

Oslo, 31.08.2023

## Russians set to return at World Taekwondo Paris Grand Prix despite World Championships ban?

The Norwegian Martial Arts Federation and The Finnish Taekwondo Federation wish to voice our concerns about the entry of Russian athletes in the Paris Grand Prix.

It is our understanding that Maksim Khramtsov and Vladislav Larin from Russia will be able to participate under Neutral flag (AIN). We find this decision to be “not in line” with the IOC recommendations. They both participated in a Military WC and have showed support to the war against Ukraine, and where therefore excluded from the WC in Baku in May/June this year.

We expect that WT will follow up their compliance with the IOC recommendations released in March, that encouraged the athletes to be allowed to compete as neutrals **provided they do not support the war and are not affiliated with the armed forces.**

We have read from “Inside the games” that a Review Committee have commissioned an independent and external review of the AIN who qualified to compete at the Paris 2023 World Taekwondo Grand Prix.

To ensure transparency we wish to be informed of the constellation of this committee; who are the sitting members and what are the guidelines for the committee?

In the case of the Russian athletes Khramtsov and Larin (and other war-supporting athletes) we therefore expect that WT will withhold the ban of these athletes, not allowing them participation at upcoming competitions.

Regards



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