



For Immediate Release

WOA statement on the IOC Executive Board decision on Russia

Monaco; 06 December 2017

World Olympians Association welcomes the decision made by the IOC Executive Board and the due process followed to ensure the individual rights of clean athletes are protected.

The IOC decision sends a clear message that there is no room for drugs cheats in sport, while acknowledging the importance of maintaining a route for the participation of clean athletes.

World Olympians Association takes the fight against doping extremely seriously and is determined to see cheats driven out to ensure a level playing field for all Olympians. But we reiterate our stance that, where possible, individual justice should be applied to ensure clean athletes are not unfairly punished.

We acknowledge the challenges faced by all involved in coming to this decision and appreciate some athletes will be disappointed not to be able to compete under the flag of their NOC. But we are pleased a mechanism has been put in place, in line with the recommendation previously put forward as part of World Olympians Association's [three-point plan](#), to allow clean athletes to compete and earn their place as Olympians.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

About World Olympians Association

WOA is the member organisation for the more than 120,000 Olympians worldwide. Our remit is to work for the benefit of all Olympians at all stages of their lives, empowering them to serve society and help make the world a better place. With 149 member National Olympians Associations (NOAs) spread across all five continents, WOA provides support to Olympian-run events and projects based on the Olympic ideals laid down by the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Pierre de Coubertin.

For further information:

Amelia Fisher-Starzynski, VERO Communications

Email: afisher-starzynski@verocom.co.uk

Mobile: +44 [0] 7557 418 187

To engage with the WOA:

Website: olympians.org

Twitter: [@WorldOlympians](https://twitter.com/WorldOlympians)

Facebook: facebook.com/WorldOlympiansAssociation/