining vestiges of the former Yugoslavia, i.e. Serbia and Montenegro. A sporting boycott of Serbia and Montenegro was included in the resolution text (this meant, among other effects, that UEFA excluded the national team from the European Football Championships final round in 1992, for which the team had already qualified, and that Denmark was added into the tournament at short notice and later took home the championship trophy):

“(b) Take the necessary steps to prevent the participation in sporting events on their territory of persons or groups representing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);”

Unlike the other embargo areas (trade, capital transfers, transport, etc.), the Danish Government did not introduce any penalties/sanctions for failure to abide by the request in the resolution text to back a sporting boycott of Serbia and Montenegro, but at the same time recommended that the resolution be complied with. DIF decided to follow the sporting boycott as recommended by the United Nations and the Danish Parliament, announcing in this regard that the Danish sports community should take social responsibility by complying with Parliament's foreign policy line. In these circumstances, DIF instructed its special confederations and their members to follow the text of the resolution, but in the sense that the instruction would only apply to athletes representing "Yugoslavia".

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

None, due to the lack of any essential sponsors linked to Russian companies.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

The vast majority of Danish professional athletes left Russia after the country invaded Ukraine. However, a few professional Danish athletes have chosen so far to stay in Russia, without this having apparently had any visible consequences, apart from surprise in the general population.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

It is considered that the Danish population generally supports the above sanctions and measures in the light of the current unfortunate situation.

ECUADOR

By *Santiago José Zambrano Solano*¹⁷⁴

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

The Ecuadorian government has rejected the position chosen by Russia and condemned the invasion of Ukraine . Our government has taken the following measures:

- Ecuador expelled Russia from UN Human Rights Council.
 - It has decided to export Ecuadorian products to the European Union (banana and shrimp) instead of sending them to Russia.
 - Petroecuador (Ecuadorian Petroleum Agency) has prohibited the acceptance of shipments of Russian origin by their fuel suppliers.
 - Provided humanitarian flights to all Ecuadorians living in Ukraine.
- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

The Ecuadorian Olympic Committee has followed the guidelines given by Panam Sports Organization and accepted them. As part of this, the Ecuadorian Olympic Committee has taken the following measures:

- Banned of all Russian or Belarussian athletes from any sport tournaments inside Ecuadorian territory.
 - Prohibited participation in sports events organized by Russia or Belarus.
 - Shown solidarity with Ukraine and all its athletes.
- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

So far there has been no reaction.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

¹⁷⁴ Founder of Conlegal Sports & Entertainment in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Santiago Zambrano is specialized in international and domestic sports law, working with first, second and third division clubs, intermediaries, players and international confederations.

Ecuador has 3 players with relation to Russia and Ukraine and their situations have all been different.

Russia.-

- Christian Noboa: Current player from FK Sochi with a contract until 2023, still playing at Russian Premier League. There have been no consequences for him to date.
- Christian Ramirez: Current player from FC Krasnodar with a contract until 2025, still playing at Russian Premier League. There have been no consequences for him to date.

Ukraine.-

- Juan Cazares: Signed a contract with Metalist Kharviv on April 2022. Current player from Independiente de Avellaneda, in Argentina, on loan from Metalist Kharviv in Ukraine for one year with a buy-out clause. He had to be transferred to Argentina on loan because of the situation in Ukraine.

Ecuador.-

We don't have any Russian athletes playing in our country.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

ENGLAND
By Chris Anderson¹⁷⁵

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

Whilst recognising the principle of autonomy of governing bodies over their own governance processes, the UK Government has taken a strong stance in relation to Russian or Belarusian participation in sport. In a statement to Parliament on 8 March 2022, the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Nadine Dorries MP (whose family links to sport include founders of a Premier League club) noted *‘history has shown us, there are other powerful ways of isolating rogue regimes. Culture and sport can be equally as effective as economic sanctions if used in the right way.’*¹⁷⁶

The UK Government has therefore taken an international leadership role in using sport as part of isolation of the Putin regime involving the following:

1. Initial public pressure on UEFA;
2. Conference of National Governing Bodies;
3. International summit with other Governments leading to agreed position and international declaration; and
4. Sanctions - the most high profile of which involved Everton sponsor Alisher Usmanov and Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich.

Initial public pressure on UEFA

English Premier League teams are again performing well in the UEFA Champions League, so an early point of concern for UK politicians was the planned hosting of the 2022 final in Russia. Shortly after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Chair of the recent Fan Led Review and former sports minister, Tracey Crouch MP, and Secretary of State Dorries both called for the final to be moved. This position was supported by many others around the world and UEFA ultimately moved the final.

Conference of National Governing Bodies

At the end of February, Secretary of State Dorries and the Minister for Sport, Nigel Huddleston MP, convened a conference of National Governing Bodies to discuss the national sporting response to the invasion. It was made clear to these bodies that the position of the UK Government was that Russia should be stripped of hosting international events and Russian sports teams should not be permitted to participate in competitions outside Russia.

¹⁷⁵ Chris Anderson is the Head of Football Governance Review at UK’s Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). He is also the Appeals Chairman member of Scottish Football Association disciplinary panel, as well as winner of Leaders in Sport “*Leaders under 40*” award in the Legal and Governance Category.

¹⁷⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/dcms-secretary-of-states-oral-statement-on-ukraine> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

International Summit

Secretary of State Dorries and Minister Huddleston also convened a virtual summit on 3 March 2022 with their counterparts in more than 30 other countries, including the United States, France, Germany, Australia, Japan, Canada and Poland as well as the President of the IPC.

This summit resulted in a joint declaration of 37 countries as follows:

'We, as a collective of like-minded nations, affirm our support for international sport organisations' position that:

- *Russia and Belarus should not be permitted to host, bid for or be awarded any international sporting events.*
- *Individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs.*
- *Wherever possible, appropriate actions should be taken to limit sponsorship and other financial support from entities with links to the Russian or Belarusian states.*

We call on all international sport federations to endorse these principles, and applaud all those that have done so already. We also welcome the International Paralympic Committee's decision to prevent Russia's and Belarus' athletes from competing in the 2022 Winter Paralympics in Beijing. These restrictions should be in place until cooperation under the fundamental principles of international law has become possible again.

We encourage all international sport organisations and all relevant legal bodies not to sanction athletes, coaches or officials who decide unilaterally to terminate their contracts with Russian, Belarusian or Ukrainian clubs, as well as not to pursue or to sanction sport organisers which decide to ban athletes or teams selected by Russia or Belarus.

Furthermore, we encourage the international sport community to continue to show its solidarity with the people of Ukraine, including through supporting the continuation of Ukrainian sport where possible'.¹⁷⁷

Sanctions

At the date of writing the UK has imposed sanctions on over 1,000 individuals and businesses under the Russian sanctions regime since the date of the invasion. These sanctions are amongst the strongest that the UK can impose and include travel bans as well as freezing of all assets held in the UK.

In a sporting context, the two most high profile sanctioned individuals have been Alisher Usmanov and Roman Abramovich. Usmanov was President of the Fédération Internationale d'Éscrime (fencing's world governing body) and through several companies (USM, Megafon and Yota) was a major sponsor of Everton FC. This included a 'naming rights' option on the club's prospective new stadium. He also had close business ties with the owner of Everton, Farhad Moshiri, who himself was a minority shareholder and Chair of USM.

¹⁷⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-russias-war-on-ukraine-international-sport> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

However, as Usmanov was not himself a shareholder of Everton sanctions were not imposed on the club itself. The club has now suspended its sponsorship contracts with USM, Megafon and Yota and removed all related branding.

The most high profile sanctions were imposed on Roman Abramovich. Unlike Usmanov at Everton, Mr Abramovich is the owner of Chelsea FC and as a result when sanctions were imposed on Arbamovich they also directly impacted Chelsea.

Under normal circumstances a UK company owned by a sanctioned individual would not be able to continue operating in the UK. However, the Government recognised that *'football clubs are cultural assets'* and therefore *'granted the club a licence so it can fulfil its fixtures, pay its staff and existing ticket holders can attend matches'*.¹⁷⁸ In general terms, the club is prohibited from doing anything not expressly permitted by the licence¹⁷⁹. The licence is in force until 31 May 2022.

Due to the secrecy required to impose sanctions the initial licence was granted without consultation with the club or the game's Governing Body, the FA. However, the Government has continued discussions with football stakeholders, including the club itself, and twice amended the licence to ensure the continued functioning of the club pending a sale announced by Arbamovich before the imposition of sanctions.

In summary, at the date of writing key provisions of the licence allow the club to do the following:

1. Pay wages and employment benefits for staff (including temporary and contract workers) and directors (excluding Abramovich);
2. Pay Academy Player costs in accordance with the Premier League Youth Development Rules;
3. Pay regular maintenance costs or capital works contracted prior to 10 March 2022 but not any new capital works or refurbishment;
4. Reasonable costs of travelling to and from matches up to a maximum of £20,000 per game;
5. Reasonable costs for hosting home fixtures up to a maximum of £900,000 per game;
6. Payments under contracts entered into, or for legal judgements, prior to 10 March 2022;
7. Loan or transfer payments to other clubs; and
8. Pay service providers.

The club is allowed to receive various fees, including from transfer fees, broadcast payments and payments from its parent company to alleviate cashflow difficulties (the latter limited to £30,000,000) but these funds are frozen and can only be utilised in the ways permitted by the licence. The club is not permitted to sell new merchandise. It is also limited in its ability to sell match tickets. Season Ticket holders, and those who bought match tickets before 10 March 2022, remain permitted to attend matches. However, the club is restricted to selling tickets to away fans, to its own fans for away matches and for FA Cup or Champions League fixtures. However, all revenue from these sales must go to the relevant competition organiser (UEFA, the FA, or the Premier League) for distribution to others or to the other club.

¹⁷⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chelsea-fc-granted-licence-to-continue-operating>

¹⁷⁹ Licence available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1062877/2022_03_23_Football_Matches_general_licence_amended_23_March.pdf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Prior to the sanctions being imposed Abramovich had announced his intent to sell the Club. Due to the fact of the sanctions, any sale will need to be permitted by the Government and will need to ensure that proceeds do not go to Abramovich.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

UK NGBs face a variety of bespoke issues but are generally following the recommendations of the Government (which recognises their autonomy) and their International Federations, albeit many UK NGBs are also actively engaging with their International Federations to influence the position they are taking on Russia and Belarus.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

Some organisations have suspended their sponsorship arrangements with Russian companies. In football, Manchester United moved very quickly to terminate their contract with Aeroflot, and Everton eventually suspended their sponsorship contracts with Russian companies linked to a sanctioned individual.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

As set out in the joint international statement, the position of the UK Government is that '*Individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs*'.

In relation to athletes, administrators, coaches and ancillary staff who participate in professional sport in an individual, non representative, capacity, a blanket ban of such individuals is not currently proposed. However, the UK Government recommends that national governing bodies or event organisers take steps to ensure they are genuinely neutral. The most important of these is obtaining a written confirmation from the individual of their neutrality including statements that they aren't representing Russia or Belarus, are not funded by the Russian or Belarussian states (or any company operated by those close to the states) and that they have not and will not express public support the invasion of Ukraine, the Russian regime or its leadership.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

GHANA
By *Felix Majani*¹⁸⁰

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

In February 2022, Ghana joined the African Union in condemning Russia's attack on Ukraine and called for an immediate ceasefire.

In April 2022, Ghana's President together with UK's Prime Minister jointly condemned Russia's invasion and agreed on the importance of continued support to the Ukrainian people and diplomatic and economic pressure on the Kremlin to end the invasion.

The Ghanaian government has not imposed any sanctions.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

None to the best my knowledge.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

There has not been any reaction.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

A number of Ghanaian footballers such as Najeeb Yakubu and Raymond Frimpong Owusu have had to flee the war torn areas of Ukraine for fear of their lives.

- 6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?**

No.

¹⁸⁰ LLM International Sports Law & FIFA Pro Bono Counsel

GREECE
By Penny Konitsioti¹⁸¹

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

The EU reacted quickly and decisively to Russia's attack on Ukraine by imposing severe sanctions, which are some of the toughest actions that states can take without going to war. As an EU Member State, Greece also participates in the all sanctions applied against Russia. The measures were designed to burden not only the Russian economy, but also the economics of individual citizens, such as top politicians or prominent businessmen, for actions that undermine or threaten Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

It should be noted that since March 2014, the EU has gradually imposed several restrictive measures in response to Russia's attacks on Ukraine's territorial integrity, such as diplomatic measures, individual restrictive measures (asset freezing and travel restrictions), restrictions on economic relations with Russian-controlled parts of Ukraine (Crimea and Sevastopol and the out-of-government areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions), as well as economic sanctions, sanctions on the media, and restrictions on economic cooperation. The list of targeted restrictive measures are constantly expanding, including more and more areas of political, economic and social activity, such as trade and energy¹⁸².

On February 2022 the EU and Greece approved five rounds of sanctions in response to Russia's unprecedented and unprovoked military offensive against Ukraine. The measures were aimed at limiting the Kremlin's ability to finance the war and bringin clear economic and political costs to Russia's political elite responsible for the invasion. The measures included sanctions against individuals, financial sanctions, restrictions on the media, diplomatic measures, and restrictions on economic relations with the non-governmental areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.¹⁸³

On 23 February 2022 the European Council, including Greece, approved a package of measures in response to the Russian Federation's decision to recognize the out-of-control areas of Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions as independent entities and the subsequent decision to send Russian troops to those areas. The package agreed included the measures set out below.

Targeted restrictive measures

Within the existing sanctions framework, the EU extended the restrictive measures to the 351 members of the Russian State Duma who voted in favour of President Putin's call on February 15 to recognize the independence of the self-proclaimed Donetsk "democracies" and Donetsk. In addition, targeted restrictive measures were imposed on an additional 27 prominent individuals and entities involved in undermining or threatening Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence. These included decision-makers, such as members of the government who participated in the illegal decisions; banks and businessmen / oligarchs who financially or

¹⁸¹ Sports Lawyer at Penny Konitsioti Legal Services Boutique, pennykonitsioti@gmail.com - <https://www.pennykonitsioti.gr/uk/>

¹⁸² <https://www.capital.gr/diethni/3620776/nomiki-basi-kai-dunatotita-amfisbitisis-ton-kuroseon-sti-rosia-ti-isxuei> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

¹⁸³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/el/policies/sanctions/restrictive-measures-against-russia-over-ukraine/> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

materially support or benefit from Russian operations in the Donetsk and Luhansk territories; invasion and destabilization; and those who led the war on misinformation against Ukraine.

