

### Welcome Message

The 24th WKF Senior World Championships to be celebrated in Madrid (Spain) in November 2018 are the first event of their kind to be directly organised by the World Karate Federation, with the support of the Spanish Karate Federation and the cooperation of the Karate Federation of the Madrid region.

The World Championships are the competition that attributes a greater number of points to athletes for their participation and final result at the tournament regarding their position in the WKF Ranking. This situation substantially increments the expectations ahead of the 2018 World Championships in Madrid since the event is included in the qualification process to the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The participation record of 1049 athletes and 110 countries in the last edition of the World Championships in 2016 will be exceeded in Madrid without any doubt. Therefore, the competition will have one more day of elimination rounds, which are scheduled to be held from Tuesday to Friday. The program for the medal rounds will remain unchanged and will be celebrated during the weekend.

It is worth noting the remarkable support received from the authorities of the Madrid region. This involvement has propitiated the viability of the championships, which will be held in a modern sports venue of great capacity such as the WiZink Center.

These circumstances make the 24th Senior Karate World Championships a great challenge for the WKF and for Spain. The experience acquired by Spanish Karate in the organisation of three Senior World Championships, in 1980, 1992 and 2002 guarantees the perfect hosting of an event of this magnitude.

We are looking forward to your participation in this great event, and we hope that we will be able to enjoy this tournament all of us, together.

Antonio Espinós Antonio Moreno  
WKF President RFEK President

\*\*