

## Principles Relating to the Implementation of the Participation for Individual Neutral Athletes and their Support Personnel with a Russian or Belarusian Passport at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026

Topic	Implementation at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026
<b>Participation Principles</b>	<p>Individual Neutral Athletes (AINs) with a Russian or Belarusian passport and their support personnel may take part in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 only in an individual and neutral capacity, and not in any way as representatives of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus, or any other organisation in their country, including their National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Federation (NF).</p> <p>Only Individual Neutral Athletes who have fulfilled the specific eligibility and sporting qualification criteria set by their IF can be considered by the IOC for entry into the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>Teams of athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport cannot take part in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>Only those Individual Neutral Athletes and support personnel who have not acted against the peace mission of the Olympic Movement by actively supporting the war in Ukraine may be invited to participate in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026. In line with this principle, Individual Neutral Athletes and support personnel who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies cannot participate in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>No new or additional qualification opportunities will be made available to any Individual Neutral Athlete. Such athletes must qualify through existing qualifying events sanctioned by their respective International Federations.</p> <p>In sports in which the IF qualification system limits one athlete per NOC per event to participate in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, and for which an Individual Neutral Athlete with a Russian passport and an Individual Neutral Athlete with a Belarusian passport have qualified, two Individual Neutral Athletes will be able to compete in that event, subject to the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Only individuals with a medical or technical role will be considered for support personnel accreditation, to allow Individual Neutral Athletes to have access to the same medical, technical and logistical support as other competing athletes.</p> <p>Such participation at the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 will be in accordance with the Olympic Charter provisions, the Milano Cortina 2026</p>




	<p>Conditions of Participation and all anti-doping regulations that apply to all participating athletes.</p> <p>In view of the current suspension of the Russian Olympic Committee, the leadership of the Russian Olympic Committee will not be invited to or accredited for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, in any capacity.</p> <p>In view of the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Belarus not being suspended, the IOC will continue to liaise with the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Belarus and will reserve the right, at its entire discretion, to consult and coordinate with the NOC on the implementation of these steps for any participant with a Belarusian passport, and to invite the NOC representatives to the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>Russian or Belarusian government or state officials will not be invited to or accredited for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, in any capacity.</p> <p>The IOC, at its absolute discretion, will have the final authority to determine the entry and conditions of participation for any Individual Neutral Athlete and their support personnel with a Russian or Belarusian passport, and to decide on any matters not provided for in these regulations.</p>
<b>Conduct</b>	<p>Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel must fully respect the Olympic Charter, the Conditions of Participation for NOC Delegation Members of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, the World Anti-Doping Code, and all relevant IF regulations.</p> <p>In addition, Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel must refrain from any activity or communication associated with the national flag, anthem, emblem or any other symbol of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, their NFs or NOCs, or support for the war in Ukraine (including, without limitation, the “Z” symbol, Saint George colours, and any other military branding and slogans), at any official venue or in the media (including interviews, social media – retweets, reposting, etc.) prior to, during and following the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026. This includes any national events related to their participation in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel must not make any statements on behalf of anyone other than themselves as individuals during the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 and must refrain from any conduct that is inconsistent with their neutral status.</p>
<b>Event registration</b>	<p>Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel will be registered on an individual basis. The registration (accreditation and sport entries) of Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel will be coordinated jointly between the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee, the relevant IF and the IOC.</p>



	<p>Only Individual Neutral Athletes who have fulfilled the specific eligibility and sporting qualification criteria set by their IF can be considered by the IOC for entry into the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p> <p>Like all athletes participating in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, the Individual Neutral Athletes must sign the Conditions of Participation form.</p> <p>The IFs will be required to submit the list of qualified and eligible AIN athletes (together with the criteria and reasoning used to confirm eligibility) to the IOC upon the completion of qualification in the relevant sport/discipline, and the IOC through the Individual Neutral Athlete Eligibility Review Panel (AINERP) will then review these lists for a final decision on entry by sport.</p> <p>In addition to the information obtained from the IFs and via background checks, all relevant circumstances, in particular public statements, including those made on social media; participation in pro-war demonstrations or events; and the displaying of any symbol supporting the war in Ukraine, for example, the “Z” symbol, will be taken into consideration.</p> <p>The IOC will seek an independent evaluation through the AINERP of the eligibility of each qualified AIN athlete proposed by the IF, and their support personnel. Once the independent evaluation has been completed, the IOC will confirm to the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee which athletes and support personnel can be entered in an individual neutral capacity.</p> <p>The IOC, at its full discretion, will have final authority to determine the entry and accreditation for any individual, and may reconsider this at any time where it deems it appropriate to do so. No Individual Neutral Athlete or their support personnel with a Russian or Belarusian passport is entitled as a right to be entered in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, even if deemed eligible by their respective IF.</p>
<b>Name</b>	<p>Athletes are to participate as an “Individual Neutral Athlete” in English and “Athlète Individuel Neutre” in French, and use “AIN” as the acronym.</p> <p>All public displays of the participant’s organisation must use the “AIN” acronym.</p>
<b>Emblem</b>	<p>No emblem/logo/mascot associated with the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, or their NFs or NOCs can be used by Individual Neutral Athletes or their support personnel, or displayed at any official Milano Cortina 2026 venue.</p> <p>If an emblem must be used due to IF regulations or a sport’s technical requirements, an IOC-provided AIN emblem or the AIN acronym should be used.</p> <p>The IOC-provided logo for AINs is as follows:</p>