Restrictive measures included the freezing of assets and a ban on the allocation of funds to persons and entities listed. In addition, the travel ban imposed on persons on the list prevents them from entering or leaving EU territory. The new measures targeted trade from the two non-governmental regions to and from the EU, to ensure that those in charge clearly feel the financial consequences of their illegal and aggressive actions. This decision introduced, in particular, a ban on the import of goods from out-of-government areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, restrictions on trade and investment in certain economic sectors, a ban on tourism services and a ban on exports of certain goods and technologies.

Financial and economic constraints:

Greece complies with all measures adopted by the Council of the European Union such as ban on the financing of the Russian Federation, its government and its central bank; ban on the purchase, import or transport of coal and other solid fossil fuels to the EU, ban on access to EU ports for Russian-flagged ships.

Finally, a complete ban on transactions was imposed on four major Russian banks, which represent 23% of the market share in the Russian banking sector. Following the abolition of SWIFT, these banks would no longer be subject to asset freezing, thus cutting themselves off completely from EU markets.¹⁸⁴

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The international community's reaction to Russia's invasion of Ukraine was immediate, with the European Union and Greece as its member imposing a series of sanctions, as Sport could not be missing from this response.

On 28 February 2022, the International Olympic Committee proposed the exclusion of all Russian and Belarusian athletes from all international events. Initially, all scheduled events in Russia were postponed, and the country's teams and athletes were expelled from the federations.

In Football, FIFA and UEFA have excluded Russian national teams and clubs from international football, a move that has excluded Russia from the play-offs for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar and the Euro 2020 women's tournament. As a result the Hellenic Football Federation also applied the measures suggested by FIFA and UEFA¹⁸⁵

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No there is no other precedent.

¹⁸⁴ <https://www.naftemporiki.gr/story/1851785/polemos-stin-oukrania-pempto-paketo-kuroseon-kata-tis-rosias-apofasise-i-ee> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁸⁵ <https://www.pontosnews.gr/682529/athlitisimos/se-athlitiki-apomonosi-i-rosia-oi-kyroseis-poy-echoyn/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There wasn't a particular reaction on that matter.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia ? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?

Following the example of other countries, at the end of February 2022 the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports sent a relevant directive to all its supervised organizations regarding the Embargo of Greece to artists and cultural organizations from Russia. Until different decided, the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports imposed an embargo on Russian artists and artistic groups, thus expressing its reaction to the military offensive launched by Russia in Ukraine. The relevant instruction to all the supervised organizations of the Ministry of Culture has already left the office of the Minister Lina Mendoni. In particular, the directive stated that "any implementation, cooperation, planning or discussion of events with Russian cultural organizations is suspended."¹⁸⁶ One month later though on 27 April 2022 the same Minister of Culture and Sports, Lina Mendoni, had a meeting in Athens with the Ambassador of the Russian Federation Andrey M. Maslov, in order to discuss issues of cultural cooperation between the two countries. Among the topics that occupied the meeting were the organization of the Year of Greek-Russian History and the preparation of the visit to Greece of Vladimir Medinsky, former Minister of Culture and current Cultural Adviser to the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin. Mr. Medinsky handles for the Russian side the issues of the Greece-Russia Year¹⁸⁷.

Regarding though other sports activities and sectors in Greece no particular nor specific measures were taken against athletes from Russia, apart from the general decisions and implementations occurred from International Sports Federations and Commissions, where of course Greece is a member. On the other hand there weren't neither any consequences nor complaints expressed by Greek athletes playing in Russia in the area of sports.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

The key to the complete independence of Southeastern Europe from Russian gas is the new gas import and transit infrastructure that is being developed in Greece, according to the announcements of the European Commission.

At the same time, in addition to the projects that are being implemented, the Ministry of Environment and Energy issued a positive opinion recently.

The opinion concerns the construction of the EastMed pipeline (Cyprus - Greece - Italy) identifying the preliminary environmental requirements of the project.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁶ <https://www.protothema.gr/culture/article/1217001/ebargo-tis-elladas-se-kallitehnes-kai-politistikous-organismous-apo-ti-rosia/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁸⁷ <https://www.capital.gr/epikairota/3542053/sunantisi-mendoni-me-ton-presbi-tis-rosias-andrey-m-maslov> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

¹⁸⁸ <https://parallaximag.gr/ee-kleidi-i-ellada-gia-tin-apexartisi-apo-to-rosiko-aerio-140542> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

ITALY

By *Michele Colucci*¹⁸⁹ and *Salvatore Civale*¹⁹⁰ and *Alessandro Coni*¹⁹¹

Questions:

7. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

As an EU Member State, Italy participates in the bloc's sanctions against Russia.

These include the closure of EU airspace to Russian-owned and controlled aircraft; the blocking of major Russian banks from the SWIFT global payments system; and a ban on all transactions with the Russian central bank. Further measures are in place against individuals and companies included in the sanctions blacklist.

The Russian state-owned media outlets Russia Today and Sputnik have been banned from the EU, export controls have been placed on electronic and high-tech goods (in tandem with the US), and there is a ban on selling aircraft parts and other related equipment to Russia.

Other provisions are instead aimed at easing the entry of people from Ukraine to the country. Emergency law now provides for specific welfare measures and allows Ukrainian citizens already present in Italy to be reunited with their family members still present in Ukraine.

8. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports associations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

Measures by sports bodies have focused on supporting Ukrainian people. For example, the Italian Football Federation has eased the procedure to register minors coming from Ukraine. All the registration and insurance fees shall be borne by the Federation. At the same time, in compliance with FIFA guidelines the Italian Football Federation reopened the transfer market window for players coming from Russia or Ukraine.

9. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no precedents.

10. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

None, due to the lack of sponsors linked to Russian companies. Football club AC Milan has interrupted its partnership with a local sponsor, the Russian betting online company FonBet.

¹⁸⁹ Member of the FIFA Resolution Chamber of the Football Tribunal and honorary President of the Italian Association of Sports Lawyers

¹⁹⁰ President of the Italian Association of Sports Lawyers

¹⁹¹ Secretary General of the Italian Association of Sport Lawyers

11. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

Certain Italian athletes have been indirectly affected by the measures against the Russian sports federations. They have been prevented from playing in certain competition due to the decision to cancel events scheduled to stage in Russia (e.g. FIS World Cup Skicross, Gymnastic world tour) or to exclude Russian linked teams from official competitions (e.g. cycling team Gazprom-Rusvelo).

Italian people working for Ukrainian sports teams have been affected by the consequences of the conflict.

Russian players playing in Italian teams have suffered no direct consequences. Russian athletes who want to play in international events staged in Italy, instead, may face the measures implemented by the relevant sport international federation, which can eventually limit their participation in such events.

12. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

In all sports competitions, supporters have openly expressed solidarity to Ukrainian athletes. Several initiatives promoting solidarity have been carried out by the Italian Federations and by Italian clubs.

Other clubs are hosting Ukrainian refugees, having organized the logistics of them leaving the country.

Moreover, as an example of another gesture of solidarity, we can mention that thanks to the Italian Football Federation, the Ukrainian referee Kateryna Monzul will be on the pitch to officiate women's Serie A matches. In addition, the Italian and Ukrainian synchronized swimming national teams are training together in Italy. Likewise, the Italian national Judo team is hosting the Ukrainian team at its facilities.

JAPAN
By *Takuya Yamazaki*¹⁹²

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

The Japanese government has imposed sanctions such as:

- suspending entry visas to Japan for designated individuals related to Russia;
 - freezing the assets held by designated individuals and entities related to Russia in Japan;
 - freezing assets of three Russian banks (VEB.RF, Promsvyazbank, Bank Rossiya) in Japan; and
 - imposing sanctions on exports to Russian military-related entities, on exports of controlled items listed on the internationally agreed list, and of other dual-use goods such as semiconductors.
- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

Nothing.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

No action has been taken by any clubs/federations including the Japan Olympic Committee.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?**

No

- 6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?**

No

¹⁹² Sports Lawyer.

KENYA
By *Felix Majani*¹⁹³

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

In February 2022, Kenya's U.N. ambassador condemned Russia's attack on Ukraine during an emergency session of the U.N. Security Council.

The Kenyan government has not imposed any sanctions. Kenya, like many countries, has pushed for a diplomatic solution.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

None to the best my knowledge.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

None.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

None to the best of my knowledge.

- 6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?**

No.

¹⁹³ LLM International Sports Law & FIFA Pro Bono Counsel

MALAYSIA
By *Susanah Ng*¹⁹⁴

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

None. Malaysia's foreign minister indicated that Malaysia will not impose any sanctions on Russia for its invasion of Ukraine although Malaysia voted in favour of a United Nations resolution condemning Moscow's aggression on Ukraine. The foreign minister was quoted as saying that the Malaysian government does not agree with unilateral sanctions and, if they are absolutely necessary, sanctions should only be imposed through the United Nations.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

None. It is Olympic Council of Malaysia's stance that sports should remain free from politics.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

Previously in 2019, Malaysia was stripped of the right to host the World Para Swimming Championships because of the Government's refusal to allow Israeli athletes to participate. Again in November 2021, the World Men's Team Squash Championship scheduled to take place in Kuala Lumpur from 7-12 December 2021 was cancelled after the Government of Malaysia refused to allow Israeli athletes to take part. The Olympic Council of Malaysia had tried to obtain special permission for these athletes but was unsuccessful.

Following the cancellation of the Squash Championship, the IOC in December 2021 threatened to ban countries from hosting major events if they refuse to allow athletes from certain countries to compete for political reasons. Since then, the Olympic Council of Malaysia has been proactive and has prepared a paper to the Cabinet of Malaysia on the implications of defying the IOC warning.

There has been no further update on this matter.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

Nothing the author is aware of (i.e. none in the public sphere).

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

The author is not aware of any Malaysians playing in Russia and vice-versa. In any event, Malaysia has taken a neutral and non-aligned stance on the Russia-Ukraine dispute.

¹⁹⁴ LLM International Sports Law & FIFA Pro Bono Counsel

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

By *Natalia Chiriac*¹⁹⁵

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

The Republic of Moldova condemns in the strongest possible terms the unjustified war launched by Russian Federation against Ukraine. The Republic of Moldova has firmly demonstrated its commitment and engagement in ensuring international protection for those seeking refuge in our country. With interagency support of international organizations, a response mechanism has been implemented to assist Ukrainian refugees. The mechanism includes measures on protection, accommodation, transportation and child protection.

To respond to the needs of refugees, Moldovan authorities have established 92 refugee centers across the country, but most of them are hosted by Moldovan families. At present more than 90 000 Ukrainian refugees are hosted, most of them women and children.

At regional and international level, the Republic of Moldova has voted in favor of UN resolutions on aggression against Ukraine and humanitarian consequences of the aggression.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports associations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

In the context of the tragic events in Ukraine, the Moldovan Football Association (FAM) fully supported the decisions and actions of the government of the Republic of Moldova and joined all the actions initiated by the government of the country in the context of the difficult political situation in the region. It was decided that all matches in the Moldovan football championship would start with the banner message: “NO war!”

The UEFA Foundation for Children donated €100,000 to assist Ukrainian children and refugees in Moldova. This emergency funding was also used to provide three trucks of essential supplies and medicines to children’s hospitals in Ukraine. Also, with the support of UEFA Foundation for children, FMF donated humanitarian aid to three medical institutions in Moldova which received daily refugees from Ukraine.

In collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Moldova, FAM provided its Sport Complex “Futsal Arena FMF” to be used as a center for refugees. With the support of the Commission for Exceptional Situations, 500 beds have been set up for Ukrainian citizens. For several weeks, hundreds of mothers and children have found shelter at FAM sports buildings.

FAM also endeavored to help colleagues from the neighboring country. In this respect, FAM arranged for players and their families from Dinamo Kyiv and Shakhtar Donetsk to be hosted in the Republic of Moldova during their transit through Moldova.

¹⁹⁵ Natalia Chiriac, Sports Law Counsel, Football Association of Moldova.

In order to integrate refugee children, FAM in partnership with UNICEF, football clubs, the Refugee Charity Center, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the Directorate General for the Protection of the Rights of the Child, Special Olympics Moldova, Sunshine have organized several social and sports events for refugee children in Ukraine.

In the coming year, FAM, together with its partners, will carry out over the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova a number of football activities of a mass character for refugee children aged between 5 and 16 years old.

The purpose of these activities is to promote a healthy lifestyle and football as a tool for social, emotional and psychological counseling for those who suffered from the war.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organizations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No, no precedents to my knowledge.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

None, insofar there is no Russian sponsorship in Moldavan sports to my knowledge.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

After the Russian invasion, two Moldovan football players, one professional and one amateur, have returned to the Moldovan championship from Ukraine. Also, two minor players have been transferred from Ukraine to Moldova under art. 19 para 2 lit d) i.e. for humanitarian reasons.

Whereas in the past many Moldovan football players were playing in Russia, recently this number has decreased considerably. Therefore, no consequences of any nature have been recorded in this respect.

On the other hand, there were about 5 Russian players registered in the Moldovan Championship, but their transfers took place prior to and have no connection with the events of 24 February 2022.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

THE NETHERLANDS

By Laurens Korbee and Kevin van den Oetelaar¹⁹⁶

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

The Dutch government has decided to appoint a National Coordinator for Sanctions Compliance and Enforcement (NCSH). The goal is to further strengthen the compliance and enforcement of the sanctions. The most important actions for the National Coordinator will be:

- Active detection and enforcement of sanctions against the most important Russian individuals and entities in the top 200 sanctions list,
- Improve supervision and enforcement of sanctions in areas where this has not yet been regulated. This includes real estate, art and heritage, business property and non-financial services,
- Solving bottlenecks in the compliance and enforcement of sanctions. For example, in the field of information exchange between governments,
- Streamline alignment between departments and relevant institutions and improve communication with companies and stakeholders in society.

Furthermore, the Dutch government has imposed sanctions against Russia in collaboration with the European Union. Such measures include seizing or expropriating real estate, supervision on trust offices and monitoring aircrafts that belong to Russian oligarchs in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. A complete overview of the current sanctions can be found on the website of the Dutch government¹⁹⁷.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The Dutch Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF) has expressed its disgust at the invasion and endorsed the resolution of the International Olympic Committee, which recommended that international sports federations and international event organisers should not invite or allow participants from Russia or Belarus to participate in international competitions. NOC*NSF called on its affiliated sports organisations to urge their international federations to move sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus and to exclude athletes and sports teams from Russia and Belarus from participating in sports events organised by the international federations elsewhere.¹⁹⁸

In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB) decided that the representative teams of the KNVB will not play against the national teams of Russia and Belarus. For this reason, the match of the Dutch women's national football team against Belarus on 12 April 2022 in the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualification was cancelled and postponed.

