



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 18 November 2025

EUROPEAN PICKLEBALL FEDERATION WELCOMES UWPF–GPF JOINT INITIATIVE AND LENDS FULL SUPPORT TO UNIFICATION EFFORTS

Luxembourg November 18, 2025 — The European Pickleball Federation (EPF) warmly welcomes the joint announcement from the United World Pickleball Federation (UWPF) and the Global Pickleball Federation (GPF) committing to establish a single, democratic and IOC-compliant international governing body for pickleball. EPF previously welcomed the initial UWPF announcement and now endorses this further, concrete step toward unity.

The joint statement confirms that a joint taskforce — appointed by both boards — has begun work, holding its inaugural meeting on 8 November 2025 to manage the negotiation and integration process. EPF views the creation of such a taskforce as a vital mechanism to ensure the process is collaborative, transparent and focused on delivering governance that serves players, national and continental federations, and the long-term development of the sport.

“EPF welcomes this important development and gives its full support to the initiative,” said Frank Arico, President of the European Pickleball Federation.

“A single, democratic international federation — fully compliant with IOC governance standards and genuinely representative of all continents — is the right outcome for the sport. We encourage both federations to maintain momentum, prioritise transparency and inclusive member representation, and work speedily together for the good of players, volunteers and national bodies around the world. Europe stands ready to play its part constructively to support the taskforce and the wider unification process.”

The EPF calls on all stakeholders to:

- Support a unification process grounded in democratic decision-making and accountability;
- Ensure balanced continental representation so no single country or region can dominate governance; and
- Work urgently and collaboratively to deliver a single international federation that provides stability, opens pathways to major multi-sport events and attracts sustainable investment into the sport.

About the European Pickleball Federation : The EPF is a not-for-profit federation established in Luxembourg on 31 May 2023 and now comprising 38 member countries.

EPF’s objectives are:

- To facilitate the growth of pickleball as a world-renowned sport, to promote its physical, mental and social benefits for people of all ages and abilities.
- To represent the best interests of EPF members and European pickleball players internationally.

www.epfpb.org

www.facebook.com/EuropeanPickleballFederation

www.instagram.com/europeanpickleballfederation

Media Contact: info@epfpb.org