Bulgarie, 1040 Sofia, 75, bld. "Vassil Levski"
Tel.: (+359.2)930-05-19; fax: (+359.2)988-27-16; www.UWW-Eu.org; e-mail: office@UWW-Eu.org

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# Activity of the European Council of UWW in 2018

## Report to the Executive Commission

In its report for 2018, the Executive commission provides the findings, conclusions and the assessments for the state of wrestling in Europe. The subject of analysis are the results achieved in UWW's official tournaments, as well as the activities carried out in the common interests of the national federations- members of the Council. The aim is to promote new approaches in the mutual activity in the current year and following years.

## I. Championships, tournaments of UWW, held in Europe.

- 1. European championships were held in FS, GR, WW in 5 age categories: senior (Kaspiysk, Russia), U-23 (Istanbul, Turkey), junior (Rome, Italy), cadet (Skopje, North Macedonia), U15 (Győr, Hungary).
- 2. The four host of the World championships are from Europe: Budapest, Hungarysenior, Bucharest, Romania U-23, Trnava, Slovakia- junior, Zagreb, Croatia- cadet.
- 3. The total of international tournaments on the continent is *109*:
- 43 (senior-14, U23-1, junior-13, cadet-13, U15-2) in GR,
- 41( senior-18, junior-11, cadet-9, U15-3) in FS,
- 25( senior-8, junior-8, cadet-8, U15-1) in WW.

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42 from the national federations in Europe have participated in the organisation and conduction of UWW's championships and tournaments. From 2018, the European Cup of nations have been stopped. (FS, GR, WW).

#### II. Participation in UWW's championships

## 1. European championships

In the championships in GR, FS, WW in the 5 age categories participated a total of 2446 wrestlers (GR-959, FS-852, WW-635). They represented 42 national federations (87,5% from the federations-members of the Council). The most popular participation is in Skopje for cadets (North Macedonia)- 38 nations with 542 wrestlers (GR- 35/206, FS-32/197, WW-25/139). For juniors (Rome, Italy) 36 nations are represented with 473 wrestlers (GR- 31/185, FS- 30/167, WW-25/121). In the category senior (Kaspiysk, Russia) and U23 (Istanbul, Turkey) participate 33 national teams. In Kaspiysk, 431 wrestlers take part (GR- 31/176, FS- 29/147, WW-24/108). In Istanbul 384 wrestlers compete (GR- 29/155, FS- 27/136, WW-20/93). In the U15 championship (Győr, Hungary) 28 nations participate with 616 wrestlers (GR- 25/237, FS- 26/205, WW-24/174).

The Executive Commission concludes that tendencies for increase in the number of participants in the European championships remain. To continue this process is necessary to be foreseen methods in supporting the federations of Luxembourg, Monaco, Ireland and San Marino so that they will register their participation in championships.

## 2. World championships and Cups

In the 4 World championships in 2018 1495 wrestlers from Europe participated. They are the representatives of 38 national federations. The share of our continent in participation at the championships is 58%. In Budapest (senior) 401 people participated (51%), in

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Bucharest (U23) – 355 (58%), in Trnava (junior)- 363 (55%), in Zagreb (cadet)- 376 (59%).

The highest participation is in GR- 625 wrestlers. In FS 502 wrestled and in WW- 368 female wrestlers. At the championships, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine participated in all weigh categories- with 120 each. Impressive is also the performance of Belarus- 98, Azerbaijan - 85, Hungary- 84, Georgia- 80, Poland- 79, Bulgaria- 73 и Romania- 58 people.

At the World Cup in freestyle wrestling, Europe is represented by Azerbaijan and Georgia, and female wrestling from Belarus, Romania and Sweden.

The Executive commission believes that with its participation in World championships, the wrestlers from Europe widen their leading positions.