¹⁹⁶ Legal Counsels of the Dutch Federation of Professional Football Clubs (FBO).

¹⁹⁷ <https://www.rvo.nl/onderwerpen/landen-en-gebieden/rusland/sancties> (last visited on 23 June 2022)..

¹⁹⁸ <https://nocnsf.nl/en> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On 6 May 2022, the KNVB decided to lift the boycott against Belarus. The KNVB mentioned that it already went further than UEFA and other countries by boycotting Belarus, but other countries continued to play against Belarus, as a result of which a long-term boycott by the KNVB would have no effect. Moreover, the KNVB mentioned that since the competitors for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualification in fact do play against Belarus, this made it difficult for the Netherlands to qualify for the World Cup. Therefore, since 6 May 2022, the KNVB only limits its boycott to Russia. The match of the Dutch women's national football team against Belarus shall now take place on 28 June 2022. The KNVB however expressed its wish to play without any audience and without playing the national anthems before the match, because the KNVB is of the opinion that the regime in Belarus should not look forward to international sports competitions and thus wants to limit the attention for this game.¹⁹⁹

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are not any precedents.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

To our knowledge, neither the Dutch professional football clubs nor the Dutch Olympic Committee (NOC*NSF) is linked to any Russian sponsor. Therefore, there has been no reaction.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

No.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

Mr. Valeri Oyf was the Russian major shareholder of the Dutch football club Vitesse. After persistent public criticism, Mr. Oyf (who is not yet on the sanctions lists of Europe nor the United States) decided to sell his share in Vitesse and resigned from the club's Supervisory Board.

¹⁹⁹ <https://www.knvb.nl/nieuws/organisatie/berichten/66205/statement-knvb-over-wk-kwalificatiewedstrijd-oranjeleewinnen> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

NIGERIA
By *Felix Majani*²⁰⁰

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

On 24 February 2022, the African Union condemned Russia's attack on Ukraine and called for an immediate ceasefire.

Further, in March 2022, Nigeria was among 141 nations that voted in support of a resolution that condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine at the United Nations General Assembly. The Nigerian government has not imposed any sanctions.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

None to the best of my knowledge.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

There has not been any reaction.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

In March 2022, Nigerian striker Sylvester Igbonu invoked FIFA's Temporary rules addressing the exceptional situation deriving from the war in Ukraine and terminated his contract with Russian club FK Nizhny Novgorod one month after he joined the club.

- 6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?**

No.

²⁰⁰ LLM International Sports Law & FIFA Pro Bono Counsel

POLAND

By *Maciej Bałaziński*²⁰¹ and *Karolina Letniowska*²⁰²

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

In general, Poland as a Member State of the European Union adheres to sanctions imposed on Russia by the European Union. In addition, it has introduced several measures on a national level, including an embargo on coal and coke coming from the territory of Russia and Belarus as well as exclusion of entities listed on the EU and Polish sanction lists from proceedings for public procurement. As of the 26 April 2022, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration publishes a list of persons and entities to which such sanctions apply.

In terms of sport, on the 10 March 2022 the Polish Ministry of Sport and Tourism launched a helpline for sports athletes coming from Ukraine who are currently in Poland or are headed hereto. The helpline is aimed at facilitating athletes in finding accommodation and a base for training. The project is supported by the Polish Anti-Doping Agency (POLADA) and the Polish Football Association (PZPN). There are numerous sports associations and sports centres engaged in helping Ukrainian athletes finding opportunities to continue their training process in Poland.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

The response of the Polish Olympic Committee (PKOl) to the Russian invasion on Ukraine was firm and immediate. Already on 26 February 2022 the President of PKOl addressed the letter to Mr Sergey Bubka, the President of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, in which he expressed solidarity with Ukraine and declared readiness of PKOl to support the Ukrainian nation in general, and the Ukrainian athletes and their relatives in particular. The President assured that PKOl continuously monitors the situation in Ukraine and on its borders and is ready to provide assistance accordingly.

On 1 March 2022 the President of PKOl publicly supported recommendations of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) with regard to participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes in international competitions. As stated by the President, only a joint, firm and unanimous position has an impact, therefore the abovementioned athletes and their staff shall be excluded from participating in international competitions. Such position of PKOl was presented during the meeting of the Executive Committee of European Olympic Committees (EOC) held on the same day.

As regards PZPN, apart from supporting the abovementioned initiative of the Polish Ministry of Sport and Tourism, on the 27 February 2022 the Emergency Committee of PZPN introduced amendments to the regulations governing the status and transfer of players and the regulations

²⁰¹ Attorney-at-law licenced in Poland specialized in sports law, Founding Partner of the legal office Kancelaria Prawna Maciej Bałaziński i Współpracownicy, arbitrator at Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) in Lausanne, Vice-President of Towarzystwo Sportowe Wisła Kraków S.A.

²⁰² Attorney trainee working in Kancelaria Prawna Maciej Bałaziński i Współpracownicy, LL. M. at the University of Gdańsk, LL. M. in Sustainable Development at the University of Milan.

establishing the number of ex-EU football players allowed to play in football matches in particular divisions. According to these amendments:

- the limits of non-EU football players registered by a football club as well as the requirement to submit a visa and a work permit for the player's registration do not apply to the citizens of Ukraine;
- the limits of non-EU football players fielded in a football match that are applicable to male 2nd league division and lower, male cup competitions on the regional level, women's league and cup competitions, Futsal and beach soccer, do not apply to the citizens of Ukraine;
- the requirement to register non-EU football players only as professionals does not apply to the citizens of Ukraine.

As a result of these amendments, Polish football clubs are entitled to register an unlimited number of football players of Ukrainian citizenship, also as amateurs, and are not required to present their visa and work permit for such purposes. Additionally, Ukrainian football players can be fielded by their current clubs in particular football matches without any limitations.

The introduction of the abovementioned facilitations is aimed at encouraging Polish football clubs to welcome Ukrainian football players and to help them continue their football training and career, at the same time strengthening their own teams during the ongoing football season 2021/2022.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

No.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

The reaction of the Polish sports industry in general to the Russian invasion on Ukraine has been virtually unanimous. Its stakeholders demonstrated their deep unity with Ukrainian citizens and football players. Since the outset of war, they engaged in numerous forms of support, including collection and distribution of clothing, food and necessary utilities, as well as raising awareness through their social media.

In particular, there were many forms of support undertaken within the football industry. Remarkably, the Polish National Team supported by PZPN refused to play against Russia in the qualifiers to the FIFA World Cup 2022. This decision was later approved by FIFA who consequently excluded the Russian Team from the competition. On the league level, football clubs tended to welcome Ukrainian players to train at their facilities. Numerous charity matches were played both within professional and amateur football. By way of example, in collaboration with the Ukrainian Football Association and Ukrainian football clubs, two charity matches on the central professional level were organized – a match between Legia Warszawa and Dynamo Kyiv on the 12 April 2022 and a match between Lechia Gdańsk and Shakhtar Donetsk on the 14 April 2022.

In addition to the foregoing, following the amendments of PZPN regulations facilitating registration of Ukrainian football players as well as the introduction of Annex 7 to the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP), several Polish football clubs decided to register players coming from Ukraine in the ongoing season. To name a few, Wisła Kraków loaned Georgiy Tsitaishvili from Dynamo Kyiv, Legia Warszawa engaged Benjamin Verbic from Dynamo Kyiv

while Jagiellonia Białystok contracted Marc Gual from Dnipro-1 and Diego Santos Carioca from Kolos Kovalivka.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia ? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

At the outset of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, there were several Polish athletes pursuing their professional sports careers in Russia, including in football, volleyball, handball and basketball. Some of them managed to find an agreement with the club and mutually terminate their contracts. Other decided to unilaterally terminate their employment relationship in view of the lack of consensus. Some others remain in Russian sports clubs.

In terms of professional football, one player that made use of the provisions of Annex 7 to FIFA RSTP was Grzegorz Krychowiak who was transferred to AEK Athens from Krasnodar on the 15th of March 2022. However, there are a few players that remained in Russia either due to the lack of agreement with the club as to the termination of their employment relationship or for personal reasons.

Interestingly however, it shall be noted that sanctions imposed on Russia in terms of financial and banking services have their secondary effect also on transactions involving athletes willing to leave the territory of Russia. Namely, the limitations on the ability to perform transactions with ex-Russia entities prevent Russian football clubs from executing payments towards the engaging clubs. These sanctions, while being crucial in the efforts of the international community to stop the war in Ukraine, have unexpectedly hindered movement of players from Russia.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

PORTUGAL

By Rui Botica Santos,²⁰³ Tiago Patrão Silva²⁰⁴ and João Teles Nogueira²⁰⁵

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

The Portuguese Government opted for following most of its EU State-members in what concerns sanctions against the Russian regime of President Vladimir Putin. While this was its general approach for all sectors, the Portuguese Minister of Education, which is responsible for Youth and Sport in the country, signed a joint statement²⁰⁶ which stated that “*Russia’s unprovoked and unjustifiable war of choice against Ukraine, enabled by the Belarusian government, is abhorrent and a flagrant breach of its international obligations. Respect for human rights and peaceful relations between nations form the foundation of international sport*”.

In addition to this, and in accordance with said statement, the signatory countries committed to guarantee that (i) Russia and Belarus should not be permitted to host, bid for or be awarded any international sporting events, (ii) that individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian States should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs and that (iii) wherever possible, appropriate actions should be taken to limit sponsorship and other financial support from entities with links to the Russian or Belarusian States.

In addition, these countries “*(...) encourage all international sport organisations and all relevant legal bodies not to sanction athletes, coaches or officials who decide unilaterally to terminate their contracts with Russian, Belarusian or Ukrainian clubs, as well as not to pursue or to sanction sport organisers which decide to ban athletes or teams selected by Russia or Belarus.*

Furthermore, we encourage the international sport community to continue to show its solidarity with the people of Ukraine, including through supporting the continuation of Ukrainian sport where possible”

Finally, the Portuguese government has been exercising diplomatic pressure targeted at punishing the Russian regime before the European institutions and its closest partners, which is in line with the general orientation regarding this conflict.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

²⁰³ Arbitrator and Mediator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (TAS-CAS), in Lausanne, and Judge of the FIA Courts (International Tribunal and International Court of Appeal)

²⁰⁴ Trainee Lawyer at Coelho Ribeiro & Associados, RL, Lisbon and post-graduated in Sports Law

²⁰⁵ Trainee Lawyer at Coelho Ribeiro & Associados, RL, Lisbon and post-graduated in Sports Law.

²⁰⁶ “*STATEMENT ON RUSSIA’S WAR ON UKRAINE & INTERNATIONAL SPORT*” – Joint declaration by 37 countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France and Switzerland. Available at: <https://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/gc22/comunicacao/documento?i=declaracao-conjunta-das-tutelas-do-desporto-relativamente-a-invasao-da-ucrania-pela-russia> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

The Portuguese Olympic Committee (“POC”) has taken a strong stand against the invasion of Ukraine but is essentially following all recommendations of the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”). The same can be said for the Portuguese Paralympic Committee.

National Sports Federations have also been applying their international counterparties’ recommendations and measures, however, there have been some noteworthy aid mechanisms put in place to help Ukrainian sportspersons:

- The Portuguese Football Federation (“FPF”) decided to extend the registration deadline for young amateur athletes from Ukraine until 31 May 2022 to enable under-11 to under-19 football players from Ukraine to play football.²⁰⁷ Recently, the FPF announced that it had collected more than 1.6 million euros, which will be given “in full” to the Portuguese Red Cross emergency fund.²⁰⁸
- The Portuguese Handball Federation exceptionally allowed registration of Ukrainian sports agents, free of charge or registration fees, until 1 April, with a view to their participation in official, national and regional competitions. In addition, it has also enacted other support measures of a non-sporting nature, such as allowing these individuals to enrol and attend higher education and polytechnic courses, in accordance with the federation’s protocols with said institutions;²⁰⁹
- The Portuguese Volleyball Federation announced that it was available *“to receive, at no cost, Ukrainian athletes, namely the Beach Volleyball doubles of the National Ukrainian Team and, in indoor volleyball, the National Under-17 Women’s and Under-18 Men’s teams, so that they can prepare with dignity for the 2nd Qualifying Round of the respective European Championships, being able to extend their stay here for as long as they wish”*²¹⁰.

It is also important to note a very interesting project from the FPF, called *“Each Club, a Family”*, the aim of which is to transform the clubs into a supportive platform that facilitates integration into Portuguese society and provides hope to a population in emergency situations after fleeing the war in Ukraine. Portuguese coach Paulo Fonseca and his Ukraine-born wife Katerina, both of which had to flee from the war, are the ambassadors of this FPF initiative²¹¹.

The main idea behind this project is for Portuguese clubs to act as a “reception cell”, finding employment for an adult refugee and offering football practice to the household’s children or minors. Dozens have already found a new job and home thanks to this initiative and many clubs are still available to help Ukrainians in need²¹².

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no precedents.

²⁰⁷ <https://www.fpf.pt/pt/News/Todas-as-not%C3%ADcias/Not%C3%ADcia/news/33629> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁰⁸ <https://www.fpf.pt/pt/News/Todas-as-not%C3%ADcias/Not%C3%ADcia/news/34226> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁰⁹ <https://portal.fpa.pt/2022/03/nota-de-imprensa-situacao-de-guerra-na-ucrania/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹⁰ <https://fpvoleibol.pt/fpv/2022/03/11/nota-de-imprensa-situacao-na-ucrania/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹¹ <https://www.fpf.pt/pt/News/Todas-as-not%C3%ADcias/Not%C3%ADcia/news/33564> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹² <https://www.fpf.pt/pt/News/Todas-as-not%C3%ADcias/Not%C3%ADcia/news/34236> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

National Federations, clubs and the POC have followed their international counterparties' position against Russian sponsors, however, Portuguese sport does not have any meaningful Russian sponsorship contracts and, therefore, we have no information about any contract terminations or any other related issues.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

As stated above, Portugal's position regarding Russian athletes competing in the country is the one from the joint statement that it signed, namely that “(...) *individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs*”. Those who participate in professional sport without representing the countries of Russia or Belarus have not been banned nor is a ban of sorts yet enacted.

