

Brief information regarding restrictions and their current status in FIDE and few other international sport federations.

1. In February 2022 - March 2022 FIDE Council as the highest executive body approved two resolutions regarding limitations for the Russian and Belarussian chess federations.

<https://www.fide.com/the-official-statement-of-fide-council/>

<https://www.fide.com/fide-council-meeting-march-15-2022-list-of-decisions/>

The main limitations were established as follows:

«Following the call from IOC, the FIDE Council decides that no Russian and Belarussian national flag be displayed or anthem be played in all FIDE-rated international chess events. Instead – the national chess federation’s flag or the official symbol/logo shall be used».

«Taking into account the current recommendations of the IOC, to suspend the national teams of Russia and Belarus from participation in official FIDE tournaments until further notice. In the individual tournaments of the FIDE World Championship cycle, players from these countries will be allowed to participate under the FIDE flag».

2. In September 2024 the FIDE General Assembly discussed this item and approved the FIDE Council proposal as follows:

«After careful consideration, the majority of the FIDE Council members have concluded that the current circumstances do not provide sufficient grounds to support the motions from the Kyrgyz Chess Union.

The General Assembly requests the FIDE Council to conduct consultations with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), regarding a possibility of a partial reconsideration of the restrictions, allowing vulnerable groups — such as players with disabilities and children under 12 in all FIDE events».

(see https://www.fide.com/docs/decisions-resolutions/FIDE_General_Assembly_2024_Decisions.pdf and https://doc.fide.com/docs/DOC/2024GA/GA_2024_20.pdf)

As was noted by an overwhelming majority of delegates during the General Assembly, the IOC's position must serve as the primary guideline for FIDE, and FIDE's actions must comply with the mandatory recommendations of the IOC to avoid jeopardizing this relationship. The resolution particularly emphasized the necessity of conducting appropriate consultations.

The Council followed the relevant decision of the General Assembly and held necessary negotiations and consultations with IOC to the extent necessary.

3. In January 2025 the FIDE Council decided to allow the participation of teams, consisting of neutral athletes, in the youth competitions and events for players with disabilities (<https://www.fide.com/fide-statement-on-participation-of-neutral-athletes-from-vulnerable-groups-in-team-events/>).

The specified decision was made following consultations with the IOC and after **FIDE received a corresponding letter from the IOC (attached)** confirming that such a decision aligns with the current recommendations.

In accordance with the Council Resolution FIDE allowed participation of the relevant teams in the World Youth Chess Olympiad in Colombia (<https://www.fide.com/world-youth-chess->

[olympiad-u-16-concludes-in-barranquilla-colombia/](#)), and in the 2nd FIDE Chess Olympiad for people with disabilities (<https://www.fide.com/winners-crowned-at-2nd-chess-olympiad-for-people-with-disabilities/>),

These events were organized successfully and without any incidents.

4. In July, 2025, the FIDE Council approved participation of a team of athletes of Russian nationality in the 2025 Women's World Team Championship under the FIDE flag (<https://www.fide.com/fide-council-meeting-held-in-batumi-georgia/>). It was specified that such decisions **were subject to IOC non-objection letter which was duly obtained and is attached hereto.**

This event also was organized successfully and without any incidents.

5. As of the moment there are there are many sports federations allowing participation of athletes from Russia and Belarus in team competitions, such as:

Water sports federation (World Aquatics)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_World_Aquatics_Championships

It should be noted that teams from Russia and Belarus have been granted the right to compete in water polo – purely team game.

<https://total-waterpolo.com/teams-of-russia-and-belarus-return-to-international-stage-in-2026/>

Fencing federation

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_World_Fencing_Championships);

International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_World_Artistic_Gymnastics_Championships;

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_Trampoline_Gymnastics_World_Championships)

International Equestrian Federation (FEI)

(<https://www.eurodressage.com/2025/11/11/russian-and-belarusian-athletes-return-fei-team-competition-under-neutral-flag>)

International Federation of Rowing Societies (FISA)

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_World_Rowing_Championships)

Judo Federation

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_World_Judo_Championships_%E2%80%93_Mixed_team);

International Canoe Federation

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025_ICF_Canoe_Sprint_World_Championships) and others.

All federations mentioned here were representing the sports included into the 2024 Olympic program, with 140 sets of medals awarded in total.

6. The Council further requested an opinion from the IOC on whether admission of teams consists of Russian and Belarussian participants under a neutral symbol contravenes current IOC recommendations, or if such a decision falls within the discretion of the respective international federation.

The IOC, in turn, confirmed that the question of the eligibility for participation in team competitions and the conditions for such participation falls within the competence of

the respective International Federation, and that the Federation holds the final decision regarding the admission criteria for the competitions it organizes (see letter from the IOC as attachment).

7. At December 11 the IOC Summit approved the important decision
<https://www.olympics.com/ioc/news/olympic-summit-reaffirms-athletes-fundamental-rights-to-access-sport-without-political-interference>

In this decision IOC decided that no limitations should apply to the youth events.
«youth athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport should no longer be restricted in their access to international youth competitions, in both individual and team sports. ...
In addition, the standard protocols ... regarding flags, anthems, uniforms and other elements should apply».