



**Dear Presidents, dear members  
of the Executive Committee,  
Dear Friends:**

Today, on the 28th of July, 65 years ago the European Judo Union was founded in London by 4 strong men from Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland, who established and signed its first Constitution.

The major objectives set by the founders were "to link together the judo movements in Europe, and to strengthen and encourage them"; to establish "uniform grading standards" and "international conditions and rules for contests", "to set up a Judo Council to advise and arbitrate on problems pertaining to judo; to organise ways and means for the expansion and development of the study and knowledge of judo."

I hope you would agree that the initial goals were proved to be fulfilled successfully as in 3 years after the first continental union was forced, the International Judo Federation was founded to continue the development of the judo and to carry on such noble principles on the international level worldwide.

Within these 65 years that we are united on the tatami, the EJU has grown up to 50 nations, the Constitution has been elaborated to the more detailed Statutes however the basic principles set by the founders have always been respected and remained the same. With a powerful number of best athletes and experts, and with a strong team of electorate and management, the EJU today raises high standards and shows professional level on its competitions and seminars, educational and administrative initiatives.





# European Judo Union

Jigoro Kano founded the great art of judo as the way by which one can make the best use of one's mental and physical energy, and put that into use for the good of society. He also believed the group can be harmonious and act as one, make the best use of its energy, just like an individual, if each member of the group helps others and acts selflessly.

So I would like to congratulate all of you with this joyful anniversary date, to thank for your sincere contribution and to wish our multinational organisation longest success and prosperity through mutual assistance and concession, may we collaborate peacefully for the benefits of European and World judo and for a happy future of next generations.

I wish a very happy birthday of the EJU to all members of our united judo family!

Sincerely,

Sergey Soloveychik  
President  
European Judo Union