On the other hand, Portuguese nationals playing in Russia have not, to our knowledge, suffered any consequences in light of the conflict and the measures put in place by Portuguese authorities.

We point out that the number of Russian professional athletes playing in Portugal and Portuguese professional athletes playing in Russia is limited.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

Firstly, as a matter of context, it's important to note that Portuguese sport does not have a strong connection with any of the involved parties in the conflict, since we do not have a meaningful number of Russian or Ukrainian athletes and there is no relevant Russian sponsorship or influence in the top professional clubs (FC Porto, SL Benfica and Sporting CP).

Secondly, as a matter of curiosity, the first competitive football match of a Ukrainian club after the start of the invasion was played between Dinamo Kiev and a Portuguese club, Sporting CP, in the UEFA Youth League, an under-19 competition. This match carried a lot of meaning especially for the young players who could not avoid showing their emotions when the match ended.²¹³

²¹³ <https://www.ojogo.pt/futebol/1a-liga/sporting/noticias/sporting-bate-dinamo-kiev-e-defronta-o-benfica-nos-quartos-de-final-da-uefa-youth-league-14751030.html> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

RUSSIA
By Anna Smirnova²¹⁴

Questions:

1. What reaction followed from the Russian sports organizations in response to the sanctions imposed by the International Sports Organizations?

Before setting out the various reactions and responses from the Russian sports authorities in relation to the current situation, it would be useful to first note the following decisions of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that gave rise to such massive legal and sporting implications:

- a) On 24 February 2022²¹⁵, the IOC “*strongly condemned the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government*”; it was mentioned that “*the IOC is deeply concerned about the safety of the Olympic Community in Ukraine. It has established a task force to closely monitor the situation and to coordinate the humanitarian assistance to members of the Olympic Community in Ukraine where possible*”;
- b) On 25 February 2022²¹⁶, the Executive Board (EB) of the IOC reiterated its “*strong condemnation of the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government and the government of Belarus through its support in this*”. In addition, the following was stated:
 - The IOC EB “*urges all International Sports Federations to relocate or cancel their sports events currently planned in Russia or Belarus. They should take the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian and Belarussian governments into account and give the safety and security of the athletes absolute priority. The IOC itself has no events planned in Russia or Belarus*”.
 - The IOC EB “*urges that no Russian or Belarussian national flag be displayed and no Russian or Belarussian anthem be played in international sports events which are not already part of the respective World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) sanctions for Russia*”.
 - The IOC EB “*expresses its full support to the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for the upcoming Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022*”.
 - The IOC EB “*expresses its deep concerns about the safety of the members of the Olympic Community in Ukraine and stands in full solidarity. It notes that the special IOC task force is in contact with the Olympic Community in the country to coordinate humanitarian assistance where possible*”.
 - The IOC EB “*asks the task force to continue to closely monitor the situation and to keep the IOC EB informed and updated, also with regard to potential amendments of today’s resolution*”.
- c) On 28 February 2022²¹⁷, the IOC EB passed several resolutions (hereinafter referred to as the “*IOC Decision as of 28 February 2022*”), among which:

²¹⁴ Attorney at Law, Monteneri Sports Law (www.monteneri.law; as@monteneri.law).

²¹⁵ <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-strongly-condemns-the-breach-of-the-olympic-truce> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹⁶ <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-urges-all-ifs-to-relocate-or-cancel-their-sports-events-currently-planned-in-russia-or-belarus> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹⁷ <https://olympics.com/ioc/news/ioc-eb-recommends-no-participation-of-russian-and-belarusian-athletes-and-officials> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

- *“In order to protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants, the IOC EB recommends that International Sports Federations and sports event organisers not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials in international competitions”.*
- *“Wherever this is not possible on short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB strongly urges International Sports Federations and organisers of sports events worldwide to do everything in their power to ensure that no athlete or sports official from Russia or Belarus be allowed to take part under the name of Russia or Belarus. Russian or Belarusian nationals, be it as individuals or teams, should be accepted only as neutral athletes or neutral teams. No national symbols, colours, flags or anthems should be displayed”.*
- *“Wherever, in very extreme circumstances, even this is not possible on short notice for organisational or legal reasons, the IOC EB leaves it to the relevant organisation to find its own way to effectively address the dilemma described above”.*
- The IOC EB maintained its recommendation not to organize any sports events in Russia or Belarus;
- The IOC EB took the *ad hoc* decision to withdraw the Olympic Order from all persons who currently have an important function in the government of the Russian Federation or other government-related high-ranking position.

Following the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022 and in line with its instructions, the majority of the international and regional sports federations and organizations issued their resolutions with respect to the sanctions and limitations to be imposed on the athletes and teams originating from Russia and Belarus. There has been no uniform approach among the international sports federations as to what measures are to be taken, when, how and their duration.

For illustrative purposes, the table below summarizes certain decisions of some international sports federations taken to implement the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022; some of these decisions have been appealed by the Russian sports federations either to the internal judicial bodies of the relevant international sports federations or directly to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

Organization	Date	Decision
FIFA	27 February 2022	The Bureau of the FIFA Council (FIFA President and the six Confederation Presidents) decided to take initial measures applicable until further notice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“No international competition shall be played on the territory of Russia, with “home” matches being played on neutral territory and without spectators”;</i> - <i>“The member association representing Russia shall participate in any competition under the name “Football Union of Russia (RFU)” and not “Russia””</i> - <i>“No flag or anthem of Russia will be used in matches where teams from the Football Union of Russia participate”²¹⁸</i>
FIFA/UEFA	28 February 2022	FIFA and UEFA decided together that <i>“all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, shall be suspended from participation in both FIFA and UEFA competitions until further notice”²¹⁹</i>

²¹⁸ <https://www.fifa.com/tournaments/mens/worldcup/qatar2022/media-releases/bureau-of-the-fifa-council-takes-initial-measures-with-regard-to-war-in> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²¹⁹ <https://www.fifa.com/tournaments/mens/worldcup/qatar2022/media-releases/fifa-uefa-suspend-russian-clubs-and-national-teams-from-all-competitions> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

		The Football Union of Russia appealed against this decision to CAS; the arbitral proceedings are pending on the date of this Survey.
European Olympic Committees	2 March 2022	<p><i>“Russian and Belarus athletes and officials will no longer participate in the forthcoming 2022 Winter European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) to be held in Vuokatti, Finland, from 20-25 March.”</i></p> <p><i>“(…) in order to safeguard the well-being of such young athletes, as well as protect the integrity of the event, the EOC believes Russian and Belarusian athletes should not compete in Vuokatti in any capacity”²²⁰</i></p> <p>The Russian Olympic Committee appealed against this decision to CAS; the arbitral proceedings are pending on the date of this Survey.</p>
International Skating Union	1 March 2022	<p><i>“in order to protect the integrity of ice skating competitions and for the safety of all the participants of international ice skating competitions, the ISU Council based on Article 17.1.q)i) of the ISU Constitution, agreed that with immediate effect and until further notice, no Skaters belonging to the ISU Members in Russia (Russian Skating Union and the Figure Skating Federation of Russia) and Belarus (Skating Union of Belarus) shall be invited or allowed to participate in International ice skating Competitions including ISU Championships and other ISU Events. The same applies to Officials listed in the respective ISU Communications and/or Regulations under Russia and Belarus”²²¹</i></p> <p>The Russian Skating Union, the Figure Skating Federation of Russia and some athletes appealed against this decision to CAS; the arbitral proceedings are pending on the date of this Survey.</p>
International Biathlon Union	2 March 2022	<p><i>“the IBU EB has decided now not to allow the participation of any Russian or Belarusian athletes or officials at its international events until further notice including non-sports events organised by the IBU for its members.”²²²</i></p> <p>The Russian Biathlon Union appealed against this decision; the arbitral proceedings are suspended on the date of this Survey.</p>
International Ice-Hockey Federation	28 February 2022	<p>IIHF Council decided on the <i>“suspension of all Russian and Belarusian National Teams and Clubs from participation in every age category and in all IIHF competitions or events until further notice”</i> and the <i>“Withdrawal of the 2023 IIHF World Junior Championship hosting rights from Russia”²²³</i>.</p>

²²⁰ <https://www.eurolympic.org/russia-belarus-athletes-and-officials-will-not-participate-in-eyof-vuokatti-2022/>; <https://www.eurolympic.org/eoc-extends-decision-regarding-russia-and-belarus/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²¹ <https://www.isu.org/media-centre/press-releases/2022-4/27825-isu-statement-on-the-ukrainian-crisis-01-03-2022/file> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²² <https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/russia-belarus-ban-biathlon/5ZE0Cw161gYi3hJpeXsiAwI>; on 29 March 2022, IBU suspended the national federations of Russia and Belarus (<https://www.biathlonworld.com/news/ibu-suspends-russia-belarus/6qaHB3J4ixdM880SXCL79D>) (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²³ https://www.iihf.com/en/news/32301/iihf_council_announces_decisions_over_russia_belar (last visited on 23 June 2022).

		On 18 March 2022, the Russian Ice-Hockey Federation lodged the appeal before the IIHF Disciplinary Board ²²⁴ . No further information about the course or the outcome of the appeal is available on the date of this Survey.
Union Cycliste Internationale	1 March 2022	Among other decisions, the UCI Management ruled that “ <i>Russian and Belarusian national teams and/or national selections are not authorised to take part in any events on the UCI International Calendar with immediate effect</i> ”, “ <i>UCI Team status is withdrawn from all teams under Russian or Belarusian nationality and the UCI shall not consider any further applications for UCI status from teams from these two countries</i> ”, etc ²²⁵ . There is no available information whether this decision was appealed or not.
UEFA	2 May 2022	The UEFA Executive Committee among other decisions ruled that “ <i>Russia will have no affiliated clubs participating in UEFA club competitions in the 2022/23 season</i> ”, i.e. “ <i>the respective access lists of the men’s and women’s club competitions have been rebalanced in accordance with the principles set out in the relevant competition regulations</i> ” Shortly after this decision, five Russian football clubs (FC Zenit Saint-Petersburg, PFC Sochi, FC Dynamo Moscow, PFC CSKA Moscow, and FC Spartak Moscow) appealed against it to the Court of Arbitration for Sport ²²⁶ . On the date of this Survey the arbitral proceedings are still pending.
International Paralympic Committee (IPC)	2 March 2022	Two days before the opening of the Paralympic Games in Beijing, the IPC decided that “ <i>the Russian Paralympic Committee and the National Paralympic Committee of Belarus will participate as neutrals at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games</i> ” and that “ <i>they will compete under the Paralympic flag and not be included in the medal table</i> ” ²²⁷ .
	3 March 2022	Less than a day before the opening of the Games, the IPC stated that “ <i>following a specially convened meeting, the IPC Governing Board has decided to refuse the athlete entries from the RPC and NPC Belarus for the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games</i> ” ²²⁸ . On the date of this Survey there is no available information of whether any of the foregoing decisions of the IPC has been appealed.

Considering the variety of the sanctions imposed in different sports disciplines on the Russian athletes, the reaction of the Russian sports organizations, clubs and athletes differed drastically depending on the severity of the measures and specifics of the sports discipline. Many of the

²²⁴ <https://fhr.ru/news/item/90179/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²⁵ <https://www.uci.org/pressrelease/the-uci-takes-strong-measures-in-the-face-of-the-situation-in-ukraine/> 6V8Frkqs Pbhbe Mlc8rgb3t (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²⁶ <https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/sports/russian-clubs-appeal-uefa-decision-bar-them-european-competition-2022-05-13/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²⁷ <https://www.paralympic.org/press-release/ipc-makes-decisions-regarding-rpc-and-npc-belarus> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²²⁸ <https://www.paralympic.org/news/ipc-decline-athlete-entries-rpc-and-npc-belarus-beijing-2022> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

decisions issued by the international sports federations were appealed by the Russian sports federations, clubs and individual athletes to the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the internal judicial bodies of the international sports federations.

The most significant developments of the Russian sports pertaining to the implications of the sanctions imposed are described below.

Appeals before the Court of Arbitration for Sport

The information about the arbitral proceedings initiated by the Russian sports organizations and individual athletes before the Court of Arbitration for Sport, was taken for the purposes of this Survey from the CAS Media Release issued on 5 April 2022²²⁹. Then, CAS gave information about ten arbitral proceedings initiated by the various Russian sports organizations, most of which are still pending at the time of publication of this Survey; one appeal had been withdrawn and one procedure suspended.

In the two arbitration proceedings initiated by the Football Union of Russia (FUR) against the decisions of FIFA and UEFA to suspend all the FUR teams from participating in FIFA and UEFA competitions until further notice, namely *CAS 2022/A/8709 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Union of European Football Associations et al.* and *CAS 2022/A/8708 Football Union of Russia (FUR) v. Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) et al.*, the Football Union of Russia sought interim relief, namely for CAS to “grant the suspensive effect to the Appeal and/or if needed, order [FIFA and UEFA] to take all necessary measures to reinstate immediately all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, for participation in [FIFA/UEFA] competitions, including, but without limitation, in the competitions (...)”

On 8 April 2022 by the President of the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division issued two orders on Requests for Provisional Measures in the afore-referenced proceedings where the applications for provisional measures filed by the Football Union of Russia were rejected²³⁰.

