



## Memorandum of Understanding

Concluded between

**European Canoe Association (ECA)**, with registered office at Kneza Mislava 11, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia, and registered under the laws of Croatia (VAT number: HR61256107313), (hereinafter referred to as ECA); is an international, non-governmental, not for profit organisation. The ECA has the powers to operate as a Continental Federation of the ICF according to the ICF Statutes.

The ECA was established at the first ECA Congress in 1993, is formally recognized by the International Canoe Federation (ICF), supporting the federations in their structuring and their development, organize quality competitions and events to promote our paddle sports, facilitating the access to high performance, and finally develop paddle sports for all.

and

**Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia (SOEE)**, a regional office of Special Olympics, Inc. ("SOI") for 58 countries in Europe and Central Asia, a non-profit organization, having its registered office at 42 Mount Street Upper, Dublin 2 and registered under the laws of Ireland (REGISTER NUMBER: 905990).

Special Olympics is a global sports movement to end discrimination against people with intellectual disabilities.

**Special Olympics** strives to create a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people. Through the power of sports, people with intellectual disabilities discover new strengths and abilities, skills and success. Our athletes find joy, confidence and fulfillment—on the playing field and in life. They also inspire people in their communities and elsewhere to open their hearts to a wider world of human talents and potential.

Special Olympics Mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in various Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, offering them continuous opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

This memorandum of understanding ("Memorandum of Understanding" or "MoU") is a statement of intention between the Parties concerning the issues mentioned here. It is not intended to create any contractual relationship or be legally binding on the Parties.

Recognizing the importance of developing high-quality sports for athletes with intellectual disabilities and deciding to cooperate in this matter, the two Parties have reached the following understanding:

### **Principles of Cooperation**

#### **ECA agreed to:**

- provide access to coaching resources, which support the delivery of a safe, fun and positive experience of paddlesports to children and adults with intellectual disabilities;
- provide high quality training opportunities, where appropriate, to identified Special Olympics personnel;
- proclaim its unanimous support of Special Olympics and the inclusion of paddlesports as a sport offered at the international level;

#### **SOEE agreed to:**

- reach more athletes with intellectual disabilities that practice paddlesports across Europe;
- acknowledge the ECA coach education programs as examples of best practice in supporting the growth and development of paddlesports as an inclusive sport for all;
- use adopted ECA resources as training and competition programs for people with ID;
- recognize ECA as the paddlesports partner of SOEE;

#### **In the spirit of cooperation, the Parties agree to:**

- support each other in their respective endeavors, including programs and events; and
- acknowledge this MOU in organizational communications, including the website, social media, newsletters, episodes etc.,
- the other Party's logo with a link to their website <https://www.canoe-europe.org/> & <https://www.specialolympics.org/>
- cooperate in developing content and materials that can be delivered through both networks;
- identify potential areas for practical cooperation;
- provide advice and support on related issues;
- maintain regular contact and share information related to upcoming programs and initiatives;



### **Additional fields of cooperation and amendments**

In order to pursue the cooperation, either Party may propose specific arrangements and additional fields of cooperation of mutual benefit for consideration by other Party. The Parties are expected to consult together upon request of either Party regarding any matter relating to the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual consent in writing between the Parties.

### **Funding**

The present Memorandum of Understanding is intended to exclude any direct cost by the Parties.

### **Validity**

This MOU commences on the date it is signed by both Parties and will continue until terminated by either Party in writing. The terminating Party will give at least three months' notice.

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***"Let me win. But if I can not win, let me be brave in the attempt"***

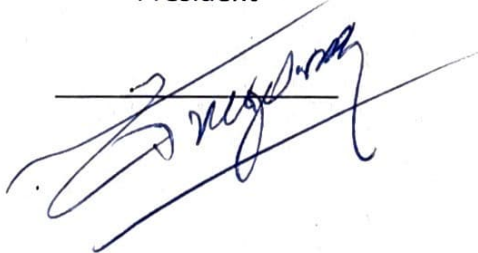
*Special Olympics oath*

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**European Canoe Association**

**Jean ZOUNGRANA**

President



**Special Olympics Europe-Eurasia**

**David Evangelista**

President and Managing Director

