

Curitiba 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.

**Dear Mr Antonio Espinós**

**President of World Karate Federation (WKF)**

Calle Princesa 25, 3<sup>er</sup>, 288. Madrid – Spain

**CC Mr Thomas Bach**

**International Olympic Committee (IOC)**

Vidy's Chateaus 1007 Lausanne – Switzerland

The International Traditional Karate Federation – ITKF congratulates Mr Espinós, WKF officials and IOC for planning and organizing the Karate competitions at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. We also take this opportunity to congratulate all participating teachers, coaches, athletes and referees. It was a very well put together show.

The ITKF understand that the current representation of karate before IOC does not meet much of world karate, which is much broader and therefore not represented.

ITKF has historically been at the negotiating table regarding the Olympic representation of karate with the formers WUKO and IOC. Times have changed, the world has changed and out of all that, we always get positive things. It is a good time to get closer to talking about a more inclusive, more comprehensive proposal that is the faithful reflection of all Karate practitioners worldwide.

We believe in the unity of world karate, like Judo, is a major factor for karate to take a step beyond being an invited modality.

As an example of recent integration, we had the opportunity to partner with WUKF in two world events, in which we managed to work harmoniously in both general and traditional karate, each preserving its characteristics and identities.

ITKF is also ready and willing to discuss a proposal for supra-institutional unification and understanding aiming the future of karate as an effective Olympic Sport.



Prof. Dr. Gilberto Gaertner

ITKF Chairman