

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



## PRESS RELEASE

### FIG decision regarding the conflict in Europe

LAUSANNE (SUI), FIG Office, 26 February 2022

During its meeting today, the Executive Committee of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) expressed its concern following the Russian military invasion of Ukraine and decided on the following measures:

- The Russian and Belarussian national flags must not be displayed, and the Russian and Belarussian anthems must not be played at any FIG-sanctioned events until further notice.
- All FIG World Cup and World Challenge Cup events planned to take place in Russia and Belarus are cancelled, and no other FIG events will be allocated to Russia or Belarus until further notice.
- All FIG-sanctioned events planned to take place in Russia and Belarus are removed from the FIG calendar and will no longer be recognised by the FIG. No other events taking place in Russia and Belarus will be sanctioned by the FIG until further notice.

“As a sporting governing body, our first duty is to protect all our athletes, including to protect them from political pressure,” said FIG President Morinari Watanabe.

“Our thoughts go to the members of the Gymnastics community in Ukraine. Sport is friendship and solidarity. We must show solidarity with the members of our family who are in despair and offer them a helping hand to ensure their future.”

The FIG will ask the FIG Foundation for Solidarity to allocate special aid to support Ukrainian athletes and other members of the Ukrainian Gymnastics Federation hit by the war.

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**About the FIG:** *The International Gymnastics Federation is the governing body for Gymnastics worldwide. It is the oldest established international federation of an Olympic sport and has participated in the Olympic Games since their revival in 1896. The FIG governs eight sports: Gymnastics for All, Men's and Women's Artistic Gymnastics, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Trampoline - including Double Mini-trampoline and Tumbling -, Aerobics, Acrobatics, and Parkour. It counts 156 national member federations and has its headquarters in the Olympic Capital of Lausanne (SUI).*

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**Contact Information:**

**FIG Media & Communications Department**

[mediafig@fig-gymnastics.org](mailto:mediafig@fig-gymnastics.org)

+41 21 321 55 10

More information at <http://www.gymnastics.sport>