

## **Belgian Athletics**

Avenue du Marathon 119b, B-1020 Bruxelles President: Gery FOLLENS and Jessica MAYON

Letter sent as an email attachment

Lausanne, 6 May 2025

## European Running Championships 2025 Brussels-Leuven - Our Joint Success

Dear Gery and Jessica,

Your home country of Belgium, your cities of Brussels and Leuven, have opened its doors to Europe which came to the European Running Championships 2025 and celebrated it in the best possible way, by running. Your hospitality in welcoming 28'500 runners, 46 Member Federations, their athletes, and media from all over Europe was well noticed and appreciated. This is why we want to express our gratitude towards Belgian Athletics, its organisational partner, Golazo Sports, that delivered the best possible event, and its institutional partners. Special thanks go to the City of Leuven, which brought their citizens to the streets to cheer and celebrate the best in Europe, the Champions and tens of thousands of runners that have been Running with the Champions.

The European Running Championships 2025 have been a memorable experience, but also one for the history books, as the first-ever European Athletics event open for the masses to participate in and score for their country, through the Country Ranking. We democratised sport, together, and showed the way for others to follow. We showed strength through a community of runners who proudly carried their flag and represented their country. Belgian runners have shown speed and stamina that secured winning in the country ranking category across the distances and complementing the national team athletes that secured medals for their home country and proud host.

Your team, led by Golazo Sports as delivery partner, prepared and delivered very successful Championships. Your team set the highest standards for the European Running Championships and for future organisers, and gave the Championships feeling to all the finishers and spectators along the course.



Let us conclude this letter with a clear invitation that you should consider organising this event in the future, and that our runners should be back in Belgium in the coming years.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration for the benefit of our great sport.

With all best wishes, we send our kind regards,

AEV

Dobromir KARAMARINOV President

Christian MILZ CEO

Cc: Thomas Huyberechts, Golazo Sports Marko Vasic, European Athletics Running Unit Responsible