

Milestones in FIG history

1842	Birth of <i>Nicolas J. CUPERUS</i> in Antwerp (BEL), founder and FIG President for 43 years.
1863	Birth of Pierre Frédy Baron de Coubertin in Paris, reviewer of the Olympic Games.
1881	Founding of the FEG office in Liège on July 23 rd (<i>Fédération Européenne de Gymnastique</i>). N.J. Cupérus, President. Belgium, France and the Netherlands are represented at the first <i>International Convention</i> .
1896	Athens: First Olympic Games of the modern era, updated by Pierre de Coubertin. The FEG, recognised by the IOC, does not officially participate in these Games as an international federation. Eighteen gymnasts from five countries fought for individual titles.
1903	The International Tournament in Antwerp (4 countries) is the first step towards the formation of World Championships.
1908	London: For the first time, the FEG participates in the Olympic Games as an official international federation, responsible for gymnastics worldwide.
1921	On April 7 th , the FEG office becomes the <i>Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG)</i> . Sixteen members are present.
1924	<i>Ch. CAZALET (FRA)</i> , President.
1928	Founder Nicolas J. CUPERUS dies at the age of 86. In Amsterdam, first participation of women in the Olympic Games.
1931	First <i>Artistic Men's World Championships</i> in Paris.
1933	Count <i>Adam ZAMOYSKI (POL)</i> , President
1934	First participation of women in the World Championships in Budapest.
1937	Death of Baron de Coubertin.
1946	<i>Goblet d'ALVIELLA (BEL)</i> , President.
1949	Introduction of the 1 st Men's Code of Points.
1953	First Gymnaestrada in Rotterdam.
1956	<i>Charles THOENI (SUI)</i> , President.
1961	Congress in Stuttgart. The FIG counts 49 affiliated federations.
1963	First World Championships of <i>Modern Gymnastics</i> in Budapest. The sport becomes <i>Rhythmic Sports Gymnastics</i> in 1975.
1966	<i>Arthur GANDER (SUI)</i> , President.
1967	The FIG participates in the establishment of the GAISF.
1968	<i>Mexico Olympics: Vera CASLAVSKA (TCH)</i> , Sawao KATO
1971	Founding of the PAGU (<i>Panamerican Gymnastics Union</i>) in Cali (COL).
1972	<i>Munich Olympics: Olga KORBUT, Ludmilla TOURISCHEVA (URS)</i> , Sawao KATO (JPN).
1973	The FIG opens its permanent secretariat in Lyss (SUI).
1975	Modern gymnastics becomes <i>Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics</i> .
1976	<i>Yuri TITOV (RUS)</i> , President. <i>Montreal Olympics: Nadia COMANECHI (ROM)</i> , Nellie KIM (URS), <i>Nicolai ANDRIANOV (URS)</i> .
1981	Celebration of the 100 th anniversary in Montreux (SUI). RSG becomes an Olympic discipline.
1982	Founding of the UEG (<i>Union Européenne de Gymnastique</i>) and of the AGU (<i>Asian Gymnastics Union</i>).
1984	RSG in Olympics for the first time (Los Angeles). Lori Fung (CAN) first Gold Medallist.
1990	Founding of the UAG (<i>African Gymnastics Union</i>) in Alger (ALG).
1991	The FIG Head Office leaves Lyss for Moutier (SUI).
1992	The federation counts 114 affiliated member federations and roughly 15 millions gymnasts. <i>Vitaly SCHERBO (CEI)</i> , <i>Emperor of the Games</i> in Barcelona, wins 6 Gold medals!
1994	The General Assembly abolishes compulsory exercises for the Artistic Gymnastics programme for World Championships and Olympic Games as of 1997. It also decides to set up a Sports Aerobics Commission and to run the 1 st FIG Sports Aerobics World Championships in 1995.
1995	First Artistic World Championships in Asia (Sabae, JPN)

1996	The 70 th Congress and the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta (USA). <i>Bruno GRANDI</i> (ITA) is elected President of the FIG. Sports Aerobics becomes an official FIG discipline. For the first time, RSG groups take part in the Olympic Games. Spain is the Olympic Champion. More than 560,000 spectators attend gymnastics competitions at the Georgia Dome. The FIG now counts 124 affiliated federations.
1997	The 33 rd Artistic World Championships in Lausanne (SUI) welcome guests of the 106 th session of the International Olympic Committee.
1998	71 st Congress in Vilamoura (POR). The General Assembly adopts the new structures of the Federation (Council) and welcomes Trampoline and Sports Acrobatics as new FIG disciplines. FIG World Cup Final in Japan (City of Sabae). The FIT is dissolved. Trampoline becomes an official FIG discipline.
1999	First Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in Asia (Osaka City, JPN). The IFSA is dissolved. Sports Acrobatics becomes an official FIG discipline. The FIG opens its own Internet website. Extraordinary Congress in Tianjin (CHN).
2000	Sydney: Trampoline makes a stunning entrance into the Olympic Games. Irina Karavaeva and Alexandre Moskalenko (RUS) are the first Olympic Champions in history. 73 rd Congress held for the first time on the African Continent in Marrakech (MAR).
2001	First Council meeting at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne (SUI). The FIG counts 125 affiliated Federations.
2002	The FIG opens its first Gymnastics Academy in Kuala Lumpur (MAS). Creation of the FIG Foundation. The FIG counts 124 affiliated Federations and 2 associated Federations.
2004	The FIG coordinates the wording for its new disciplines: Trampoline Gymnastics, Aerobic Gymnastics and Acrobatic Gymnastics. Incidences occur at the Olympic Games in Athens during the Men's Artistic events that result in the cancellation of the International Judges' Courses and revision of the MAG/WAG Codes. Congress in Antalya (TUR): President Bruno Grandi takes on his 3 rd mandate. The FIG counts 129 Affiliated Federations in all.
2005	André Gueisbuhler takes over the office of Secretary General from Norbert Bueche (January), who held the position since 1988. The FIG employs 19 persons at its head office in Moutier (as opposed to 4 upon its arrival in 1991). The new IRCOS by FIG (Instant Replay & Control System) project is introduced at the 38th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Melbourne (November).
2006	Official celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the FIG in Geneva (SUI), with the guest attendance of Mr Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee.
2007	The FIG Council approves a Disciplinary Code. The FIG counts 128 affiliated Federations, 2 of which are associated.
2008	Transfer of the FIG Head Office to Lausanne (SUI), home to the International Olympic Committee. 77th Congress in Helsinki.