

1st March 2022, Warsaw

Kathleen Smet
Europe Triathlon Secretary General

Dear Secretary General,

In the past few days, we are witnessing the Russian, supported by Belarusian government, unprovoked attack on Ukraine. An invasion which causes deaths, destruction, and pain to our neighbors and poses a deathful threat to many others.

Polish Triathlon Union stands in absolute solidarity with the Ukrainian people. As an organizing committee of the European Championships in Olsztyn 2022 we do not see any possibility that athletes from an invading country could participate in European Championships. Therefore, we request the removal of athletes from Russia and Belarus from the start lists of the European Championships in Olsztyn.

Although we are aware of the great dedication of Russian and Belarusian athletes who are not responsible for the decisions of their governments, we stand in a position where only a unified approach of all international organizations towards conflict in Ukraine may have an effect to end this cruel war.

We believe our proposal should be accepted by European Triathlon.

Yours Sincerely,

Paweł Jarski
President of Polish Triathlon Union

Marcin Florek
Director of Europe Triathlon Championships
Olsztyn 2022

