



## *Nordic Fencing Union*

European Fencing Confederation (EFC) members  
EFC Executive Committee  
% Jacek Slupski, Secretary General  
BP 797  
L-2017 Luxembourg

### *The need for further actions in the current crisis*

We are grateful for the answer of the Secretary General to our statement sent on 1st of March 2022. We appreciate the valuable work EFC has lately done regarding the European Junior and Cadet Championships.

We would also like to applaud EFC for its swift decision to cancel or relocate competitions planned in Russian Federation or Belarus, not to display Russian or Belarussian national flags and not to play the national anthems of these nations in competitions.

However, we strongly urge the EFC COMEX to quickly implement the rest of the actions outlined in the resolution of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) The Executive Board (EB) on the 28th of February, which have already been adopted by the FIE. EFC should not allow participation of either officials or athletes from the Russian Federation or Belarus in any international competitions.

We also understand and are aware that the current Statutes of the European Fencing Confederation do not contain provisions on suspending COMEX, council or committee members. However, we believe that a situation where athletes and officials from the Russian Federation and Belarus are excluded from international competitions while representatives of these nations in elective posts still can take part in the administration of international sports organisations is unsustainable and unjust. Therefore we strongly urge the COMEX to implement following actions:

- We appeal to the Russian and COMEX members to suspend their membership voluntarily following the example of FIE President Alisher Usmanov and that they strongly recommend council and commission members from Russian Federation and Belarus to do the same
- We also request that the COMEX urgently starts to prepare changes to the Statutes so that in the future similar situations can be avoided. It should be clearly outlined in the Statutes that an international exclusion of a country by international sports organisations would include people in elected positions. These changes to the Statutes should be presented to the next EFC Congress for approval

We stand in solidarity with our Ukrainian fencing brothers and sisters during these difficult times and wish for peace to overcome.

10th of March, 2022

#### **NORDIC FENCING UNION**

Erika Aze, President Latvian Fencing Federation  
Otto Drakenberg, President of the Swedish Fencing Federation  
Bjørn Faye, President of the Norwegian Fencing Federation  
Jan Sylvest Jensen, President of the Danish Fencing Federation  
Joonas Lyytinen, President of the Finnish Fencing and Pentathlon Federation  
Nikolay Mateev, President of the Icelandic Fencing Federation  
Vytautas Polujanskas, President of the Lithuanian Fencing Federation  
Ants Veetõusme, President of the Estonian Fencing Federation