Polski Związek Taekwondo Olimpijskiego
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No. 171 /2022 Warsaw, 2022-03-01

Dr Chungwon Choue
President
World Taekwondo

Mr Sakis Pragalos
President
European Taekwondo Union

Dear Sirs,

With reference to the WT announcement on withdrawing the honorary 9th dan black belt conferred to Mr. Vladimir Putin in November 2013 due to the military aggression against Ukraine, Polish Taekwondo Federation calls for suspension of Russia and Belarus Taekwondo Unions athletes.

Russian Federation has attacked independent, democratic and peaceful Ukraine, our neighboring country, in front of our eyes. As people of sport, this is our duty to condemn this armed attack. We cannot imagine to compete with athletes representing the countries responsible for killing innocent Ukrainian citizens – soldiers and civilians, women and children.

Therefore in this unprecedented situation we request to suspend Russian Taekwondo Union and Belarus Taekwondo Federation as members of World Taekwondo and European Taekwondo Union and prohibit Russian and Belarussian athletes participation in taekwondo competitions, including athletes representing Russian Olympic Committee. We postulate that Russian and Belarussian international referees be excepted from taekwondo tournaments.

We also claim that WT and ETU shall suspend Russian and Belarussian activists not only from their boards and commissions but also WT shall apply to International Olympic Committee to do likewise.

We are convinced that in today's situation European Taekwondo Federations will advocate our postulates.

Polski Związek Teakwondo Olimpijskiego
Vice Prezes
Artur Chmielarz

POLSKI ZWIĄZEK TAEKWONDO OLIMPIJSKIEGO
PREZES
Jarosław Kowalewski