

THE IRISH CHESS UNION

Cumann Fichille na hÉireann



Dublin, 25th February 2026

ICU statement in support of appeal to CAS re FIDE GA

The Irish Chess Union (ICU) supports the appeal lodged before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) concerning the decisions taken at the recent FIDE General Assembly (GA) relating to the status of the Russian and Belarusian Chess Federations.

Our support is grounded in concerns about the procedural conduct, clarity, and governance robustness of the General Assembly's decision-making process. In particular, the adoption of multiple overlapping resolutions, the exclusion of a motion explicitly calling for the continuation of sanctions, and the absence of a clear determination of precedence have resulted in significant uncertainty regarding the operative policy position.

The ICU believes it is in the interests of FIDE, its member federations, and international chess as a whole, that such matters are resolved through transparent, constitutionally sound processes that provide a clear and coherent mandate.

Accordingly, while the Irish Chess Union is not a co-appellant, it supports the Appellants' request for independent review and clarification by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

For and on behalf of the Irish Chess Union
Desmond Beatty, ICU Chairperson (federation president)
Johnathan O'Connor, ICU delegate to FIDE