

Curitiba, May 20th, 2021

CHAIRMAN COMMUNICATION 011/2021

Ref. European Traditional Karate Federation - ETKF Status

The ITKF Traditional Karate Affiliates

This release is intended to inform and clarify the current situation of ETKF with ITKF. The deliberations taken at the board meetings on April 24 and May 12, as well as the decision that belongs to the Chairman from these deliberations will also be summarized.

It is also important to point out that we are not discussing the operation of ETKF, but the incompatibilities of its structure and functioning in relation to ITKF, to which it is a signatory.

I would like to make it very clear that the information, discussions and deliberations refer exclusively to ETKF and do not extend to countries legally affiliated with ITKF and which are part of the ETKF. I would also like to clarify that all questions are of an institutional nature and have no personal character.

1. Brief summary of the facts

In 2019, at the 20th ITKF World Championship, ETKF was asked to adapt its status to that of ITKF within 6 months and to hold elections. Despite contacts and requests from ITKF, after almost a year and a half the most important changes have not been made. Throughout this period ITKF received complaints from 5 countries (full members of the ITKF) regarding irregularities in the operation of the ETKF. ITKF also received a complaint from a member organization (full member) regarding the realization of an official ETKF course in their country with an organization not affiliated with ITKF. Based on these requests, and seeking to exercise its role of moderating and regulating power, ITKF sought further information regarding the facts. The matter in question was debated and deliberated in two board meetings, in which irregularities and incompatibilities in the functioning of ETKF in relation to ITKF were evidenced.

2. Incompatibilities and irregularities in the operation of ETKF in relation to ITKF

a. ETKF has in its membership organizations that are not affiliated to ITKF.

(ITKF Constitution 3.3 1.... The Region Organization shall consist of ITKF Member Organizations within its respective region ...)

b. ETKF has more than one affiliated organization in some countries.

(ITKF Constitution 3.1 ITKF shall be composed of Member Organizations which are established voluntarily and democratically in their own countries as the sole governing body of Traditional Karate in their respective countries.)

c. In the composition of the ETKF board of directors there are people not affiliated with ITKF (ETKF officials: Mr. Roberto Falli, Italy 3rd. ETKF Vice-president / Executive Board: Mr. Giovanni Gordiani, Italy; Mr. Panagiotis Dracopoulos, Greece; Mr. Andrzej Macejowski, Poland).

(ITKF Constitution 3.3 1).

d. ETKF conducted and approved a course in Slovenia at an organization not affiliated with ITKF. This action antagonized with the local organization (SZTK) affiliated to ITKF (full member). In addition, it is also affiliated with the same organization not affiliated to ITKF at ETKF.

(ITKF Constitution 3.3 1 and 3.1).

3. Incompatibilities in the ETKF Statute in relation to the ITKF

ETKF's statute is at odds with that of ITKF in the following articles:

Article 3.3.1 of ITKF Constitution indicates that:

... The Region Organization shall consist of ITKF Member Organizations within its respective region.

Article 3.3.2 of ITKF Constitution quotes:

When a Region Organization is to be formed, all the Member Organizations within the respective region should establish its purpose, rules and regulations at a proper conference in accordance with the established policies, procedures and purposes of ITKF.

Article 3.3.4 of ITKF Constitution indicates that:

The Region Organization shall not establish any rules, regulations or related provisions which will violate directly or indirectly, the basic rights of ITKF Member Organizations within the region or which require membership in a Region Organization as a prerequisite to membership in ITKF. The ITKF rules and regulations, and related provisions supersede and have priority over any of those established by the Region Organizations.

Article 3.3.6 of ITKF Constitution indicates that:

Each Region Organization must present its annual business plan and report to ITKF Chairman and obtain the approval of ITKF directors.

4. Resetting the status of ETKF in relation to ITKF

From the incompatibilities mentioned above and the unsuccessful attempts to make the necessary adjustments, the Chairman of ITKF, in fulfilling his duties and supported by Article 3.3 6 of ITKF Constitution (... *If a Region Organization violated any ITKF rules and regulations or related provisions based thereon ITKF Chairman has the power to dissolve such Region Organization upon conferring with ITKF General Meeting*), as well as supported by the decisions of the last two meetings of the directors (directors meeting) announces that as of today, May 20, 2021, the European Traditional Karate Federation (ETKF) is officially unaffiliated to ITKF (International Traditional Karate Federation). I also reiterate that the unaffiliation is restricted to ETKF only, and does not affect the European countries that are members of the ITKF.

The Tradition Continues



Gilberto Gaertner

ITKF Chairman