On 23 June 2022, CAS upheld the appeals filed by the Russian Weightlifting Federation (RWF), Maxim Agapitov, Dmitry Chernogorov and Aleksandr Kishkin against the four decisions rendered on 23 May 2022 by the Eligibility Determination Panel (EDP) IWF by which the RWF was “prohibited from nominating any candidate for election to the Executive Board, any IWF Commission and any IWF Committee for the IWF elections to be held in June 2022” and, as a consequence, the three candidates Agapitov, Chernogorov and Kishkin were declared ineligible for the same elections. The CAS Panel set the challenged decisions aside, having found that IWF EDP did not have jurisdiction to prevent the RWF from nominating candidates for the elections.²³¹

On 15 July 2022 the Court of Arbitration for Sport announced that the appeals filed by FUR as well as the appeals of four Russian Clubs against the decisions taken accordingly by the Bureau of the FIFA Council and the UEFA Executive Committee (the UEFA appeal) to suspend all Russian

²²⁹ https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_05.04.22_Russian_appeals.pdf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²³⁰ https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8708_Reasoned_OPM_publication_.pdf and https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8709_reasoned_OPM_publication_.pdf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²³¹ Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8915_et_al.pdf

teams and clubs from participation in their respective competitions until further notice have been dismissed and the challenged decisions are confirmed.²³²

In the Panel's view it is *"unfortunate that the current military operations in Ukraine, for which Russian football teams, clubs, and players have themselves no responsibility, had, by reason of the decisions of FIFA and UEFA, such an adverse effect on them and Russian football generally, but those effects were, in the Panel's view, offset by the need for the secure and orderly conduct of football events for the rest of the world"*.²³³

International Luge Federation (FIL)

On 2 March 2022, following the IOC Decision of 28 February 2022, FIL among other resolutions passed the following:

- Russia is ineligible to host any FIL sanctioned events.
- All Russian athletes, coaches and officials are excluded from all FIL sanctioned events.
- Russian representatives appointed by the FIL Executive Board to various commissions and Working Groups are suspended from their positions.
- FIL will initiate an investigation into certain derogatory and disturbing social media posts by Russian athletes directed at Ukraine²³⁴.

The decision was appealed by the Russian Luge Federation to the FIL Court of Arbitration and, subsequently, on 7 April 2022, the FIL Court of Arbitration annulled all measures imposed on 2 March 2022 against the Russian Luge Federation.

In response, on 11 April 2022, the FIL Executive Board stated that *"the FIL leadership, together with the FIL Legal Committee, will look for possibilities to solve the unsatisfactory situation caused by the arbitration judgment of the FIL Court of Arbitration by means of a possible change in the statutes, which would have to be decided by a 2/3 majority at the ordinary FIL Congress on June 18-19, 2022 in Riga/LAT"*²³⁵.

European Table Tennis Union (ETTU)

On 27 April 2022, the ETTU Executive Board issued a statement confirming that it had received the decision of the Board of Appeal (BoA) on the appeal lodged by the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, in which it ruled against the decision to suspend the Russian table tennis clubs Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC from last season's semi-final and final of the Champions League.

The ETTU emphasized that it had no wish to punish athletes for the decisions of their governments, however the decision to suspend the Russian clubs was taken to protect athlete safety and ensure the integrity of its competitions, in line with the recommendations of the IOC and ITTF²³⁶.

²³² Available on https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Media_Release_8708_8709_8865_8866_8867_8868_Decision.pdf (last visited on 16 July 2022).

²³³ *Ibidem*.

²³⁴ <https://www.fil-luge.org/en/news/resolution-of-the-fil-executive-board> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²³⁵ <https://www.fil-luge.org/de/news/statement-of-the-fil-executive-board-on-the-decision-of-the-fil-court-of-arbitration-in-the-case-fil-executive-board-v-russian-luge-federation> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²³⁶ <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/april/ettu-eb/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

On 16 May 2022, the ETTU stated that the ETTU Executive Board had submitted new information to the Board of Appeal and requested a revision of the BoA's judgement on the appeal of the Table Tennis Federation of Russia, Fakel Gazprom Orenburg and TTSC UMMC regarding the Table Tennis Champions League season 2021-2022²³⁷. On the date of this Survey no further information is available in respect of the court and the outcome of these proceedings.

Chess Federation of Russia

On 2 March 2022, the FIDE²³⁸ Council decided that “no Russian and Belarusian national flag be displayed or anthem be played in all FIDE-rated international chess events. Instead – the national chess federation’s flag or the official symbol/logo shall be used”. Furthermore, the FIDE Council condemned “any public statement from any member of the chess community which supports unjustified military action and brings the case of chess grandmasters Sergey Karjakin and Sergey Shipov to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission”²³⁹.

On 4 March 2022, the European Chess Union (ECU) suspended the Russian and Belarusian Chess Federations²⁴⁰, which included without limitations the following:

- The suspension of all competitions/events/seminars to be held in both Russia and Belarus and the prohibition of the display and use of both countries’ flags, anthems, colours, and symbols.
- With immediate effect the exclusion of Russian and Belarusian national teams and clubs from all events on the ECU calendar. The decision was to be ratified by the ECU General Assembly.
- The exclusion of individual players representing Russian or Belarusian federations from all ECU competitions unless they change federation or by their expressed will represent the FIDE flag in the rating list.
- Banning all trainers, arbiters or officials from Russia and Belarus from performing any duties during the forthcoming European Chess Championships or in any subsequent ECU events.

Having faced the foregoing severe restrictions, on 14 April 2022, the Chess Federation of Russia announced its decision to quit the European Chess Union and instead to join the Asian Chess Federation²⁴¹. On the date hereof the process of the change of affiliation by the Chess Federation of Russia is ongoing.

2. Are there any precedents of how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

The history of the Russian and earlier Soviet sport is rich for unusual and unique precedents easily explained by the abundance of geopolitical challenges faced throughout the last century by the country.

²³⁷ <https://www.ettu.org/en/n/news/2022/may/ettu-statement-on-board-of-appeal-decision/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²³⁸ International Chess Federation.

²³⁹ <https://www.fide.com/news/1603> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴⁰ <https://www.europechess.org/ecu-suspends-the-russian-and-belarusian-chess-federations/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴¹ <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1121915/rcf-votes-join-asian-chess-federation> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

To begin with, since the establishment of the Olympic movement and the first modern Olympic Games back in 1896, Russia (the Russian Empire at the time) participated in the Olympiads only twice – in 1908 and 1912. The first Russian Olympic Committee was created in 1911 and survived only until 1917 when it was dissolved.

In the following 35 years, Russian – or, more accurately, Soviet – sport, was not admitted to the Olympic movement, mostly due to reasons deriving from the Russian Revolution of 1917 as well as the aftermath of the First World War. At this point, it is remarkable to recall the contribution of prince Lev Urusov, the IOC member from 1910 to 1933, who strove to allow refugees from Russia to compete at the 1924 Olympics, an attempt which was defeated by the IOC²⁴².

Until 1951 Soviet sport existed autonomously, although Soviet athletes and teams every now and then managed to participate in the international competitions. Apparently, the young Soviet republics faced certain resistance on their way to the international sports arena.

In April 1951 the All-Union Committee on Physical Culture and Sport of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics (USSR) notified the IOC about the establishment of the National Olympic Committee of the USSR and applied to join the IOC. The application was approved on 7 May 1951, and thus, Soviet athletes for the first time in the history of the Olympic Movement participated in the Winter Olympic Games in Oslo and Summer Olympic Games in Helsinki in 1952²⁴³.

The next crisis reached Soviet sport some quarter-century later following the escalation of the Cold War and the beginning of the Soviet-Afghan War in December 1979. In early January 1980, the Russian dissident Andrei Sakharov called for a boycott of the Olympics being held in Moscow later that year. The call was ultimately heeded by 65 countries²⁴⁴, leading to only 81 countries participating in the opening ceremony of the Games.

In 1984, the summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles were boycotted by the athletes from the socialist countries (except Romania, Yugoslavia and China). Officially, the reason given for this boycott was the failure of the organizers to guarantee security for the athletes from the USSR and the Warsaw Pact participants.

The next political perturbation that affected sport globally and involved Russia occurred only a few years later.

At the end of 1991, the USSR was completely dissolved and the few remaining before the opening of the Olympics of 1992²⁴⁵ were not sufficient to complete all the formalities for the newly independent countries previously forming parts of the USSR to be admitted as separate members of the Olympic family.

The Unified Team represented the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) at the 1992 Olympics in both Albertville and Barcelona. In Albertville, the Unified Team was represented by the five former Soviet republics – Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. In Barcelona, the Unified Team had representatives from all the former Soviet republics, save for the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, which competed independently. The Unified Team at

²⁴² <https://www.olympedia.org/athletes/899367> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴³ <https://olympic.ru/100-year/chapter-1/> [in Russian only] (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴⁴ <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/qfp/104481.htm> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴⁵ The Winter Olympics were held from 8 to 23 February 1992; the Summer Olympics from 25 July to 9 August 1992.

Barcelona also included athletes from Georgia²⁴⁶, which had not joined by then the Commonwealth of Independent States. In 1994 the republics began to compete independently²⁴⁷.

The historical review of Russian sport would not be complete without the reference to the Russian “doping saga”, which commenced on 11 December 2014, when WADA launched the Independent Commission to investigate the validity of allegations of doping practices; corrupt practices around sample collection and results management; and other ineffective administration of anti-doping processes that implicate Russia in general. Based on the documentary released called ‘*Doping – Top Secret: The Shadowy World of Athletics*’, it was alleged that there existed a leaked database, belonging to the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)²⁴⁸, which contained more than 12,000 blood tests from around 5,000 athletes in the years 2001 to 2012.

On 18 November 2015, WADA declared the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA) non-compliant with the WADA Code and, on 18 July 2016, an independent investigation by WADA concluded that it was shown “*beyond a reasonable doubt*” that RUSADA, the Russian Ministry of Sport, the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Centre of Sports Preparation of the National Teams of Russia had “*operated for the protection of doped Russian athletes*” within a “*state-directed failsafe system*” using “*the disappearing positive [test] methodology*”²⁴⁹.

During the next few years the dispute between the Russian sports authorities and WADA went on and finally resulted in notification by the WADA Executive Committee on 9 December 2019 of the RUSADA’s non-compliance with the WADA Code²⁵⁰; RUSADA did not accept this and appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

On 17 December 2020, the CAS Panel rendered the Award in the case *CAS 2020/O/6689 World Anti-Doping Agency v. Russian Anti-Doping Agency*²⁵¹ whereby it endorsed a significant number of consequences sought by WADA and ultimately imposed them on Russian sport. In particular, such consequences included the following:

- The exclusion of Russian Government representatives from sitting on the boards and commissions of signatory bodies (with the exception of persons elected or appointed in a personal capacity to bodies of the IOC/IPC);
- The exclusion of Russian Government representatives from attending or participating in the Olympic/Paralympic Games and World Championships;
- The restriction on hosting or bidding for future WADA regulated events;
- Banning the Russian flag from being flown at WADA regulated events.

The consequences imposed on RUSADA and Russian sport in general in accordance with the CAS Award came into effect on the date of the Award and remain in effect until the second anniversary of that date. As at the date of this Survey this period has not yet expired.

²⁴⁶ Georgia quit the CIS in 2008; Ukraine left the CIS in 2018.

²⁴⁷ <http://www.olympedia.org/countries/EUN> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁴⁸ Currently, World Athletics.

²⁴⁹ <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/news/wada-statement-independent-investigation-confirms-russian-state-manipulation-doping-control> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵⁰ <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/news/wada-executive-committee-unanimously-endorses-four-year-period-non-compliance-russian-anti> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵¹ https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/CAS_Award_6689.pdf (last visited on 23 June 2022).

3. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on Russian nationals playing abroad?

Based on the information available in the media, Russian football players with contracts in Europe have not faced any specific impact in the view of the current situation. It has been reported that two Russian players formerly playing in the Czech Republic had to leave their clubs due to issues with their working visas²⁵².

On the date of this Survey, there are 45 players active in the National Hockey League, which has stated its concern “*about the well-being of the players from Russia, who play in the NHL on behalf of their NHL Clubs, and not on behalf of Russia*”. The NHL emphasized its understanding that the players and their families are being placed in an extremely difficult position²⁵³.

Among the most remarkable cases one may mention the implications on the tennis players of Russian or Belarusian nationalities.

On 20 April 2022, on behalf of the All England Club and the Committee of Management of The Championships, Wimbledon stated that “*it would be unacceptable for the Russian regime to derive any benefits from the involvement of Russian or Belarusian players with The Championships. It is therefore our intention, with deep regret, to decline entries from Russian and Belarusian players to The Championships 2022*”²⁵⁴. As consequence, no tennis players with Russian or Belarusian passports took part in the Wimbledon tournament 2022.

In response to the Wimbledon’s decision, on the same day as Wimbledon’s statement, the Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) and the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) stated that “*the WTA will continue to apply its rules to reject discrimination and ensure that all athletes are able to compete at our Tour events should they qualify to do so, a position that until today’s announcement has been shared across professional tennis*”²⁵⁵ and that “*it is important to stress that players from Russia and Belarus will continue to be allowed to compete at ATP events under a neutral flag, a position that has until now been shared across professional tennis*”²⁵⁶.

Russian and Belarusian tennis players were allowed to take part in at Roland-Garros 2022, the French Open .

²⁵² <https://www.championat.com/football/news-4658533-dva-rossijskih-igroka-pokinuli-cheshskie-kluby-iz-za-otkaza-v-vydache-rabochih-viz.html> [in Russian only] (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵³ <https://www.nhl.com/news/nhl-statement-on-russia-invasion-of-ukraine/c-331296136> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵⁴ https://www.wimbledon.com/en_GB/news/articles/2022-04-20/statement_regarding_russian_and_belarusian_individuals_at_the_championships_2022.html (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵⁵ <https://www.wtatennis.com/news/2582411/wta-statement-on-decision-to-ban-russian-belarusian-players> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁵⁶ <https://www.atptour.com/en/news/atp-statement-wimbledon-british-grass-swing-april-2022> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

SERBIA

By Ksenija Damjanovic²⁵⁷

Questions:

1. **What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

Serbia²⁵⁸ has not imposed any provision/measure/sanction against Russia²⁵⁹.

On 2 March 2022, Serbia, by respecting the territorial integrity of Ukraine, voted in support of the UN General Assembly resolution demanding Russia withdraw all military forces from the territory of Ukraine.

2. **What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

No provisions/measures/sanctions were taken as the Serbian Olympic Committee and its members comply with the Olympic charter²⁶⁰ which *inter alia* states:

“Fundamental Principles of Olympism

...

5) *Recognising that sport occurs within the framework of society, sports organisations within the Olympic Movement shall apply political neutrality. They have the rights and obligations of autonomy, which include freely establishing and controlling the rules of sport, determining the structure and governance of their organisations, enjoying the right of elections free from any outside influence and the responsibility for ensuring that principles of good governance be applied.*

6) *The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Olympic Charter shall be secured without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.*

...

2. Mission and role of the IOC

The mission of the IOC is to promote Olympism throughout the world and to lead the Olympic Movement. The IOC’s role is:

...

5) *to take action to strengthen the unity of the Olympic Movement, to protect its independence, to maintain and promote its political neutrality and to preserve the autonomy of sport*

...

11) *to oppose any political or commercial abuse of sport and athletes;*

...

