



The President

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In Memoriam – Veselko Dumitrov (1971–2025)

It is with profound sorrow that I must inform the fencing community of the passing of Veselko Dumitrov, affectionately known to us all as Duma.

Mr. Dumitrov served with distinction as a member of the Executive Committee of the European Fencing Confederation from 2018 to 2021. His service was marked by tireless commitment to the advancement of fencing, and his contributions have left an enduring imprint on our sport.

Born in Zrenjanin, a city with a proud fencing heritage, Mr. Dumitrov first distinguished himself as a competitor, securing multiple national titles. He then dedicated his life to coaching, beginning in his home country and subsequently sharing his expertise on nearly every continent. Over the course of his career, he guided athletes in Serbia, Slovenia, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, and, most recently, in Ahmedabad, India.

He was also the author of the first, and to this day only, modern handbook for fencing coaches in the Serbian language — a work which stands as testimony to both his scholarly dedication and his vision for the professional development of our sport. Always forward-thinking, innovative, and passionate, Mr. Dumitrov consistently sought new ways to ensure fencing's continued growth.



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Beyond his many professional achievements, he will be remembered for his personal qualities: his charm, his generosity, and the disarming good humor with which he forged friendships wherever he went.

On behalf of the European Fencing Confederation, I wish to extend our deepest condolences to his family, his students, and the many friends and colleagues worldwide who are mourning his untimely passing. His legacy, both on and off the piste, will endure in the hearts of all who knew him.

Farewell Duma!

Pascal Tesch

President

European Fencing Confederation