



Press Release: Athletes for Freedom Foundation Officially Commences Operations

For Immediate Release

Alexandria, VA - The Athletes for Freedom Foundation (AFF) proudly announces its 501(c)(3) status, enabling it to receive tax-deductible contributions to further its mission of providing support to people and organizations in need following global disasters and catastrophes. The AFF mobilizes athletes to aid in these efforts, extending its commitment beyond the field of sports.

The Foundation also supports athletes facing persecution for their social stances and individuals in urgent need. Whether a World Champion or a local coach, the AFF stands with those who champion freedom.

AFF operates with firsthand knowledge of repression and injustice faced by athletes globally. Its ambassadors have experienced severe persecution, illegal incarceration, and false charges. This experience fuels the Foundation's mission to support those standing for freedom and justice.

The organization funds athletes and coaches who sacrifice for justice, opposing dictatorship, violence, discrimination, and suppression of free speech. The AFF promotes equality and social equity, responding to global crises to foster a society rooted in respect and dignity.

The Foundation opposes the proliferation of nuclear weapons and advocates for peace and non-violence, especially in light of Russia's missile placement in Belarus.

"Our mission is more important than ever. We stand with those who use their platform for positive change," says Dmitri Dubograev, Esq., founder of AFF. "With this new status, we can amplify our efforts and reach more people in need."

Krystsina Tsimanouskaya, an AFF ambassador and Olympian from Belarus now representing Poland, adds, "The support from AFF has been invaluable. It is not just about helping athletes; it is about standing up for human rights and freedoms worldwide."

Public support is crucial as the AFF continues to make a difference in the lives of athletes and those in need globally.

Ambassadors

Krystsina Tsimanouskaya

Krystsina Tsimanouskaya, an Olympian from Belarus now representing Poland, advocates for human rights and freedoms following her repression during the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. To avoid political persecution, she received the foundation's help to safely relocate.

Andrei Krauchanka

Andrei Krauchanka, an Olympic medal winner, and celebrated decathlete, faced severe repression for his activism during the 2020 protests in Belarus and was jailed for taking part in peaceful protests. He remains a dedicated advocate for freedom and human rights.

Aliaksandr Apeikin

Aliaksandr Apeikin is a political scientist and former handball club owner who founded the Belarusian Sports Solidarity Foundation in response to the 2020 mass repression in Belarus. He received a 12-year in-absentia sentence for supporting democracy.

Scott Goodstein

Scott Goodstein, digital communications strategist for over 20 years, led Obama's 2008 and Sanders's 2016 digital campaigns; founder of Catalyst Campaigns.

Konstantin Yakovlev

Konstantin Yakovlev, ex-handball professional player and coach, now advocates for human rights, promoting equality, justice, and fundamental freedoms worldwide.

Andrey Morozov

Andrey Morozov is a seasoned sports journalist, TV presenter, and high-level fencer who advocates for democratic values and free speech.

Andrei Chepa

Andrei Chepa, a seasoned lawyer, resigned from his roles in sports administration in protest against the fraudulent Belarusian elections, demonstrating his dedication to democracy and human rights. He had to flee his homeland to avoid persecution.

"Thank you for being part of our community," adds Mr. Dubograev. "Together, we will advocate for a world where human rights and freedoms are upheld in sports and beyond."

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