

## Karate association hands over Dan of Honour

### Interior minister Sobotka became Karate fan during his first official visit in Linz

The Karate World Championships´, which take place from October 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, official motto „WeAreKarate“ is now also valid for Austria´s new interior minister Wolfgang Sobotka. In the context of a promotional event in the Passage shopping mall in Linz Sobotka himself and Upper Austrian Marshal Andreas Pilsl became super enthusiastic Karate fans. They have been very impressed by the Karate shows of the Kata team male Ajdin Besic, Lukas and Christoph Buchinger from the Karate-do Wels and the Kata team female Kristin Wieninger, Joan-Marie Stadler and Patricia Bahledova from St. Pölten. The Karate ladies have been very successful at the Premier League in Morroco, where they won the gold medal. Bettina Plank, Upper Austria´s medal hope for the WC demonstrated her skills as well.

„We would need those qualities at the police as well“, Pilsl said amazed by the 50-kg-lightweight´s velocity. But Sobotka and chief of police Pilsl have their own, very important agenda at this huge event with 2500 Karatekas from 135 nations.

The cooperation with police authority works just perfectly“, OC-chief Ewald Roth is pleased and reports about the over the years ongoing collaboration. “Already during the last World Championships we have been on site together.”

Following that statement, Roth explained the Championships´ cornerstones which are art, green event, people with disabilities, culture and sport. These values are dominant in all aspects of the organization and are being expressed by the WeAreKarate-shirts in the colours orange, blue, purple and red.

Eine große Ehre folgte zum Abschluss: In Anwesenheit von ÖKB-Präsident Georg Rußbacher zeichnete Landesverbands-Chef Karl Hillinger Minister Sobotka und Polizeichef Pilsl mit dem Ehren-Dan aus.

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