

The voice of international partner organizations

La voix des organisations internationales partenaires

1st CISM World Military Para Athletics Championship in Jesolo, Italy

The International Military Sports Council (CISM) is the largest multi-sport organization in military sports. Founded in February 1948, CISM has grown from five-member nations to 141. Military members, who may previously have met on the battlefield, now meet in friendly competitions on the sporting field and through collaborative solidarity activities.

The aim of CISM is to promote sport activity and physical education by uniting armed forces under the motto "Friendship through Sport".

CISM hosts more than 20 events annually including the Military World Games, World Military Championships, Symposia and other continental and regional sport events.



CISM strongly believes in the right of all human beings to pursue their physical and intellectual development, without discrimination. One important principle is to promote models of best practice that encourage inclusive opportunities and recognition of military athletes with disability equal to those of their non-disabled colleagues. CISM believes in international solidarity in accordance with their respective mandates and principles.

Started in 2013 in Germany with the 1st Open Integrative CISM Military European Championships in Track & Field, paralympic events were also part of the 2015 CISM World Military Games held in Mungyeong, South Korea.



1st CISM WORLD PARA ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

Jesolo (ITA)
21-24 march 2024



To make one step ahead, and even larger, the organization of a distinct military parasport event was a goal for all the members of the CISM family. The idea became reality thanks to an intuition of the CISM Italian delegation and the collaborative relationships between the Ministry of Defense of Italy and FISPES, the Italian federation devoted to Paralympic and experimental sports.

So, the third stage of the World Para Athletics Grand Prix circuit 2024, that took place in Jesolo (Italy) from the 22nd to the 24th of March, was a splendid opportunity to mix WPA and CISM events. Organized by FISPES under the auspices and in cooperation with CISM, this global event featured 37 athletes from 10 nations. A historical moment for the military parasport movement, which thanks to this innovative project, guided by principles of integrative and fair competition, sets the platform for future Paralympic events within the global military sports program.



The military athletes competed in a pleasant and inclusive atmosphere with results of absolute excellence. Track events (100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 and 5000 meters in the different categories of classification), long and high jump, shot put, discus throw, and javelin have been the protagonists of the 3 days of competition, followed by a large and enthusiastic audience.

The CISM delegations have been hosted by the Italian Defense general staff in Marzotto Village, a splendid resort with all the best conditions to share "Friendship Through Sport" in a special atmosphere.

The event was a perfect example to prove and to reinforce the concept that sports contribute to foster the physical and psychological recovery of our military who, while serving in the national territory or abroad, were wounded or contracted disabling diseases.

Sport practice is a valuable tool to continue to have an active lifestyle while fostering integration and team spirit, envisaging a new life project and a more complete social rehabilitation.

By:

Colonel Walter Borghino
Italian Delegation to CISM

Lt. Commander Florentia Sfakianou, Hellenic Navy
Academic Director, CISM Headquarters

