

« » September 2022
K y i v city

Dear Mr. President!

It was a pleasure for me to have a telephone conversation with you on 19 September 2022.

On August 23 of this year, on the Day of the National Flag of Ukraine, we resumed our national football championship - the Ukrainian Premier League for the 2022/23 season, which is a significant event for us. After all, during the full-scale war of russia against our country, the entire Ukrainian people heroically defend their homeland, defend democracy, freedom, sovereignty, having a great desire to live with these values in the family of European countries

It was extremely important for my people that we as Ukrainians continue our league. Football competitions are another manifestation of courage and resilience in today's extremely difficult conditions. I can say with great pride that now Ukrainian football embodies courage and demonstrates a thirst for victory, despite the crimes committed by the russian aggressors in Ukraine

Thank you, Mr. President, for your personal support and UEFA's decision, made at the end of February this year, regarding the termination of cooperation with the Gazprom company, the relocation of the UEFA Champions League final from Saint Petersburg, and the suspension of the participation of Russian national teams and clubs in all competitions under under the auspices of UEFA.

We greatly appreciate your support and help from UEFA, thanks to which the Ukrainian Association of Football and our national league are able to move forward. Thank you for continuing to offer more opportunities to the Ukrainian people, especially our youth.

**For Mr. Aleksander Čeferin,
President of the Union of European
Football Associations
Nyon city**

I am sure that we will demonstrate to the whole world how Ukrainians rally, passionately support our clubs and national team, competing in the Nations League and UEFA club competitions, despite rockets and bombs, to defend Ukrainian pride, unity and dignity.

In this context, I wish that sentiments like those behind the so-called European Super League were leveled, because the essence of football is also about hope, solidarity and joy, and it is more than money, more than the privilege of individuals.

These are not only the foundations of the European sports model - something that we must strive to preserve collectively, but also an important component of democracy and the development of Europe. Football has become a way of life for many citizens and revives these values in society. This is what football can do and will do for us, for Ukraine.

We will win.

Glory to Ukraine! Glory to heroes!

Sincerely,

Volodymyr Zelensky