



# WORLD KARATE CONFEDERATION

WKC – Presidential Office  
Terazije 13/V  
Belgrade, Serbia  
e-mail: [wkc.markonicovic@gmail.com](mailto:wkc.markonicovic@gmail.com)  
[www.wkc-org.net](http://www.wkc-org.net)

**WKC**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**NO. 1/2015**

## From the President



Dear friends,

First of all I wish Happy New year to all our members, friends and associates all around the world. Wishing you all a successful and prosperous 2015!

The karate world has been moving fast, but we should continue with our karate and fully concentrate on the 10th World Championships in Riga in May 2015. We have to make this a great event! Therefore I wish to invite all

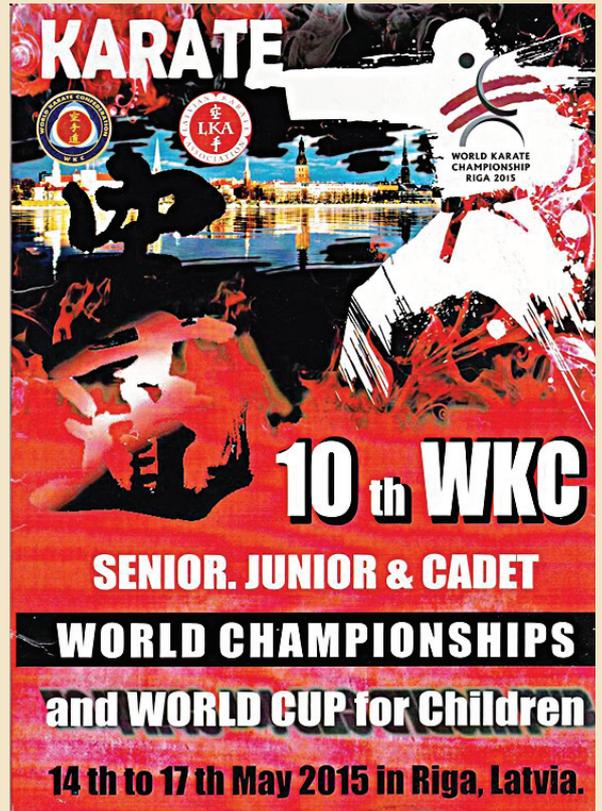
our members, and our former members as well, to take an active participation and support this Championships!

All other international associations are also welcome to take part and we will be honoured to see them in Riga!

We will contact you very soon with more information and details about this event.

Sincerely Yours,

Marko Nicović  
WKC President



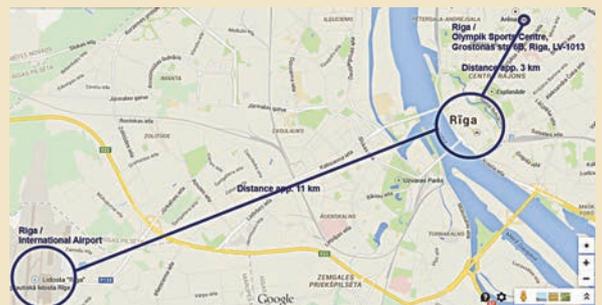
Biedrība „Latvian Karate Association”  
Reģ.nr.40008162599  
Viršu iela 7-82, Rīga, LV-1035



Dear friends and colleagues!!!

The Latvian Karate Association is pleased and honored to invite You to the 10th WKC World Championships for Seniors, Juniors & Cadets and World Cup for Children, which will take place on 14-17 May 2015 in Riga, Latvia. It is a great responsibility and honor to host this competition. We are delighted to invite you to our beautiful and friendly capital city Riga. We will do everything to meet your expectations. Latvia is a small, but beautiful country, with its wild nature, beautiful Baltic sea. We are looking forward to see you in Riga to share this wonderful time and experience together.

President of the Latvian Karate Association  
Vladislav Fetkulin



Map of Riga



The venue of the event – Olympic Sports Centre

# 9th WKC World Championships for Juniors and Cadets, World Cup for Children and Open Championships for Seniors

The 9th WKC World Championships for Juniors and Cadets, World Cup for Children and Open Championships for Seniors was successfully held on 10th to 12th October in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

This was the first and only official WKC event that has taken place in South America in all the 17 years of the WKC existence, proving the WKC is the only world karate body determined to organize its championships on all continents.