²⁵⁷ Attorney-at-law practicing in the field of international sports law, UEFA Ethics and Disciplinary Inspector, member of NDRC of Football Association of Serbia.

²⁵⁸ Republic of Serbia

²⁵⁹ Russian Federation

²⁶⁰ Full text of Olympic charter on link:

<https://stillmed.olympics.com/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/General/EN-Olympic-Charter.pdf> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

27. Mission and role of the NOCs

1) *The mission of the NOCs is to develop, promote and protect the Olympic Movement in their respective countries, in accordance with the Olympic Charter.*

...

5) *In order to fulfil their mission, the NOCs may cooperate with governmental bodies, with which they shall achieve harmonious relations. However, they shall not associate themselves with any activity which would be in contradiction with the Olympic Charter. The NOCs may also cooperate with non-governmental bodies.*

6) *The NOCs must preserve their autonomy and resist all pressures of any kind, including but not limited to political, legal, religious or economic pressures which may prevent them from complying with the Olympic Charter....*” (emphasis added)

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

There are no precedents to the best of my knowledge.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There has been no reaction against the Russian sponsors.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country ?

As far as I know, up to now there have been no consequences on or due to performance of contractual obligations by either party.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

KINGDOM OF SPAIN

By Josep Francesc Vandellos Alamilla and Irene Aguiar Gallardo²⁶¹

Questions:

1. **What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

The Spanish Government reacted without delay to the international outcry following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Following the so-called “Statement on Russia’s War on Ukraine & International Sport²⁶²” of 8 March 2022, signed by 38 ministers of sport of around the world, on 9 March 2022, the Spanish Government encouraged the international sports community to continue supporting Ukrainian sport wherever possible while insisting respecting Russian residents in Spain, who cannot be blamed for the actions of their government.²⁶³

With regards to measures not related to sports, one must start by remarking that Spain, as a member of the European Union, is fully aligned with the measures adopted by the latter.²⁶⁴

Furthermore, on 29 March 2022, the Spanish Government passed the **Royal Decree 6/2022**,²⁶⁵ by which urgent measures were adopted within the framework of the National Plan to respond to the economic and social consequences of the war in Ukraine. These measures are mainly aimed at countering and alleviating the negative effects of the invasion in energy prices and the ripple effect of it to the entire economy, and includes aids of different kinds to multiple sectors of the economy and population.

A second **Royal Decree, 9/2022** was passed on 26 April 2022.²⁶⁶ The purpose of this law by royal decree is to establish a new special rule, so that within the framework of the international financial sanctions imposed by the European Union due to the war in Ukraine, it is also possible to record in registries, the prohibition of disposing of real estate, assets or rights when there are reasonable indications that the owner is on the list of sanctioned persons. The law reads: “This is an exceptional measure that serves to facilitate the effectiveness of the sanctions and that is due to the

²⁶¹ Josep F. Vandellós Alamilla is an independent sports lawyer based in Valencia (Spain). He is a member of the editorial board of LawinSport; a member of the Ethics Committee of the Ukrainian Football Federation and a member of the Ethics Committee of the IMMAF. In 2018, he published the book “Football Coach-related disputes, a critical analysis of the FIFA Players’ Status Committee decisions and CAS awards” Ed. M. Colucci. He is also the co-academic director of the ISDE “Global Master in Sports Management and Legal Skills with FC Barcelona”. He studied law at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra of Barcelona and holds a Master’s degree in International Business and EU Law from Universite de Paris 1-Sorbonne. E-mail: josep@sports-law.eu.

Irene Aguiar Gallardo is a Spanish sports lawyer. She studied Business Management and Law at the Rey Juan Carlos University and has a Master’s degree in Sports Law and Management from ISDE. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Sports Law Association of Madrid and a member of the Disciplinary Committee of the Royal Spanish Handball Federation. She is also lecturer in sports law programmes in ISDE, LaLiga Business School and the American University of El Cairo (Egypt).

²⁶² <https://agenparl.eu/statement-on-russias-war-on-ukraine-international-sport/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶³ <https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/serviciosdeprensa/notasprensa/cultura/Paginas/2022/090322-medidas-veto-rusia.aspx> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶⁴ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/es/policies/sanctions/restrictive-measures-against-russia-over-ukraine/history-restrictive-measures-against-russia-over-ukraine/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶⁵ <https://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2022-4972> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶⁶ <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2022-6763> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

urgent and extraordinary need to adopt dissuasive measures that contribute to putting a stop to the current armed conflict in Ukraine as soon as possible”.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

On 25 February 2020 the Spanish Olympic Committee immediately joined the condemnation of the International Olympic Committee to the breach of the Olympic Truce by the Russian government.²⁶⁷

Thereafter, on 9 March 2022, the Spanish Government, acting through the Ministry of Culture and Sports, announced the adoption of the following measures:

- a) In coordination with Spanish sports federations, a ban was agreed on the participation of national teams, clubs and other sports organizations, as well as athletes selected by Russia, or alternatively that athletes compete under the Russian flag, in all international competitions organized in the Spanish territory.
- b) Athletes, clubs and all Spanish sports federations were requested not to take part in any sports events organized in Russia.
- c) Where possible, organizations were requested to limit sponsorship and any kind of financial support from entities linked to the Russian Federation.
- d) All national and international sports organizations and all relevant entities were requested not to sanction athletes, coaches, officials or public workers who opt for unilaterally terminating their contracts with Russian or Belarussian clubs, and not to prosecute or sanction event organizers who decide to ban the participation of athletes or teams selected by Russia.

LaLiga condemned the invasion from day one and on 25 February 2022 announced the display of banners in stadiums and during the broadcasting (national and international) of matches with the slogan “no to invasion”.²⁶⁸ Also, on 24 March 2022 it signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukrainian Premier League to promote football development.²⁶⁹

The Royal Spanish Football Federation also condemned the invasion from the start through a statement issued on 26 February 2022²⁷⁰.

Other Spanish sports federations decided to adopt further measures:

- The Royal Spanish Motorsports Federation decided to forbid the participation of athletes, competitors, officials and any other person or entity with Russian or Belarussian sport license in national and international competitions on 9 March 2022²⁷¹.
- The Royal Spanish Cycling Federation modified its regulations on 11 March 2022, in order to add that, for the duration of the measures adopted by the Spanish Government related to

²⁶⁷ <https://www.coe.es/noticias/detalle-noticia/NEW-107e88c4-4010-4bf2-95c0-e277f0cb8c9f/el-coe-se-suma-a-la-condena-del-coi-del-incumplimiento-de-la-tregua-olimpica/> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶⁸ <https://www.laliga.com/noticias/el-mensaje-no-a-la-guerra-podra-verse-en-todos-los-partidos-de-la-jornada-en-laliga-santander-y-laliga-smartbank> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁶⁹ <https://www.laliga.com/en-GB/news/laliga-and-ukrainian-premier-league-sign-mou-to-further-the-development-of-football> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁰ <https://www.rfef.es/noticias/comunicado-oficial-todos-tecnicos-y-futbolistas-espanoles-ya-estan-salvo-abandonar-ucrania> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷¹ <https://www.rfeda.es/noticias/c/0/i/62919967/posicionamiento-de-la-real-federacion-espanola-de-automovilismo-ante-la-invasion-de-ucrania> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

the restriction of participation in competitions of Russian and Belarusian teams and athletes, Russian and Belarusian teams and athletes may not participate in any of its competitions, except for athletes of Russian or Belarusian nationality who compete individually without representing their nation, or within teams other than those of Russian or Belarusian nationality²⁷².

- The Royal Spanish Swimming Federation expressed its total rejection of the invasion and its support for the Ukrainian people, requesting “that the indiscriminate attacks cease and peace be restored”. In addition, the federation showed its total alignment with the decision of other sports federations not to participate in sports events in which athletes, officials and/or teams representing Russia and Belarus are registered; as well as showing its support for the decisions adopted in this matter by the International Swimming Federation (FINA) and the European Swimming League (LEN)²⁷³ on 27 March 2022.

Spanish sports organisations have also showed their solidarity with the Ukrainian people:

- On 29 March 2022 LaLiga launched the campaign “Hacemos equipo por la Paz” with its clubs and the Spanish Red Cross, with several initiatives, such as a fundraising, solidarity auctions or collecting of medicines and other essential goods.²⁷⁴ LaLiga’s clubs have also carried out numerous actions like donations, fundraisings, collecting food and essential goods and providing their buses for the travel of the Ukrainian refugees.²⁷⁵
- The Royal Spanish Football Federation started a crowdfunding campaign²⁷⁶ and donated sportswear to Ukrainian refugees.²⁷⁷
- The Royal Spanish Athletics Federation offered in March 2022 to host Ukrainian athletes, and is hosting 18 Ukrainians (athletes, families and trainers) in Spain for 50 days. The federation is also organizing two races whose registrations will go entirely to help this group of Ukrainian athletes.²⁷⁸

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

N/A

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

The most relevant cases that appeared in the press concerned football sponsorship deals, in particular the sponsorship contracts with Russian companies of the two biggest clubs in Spain. The two clubs have reacted very differently.

²⁷² <https://rfec.com/index.php/es/smartweb/seccion/noticia/rfec/home/47518-COMUNICADO-RFEC-Participacion-de-equipos-y-deportistas-de-nacionalidad-rusa-y-bielorrusa-> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷³ <https://rfen.es/es/posts/news/334484> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁴ <https://www.laliga.com/noticias/laliga-lanza-la-campana-de-apoyo-a-ucrania-hacemos-equipo-por-la-paz> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁵ <https://www.laliga.com/laliga-con-ucrania> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁶ <https://www.rfef.es/noticias/rfef-y-cruz-roja-lanzan-plataforma-microdonaciones-apoyar-refugiados-ucrania> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁷ <https://www.rfef.es/noticias/rfef-donara-su-stock-ropa-deportiva-personas-ucranianas-refugiadas-espana> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

²⁷⁸ <https://www.rfea.es/web/noticias/desarrollo.asp?codigo=16184#.Yoese5NBzBI> (last visited on 23 June 2022).

Real Madrid cancelled the regional sponsorship contract it had in place since January 2021²⁷⁹ with the Russian betting company “Fonbet” and decided to donate through its foundation €1m²⁸⁰ and 13,000 items of clothing and sporting equipment to alleviate the humanitarian needs of those displaced in Ukrainian.

A different approach has been taken by FC Barcelona, who to this date, maintains Russian betting company “1xBET” as one of their global sponsors.²⁸¹

²⁷⁹ <https://www.realmadrid.com/en/about-real-madrid/the-club/sponsors/fonbet> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

²⁸⁰ <https://www.realmadrid.com/en/news/2022/03/16/real-madrid-to-donate-one-million-euros-to-help-displaced-people-in-ukraine> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

²⁸¹ <https://www.fcbarcelona.com/en/news/1263451/fc-barcelona-adds-1xbet-as-a-new-global-partner> (*last visited on 23 June 2022*).

SWEDEN

By Marie-Anne Lindhardt²⁸²

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

As an EU Member State, Sweden participates in the restrictive measures against Russia sanctioned by the EU.²⁸³

The restrictive measures taken are many, but to mention a few, there are prohibitions on various exports/imports from and to Russia, sanctions targeted towards certain Russian citizens (frozen assets and prohibition of movements for such individuals), as well as sanctions targeting Russian media, banks, tourism and transportation. Numerous Russian banks²⁸⁴ have for example been excluded from the SWIFT system.²⁸⁵

The Swedish Government have also banned Russian aircraft from entering Swedish airspace²⁸⁶ and calls, among other things, for a boycott of sporting exchange with Russia²⁸⁷.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

As early as 26 February 2022, the Swedish Football Association (the “SvFF”) announced that if the male representative team of Sweden ended up in a World Cup Qualifier play-off round against Russia, the Swedish team would withdraw from the competition. The team would accept a walk-over regardless of the location for the relevant match. The SvFF also called on FIFA to cancel all the World Cup Qualifiers in which Russia was or would be scheduled to participate during March 2022.²⁸⁸

When FIFA initially, a few days later, announced that Russia would be entitled to participate in the World Cup Qualifiers on neutral ground, without their national anthem and without the Russian flag, the SvFF declared their disappointment over FIFA’s decision and that they intended to keep on pushing for the cancellation of the play-off matches in which the Russian representative team would be scheduled to participate.²⁸⁹ When FIFA later suspended the Russian representative team from participating in any FIFA competitions until further notice, it was publicly welcomed by the SvFF.

²⁸² Partner at MAQS Law Firm.

²⁸³ <https://www.regeringen.se/regeringens-politik/rysslands-invasion-av-ukraina/sammanstallning-av-sanktioner-mot-ryssland/> (last visited on 3 May 2022).

²⁸⁴ Bank Otkritie, Novikombank, Promsvyazbank, Rossiya Bank, Sovcombank, Vnesheconombank (VEB) and VTB Bank.

²⁸⁵ <https://www.regeringen.se/regeringens-politik/rysslands-invasion-av-ukraina/sammanstallning-av-sanktioner-mot-ryssland/> (last visited on 26 April 2022).

²⁸⁶ <https://transportstyrelsen.se/sv/luftfart/Flygresenar/stangt-luftrum/> (last visited on 1 May 2022).

²⁸⁷ <https://www.regeringen.se/pressmeddelanden/2022/02/regeringen-uppmanar-till-bojkott-av-rysk-idrott/> (last visited on 2 May 2022).

²⁸⁸ <https://svff.svenskfotboll.se/nyheter/2022/02/svff-herrlandslaget-kommer-inte-att-spela-mot-ryssland/> (last visited on 26 April 2022).

²⁸⁹ <https://svff.svenskfotboll.se/nyheter/2022/02/svffryssland/> (last visited on 26 April 2022).

