



**To the Shidokan overseas branches
To whom concerned in other karate/martial arts associations**

Announcement from the head of the Shidokan and the Shidokan HQ

We would like to inform you that we, The Shidokan Head Quarters have excommunicated Mr. Gilles Richard/France.

This was decided based on many reasons, and agreed by branch presidents of Japan and overseas branches through the first and second Shidokan global branch president conferences. We took significant amount of time to consider it discreetly and the decision was not made in a dogmatic manner by the head (hereafter referred to as "Kancho") of the Shidokan and its HQ.

Mr. Gilles Richard had a friendly relationship with Kancho and the HQ in the past, however, there have been a lot of complaints made by other countries about the recent abuse of the Shidokan by Mr. Gilles Richard for his personal benefits.

Kancho had asked Mr. Gilles Richard many times to discuss this matter in a peaceful manner, but Mr. Gilles Richard did not participate in both the first and second conferences.

Consequently, the Shidokan HQ, together with branch president's council and the executive board of director committee have pronounced excommunication on Mr. Gilles Richard.

- We order him to return all Dan grading (black belts and certificates) and the certificate of his branch granted by Kancho
- We prohibit him from any deeds/activities using the name of the Shidokan, its logo and trade mark
- We request him to return the right of the use of the name of the Shidokan, its logo and trade mark
- We will not accept any contact/relationship with Kancho and the Shidokan HQ from here on

Those who use the name of the Shidokan with Mr. Gilles Richard for any activities shall also be deemed as is the case with him, and shall be excommunicated from the Shidokan.

There exist dojos recognised and not recognised(not in touch with the Shidokan HQ) by the Shidokan outside Japan. The HQ request all those who are doing activities with Karate or other martial arts under the name of the Shidokan to be granted official

certificates.

Should anyone have any difficulties with this condition, we ask you to carry out your activities without using the name of the Shidokan. For those who wish to be officially recognised, we ask you to visit our HQ and meet with Kancho directly.

We understand that you may not be able to immediately visit Japan with various reasons.

If that is the case, you could contact the HQ by email/fax so that we could try to provide opportunities for you to meet with Kancho at overseas seminar, etc. in the near future.

We would like to insist however that as long as you use the name of the Shidokan, which was established under the name of samurai, you should follow the basic rules and we will not permit anyone/any actions that are against the samurai spirits.

We are not working to expand our organisation but are working to have a strong organisation even if the size is small, and will strive to master the arts.

It is simply not acceptable to have incorrect or false information floating around far away from Japan.

We realise that Mr. Gilles Richard is holding a seminar soon but we would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that the grading he conducts at the seminar is not recognised by the Shidokan and thus is not the black belt of the Shidokan.

We sincerely hope that we will never have the same issue again and that we will deliver you good news.

Osul!

Yoshiji Soeno

Kancho

World Karate Association, The Shidokan

Tatsuichi Soeno

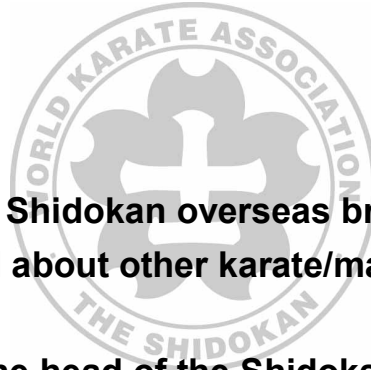
Shihan

The Shidokan HQ

Japan/overseas Branch President's Council

Executive Board of Director Committee





**To the Shidokan overseas branches
And those concerned about other karate/martial arts associations**

Announcement from the head of the Shidokan and the Shidokan HQ

We are writing to inform you that Mr. Romualdas Novickas of the formerly unofficial Lithuanian Branch has been excommunicated. Mr. Novickas has continued to hold seminars with Mr. Gilles Richard. Mr. Novickas is aware that Mr. Richard was excommunicated at the end of October last year. Based on these actions and his continuing lack of effort with Shidokan, we assumed Mr. Novickas was going to join Shindokai. At this time, Mr. Novickas was still using the Shidokan name, logo and belts.

Kancho was aware of the unofficial status of the Lithuanian dojo (granted by the E.U. federation). Kancho invited him to the 1st and 2nd First and Second Shidokan Global Branch President Conferences. Unfortunately, Mr. Novickas did not accept our invitations and we have up to now received no communication from him.

Mr. Novickas' lack of respect for the rules and spirit of Shidokan was why we have decided to excommunicate Mr. Novickas.

- We hereby order the return of all Dan grading (black belts and certificates)
- We hereby prohibit Mr. Novickas from any deeds/activities using the name of the Shidokan, and/or accompanying logo and/or trade mark.
- We hereby request Mr. Novickas to return the right granting of the use of the name of the Shidokan, and/or accompanying logo and/or trade mark.
- From now on we will not accept any contact/relationship from Mr. Novickas with Kancho and the Shidokan HQ.

Those who use the name of the Shidokan in association with Mr. Novickas for any activities shall also be deemed to be in violation of Shidokan rules and as is the case of Mr. Novickas, excommunication procedures from the Shidokan shall be initiated.

We insist that as long as you use the name of the Shidokan, which was established under the spirit of the Samurai, dojos must follow the basic rules laid down by Shidokan HQ. We will not permit actions perpetrated by dojos that are against the spirit of the Samurai.

We sincerely hope that we will never have the same issue again and that we will deliver you good news.

Osu!!

Kancho Yoshiji Soeno

World Karate Association, The Shidokan

The Shidokan HQ

Japan/overseas Branch President's Council
Executive Board of Director Committee

