

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE EUROPEAN FITNESS & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SECTOR

The European fitness and physical activity sector is uniquely placed and capable of supporting the citizens of Europe to help protect their physical, social and mental health during the unprecedented circumstances around the Covid-19 crisis.

Our gyms, trainers and experts are adapting ways and means and have the answers for all citizens – the young, old, and the isolated, stressed and exhausted – to be able to exercise safely and effectively, and so maintain their physical, social and mental health. We are an innovative sector fully embracing the opportunities of digitalisation so we can reach out to people at home when our clubs and facilities are closed. As the crisis deepens, it is essential that the fitness and physical activity sector is recognised and supported so it can play its full and vital contribution to help Europe recover as quickly as possible.

We call on the European Institutions, national governments and their agencies to consider and recognise the essential role played by the sector so that it can fully support the citizens of Europe at a time of great need, and asks that they:

Provide the fiscal and structural systems and support mechanisms to ensure the vital infrastructure of our gyms, expert trainers and training academies are maintained at this critical time. This is to ensure they are resourced and remain “open for business” during, and post the crisis, to enable the fastest recovery possible of our economy and a return to our European values;

Recognise that the European fitness and physical activity sector with its 62,000 gyms and 750,000 trainers can play a pivotal and vital role in reaching out to their communities in providing imaginative and creative services and solutions which are a critical support for all citizens to help protect their physical, social and mental health.

David Stalker
Acting Executive Director



Andreas Paulsen
Acting President



Brussels 26th March 2020.