

EUROSAF
ATT. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND
SECRETARYGENERAL

8 MARCH 2022

SENT VIA E-MAIL:
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EUROSAF STATEMENT ON UKRAINE, RUSSIA, AND BELARUS

Dear President, board members and secretary general.

The Nordic Sailing Federation (Group G of World Sailing) condemns the escalating acts of war currently unfolding in Ukraine in the strongest possible way. The continued military aggression and violation of international law by the Russian and Belarusian governments is totally unacceptable and must be met with an immediate and effective response – also from the international sporting community.

In this context, EUROSAF should take a very firm stance.

With EUROSAF's statement of 3rd March 2022 the federation has send a signal regarding exclusion of athletes and officials in events and regattas.

But surprisingly and disappointingly the executive board of EUROSAF has decided to allow delegates of Russia and Belarussia to participate at meetings like the upcoming General Assembly and at board meetings.

This is totally unacceptable for the members of the Nordic Sailing Federation (Danish Sailing Association, Estonian Yachting Union, Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation, Icelandic Sailing Association, Latvian Yachting Union, Lithuanian Sailing Union, Norwegian Sailing Federation and Swedish Sailing Federation).

We strongly urge the executive board to follow line of the rest of the sporting world in excluding not only athletes and officials but also the “politicians”, delegates and alle other persons from Russia and Belarus.

We recognize and appreciate Yana Dobzhitskaya's personal knowledge and commitment to the sport of sailing and her ontribution to EUROSAF. However, being an official delegate of the Russian Federation, Yana Dohhitskaya, must be excused from her duties and excluded from all meetings and other activities in EUROSAF and in the world of sailing – like all other persons from Russia and Belarus.

If the executive board will not change its position in this matter, our MNA's shall not participate in coming EUROSAF activities, and we will recommend the rest of EUROSAF's member national authorities to put their participation on hold as well.

We expect a revised EUROSAF statement on Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus soonest possible and before of the General Assembly this Saturday 12th March. Otherwise, we will ask the president to take a discussion and vote on the matter as the first point on the agenda.

This will send a strong message to the rest of the international sporting community to stand united with our Ukrainian colleagues and friends.

Now is the time to act and be on the right side of history.

Yours sincerely,

Freyr Riska,
President of the Nordic Sailing Federation,
on behalf of Danish Sailing Association, Estonian Yachting Union, Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation,
Icelandic Sailing Association, Latvian Yachting Union, Lithuanian Sailing Union, Norwegian Sailing
Federation and Swedish Sailing Federation.