

**Subject:** Kyudo: Statement from the board of the European Kyudo Federation

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Dear National Representatives

With deep regret and sorrow we are forced to witness the development of the Russian army invasion of Ukraine. Recalling the values of the discipline of our federation although related to ancient weapons finally aim to promote personal development and peace and prosperity among all peoples, we condemn the actions which we deem a violation of law and moral principles of humanity. The EKF board has discussed the immediate reaction, the steps and stance to be taken and makes the following statement.

Sincerely yours

Gérald Zimmermann

EKF President

#### Statement from the board of the European Kyudo Federation (EKF)

Shocked and horrified by the ongoing attack on Ukraine and its people, the European Kyudo Federation condemns the violence and military force and urges the governments and leaders to restore peace.

As kyudo events and kyudo itself promote peace and solidarity worldwide - the International Kyudo Federation was established under the motto "The way of the bow unites us in the spirit of true peace and harmony" - the European Kyudo Federation considers that those kyudojin who participate in European events are promoting peace, harmony and solidarity. On this basis, the decision to sanction all Russian kyudojin - regardless of the different opinions many have expressed - is not considered to be justified. On the contrary, such a decision would only add to the escalation.

Although Kyudo is not an Olympic discipline, the European Kyudo Federation deems the measures in line with the Olympic charter and the Olympic standard procedures contain an appropriate reaction. Therefore, Russian kyudojin will have the opportunity to participate in EKF events only under the EKF (and not under their national body). However, for the time being, the EKF board will temporarily refrain from organizing and promoting Kyudo events on Russian soil. The EKF board proposes to suspend IPO "Kyudo Federation" as a national body for kyudo in Russia for the duration of the conflict.

The EKF members are bound to follow the EKF constitution. Thus, the decision on the suspension of IPO "Kyudo Federation" will finally need to be supported by the majority of the EKF members.

We encourage all kyudojin and the world of sport, from sport clubs to top leaders, to continue the promotion of peaceful, democratic societies to pursue a dialogue with their kyudo friends worldwide, strengthen their moral principles under rei and to promote the motto "The way of the bow unites us in the spirit of true peace and harmony".

EKF Board

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