## 3. Results

3.1 From 42 participating federations, 31-win medals at 5 European Championships (73.8%). The biggest achievement has Russian- 119 medals (54 gold, 30 silver, 25 bronze). Followed by Turkey 73 (16-20-37), Georgia- 55 (11-12-32), Ukraine- 54 (15-8-31), Azerbaijan- 53 (9-16-28), Belarus- 40(8-12-20), Armenia- 31 (9-2-20), Hungary- 25 (2-7-16), Moldova- 19 (0-8-10), Romania- 18 (2-3-13), Germany- 17 (1-6-10), Bulgaria- 15 (4-5-6), Italy- 14 (0-3-11), Sweden- 13 (3-1-9), France- 10 (1-3-6), Poland- 8 (2-3-3), Finland- 7 (1-1-5), Norway- 7 (0-1-6), Estonia- 5 (0-1-4), Austria- 3 (0-1-2), Greece- 3 (0-1-0), Serbia- 3 (0-2-1), Latvia, Israel and Lithuania with 2 each, Slovakia- 2 (1-1-0), Cheque Republic, North Macedonia, Spain, Denmark and Croatia with 1 medal each.

The gold medals divide: Russia- 64, Turkey- 16, Ukraine- 15, Georgia-11, Azerbaijan and Armenia- 9 each, Belarus- 8, Bulgaria- 4, Sweden- 3, Hungary, Romania, Poland- 2 each, Germany, France, Finland, Slovakia, Denmark and Croatia – 1 each- total of 18 countries. Silver medals have 25 countries and 26- bronze ones.

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The results' analysis shows that 28 federations develop GR and 23 federations develop FS and WW. The Commission considers that this is a good foundation for the affirmation and development of the 3 Olympic styles. At this stage, the number of participants at GR and FS championships should be assessed as optimal. With a view on global competition, it will be beneficial to seek an increase in the number of female wrestlers in all age groups.

- 3.2 In the 4 World championships, the participants from Europe won a total of 248 medals- 106 gold, 80 silver and 62 bronze. They are divided between 25 federations. With a very strong position is the federation of Russia- 64 medals (24 gold, 14 silver and 26 bronze). Follow: Turkey- 27 (7-7-13), Azerbaijan- 25 (5-9-11), Georgia- 22 (7-6-9), Ukraine- 20 (2-3-15), Moldova- 12 (3-2-7), Hungary- 12 (1-5-6), Armenia- 10 (2-4-4), Belarus- 10 (0-2-8), Romania- 8 (0-3-5), Bulgaria- 6 (1-2-3), Germany- 4(1-1-2), Italy and France- 3 each (1-1-1), Serbia and Sweden- 3 each (0-1-2), Finland- 2 (1-0-1), Poland, Austria, Denmark, Norway- 2 each, Slovakia- 1 each (1-0-0), Spain, Switzerland and Greece 1 each. In GR 21 countries from Europe won a total of 106 medals (28 gold), in FS the result is 15 countries with 80 medals (20 gold), in WW 15 countries won 62 medals (7 gold). This statistic outlines the wrestlers from our continent in GR and FS. In WW representatives from Europe yield to their rivals from Asia.
- 3.3 In the World Cup, freestyle wrestling (Iowa City, USA) Azerbaijan's team ranked second, and Georgia's fifth. In the World Cup in women wrestling (Takasaki, Japan) Belarus ranked 6<sup>th</sup> place, Romania 7<sup>th</sup> and Sweden on 8<sup>th</sup> place.

Bulgarie, 1040 Sofia, 75, bld. "Vassil Levski"
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The Executive Commission expresses gratitude to the federations of Russia, Turkey, North Macedonia, Italy and Hungary for the good organisation and the successful conduct of the 2018 European championships.

Congratulations also to the federations of Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Croatia for conducting all World championships for the year.

#### III. Activity of UWW's Centre in Sofia

A detailed report on the Centre's activities is provided in a separate point from the Agenda of our Annual Conference. In 2018, he functioned in accordance with UWW's standards. For the preparation in it, a total 153 people were welcomed: 122 wrestlers (GR-57, FS-51, WW-14) in 22 delegations from 15 countries (ALB, ALG, EST, FRA, GBR, GRE, INA, ITA, KOS, MKD, ROU, SUI, SVK, TUN, USA), 31 coaches and technical staff.

