



Svaz vodáků České republiky z.s.



Prague, 1.3.2022

Dear IRF

With horror and huge fear we watch the Russian invasion of Ukraine. We fully stay with our Ukrainian friends, hold them in our hearts and thoughts and send them much needed strength.

It is absolutely unthinkable for us to participate in a sporting event together with representatives of the Russian Raft Federation during the Russian aggression.

We strongly appeal to the IRF to use all its potential and help ending this meaningless and cruel war by suspending membership of the Russian Rafting Federation until further notice. This step will ban Russian athletes, judges and other officials from international rafting events.

[IOC recommends](#) to follow similar steps. Many other international sports associations have already done so, for example ICF, FIFA, UEFA, IIHF, FIS.

Each of us is now obligated to apply pressure on Vladimir Putin. As athletes, it is our duty to do everything in our power to contribute to the end of this war and race again in peaceful and fair competition beyond all political disputes.

We ask the IRF for an immediate response!

Sincerely,



Libor Polák
president of SVoČR (Union of Boaters of the Czech Republic)