The Championships was organized according to the highest standards. The event had an excellent atmosphere and all participants expressed their delight to be at such a fantastic event.

The local organizer - Union Argentina de Karate (UAK) and its President, Mr. Nestor Parreño, did their best to organize this championships in a wonderful location – La Matanza University Sport Hall. President Parreño and his team managed to bring some new federations from the region, that have never competed before in the WKC events like Peru, Dominican Republic and Colombia. We had pleasure of making new friends and exchanging experiences with newcomers and we hope they will remain permanently in the WKC.



WKC officials with representatives of the hosting federation



Medal ceremony – Shobu Sanbon, kumite teams, seniors male



WKC referees at Buenos Aires



By the decision of the WKC ExCom Mr. Nestor Parreño, UAK President is appointed for the WKC President for South America

# ACTIVITIES OF OUR MEMBERS

## Slovakia – Scotland

Aberdeen's famous Karate Instructor Ronnie Watt and Dr Frit Wendland will be looking for a bigger cabinet to display their medals after receiving yet another award, this time from the Slovakian government for 'promotion of understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and regions'.

The commemorative medal of Trnava Self-governing region (TSGR) was awarded to Ronnie on the 5th of September by the TSGR president Tibor Mikos. The award has an important place in the chivalry of the TSGR.

Jurai Staffa, the assistant to the President commented:

"It only belongs to those whose contributions to society and human values



Ronnie Watt OBE  
ORS 8th  
Dan WKC

former champion fighter and member of the WKC board. He had attended the Championships and was so impressed that he invited Ronnie to Slovakia to train his students.

Ronnie has now made several trips to Slovakia with Dr Wendland to help with Karate alongside President Mikos, and Jurai Staffa, (a former treasurer and secretary to the WKC, assistant to president Mikos and author.)

This September Ronnie flew to Germany and travelled to Slovakia with the Founding President of the WKC and good friend Dr. Fritz Wendland from Germany where a surprise ceremony was organised during a 2000 mile European road trip on Dr. Fritz's World War 2 motorcycle and side car. The pair had been talking about the road trip for years and Ronnie and Fritz knew nothing about their awards that was in store for them during the journey.



are extraordinary. It is not only awarded to residents of the region but to other outstanding personalities from other parts of the world. Its prestige and moral credit are unquestionable.

The president of the TSGR in Slovakia (Tibor Mikos) has added "TSGR is proud that the medal is in good hands in your case."

Ronnie first met with President Mikos through Karate back in 2001 when Aberdeen was host to the WKC World Karate Championships at the Beach Ballroom, where thousands of competitors from all over the world came to compete. The competition which had been organised by Ronnie and his team in Aberdeen was praised as a huge success by the WKC who said that it was one of the best competitions they had ever attended and that the hospitality of Aberdonians was second to none.

President Mikos is a keen Karate man himself, and at 8th Dan is greatly respected throughout the Karate world as a



Ronnie Watt OBE ORS 8th Dan WKC Hajime Kitaoka  
Consul General of Japan, Lord Charles Bruce

Ronnie has previously received recognition from the Emperor of Japan for his life's work in karate with an 'order of the rising sun' an award seldom given to people outside Japan. This followed recently an OBE from her majesty the Queen and previously Ronnie has been recognised by Aberdeen City Council as their 'Sports Personality of the Year' on more than one occasion.

Now aged 67 years young, 8th Dan Black Belt Ronnie Watt still trains karate every day and teaches adults and children the traditional Shotokan karate discipline which has helped shape karate that is famous thought world. Ronnie has helped tens of thousands of people progress through karate, and some of his students have gone on to win many competition medals including gold in world karate championships.

