

# France, champion of Paralympic inclusion! It's up to us to write this page.

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The Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games gave France a wonderful image of itself: committed, resilient, inspiring. For two weeks, the eyes of the world turned to our country, celebrating the high-level performances of athletes with disabilities who have combined excellence in sport with human strength.

But one question remains. An absence, too discreet to be noticed by everyone, but too significant to be ignored any longer: **where are the Adaptive Sports athletes with intellectual disabilities?**

The aim of this statement is to secure **the reintegration of Adapted Sports events at the 2030 Winter Paralympic Games**, which will take place in the French Alps.

The concept of the Winter Paralympics now allows the inclusion of additional disciplines or categories without removing others. **There is a real window of opportunity. The willingness must follow.** It would be a source of pride for France to achieve this sporting and human advance by 2030.

**Through this statement, we want France to make history at the Winter Paralympics by reintegrating classifications for athletes with intellectual disabilities.**

**Be part of this movement by signing this statement!**

## A silent exclusion

Since the Nagano Games in 1998, **no athlete with a mental or psychological disability has competed in the Winter Paralympic Games.**

Yet these athletes exist. They train. They perform. They excel in their disciplines: alpine skiing and Nordic skiing. They are represented by **Virtus**, the international federation for adapted sports and founder of the International Paralympic Committee, which brings together more than 500,000 athletes from over 90 nations. **In France, the French Federation of Adapted Sports (FFSA) has more than 66,000 licensed members.**

For more than twenty years, **the Virtus Global Games** have been held every four years, offering athletes with intellectual or psychological disabilities **their own Games.**

In 2023, France hosted the Global Games in Vichy. Organized by the

FFSA, they brought together more than 1,000 athletes representing 44 countries, with the French delegation winning 87 titles.

In 2025, France also hosted **the World Para Alpine Skiing Championships** in Tignes and the World Para Nordic Skiing Championships in Bessans, under the auspices of Virtus, on slopes approved by the International Ski Federation (FIS).

These events demonstrate that Adapted Sport is a **high-level sport** and not a sport apart.

## The conditions are met

Since 2012, the Summer Paralympic Games have welcomed back athletes with mental or psychological disabilities in three disciplines: **athletics, swimming, and table tennis**.

Why not follow suit for the Winter Games?

### **There are no major obstacles:**

- The **disciplines are ready**, with regulations approved by Virtus and the FIS.
- **Classifications have been established** for adapted alpine and Nordic para skiing.
- The **venues are accessible**, the infrastructure are compliant, and the partners are mobilized.
- France **has already proven its ability** to host these competitions.

Arguments relating to budget, visibility, and competition have been contradicted by **the organizational successes** of Vichy, Tignes, and Bessans.

# For truly inclusive Paralympic Games

This is a citizen's statement. A call, supported by **federations, educators, athletes, elected representatives, and citizens.**

We call on **everyone committed to an inclusive society** to join this movement: decision-makers, journalists, sponsors, influencers, audience, families, young people...

If France wants to embody a society that is open to all, it must seize the historic opportunity of the 2030 Winter Paralympics by reintegrating Adaptive Sports athletes.

This is not only a **sporting issue**, but also **one of human dignity and civic recognition** for those who are still too often referred to as “the invisible.”

**So yes, France is a standard-bearer. This was proved in Paris. But today, in 2030, there is still a page to be written. A line remains to be completed. It is up to us to hold that flag high. It is up to us to complete the story.**

**A flag to be carried higher!**

**I am signing the petition  
for truly inclusive  
Paralympic Games in 2030.**



**Click or scan  
to sign!**

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