The preparation was in line with UWW's calendar, methodological requirements, atmospheric and climate conditions and other options. The training sessions were held in 7 specialised centres (in Sofia, Teteven, Samokov, Varna, Blagoevgrad, Dimitrovgrad and in the high mountain Belmeken base). Sparing-partners to all visiting wrestlers were athletes from Bulgarian national and club teams. For each style, the Centre's coaches and their other colleagues were provided. The training sessions were held in 110 days in GR, 147 in FS and 74 days in WW.

At the end of 2019, begins the realisation of UWW and our Council's project, which apart from training, foresees education for new coaching staff, as well as referees and other.

## IV. International transfers of wrestlers

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In the transfers' registry for 2018, 215 have been listed. They wrestled in the clubs of three countries: Germany- 190 wrestlers, Austria- 16 wrestlers and France- 9.

The transfers' list includes the representative of 33 countries (30 from Europe and 3 from Asia):

Poland-28, Hungary-27, Bulgaria and Romania- 23, Moldova-14, Georgia-12, Turkey-11, Russia- 10, Ukraine- 9, Czech Republic- 7, Armenia-4, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Denmark, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Serbia, Slovakia- 3 each, Afghanistan, Belarus, Finland, Great Britain, North Macedonia, Spain, Sweden- 2 each, Austria, Estonia, Morocco, Norway, Switzerland, Iran- 1 each.

The tendency of decrease in the number of transfers continues. In the past year, they were with less than 14 from 2017. The reasons are: the closure of Poland's League; the continuing problems between DRB and DRL in Germany, as well as attracting European wrestlers in the leagues of India, Iran and other countries.

On the other hand, the structure of UWW's calendar and the related with it, preparation of elite wrestlers provides minimum opportunity to organisers of team clubs' competitions. The interest from local and regional sponsors towards those forms is small. Our Council's program is planning the introduction of new forms of team tournaments. They can be created with the help of UWW's Technical commission and other working organs. The Executive commission concentrates its efforts for the preparation of necessary, normative documents, as well as providing the specific assistance to federations and clubs.

## V. Activity of the Executive Committee

In the second year of its mandate, the Commission continues to work as a collective organ. Its activities were determined by the tasks set in the Council's Program (2017-2020), by the instructions of UWW's President, General Secretary and members of Executive Committee. A good synchronisation was present in mutual actions with

# Bulgarie, 1040 Sofia, 75, bld. "Vassil Levski" Tel.: (+359.2)930-05-19; fax: (+359.2)988-27-16; www.UWW-Eu.org; e-mail: office@UWW-Eu.org

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UWW's Sports department, Commission for development and technical assistance, Technical commission and other organs at the Headquarters in Vevey.

In Kaspiysk, The Executive commission held 2 meetings and in Rome, Győr, Skopje and in Istanbul- work meetings.

Together with the Commission for development, assistance was given for activisation of the federations of Monaco, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, San Marino, Luxembourg and Malte. The procedure for the creation of Andorra's federation was also supported.

Important moment in the development of wrestling on our continent was its inclusion the program of the European and World school games. A good mechanism of interaction with the Organising Committee of the European games in Minsk was established. UWW-Europe's Referees Commission started mutual work with UWW's Commission.

The international transfers' Register, as well as UWW- Europe's website were improved.

In the coming years, the Executive Committee will seek to strengthen the specificity and operability of its activities. One of the most urgent issues to deal with is finding an optimal form to create a European League, which will replace the European Cup of Nations, whose potential is exhausted.

It is also important to develop a Program to attract local sponsors to offer up-to-date and attractive forms of joint action. Such project is only possible with the assistance of UWW's competent structures.

With their help, stimulated will be also, the forms for supporting the disadvantaged national federations. Therefore, EC's members should be well aware of our sport's needs in the different countries and to search for their resolution.

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With its 48 national federations- members, The European council of UWW is an organ with important tasks for the development of wrestling. Its activity in 2018 could been evaluated as positive. The organ is ready to continue the execution of its Program. The goal is wrestling in Europe to have stable positions, popularity and successes.

**Executive Commission of UWW-Europe** 

April 2019