



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)

Highly esteemed organization of the European Open Cup and WKC Championships,

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to Catania, a city that passionately embraces the world of sport and which is honored to host the double event of the European Open Cup and the WKC European Championship, two extraordinary events that represent an important moment in the martial arts scene.



I would like to express my gratitude to the Italian Martial Arts Federation (FIAM) and the Association of Italian Sports Centers (ACSI) for making this great event possible. The presence of athletes from 14 nations in the Europe area of the WKC is a tangible sign of the unity that sport can create between nations.

The European Open Cup is a unique opportunity for young talents, aged 6 to 13, to demonstrate their skills in a highly educational discipline. The diversity of the participants, coming from non-European nations and Italian regions, makes this competition even more special.

The WKC European Championship, reserved for athletes aged 14 to 60, represents the pinnacle of karate challenges. It is an honor for Catania to be the stage for this internationally renowned competition.

The importance of the World Karate Confederation (W.K.C.) and its recognition by the International Olympic Committee testify to the high standard of these events. Catania is a city with a deep sporting tradition, this international event is an opportunity to promote the educational and socializing values of sport, especially for young people. We are determined to bring these principles to the forefront in the promotion of karate and sport in general.

I wish great success in organizing these competitions, and I am sure that they will be unforgettable days for all participants, their families and karate enthusiasts. Thank you again for choosing Catania as the venue for this extraordinary sporting event. We are excited to welcome you and share this experience with you.

With best wishes,

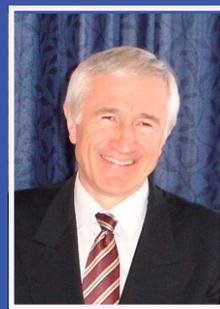
Enrico Trantino  
Mayor of Catania



Coat of arms of the City of Catania

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all the participants of the European Open Cup and the European WKC Championships that will be held in the beautiful city of Catania from 13 to 15 October 2023.

We owe the greatest gratitude to the city authorities, above all to the Mayor, Mr. Enrico Trantino and Mr. Sergio Parisi, Alderman in charge of Sports of the City of Catania and their collaborators for enabling this competition to take place in fantastic conditions.



I must point out that this is the first time in the 25-year history of the WKC that an event is held in Sicily, and we had several big competitions in Italy, but this is the first time we gather in such a beautiful location, on an island that is the jewel of the Mediterranean.

I must also mention that sport in general, including the WKC, had several very difficult years due to the epidemic, that this affected the number and general conditions of holding competitions with rigorous safety measures imposed, and that we are slowly recovering from a really difficult period.

We have exceptional hosts this time, FIAM headed by President Massimo Di Luigi, who are the experts in organizing major international competitions, so I would like to thank the entire FIAM team for their time and effort.

I wish all participants the best of luck and a wonderful stay in Catania!

Marko Nicović  
WKC President



Catania City Hall



FIAM Team