



All-Russian Public Organization  
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Общероссийская общественная организация  
 «ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ ШАХМАТ РОССИИ»  
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**Ref. № 27**

**25 June 2024**

**Attn.: FIDE General Assembly**

## **COMPLAINT**

Dear Sirs,

On February 27, 2022, an extraordinary meeting of the FIDE Council was held with the purpose, as stated in the minutes, to express FIDE position regarding the current geopolitical events, namely to condemn the military action launched by Russia against Ukraine.

The main result of the extraordinary meeting was FIDE decision to postpone or cancel official FIDE chess competitions and events in Russia, as well as the decision to ban Russian and Belarusian state symbols, the flag and the anthem, at all FIDE-rated international chess events.

On March 15, 2022, by decision of the FIDE Council, the national teams of Russia and Belarus were suspended from participation in official FIDE tournaments, while in individual tournaments of the FIDE World Championship cycle, players from these countries were allowed to participate only under the FIDE flag.

By virtue of Art. 4.4. of the Charter, FIDE rejects any kind of discrimination against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, citizenship, birth, age, status, wealth, disability, language, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, political opinions, or any other reason.

FIDE adheres to the “Basic Universal Principles of the Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement” adopted by the IOC (Article 2.13 of the FIDE Charter).

According to Principle 5 of the “Basic Universal Principles of the Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement”, the right of athletes to participate in sports competitions is protected within the limits of applicable rules (including competition laws). No form of discrimination on whatever grounds, be it race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, shall be tolerated.

According to Principle 7 of the “Basic Universal Principles for the Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement”, sports organizations should preserve their autonomy and political neutrality in their operations and governance, and should reject any form of political, religious or economic pressure which may prevent them from complying with the Olympic Charter.

Paragraph 5 of the Preamble of the “Fundamental Principles of Olympism” of the Olympic Charter states: “Recognising that sport occurs within the framework of society, sports organisations within the Olympic Movement shall apply political neutrality.”

Thus, in violation of the FIDE Charter, the Fundamental Principles of the Olympism and the IOC Olympic Charter, by taking a biased position the FIDE Council has made deliberately discriminatory decisions regarding the athletes from Russia and Belarus for political reasons, depriving Russia and Belarus of competing under the national flags and anthems, as well as depriving both national teams of participating in official FIDE tournaments.



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Taking into account the above and guided by paragraph “1” of Article 17.2. FIDE Charter,  
We ask the FIDE General Assembly to cancel the discriminatory decisions of the FIDE Council of February 27, 2022 and March 15, 2022, regarding banning athletes from Russia and Belarus from competing under their national flags and anthems, as well as regarding Russian and Belarusian national teams from participating in official FIDE tournaments.

Best regards,

Alexander\* Tkachev  
CFR Executive Director