



## **European Powerlifting Federation (EPF)**

### **Policy on the Participation of Russian and Belarusian Athletes and Officials**

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**Date of Issue:** 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2025

**Approved by:** EPF Executive Committee

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#### **1. Purpose**

The European Powerlifting Federation (EPF) reaffirms its commitment to fairness, integrity, and solidarity with the international sporting community in response to the ongoing war in Ukraine. Following the recommendations of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), respective policy of the International Powerlifting Federation (IPF), based on practical considerations, including political and safety concerns, this policy defines the EPF's official stance regarding the participation of athletes, officials, and representatives from the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus in EPF-sanctioned competitions organized by the EPF member federations within Europe.

This position is founded on binding international sports governance principles, relevant resolutions, and established legal and ethical norms to safeguard the integrity, neutrality, and safety of the sport.

#### **2. Scope**

This policy applies to:

- All EPF-sanctioned competitions, championships, and events.
- All events organized by EPF-affiliated national federations under the jurisdiction of the EPF.

#### **3. Participation Ban Policy**

##### **3.1 Ban of Athletes, Officials, and Teams**

In light of the ongoing conflict initiated by the Russian Federation, supported by the Republic of Belarus, the EPF enforces the following measures:

- A ban of participation by athletes, officials, and representatives from Russia and Belarus in all EPF-sanctioned competitions and events, effective immediately and until further notice.

- This ban applies to:
  - Individual athletes and teams representing Russia or Belarus.
  - Officials, coaches, referees, and event staff from these countries.
  - Any participants representing, affiliated with, or financed by Russian or Belarusian national entities.
- The EPF will not accept nomination or presence of the official delegations from Russia or Belarus at any EPF-sanctioned event.

### **3.2 Event Hosting and Entry Restrictions**

- EPF member federations are restricted from hosting athletes, teams, or officials from Russia and Belarus at any EPF-sanctioned competitions held within their national territory.
- EPF member federations are advised to strictly enforce this policy at all national, regional, and international events organized under their jurisdiction in accordance with this policy.

### **4. Review and Updates**

This policy shall remain in effect until further notice, subject to review based on developments in international sports governance and geopolitical circumstances.

The EPF will issue formal updates to all member federations and event organizers upon any amendment or lifting of this policy.

### **5. Compliance and Enforcement**

Failure to comply with this policy will result in measures against the violating national federation, including but not limited to:

- cancelation of the Promoter's Contract between the EPF and the violating National federation;
- restriction on organizing the EPF events during 3 years from the date of the violation;

The EPF Executive Committee reserves the authority to investigate breaches and enforce appropriate sanctions.

### **6. Final Provision**

The EPF Executive Committee holds the exclusive authority to interpret, implement, and enforce this policy, ensuring adherence to international standards and protecting the values, safety, and integrity of the sport of powerlifting within Europe.