

04080, м.Київ
вул. Турівська 4, оф.99
тел.: (097) 717-37-89
canoeslalom.ukr@gmail.com
www.kayaking.com.ua



UKRAINIAN
CANOE-KAYAK
SLALOM
FEDERATION

4-99, Turivska str.
04080, Kiev, Ukraine
phone:+38 (097) 717-37-89
canoeslalom.ukr@gmail.com
www.kayaking.com.ua

№ _____

на № _____ від «__» _____ р.
14.04.2023 № 77-04-23

Mr. Thomas Konietzko
President
International Canoe Federation

Dear Mr. Thomas Konietzko

On behalf of Ukrainian canoe-kayak slalom Federation of all athletes, coaches, public of Ukraine, let me express my sincere gratitude to International Canoe Federation and you personally for the unity and solidarity with the Ukrainian sports family and Ukrainian sports in these difficult times of unprecedented, armed aggression of Russia under support of Belarus against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine.

We highly appreciate the consistent and steadfast position of International Canoe Federation, regarding the prevention of Russian and Belarusian athletes and officials from participating in official events, tournaments, competitions of the international sports community, while the Russian army, with the support of Belarus, is waging a cynical and brutal war against Ukraine, killing thousands of innocent Ukrainians and destroying their homes and entire cities.

In order to prevent the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes, as well as officials in international sports competitions, active and unconditional support from International Canoe Federation is extremely important to us.

We believe that the recommendations of the IOC dated March 28, 2023 on the admission of Russian and Belarusian athletes as "neutrals" to participate in international competitions are groundless and unfair, especially given the circumstances that Russian athletes and officials - representatives of our sport continue to violate the basic principles of the Olympic Charter and support Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine, as reported by the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine in its letter No. 220-HK dated March 20, 2023¹.

The Ukrainian Olympic family has repeatedly expressed its disagreement with the recommendations of the IOC dated March 28, 2023, because in an attempt to avoid alleged violations of human rights in connection with the ban on Russians and Belarusians from participating in international sports competitions, the IOC appeals to the premature and incomplete conclusions of the UN special rapporteurs and does not take into account the provisions of the Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the relevant practice of the European Court of Human Rights, lex sportiva and the practice of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), which in the case of Football Union of Russia v. The Fédération Internationale de Football Association et al noted FIFA's position that eligibility is not absolute². However, in order to strengthen our position and achieve results,

solidarity and support at the international level is extremely important to us now, more than ever.

We are deeply grateful for your determination and assistance, and we have no doubt that our joint efforts will greatly contribute to the protection of the core Olympic principles and values of peaceful coexistence, friendship and mutual respect in world sport.

We are grateful to every representative of the big canoe slalom sports family, who supported us and expressed their absolutely clear position: while the war is going on, Russian and Belarusian athletes, as well as officials, should not participate in international competitions in any status!

Allow me to express the hope that such an impartial and honest position will be preserved in the future.

Sincerely Yours,

Dmytro PROKOPENKO
President
Ukrainian canoe-kayak slalom Federation



The letter of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine № 220-HK dated 20.03.2023, available at: <https://noc-ukr.org/news/23375/>

²See clause 79(e) of the decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport dated 25.11.2022 in the case CAS 2022/A/8708, *Football Union of Russia v. Fédération Internationale de Football Association et al*, available at: https://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/8708_FINAL_Award_FINAL_.pdf