

*Norwegian statement*

**The Norwegian Swimming Federation strongly condemns Russia's acts of war.**

We will immediately urge our European and international organizations to move all events out of Russia and Belarus, ban athletes from Russia and Belarus from attending events, and freeze all Russian and Belarus representatives' positions in the international democratic bodies until a peaceful solution is found.

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*Finnish statement*

**The Finnish Swimming Federation states that Russia must be excluded from the international sports community**

The Board of the Finnish Swimming Federation has decided today, that due to Russia's acts of war against Ukraine, the Finnish Swimming Federation will not send athletes to competitions in Russia in any of its four disciplines (swimming, diving, artistic swimming, and water polo). Russia has been granted e.g., this year's FINA World Championships and FINA Junior World Championships in swimming and the FINA Cup in Artistic Swimming.

The Finnish Swimming Federation demands the exclusion of Russia from the international sports community. International championships granted to Russia must be held elsewhere. The participation of Russian athletes in international Championships must be prevented due to the hostilities.

The decision-making power in international championships lies with the European Swimming Federation LEN and the International Swimming Federation FINA. The Finnish Swimming Federation actively works with the Nordic Swimming Federation NSF, the European Swimming Federation LEN and the International Swimming Federation FINA to achieve the aforementioned decisions.

In addition, the Finnish Swimming Federation proposes that the Finnish Sports Organizations make a joint statement with similar content to implement the measures described above at the international level.

## *Suggestion*

### **Joint statement of the Nordic Swimming Federations on the invasion in Ukraine**

The Nordic Swimming Federations strongly condemn the invasion of Ukraine by the government of Russia supported by the government of Belarus. We call on the international aquatics community and especially FINA to immediately suspend Russia and Belarus from all involvement in international aquatics until a peaceful solution is found and all parties can take part in future sporting activities on equal terms.

This should include relocation or cancellation of all events currently planned in Russia or Belarus, as already requested by the International Olympic Committee, and the exclusion of Russia and Belarus from all recognized aquatics events and governing bodies. Ukrainian athletes are forced to defend their homes and families, unable to train or compete solely due to the inhumane actions of the Russian and Belarusian governments. Until this situation is resolved, Russia and Belarus should have no presence in international aquatics on any level.

The Nordic Swimming Federations will not attend any event staged in Russia or Belarus as the situation stands, including the FINA World Junior Swimming Championships and the FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) scheduled to be in Kazan, Russia this year.

Our hearts go out to the Ukrainian people who suffer under this brutal act of war, and to our dear friends in the aquatics family who are now pushed into a fight for survival rather than sporting glory.

February 26th, 2022

Denmark	Pia M. Johansen, president
Estonia	Simon Renno, president
Faroe Islands	Rókur í Jákupsstovu, president
Finland	Ville Riekkinen, president
Iceland	Björn Sigurðsson
Latvia	Aivars Platonovs
Lithuania	Tomas Kučinskis
Norway	Cato Bratbakk

Sweden

Pia Zätterström