Anyone wishing to learn Karate please visit [www.karate-scotland.info](http://www.karate-scotland.info)

## Spain

### SALVADOR HERRAIZ, 7th Dan RECEIVES SPANISH KING AWARD

The small Spanish city Guadalajara, with the population of about 85.000 have organized in the past many big sport events for their region including, national and world championships in several sports. Therefore the Municipality of this city was awarded with the main sport award, the National Sport Award, which is given by the Royal Family for services to the community. As the Karate events in Guadalajara greatly contributed to this city award, the Mayor asked Sensei Salvador Herraiz, 7th Dan WKC, to attend the ceremony with him, which took place in the Royal Palace in Madrid. Mr. Herraiz previously wrote a book about the relations between Royal Family and Karate. Mr. Herraiz is a close friend of Prince Adan Czartorsky de Borbon, cousin of the King Juan Carlos I.

Mr. Salvador Herraiz also organised the WKC World Championships in Valencia (Spain) in 2000. At this championship he brought with him the best wishes from the then King Juan Carlos I (who used to practice karate for several years back in 70s).

During the presentation ceremony at the Palace in Madrid in December 2014, the City Mayor, Mr. Antonio Roman (who was a karate man many years ago) and Sensei Herraiz had an opportunity to meet and speak with the new Spanish King Felipe VI (King Juan Carlos's son) accompanied by his wife, Queen Letizia, (King Felipe also trained karate in the 70s with Sensei Antonio Oliva) also present was his sister HRH Elena de Borbon (another karateka in her childhood), his mother, The former Queen Sofia (also practiced karate in the 60s with her brother, King Constantine, of Greece).



Salvador Herraiz and King Felipe VI



Salvador Herraiz and Queen Sofia



## Argentina

### 2nd Panamerican Championships

2nd Panamerican Championships took place on 9th October 2014 in Buenos Aires.  
220 competitors from 8 countries took part.

Participating federations:

- UAK- ARGENTINA
- CBMA-BRASIL
- NIKA-IRELAND
- UKC-UKRANIA
- KIDOKAN-COLOMBIA
- AKA-ARGENTINA
- AIKY-PERU
- LAK-ARGENTINA
- STK-DOMINICANA
- KKK-VENEZUELA



The organizer of the event was Panamerican Karate Confederation - P.K.C. Although very young (founded in 2011) has become the regional leader with 23 member federations from 19 countries. They organize Panamerican Championships every year (the first took place in October 2013).

Also the Pan American Congress was held, and fixed the 3rd Panamerican Championships in Venezuela on 28 and 29 March 2015, the 4th Panamerican Championships in Santo Domingo / Dominican Republic on 14 and 15 May 2016, and the 5th Panamerican Championships in Brasilia / Brazil in 2017.

## Successful tournaments were organized by our member Federations:



**KARATE NORTHERN IRELAND**  
**2014**  
 OPEN KARATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 CHILDREN, CADET, JUNIOR, SENIOR.  
 SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2014

**BELFAST**

Queens University PE Centre, Botanic Park, Belfast.  
 Sport Karate (WKF Rules) + Traditional Karate (WKC Rules)  
[www.karatenorthernireland.com](http://www.karatenorthernireland.com)  
 Karate Northern Ireland

Open karate championships – children, cadet, junior, senior, Belfast, 16th November, 2014  
 Organizer  
 ULSTER KARATE COUNCIL

16th International Shodan cup, Prijedor, Republic of Srpska, 20th September, 2014  
 Organizer  
 KARATE FEDERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA



16. MEĐUNARODNI KARATE KUP  
 "SHODAN KUP 2014"  
 I KUP NACIJA

POKROVITELI TAKMIČENJA  
 GRAD PRIJEDOR

DVORANA "MLADOST"  
 20. SEPTEMBAR 2014. GODINE

## FUTURE EVENTS



**USA PHILADELPHIA OPEN**  
 March 31 to April 4, 2015

Traditional Karate, General Karate, Kyokushin Karate, Judo, Brazilian Jujitsu, Kung Fu, Tae Kwon Do and Breaking

This event is open to all athletes, delegations of every nation.

