

Official Statement – Recognition of Sanction and Support for Bulgarian MMA Federation (Ref. 22 of 2025)

To:

Mr. Stanislav Nedkov

Chairman, Bulgarian Mixed Martial Arts Federation (BULMMAF)

Dear Mr. Nedkov,

The International Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF) acknowledges receipt of your report and subsequent correspondence regarding Mr. Nikolay Dobrudzhanski. The IMMAF Disciplinary Committee has reviewed the matter and now issues this formal statement on behalf of IMMAF.

Recognition of Sanction

IMMAF confirms that this matter has been registered under IMMAF Discipline Reference 22 of 2025 and that it fully recognises and supports the lifetime expulsion imposed by the Bulgarian Mixed Martial Arts Federation (BULMMAF) in 2018.

The evidence and documentation recently provided by BULMMAF clearly demonstrate behaviour that is entirely incompatible with IMMAF's core values and regulatory framework. The conduct described as racist, antisemitic, and degrading actions towards vulnerable individuals including children, pregnant women, and persons with disabilities, violates the fundamental principles of the IMMAF Statutes, the IMMAF Code of Ethics, and IMMAF's Safeguarding Policy.

IMMAF acknowledges that the sanction was imposed by the Bulgarian Federation within its national authority and finds it both proportionate and necessary to protect the integrity and ethical standards of our sport.

IMMAF Jurisdiction and Support

While IMMAF's disciplinary powers apply exclusively to amateur activities under its direct governance and that of its member federations, IMMAF recognises and supports the national expulsion as consistent with its international ethical and safeguarding commitments.

This recognition will remain recorded under IMMAF's disciplinary framework as an officially supported national sanction, reflecting IMMAF's agreement with and endorsement of BULMMAF's actions.

IMMAF will not make any further jurisdictional extension into professional or unaffiliated sectors but stands unequivocally behind BULMMAF's decision and the values it represents.

Safeguarding and Ethical Commitment

IMMAF commends BULMMAF for promptly notifying all competent Bulgarian authorities, including those responsible for safeguarding and the protection of minors. This decisive action demonstrates responsible governance and a firm safeguarding culture consistent with IMMAF's expectations of all member federations.

IMMAF reiterates its shared position that individuals displaying such behaviour should not be involved with children, minors, or vulnerable persons in any sporting context.

Conclusion

IMMAF stands alongside the Bulgarian Mixed Martial Arts Federation in affirming a zero-tolerance policy toward racism, antisemitism, hate speech, and conduct that violates human dignity. The Bulgarian Federation's swift and transparent handling of this matter when they became aware, reflects the highest standards of integrity and responsibility expected within the IMMAF family.

The case will remain recorded under IMMAF Ref. 22 of 2025 as a recognised and supported disciplinary action. IMMAF expresses its full appreciation to BULMMAF for its leadership and commitment to upholding the integrity, safety, and ethical principles that define our sport.

Sincerely,

Jason Brown
Chairperson – IMMAF Disciplinary Committee
International Mixed Martial Arts Federation

jason.brown@immaf.org
www.immaf.org