

PRESS RELEASE

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BRONZE MEDAL FOR UCY STUDENT, CYPRIOT SAMBO WRESTLER GABRIELLA SOUID

Rector: “We are proud of Gabriella’s outstanding sporting achievement at 1st Sambo World University Championship hosted by UCY”



The University of Cyprus hosted the 1st Sambo World University Championship at its premises from 9th to 11th December 2016, welcoming around 100 student-athletes of national university teams from 26 countries. The first ever Sambo World University Championship – a spectacular event recently held in Cyprus and jointly organized by the Cyprus University Sport Federation (CUSF) and the International SAMBO Federation (FIAS), under the auspices of the

International University Sports Federation (FISU) – has offered a unique experience to its spectators. It has also provided a great opportunity to student-athletes to gain experience and training on the world stage in preparation for other world competitions and eventually the Olympics.



UCY student, Cypriot sambo wrestler Gabriella Souid, who is majoring in economics, has won the Bronze Medal in the weight category of 68 kg. In an interview she told what goal she had set herself for this Championship and how she discovered sambo and other martial arts, stating

conclusively: *“Determined, goal-setting people can certainly manage to accomplish any goal.”*

UCY Rector, Professor Constantinos Christofides in his statement has congratulated Gabriella on the great achievement and all the student-athletes of the participation teams on their performance. *“We are proud of Gabriela’s outstanding sporting achievement at 1st Sambo World University Championship hosted at our University. She is an exceptional student-athlete that sets the bar high as an example of what all student-athletes should want to aspire to be and achieve. With studying and training having become the new norm and our student-athletes being keen on making the most of their educational, athletic and collegiate experiences, UCY has put in place support pathways that enables them to pursue elite sporting career, complete tertiary education and maintain a healthy balance”*, Rector has said.

Sambo, an acronym for ‘SAMozashchita Bez Oruzhiya’, meaning *“self-defense without weapons”*, is a Soviet martial art and combat sport, which began to develop in the early 1920s in Russia by the Soviet Red Army. The pioneers of Sambo were Viktor Spiridonov and Vasili Oshchepkov.

End of Announcement