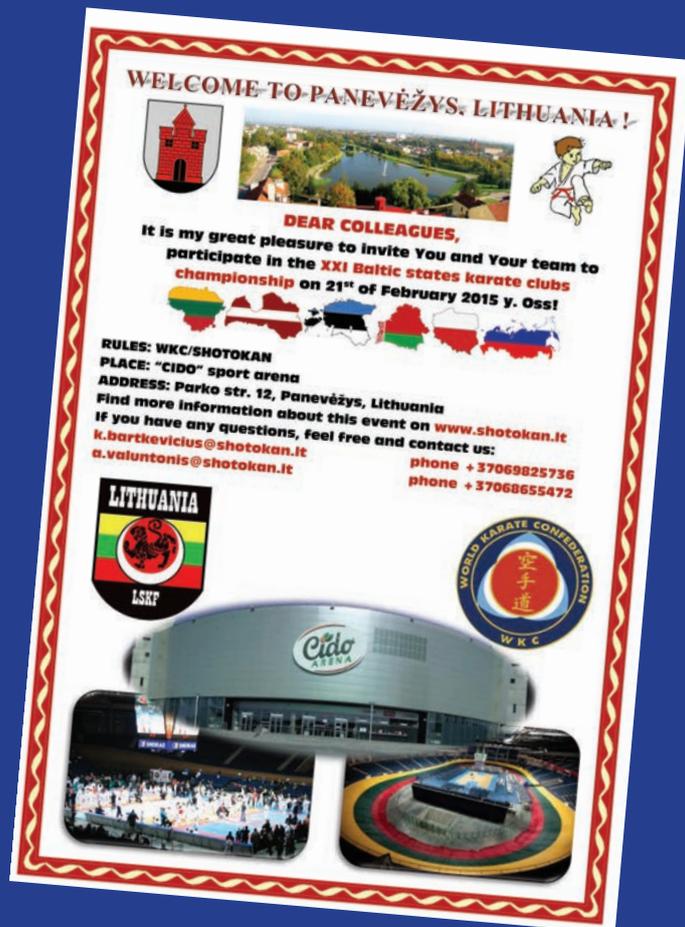
**\$50,000 US.** For the elite divisions.  
 Custom medals 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place

Pre registration only

Marple Sport Arena  
 611 South Park Way  
 Broomall, PA. 19008

For information and registration  
[www.usaphiladelphiaopen.us](http://www.usaphiladelphiaopen.us)

USA PHILADELPHIA OPEN,  
 31 March to April 4, 2015.



**WELCOME TO PANEVĖŽYS, LITHUANIA!**

DEAR COLLEAGUES,  
 It is my great pleasure to invite You and Your team to participate in the XXI Baltic states karate clubs championship on 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2015 y. Oss!

RULES: WKC/SHOTOKAN  
 PLACE: "CIDO" sport arena  
 ADDRESS: Parko str. 12, Panevėžys, Lithuania  
 Find more information about this event on [www.shotokan.lt](http://www.shotokan.lt)  
 If you have any questions, feel free and contact us:  
 k.bartkevicius@shotokan.lt phone + 37069825736  
 a.valuntonis@shotokan.lt phone + 37068655472

LITHUANIA LSKF

WORLD KARATE FEDERATION WKC

Cido ARENA

XXI BALTIC STATES KARATE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 21st February, 2015  
 Lithuania

# UNITED WORLD KARATE (UWK) MEETING BUCHAREST, 21st/22nd January 2015



World leaders of major international organisations drew a road map for unified karate at UWK meeting in Bucharest on 21-22 January 2015.

Representatives of all founding federations attended this meeting. The WKC team consisted of Mr. Marko Nicovic, President, Dr. Bruno Gilardi, Vice President and Mr. Terry Boyle (Referee Commission).

The first ever all three format tournament - UWK World Cup 2015 in Belgrade Serbia on April 24 to 26, 2015 was unanimously approved. Brazil will continue to host World Championship in October 2015. All the National Federations if they wish can



unite under a single National Federations before the deadline of 31 March 2015.

There were a number of issues discussed that will shape a new future for karate athletes in General, Traditional and Contact karate styles world-wide.

The WKC Newsletter is an official publication of the World Karate Confederation. Its purpose is to make karate better known to the public and the media. Therefore, reprinting or otherwise copying all its contents is not only permitted but will be welcome; quoting "WKC Newsletter" as a source will be appreciated. The WKC Newsletter will be released in electronic version two to three times annually. Please direct any questions about the WKC Newsletter or contributions for future issues to the Editor. All questions regarding the WKC in general or next WKC events in particular should be addressed to the WKC Presidential Office.