

Press release – Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## UEFA EURO 2016: Anne Hidalgo will honour the Irish supporters

Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, decided to decorate the supporters from Ireland and Northern Ireland who came to support their teams during the UEFA EURO 2016 with the Medal of the City of Paris. This distinction pays tribute to their exemplary attitude that participated in making this tournament a great popular event.

The City of Paris wished to make the UEFA EURO 2016 a great popular event. An ambitious accompanying programme combining sport and culture is deployed everywhere in the capital and is accessible to all the Parisians during the tournament. Supporters also have a major role in the success of this amazing sportive event. In this respect, Ireland and Northern Ireland supporters distinguished themselves by their exemplary attitude, their fair-play, their enthusiasm and their jolliness.

"They participated in the festive atmosphere that has been prevailing in Paris these last two weeks. They are a model for all the supporters of the world. As shown in the numerous videos that circulate on the social networks, the Parisians particularly appreciated meeting them, speaking with them and sharing those joyful moments that are essential in such a great sportive event", emphasises Jean-François Martins, deputy mayor for sport and tourism.

Therefore, the Mayor of Paris wished to thank them by awarding them the Medal of the City of Paris. "This honorary medal is reserved to French and international personalities who distinguished themselves through their actions. On Monday, the Mayor of Paris made her decision official by sending a letter to the President of Ireland and to the First Minister of Northern Ireland" announces Patrick Klugman, deputy mayor in charge of international relations and French-speaking countries.

The date of the medal award ceremony shall be determined in the coming days. It will take place in the presence of supporter associations' representatives.

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