There were also several other sports associations that were swift in their response in relation to the actions taken by Russia against Ukraine. For example, the Swedish Ski Association declared that Swedish skiers would not participate in any competitions held in Russia, and that according to the Swedish Ski Association, competitions should not even be held in Russia.²⁹⁰ The world's biggest cross-country ski race Vasaloppet decided that no Russian or Belarusian nationals were entitled to participate in the 2022 edition of Vasaloppet.²⁹¹ The Swedish Boxing Federation decided that Russian pro boxers would not be entitled to fight in Sweden and that boxers licensed in Sweden would not be entitled to fight Russian boxers abroad.²⁹² The Swedish Athletic Federation decided that they will not participate in any competitions, conferences or other activities arranged in Russia. They also strongly recommended Swedish organisers not invite any Russian athletes to competitions or other gatherings in Sweden.²⁹³

In addition to the individual sports associations' response to the Russian invasion, the fact that the Swedish Sports Confederation (the umbrella organisation for the Swedish sports movement) has requested 50 million SEK from the Swedish Government should be highlighted. The money has been requested from the government for the purpose of supporting Swedish club's efforts to provide assistance through activities for the people arriving in Sweden from Ukraine.²⁹⁴

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To the best of our knowledge, there are no such precedents.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

Due to the lack of Russian sponsorships in Swedish sports, there have been no such reactions.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

At the end of March 2022, the Swedish basketball superstar Jonas Jerebko made a controversial decision when he decided to sign for CSKA Moscow. The reaction from his Swedish sponsor Nocco, with which he had had a sponsorship relationship during the past three years, was imminent. Nocco decided to terminate their sponsorship with Jerebko with immediate effect.²⁹⁵

Swedish ice hockey players that choose to play in KHL during next season, need to be aware that the intention of the Swedish Ice Hockey Federation is to take a formal decision suspending Swedish players in the Kontinental Hockey League (KHL) from representing the national team "Tre Kronor"

²⁹⁰ <https://www.skidor.com/foljoss/nyhetsflode/aktuelltfranssf/2022/svenskaskidforbundetomryskadeltagareitavlingarisverige> (last visited on 16 May 2022).

²⁹¹ <https://www.vasaloppet.se/en/news/no-russian-or-belarusian-participation-in-vasaloppet-2022/> (last visited on 16 May 2022).

²⁹² <http://svenskaproffsboxningskommissionen.se/uncategorized/den-ryska-invasionen-av-ukraina/> (last visited on 27 April 2022).

²⁹³ <https://www.friidrott.se/Nyheter/allmannanyheter/2022/Februari/SvenskFriidrottbojkottarallaarrangemangiRyssland> (last visited on 16 May 2022).

²⁹⁴ <https://www.rf.se/Nyheter/Allanyheter/rfbegar50miljonerformottagandefranukraina> (last visited on 27 April 2022).

²⁹⁵ <https://www.svd.se/a/Ean0Jo/sponsor-bryter-med-jerebko> (last visited on 16 May 2022).

from the next season.²⁹⁶ The same will most likely apply for Swedish bandy players playing in Russia, who will not be entitled to represent the Swedish national teams in bandy.²⁹⁷

Apart from above, Swedish players representing a Russian or Ukrainian club will of course also be affected on an economical level, since their employment has been or will be affected by insecurity (related to the issues of working during the war), been suspended or terminated. For example, most of the Swedish football players playing in Russia or Ukraine have had their contracts suspended and have signed short term-contracts in accordance with the temporary rules issued by FIFA. These situations obviously have affected the contractual, economic and social situations of the players.

In regard to Russian players in Sweden, the Swedish Bandy Federation intends to issue a strong formal recommendation for Swedish clubs, stipulating that Swedish clubs shall not enter into any employment contracts with Russian players. Russian players already in Sweden, i.e. prior to the issuance of the recommendation, should not be affected.²⁹⁸ As to my knowledge, this issue has not been addressed by any other national federation.

Regarding Russian athletes participating in sport competitions in Sweden, numerous of organisation have stated that Russian athletes should not be invited to participate in sports competitions in Sweden (see also under section 2 above). An example of an organizer that decided that Russian athletes should be suspended from participating in its competition is Vasaloppet; another is the Gothenburg Half-Marathon.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

There are no other relevant issues we'd like to report, but we'd like to mention the huge support and effort put in from the sports community by athletes, clubs, association, and supporters in relation to the Ukrainian people arriving in Sweden. Swedish sports have a history of being accessible and supporting young people and are a vital part of the Swedish integration system. As mentioned above, the Swedish Sports Confederation has asked for additional funds to invest in clubs which participate in the work to uphold and increase the integration of the people that have fled from Ukraine. Björn Eriksson, president of the Swedish Sports Confederation, has said that there are 750 clubs that could make a difference and who could offer occupation, healthy and active spare time and the possibility to be part of a community, as a way into the Swedish society.²⁹⁹

²⁹⁶ <https://via.tt.se/pressmeddelande/information-med-anledning-av-svenska-spelare-i-kihl?publisherId=2133149&releaselid=3321665> (last visited on 17 May 2022).

²⁹⁷ [https://www.ttela.se/sport/bandy/bandyf%C3%B6rbundet-vill-stoppa-ryska-spelare-1.72845241_\(last visited on 17 May 2022\)](https://www.ttela.se/sport/bandy/bandyf%C3%B6rbundet-vill-stoppa-ryska-spelare-1.72845241_(last%20visited%20on%2017%20May%202022)).

²⁹⁸ [https://www.ttela.se/sport/bandy/bandyf%C3%B6rbundet-vill-stoppa-ryska-spelare-1.72845241_\(last visited on 17 May 2022\)](https://www.ttela.se/sport/bandy/bandyf%C3%B6rbundet-vill-stoppa-ryska-spelare-1.72845241_(last%20visited%20on%2017%20May%202022)).

²⁹⁹ <https://sverigesradio.se/artikel/idrotten-vill-ha-mer-stod-for-att-integrera-flyktingar-fran-ukraina> (last visited on 27 April 2022).

SWITZERLAND

By Kai Ludwig³⁰⁰ and Rafael Brägger³⁰¹

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

On 28 February 2022, the Federal Council (the Swiss national government) decided to adopt the sanctions issued against Russia by the European Union. All sanctions introduced by Switzerland in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia are based on, and governed by, the Federal Council's "Ordinance on measures in connection with the situation in Ukraine" of 4 March 2022 (Swiss Classified Compilation no. SR 946.231.176.72) and its annexes (currently numbering 23). The relevant Ordinance and its annexes have been revised several times since their entry into force, most recently on 10 June 2022. The constitutional basis of the Ordinance is art. 184 para. 3 of the Swiss Federal Constitution (Swiss Classified Compilation no. SR 101) which states that where safeguarding the interests of the country so requires, the Federal Council may issue ordinances and rulings. The Ordinance's second legal basis is art. 2 of the Federal Act on the Implementation of International Sanctions of 22 March 2002 (Embargo Act; Swiss Classified Compilation no. SR 946.231) which declares the Federal Council competent to enact compulsory measures in the form of ordinances.

The sanctions Switzerland has adopted can be categorized into four different categories: (1) Goods measures (such as a ban on luxury goods (like watches, jewelry, wine), a ban on goods for the energy sector); (2) Financial measures (such as asset freezes – as of 12 May 2022, 6.3 billion Swiss francs in assets are blocked in Switzerland – and a prohibition on granting loans); (3) Measures concerning specified territories (such as a prohibition on the import of goods originating from the specified territories without a certificate of origin issued by Ukrainian authorities, a ban on the export of certain goods and related services to the specified territories); (4) Other measures (such as travel sanctions, a ban on take-off and landing of Russian aircraft).

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

Switzerland is home not only to its own national sports federations, but also to most major international federations (e.g. FIFA, UEFA, UCI, FIS, IHF) and to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It is therefore no surprise that Switzerland has been under a particular spotlight when discussions about implementing sanctions against Russia in the sports sector arose.

Indeed, several international sports federations domiciled in Switzerland have adopted wide-ranging sanctions against Russian sports entities. To give but a few examples:

- On 28 February 2022, both FIFA and UEFA suspended all Russian teams (national teams and clubs) from their competitions until further notice. This in particular affected participation of the Russian national teams in the European qualifier playoffs for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, the UEFA Nations League (men) and in the European U-17 Championships (women), as well as participation of Russian football clubs in UEFA club competitions such as the UEFA

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Champions League. The Court of Arbitration for Sport confirmed these decisions on a prima facie basis on 15 and 18 March 2022 when denying requests for provisional measures (a stay of execution of the FIFA Council's and the UEFA Executive Committee's decisions; CAS 2022/A/8708 & 8709) that had been submitted by the Football Union of Russia (FUR). Moreover, UEFA decided to pull the final of the UEFA Champions League 2021/2022 away from Saint Petersburg. The FUR as such, on the other hand, has not been suspended by FIFA or UEFA so far (as an example, an FUR delegate participated in the UEFA Congress on 11 May 2022). The same applies to Russian UEFA Executive Committee member Alexander Dyukov, who continues to act in his office to date.

- The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) expelled Russia and Belarus from the IIHF World Championships 2022 and on 26 April 2022 also revoked its right to stage the IIHF World Championships 2023.
- The International Ski Federation (FIS) Council, on 1 March 2022, banned all Russian and Belarussian athletes from its competitions effective immediately.
- The Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) suspended all Russian teams from all races under its aegis, inter alia the ProTeam "Gazprom-RusVelo".
- In contrast, the IOC has decided not to suspend Russian IOC members. The IOC Executive Board however recommended, on 25 and 28 February 2022, that international sports federations and sports event organizers shall not invite or allow the participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes and officials in international competitions and shall not organize any sports event in Russia or Belarus. This is a recommendation only and is not binding upon international sports federations.

On the Swiss national level, as far as can be seen, neither the Swiss National Olympic Committee (Swiss Olympic Association) nor national sports federations have taken any specific, independent action concerning Russia. On 9 March 2022, the Swiss minister for sports Viola Amherd, together with several sports ministers and secretaries of state for sports from Europe, North America, Asia and Oceania, signed a declaration condemning Russia's attack on Ukraine and recommending to all international sports federations that (i) Russia and Belarus should no longer be allowed to host international sporting events, that (ii) top athletes, teams and officials representing the two countries should be barred from competing in other countries, and that (iii) where possible, measures should be taken against sports-related investments such as sponsorship and financial support with links to the Russian state.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

To our knowledge, there are no precedents of reactions to a similar situation in the past.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

On 28 February 2022, UEFA announced that it had cancelled its sponsorship agreement with "Gazprom" effective immediately.

In Switzerland, first division hockey club EV Zug has an ongoing sponsoring agreement with "Nord Stream AG", a Swiss-based company with close connections to Russian "Gazprom". On 25 February 2022, the club issued a public statement that that agreement would be suspended until further notice, although both parties did not consider there to be an obligation to do so under international nor under national laws. The club's announcement followed a public statement by the

Swiss Ice Hockey Federation that it would welcome the club removing the sponsor's logo from its jerseys, but that the final decision would lie with the club.

A sister company of "Nord Stream AG" named "Nord Stream 2 AG", which is domiciled in Switzerland, too, is a sponsor of the European Handball Federation Champions League. On 25 February 2022, the EHF announced that clubs were released of their implementation obligations related to the sponsorship. "Nord Stream 2 AG" was granted so-called provisional deferment of debt in accordance with arts. 293a ss. of the Swiss Federal Act on Debt Collection and Bankruptcy (Swiss Classified Compilation no. SR 281.1) by a court ruling of 10 May 2022 until 10 September 2022. Whether this company will resume its activities in Switzerland remains unclear to date.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

In accordance with a recommendation by FIFA, the Swiss Football League opened an additional transfer window for players from Ukraine and Russia between 22 March and 7 April 2022.

There are currently no known restrictions for athletes of Russian nationality playing in Switzerland. However, it must be added that there generally are only very few Russian nationals playing in Switzerland's elite football (currently only one player in the first division and no player in the second division) and hockey leagues.

The above applies mutatis mutandis to Swiss nationals playing in Russia. For instance, no Swiss football or hockey players are currently playing in Russia's elite divisions.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

By Anil Gursoy Artan³⁰²

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

Since Turkey is not a member of the European Union, it is not bound to observe the EU sanctions on Russia, and it has avoided imposing unilateral sanctions.

The Turkish government has designated the Russian invasion as a “war,” giving it the right under the 1936 Montreux Convention to close the Bosphorus Strait – which leads to the Black Sea – to warships. Although this action applies to any naval vessel, it is clearly aimed at Russia’s fleet in case Moscow seeks to reinforce the firepower it already has there. Turkey’s decision is, at least, an important symbolic one in support of Ukraine.

From the beginning of the Russian invasion, Turkey has played a major role in the search for an end to the Ukraine war.

Turkey convinced both parties to gather at a meeting in Turkey and asked them to settle on ending the war, cease fire, humanitarian corridor etc. Some of these meetings ended successfully.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports associations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

In compliance with FIFA guidelines the Turkish Football Federation reopened the transfer market window for players coming from Russia or Ukraine. We have not seen any other sports association take provisions/measures/sanctions.

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

None.

- 5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?**

No.

- 6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?**

³⁰² Sports Lawyer

On 12 April 2022, the Turkish Union of Clubs brought 126 Ukrainian kids, whose ages were between 7-16 to Turkey via a charter flight. From their arrival until now these kids have been living at the academies of four Turkish Super League Clubs: Trabzonspor, Çaykur Rizespor, Sivasspor and Kayserispor. All the Super League expressed a desire to host Ukrainian kids, however only these four club's academies were eligible.

Several Ukrainian sports teams (National Deaf Basketball Team, National Deaf Orienteering Team and one football club) who were in Turkey when the war began could not return to their country and are still being hosted in Turkey.

UKRAINE

By Yuliya Bogdanova³⁰³ and Roman Morozov³⁰⁴

Questions:

1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

In connection with the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, by the Decree of the President of Ukraine № 64/2022 a martial law regime was imposed from 05:30 on 24 February 2022 for a period of 30 days (a martial law regime in Ukraine is defined as a special legal regime imposed in the event of a threat to national security. Proposals to impose martial law in Ukraine or in certain localities shall be submitted to the President of Ukraine for consideration by the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine). The martial law regime has been prolonged several times and is set currently to end on 23 August 2022; however, of course, if the war is not over then, it will be prolonged again.

With regard to the imposition of martial law, all competitions in all kinds of sport on the territory of Ukraine were suspended. Immediately after the start of the war, international European cup matches involving Ukrainian basketball, handball and tennis (Davis Cup) teams were urgently transferred abroad, including the match of the UEFA Youth League U-19 Dynamo - Sporting. Since then, no official competitions have been held on the territory of Ukraine. Most teams were forced to significantly reduce their maintenance costs, and some sports teams from the territories, which suffered the most from the war, even announced the termination of their existence.

It should be noted that for the period of martial law, it is forbidden for men aged 18-60 who are fit for military service to leave Ukraine. Ukrainian male athletes who were outside the country on 24 February, when the war has started could continue to stay there and theoretically find themselves a new place of employment. The mandatory return of men to Ukraine is not yet foreseen by the current legislation, although certain political initiatives regarding it have already arisen. Many players took advantage of their presence abroad, given that during this period, most of the football clubs of the first and second leagues (second and third tier respectively) were at training camps in Turkey. A significant number of football players did not dare to return to unsafe Ukraine, and preferred to find minimally acceptable options in other countries.