	
<b>Flag</b>	<p>The flags of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus (current or historical) cannot be flown or displayed in any official venue or area controlled by the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee.</p> <p>When a flag needs to be used to reference Individual Neutral Athletes (for example for medal ceremonies, in protocol sets and in-venue, TV/media graphics and social media), a flag with the IOC-provided AIN emblem is to be used.</p> <p>Spectators are prohibited from bringing flags of, and other items that may be associated with, the Russian Federation or Republic of Belarus (current and historical) into any official Milano Cortina 2026 venue.</p>
<b>Anthem</b>	<p>The Russian and Belarusian national anthems (or any anthem linked to the Russian Federation or Republic of Belarus) must not be played or sung at any moment during an event in any official venue or any other area controlled by the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee.</p> <p>For medal ceremonies involving Individual Neutral Athletes, the AIN anthem (independently produced by the IOC) is to be used.</p>
<b>Medals and Diplomas</b>	<p>Individual Neutral Athletes can be awarded Olympic medals and diplomas for their performances, but the AIN collective results cannot be included in any Milano Cortina 2026 medal table produced by third parties, given that the athletes are participating in an individual capacity.</p>
<b>Ceremonies</b>	<p>Individual Neutral Athletes will not participate in the parade of delegations (teams) during the Opening Ceremony, but an opportunity will be provided for them to experience the event. A decision on the participation of Individual Neutral Athletes in the Closing Ceremony will be taken by the IOC during the Games.</p> <p>Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel must not participate in any alternate ceremonies organised by any third party during or following the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 in or outside the host country.</p>
<b>Uniforms</b>	<p>Uniforms (competition, warm-up, formal, medal ceremonies, casual, etc.) must be predominantly white or unicolour, unless not feasible due to IF regulations. Uniforms and sport equipment can use the IOC-provided AIN emblem and/or the AIN acronym if required and must respect Rule 50 of the Olympic Charter, and</p>



	<p>the IOC Identification on NOC Team Apparel Practical Guidelines for Milano Cortina 2026 where applicable.</p> <p>In particular, uniforms, clothing, equipment (including without limitation sport, medical, bandages, tapes, etc.), accessories (including without limitation jewellery, hairbands, stickers, patches, etc.), body (including without limitation hair colouring, jewellery, nail varnishes, etc.) and personal items belonging to Individual Neutral Athletes and their support personnel that are worn, used and/or otherwise displayed at official venues and any other areas controlled by the IFs or the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee must not contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- any recognition of or reference to the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, or their NFs or NOCs, or any national identification of Russia or Belarus (such as a flag, coat of arms or any other national symbol or emblem, be it official or unofficial) in any language or format;</li> <li>- any support for the war in Ukraine (including, without limitation, the “Z” symbol, Saint George colours, and any other military branding and slogans);</li> <li>- any commercial or non-commercial emblems or identifications of any Russian or Belarusian organisations or entities;</li> <li>- any expression (message, graphical element, symbol, etc.) with a direct or indirect political connotation.</li> </ul> <p>The above rules complement each IF’s Sport-specific Guidelines regarding Authorised Identifications for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.</p>
<b>Anti-Doping</b>	<p>Any such Individual Neutral Athlete, like all the other participating athletes, must meet all anti-doping requirements applicable to them, particularly those set out in the anti-doping rules of their respective IFs and the IOC. Each IF is responsible for the individual monitoring of any Individual Neutral Athlete prior to their participation in competitions under the IOC’s authority and the International Testing Agency (ITA) will also be monitoring testing levels on IOC’s behalf via Milano Cortina 2026 Pre-Games programme.</p> <p>The ITA will communicate details of the pre-Games and Games-time doping control programme for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, respecting confidentiality and personal data requirements, in order to ensure a level playing field and fair treatment for all athletes.</p>
<b>International Technical Officials (ITOs)</b>	<p>Russian and Belarusian passport-holders officiating competitions as ITOs, judges or referees should not display or otherwise express an association with their nationality. ITOs should be considered under the umbrella of the IF and represented by the IF flag or acronym where necessary, in accordance with IF regulations.</p>



	<p>ITOs who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies cannot participate in the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026. ITOs selected by the IFs for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 must adhere to the “Conditions of Participation for IF Delegation Members of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026”, as well as the principles of conduct set out in this document.</p>
<b>Compliance</b>	<p>In the event of any infringement of the conditions outlined in this document, including the Olympic Charter provisions, the Milano Cortina 2026 Conditions of Participation and all anti-doping regulations that apply to all participating athletes, the IOC will work together with the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee and the relevant IF, if required, to take the necessary action and issue the necessary sanctions. This may include disqualification of the individual from their relevant event(s) with immediate effect, and disqualification of all results obtained by the individual in the relevant event(s). Any Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 accreditation granted to such individuals may be withdrawn.</p>