2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organizations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?

Since 24 February 2022, the National Olympic Committee (NOC) and the national federations of all kind of sports have called on the entire global sporting community at all levels to take measures against Russian and Belarusian athletes as a sporting response to the invasion.

On 3 March 2022, in more than 30 other countries, including the United States, France, Germany, Australia, Japan, Canada, Italy and Poland, a virtual summit took place, which resulted in a joint declaration of 37 countries as follows:

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³⁰⁴ Deputy head of the Ukrainian Association of professional football players / member of the UAF DRC

“We, as a collective of like-minded nations, affirm our support for international sport organizations’ position that:

- Russia and Belarus should not be permitted to host, bid for or be awarded any international sporting events.*
- Individual athletes selected by Russia and Belarus, administrators and teams representing the Russian or Belarusian state should be banned from competing in other countries, including those representing bodies, cities or brands that are effectively representing Russia or Belarus, such as major football clubs.*
- Wherever possible, appropriate actions should be taken to limit sponsorship and other financial support from entities with links to the Russian or Belarusian states.*

We call on all international sport federations to endorse these principles, and applaud all those that have done so already. We also welcome the International Paralympic Committee’s decision to prevent Russia’s and Belarus’ athletes from competing in the 2022 Winter Paralympics in Beijing. These restrictions should be in place until cooperation under the fundamental principles of international law has become possible again.

We encourage all international sport organizations and all relevant legal bodies not to sanction athletes, coaches or officials who decide unilaterally to terminate their contracts with Russian, Belarusian or Ukrainian clubs, as well as not to pursue or to sanction sport organizers which decide to ban athletes or teams selected by Russia or Belarus.

Furthermore, we encourage the international sport community to continue to show its solidarity with the people of Ukraine, including through supporting the continuation of Ukrainian sport where possible”.

It is important to underline that the international sports organizations, where possible, provided Ukrainian athletes with additional time to prepare for international competitions. Many sports leagues and clubs organized the collection and sending of a large amount of humanitarian aid to Ukraine. At the matches of most European championships, actions of solidarity with Ukraine were held, as well as campaigns to collect assistance for refugees and victims. The leaders of Ukrainian football, FC Dynamo Kyiv and FC Shakhtar Donetsk, held a series of charity friendly matches with local clubs in different European countries.

Some clubs have expressed their readiness to help with the restoration of the destroyed sporting infrastructure. Now attention is on resolving the issue of allocating targeted financial assistance to Ukrainian professional football players from the special FIFA/FIFPRO Fund, from which funds have already been allocated to help the families of the killed football players. An important aspect of assistance in the evacuation of refugees was the readiness of European countries to host children's and youth sports teams.

Neighboring states have offered to Ukraine to hold domestic competitions on their territory with compensation for part of the costs. FC Shakhtar Donetsk received an indirect benefit from what is happening, having directly entered the group of the UEFA Champions League 2022/2023 due to the disqualification of Russian teams.

Most foreign players in Ukraine expressed their desire to leave the territory of our country after 24 February. In this regard, we would like to separately note the work of those Ukrainian club administrations that faced the issue of organizing the departure of the foreign players from Ukraine immediately after the start of the war. In the conditions of the chaos that prevailed in the first days

of the war, many kilometers of queues at gas stations, shops and pharmacies, incessant rocket attacks, club employees, often postponing the issue of saving their own families for later, and successfully completed the task of evacuating the foreign players from Ukraine.

3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organizations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?

In fact, the military actions initiated and carried out by Russia against Ukraine have been ongoing since 2014. The international community did not react particularly actively to the annexation of Crimea by Russia and the war in the east of Ukraine. Afterwards, the Minsk agreements were signed, and the degree of confrontation decreased. Since then, the state authorities of Ukraine, NOCs and sports federations have tried in every possible way to comply with the national interests through intensive diplomacy, in which they have been successful: since 2014, the vast majority of countries have refused to officially recognize Crimea as a territory of the Russian Federation, or to recognize the independence of the so-called Donetsk National Republic (“DNR”) and the Lugansk National Republic (“LNR”).

Accordingly, international business could not develop in any legal form in the mentioned territories, and their sports system naturally ended up in isolation – hence the emergence of the so-called the "Crimean Football Union", which for obvious reasons could not join the Football Union of Russia (FUR), and the "republican federations" in so-called DNR and LNR – amateur teams were formed there from local residents and unrecognized competitions were held. In some cases, athletes moved from these territories to Russia and, having received citizenship, competed for it in international competitions.

At the same time, no significant sanctions were applied to Russia itself for invading Ukraine and seizing its territories. A symbol of the global community's tragic misunderstanding of the scale of the threat from the Russian Federation was the holding of the World Cup in this country - the second largest sporting event - after only 4 years after the annexation of Crimea.

4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?

There were no Russian sponsors in Ukraine (at least officially).

But we'd like to give some information regarding the sponsorship and making relevant contacts: of course, the sports sector has already received very significant losses due to the unplanned suspension of the competitions. And, despite the status of the affected party, we predict a significant decline in the attention and financial injections of potential sponsors and partners to Ukrainian sports until the situation in the country is completely normalized.

Apparently, for some time, the entities of the Ukrainian sports will lose the opportunity to invite qualified athletes from abroad to strengthen certain positions – accordingly, international interest into our domestic competitions will inevitably decrease. At the same time, no information has appeared in the public field about the termination or suspension of major contracts so far. In any case, betting companies, which are the main market sponsors of Ukrainian sports, declare their intention to continue cooperation.

One should also understand the peculiarity of Ukrainian professional sports: the vast majority of teams are financed by single businessmen on their own, and therefore the existence of teams

depends entirely on the success of their owner's business. Now the country is going through a deep economic crisis, the fall in GDP is estimated at around 50%, so it is not yet possible to make long-term forecasts.

Considering the situation on the example of football, we state that all 16 clubs participating in the Ukrainian Premier League have confirmed their intention to participate in the 2022/2023 season and are preparing to provide appropriate financial guarantees. As for the lower divisions, they, apparently, are waiting for a comprehensive optimization, designed, above all, to ensure cost reduction and the safety of competitors.

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And vice versa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

At the initiative of the Ukrainian Association of Football (UAF), after the annexation of Crimea by Russia and the occupation of part of the Donbas under the guise of creating the “DNR” and the “LNR”, not a single footballer or stakeholder was allowed to participate in any competitions under the auspices of the UAF.

On the proposal of the Security Service of Ukraine in 2017, the football justice authorities of the UAF disqualified 18 football players for the so-called “teams” of “L/DNR”, and last year disqualified a further 26 players.

On 11 March 2022 the UAF decided to strip all sports and state regalia and ban for life Anatoly Tymoshchuk, a long-term captain and holder of record number of appearances for the Ukrainian national team. The reason for the ban given to Tymoshchuk, who has retired from playing and is now a part of the coaching staff of FC Zenit (St. Petersburg, Russia), was his public silence about the war in Ukraine.

At the same time, in Ukrainian sports, there has not been any discrimination based on the principle of nationality, or a ban on the participation of Russians in competitions on the territory of Ukraine. Until now, individual eSports teams are proportionately composed of Ukrainians and Russians.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

Before the war, professional sports in our country developed quite dynamically (including due to the recent legalization of betting activities and the adoption of the Law “On patronage in sports”, which attracted many businessmen to finance sports teams), and a government programme was actively implemented in the field of mass sports. The programme, “25 sports magnets”, involved a framework for the construction of large multifunctional modern sports complexes for physical culture and sports purposes which were carried out in all regions of Ukraine.

A huge number of small multifunctional grounds were built throughout the country, where everyone could workout for free, as well as mini-football, basketball, handball, volleyball, table tennis, etc. In places where this infrastructure has survived, people continue to actively engage in physical education, which is one of the few remaining affordable and enjoyable activities from the “pre-war times”. Where possible, classes have resumed in children's and youth sports schools and categories.

As for student sports, all higher education institutions have been transferred to remote mode during wartime, as during the quarantine associated with the covid-19 epidemic – thus, students have

access to sports activities along with other citizens, but separate competitions for them cannot take place. Local authorities, despite all the difficulties, contribute to mass physical education.

At the same time, after a long break, many teams are now holding training camps and charity matches, raising funds for the needs of the victims and the army. Athletes themselves actively help in this by organizing public auctions for the sale of valuable items belonging to them: individual prizes, medals, commemorative T-shirts, etc. Famous former and current athletes (the Klitschko brothers, Andriy Shevchenko, Elina Svitolina and many others) have actually become Ukraine's ambassadors, providing the country with international assistance and support.

During this time, about 2,000 professional athletes voluntarily took up arms to defend Ukraine, Unfortunately, as a result of the hostilities, about 60 of them have been killed.

A lot of sporting infrastructure facilities have been destroyed. The UAF, together with the stakeholders of the Ukrainian football, is now preparing claims to the ECHR and international courts in order to compensate the affected parties for the caused damage.

Due to the impossibility of a fully-fledged preparation for competition, all the national teams of Ukraine are now training abroad, and the Ministry of Youth and Sports has fully organized this process. Many youth teams have also been sent abroad, where they have all the conditions for comfortable living and training – thanks to the assistance provided by the international community.

Having assessed the catastrophic consequences of the refusal to hold national championships, after lengthy consultations with the government and law enforcement agencies, it was decided to fully resume professional football competitions. The preliminary date for then restart is 23 August 2022. A security protocol is now under development, which is supposed to be based on the experience of countries with high level of terrorist threats, including Israel.

Matches are supposed to be played without spectators. It is possible that the participants of the UEFA competitions will play their home matches for some time in the territory of one of the neighboring countries. There are a number of serious organizational difficulties, but we expect to overcome them.

Despite all difficulties since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion Ukrainian athletes have won 619 medals in official international competitions in Olympic and non-Olympic sports and sports for people with disabilities: 296 gold medals, 176 silver medals and 147 bronze.

REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY

By *Dr. Felipe Vasquez Rivera*³⁰⁵

Questions:

- 1. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, has your government introduced in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia?**

Through various pronouncements, Uruguay has expressed its clear condemnation of the violation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine by military forces of the Russian Federation, considering it a violation of international law and the principles of the Charter of the UN, also emphasizing the need for the conflict to be resolved by peaceful means.

The Uruguayan Foreign Ministry published two press releases on February 23 and 24 expressing Uruguay's position. Also, President of the Republic, Luis Lacalle Pou, publicly expressed his firm position on the matter.

In accordance with these pronouncements, Uruguay intervened in the United Nations General Assembly session held on February 23, when dealing with the situation in Ukraine, making the position of our country clear at the international level and without ambiguity.

Recently, a group of countries from the Organization of American States approved a declaration to the same effect. Uruguay, having already made strong public statements regarding the invasion of Ukrainian territory and condemning such actions, like other countries, made its own statement on the subject, coinciding with the position adopted by the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry and the President of the Republic, condemning the Russian military intervention.

- 2. What provisions/measures/sanctions, if any, have sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) taken in your country in response?**

The Uruguayan Soccer Association has complied with the "Transitional Rules that address the exceptional situation arising from the war in Ukraine".

- 3. Are there any precedents, for how sports organisations (National Olympic Committee and national sports federations) in your country have reacted in the past to a similar situation?**

No.

- 4. What has been the reaction of clubs/federations, national Olympic Committees towards Russian sponsors (if any)?**

The Russian Federations have little impact on the Uruguayan federations and clubs, which is why they have not taken any action in this regard at the moment.

³⁰⁵ Sport lawyer in Uruguay, <https://www.vasquezabogados.com.uy>

5. Are you aware of any contractual/economic/social/political consequences on nationals of your country playing in Russia? And viceversa, are there any consequences on Russian athletes playing in your country?

Yes.

Some clients of our law firm, professional football players who are in Russia, have consulted us regarding their contractual situation, and the payment of their salaries or bonuses. Most of the players have agreed with the Russian clubs to keep their contracts in force.

6. Is there any other relevant issue you would like to report?

No.

ANNEX

International Sports Federations and measures against Russia and Belarus

SPORT/ INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	National Federation	National Teams	Clubs	Athletes	Officials	Hostin g events	Flag s	Anthem s	Fund	Appeal to CAS
ARCHERY – WORLD ARCHERY		Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	No	No	No		
ATHLETICS – WORLD ATHLETICS	Already suspended			Banned	Banned	No			Yes	
BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL – WBSC		Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned					
BASKETBALL – FIBA		Banned			Banned					Yes
BIATHLON – IBU	Suspended			Banned	Banned					
CANOEING – ICF				Suspende d	Suspende d	No	No	No	Yes	
CHESS – FIDE	Banned			Neutrals		No	No	No		
CURLING – WFC				Banned		No				Yes
CYCLING – UCI		Banned		neutrals		No	No	No		
FOOTBALL – FIFA – UEFA		Suspende d	Suspende d			No	No	No		
FORMULA 1 – FIA		Banned		Neutrals		No	No	No		Yes
GYMNASTICS – FIG				Banned	Banned	No	No	No	Yes	
HOCKEY – FIH		Banned			Banned					
ICE HOCKEY – IIHF		Suspende d	Suspende d			No				Yes
JUDO – IJF				Neutrals						
LUGE – ILF				Banned	Banned	No				
PENTATHLON – UIPM				Suspende d	Suspende d					
ROWING – WORLD ROWING				Suspende d	Suspende d				Yes	Yes
RUGBY – WORLD RUGBY	Suspended	Suspende d	Suspende d						Yes	Yes
SKATING - ISU				Banned	Banned					Yes
SAILING – WORLD SAILING				Suspende d or, if necessary, “neutrals”	Suspende d		No	No		
SKIING – FIS				Suspende d		No				
SURFING – ISA					Suspende d	No				
SWIMMING – FINA		Neutrals		Neutrals						
TAEKWONDO – WORLD TAEKWONDO				Banned	Banned	No	No	No		
TENNIS TABLE – ITTF – ETTF				Banned	Banned	No	No	No		
TENNIS – ITF	Suspended	Neutrals		Neutrals	Banned	No			Yes	
TRIATHLON – WORLD TRIATHLON				Banned	Banned					
VOLLEYBALL – FIVB		Suspende d	Suspende d		Suspende d			No		