The world’s leading Under 19 pentathletes pose for a photograph with coaches, volunteers, officials and flags in Prague (CZE)
UIPM 2017 Under 19 World Championships

All six continents sent athletes to the enchanting city of Prague (CZE) to participate in a highly successful instalment of the UIPM Under 19 World Championships, formerly known as Youth A World Championships.

There were multiple medals for Egypt, Italy and Russia and a number of athletes, including the entire team from Thailand, were enjoying their first taste of international competition.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “A total of 32 countries competed in the UIPM 2017 Under 19 World Championships in the historic city of Prague and they came from all continents.

“This sends out a strong message that we are developing young athletes from all over the world to take part in flagship competitions.”

Women’s Relay: Italian duo retain title

Italy drew first blood in Prague as they successfully defended the Women’s Relay title.

Last year in Limerick (IRL) this event was won by Elena Micheli and Aurora Tognetti and today their compatriots Beatrice Mercuri and Maria Lea Lopez kept the flag flying with an assured performance, finishing 3rd in Fencing and 4th in Swimming before seizing their opportunity in the Laser-Run.

Italy (Mercuri/Lopez) started the climactic event with a 4sec deficit to leaders Kazakhstan (Akbota Bekbassar & Sofya Prizhehnikova), who had come first in Fencing with a tally of 25V/11D. However, their running let them down...
and it was Egypt (Mariam Amer & Salma Abdelmaksoud) who ended up being Italy’s main challengers at Juliska Sports Center in Prague (CZE).

For some of the race Egypt (Amer/Abdelmaksoud) held the initiative and the two nations left the range together after the final shoot, but in the end Italy (Mercuri/Lopez) pulled away to win by 14sec with bronze medallists Hungary (Luca Barta & Michelle Gulyas) a further 7sec behind after an impressive Laser-Run.

Men’s Relay: Egypt leave it late to claim title

Egypt came from behind to secure victory in the Men’s Relay on day two in sunny Prague.

Egypt (Elgendy Ahmed & Shaban Mohanad) started the Laser-Run in 3rd place but managed to overcome their rivals to win a thrilling contest. Belarus (Uladzislau Astrouski & Mikita Ivarouski) secured silver ahead of bronze medallists Korea (Kim Woocheol & Kim Kyounghwan), who secured a place on the podium thanks to a superb Laser-Run.

In fact it was a dramatic finish as Russia (Vladimir Chelmakin & Sergey Kolbasenko) had finished the final shoot at the same time as the three medallists, France (Xavier Dufour & Jean Baptiste Mourcia) having already relinquished their starting advantage.
It was a hard-earned lead that France (Dufour/Mourcia) were unable to convert. They had performed best in Fencing with a score of 28V/10D, before Russia (Chelmakin/Kolbasenko) and Korea (Kim/Kim) made up ground in Swimming.

In the end it was the consistency of Egypt (Ahmed/Mohanad) that was decisive: they started the Laser-Run only 4 secs behind leaders France (Dufour/Mourcia) and 1 sec behind Russia (Chelmakin/Kolbasenko), who led at the 3rd shoot.

Samy Awad, Egypt coach and Member of the UIPM Coaches Committee, said: “I am very pleased that Hamro Said, the coach of Egypt, won the Coaches Award today and I’m happy that we are creating this tradition because it recognises the role of coaches in supporting elite athletes.”
Women’s Individual: Ibatullina (RUS) is golden girl in Prague

A delina Ibatullina of Russia stood on top of the world after a thrilling battle for Women’s Individual glory.

Ibatullina (RUS) overcame a 12-sec deficit to win a spectacular gold after starting the Laser-Run in 5th place, and she was joined on the podium by two other athletes who demonstrated their composure and stamina to move through the field.

Silver went to Elena Micheli, whose efforts enabled Italy to claim team gold, and bronze was claimed by Haydy Morsy of Egypt, a Rio 2016 Olympian who won bronze in this competition in 2016 and silver in 2015. (HUN) was 4th and Alice Rinaudo (ITA) 5th ahead of two local Czech competitors, Katerina Krejci and Veronika Novotna.
Russia won team silver and Mexico were the unexpected winners of bronze.

Earlier, Michelle Gulyás (HUN) was the top scorer in Swimming after a time of 2:09.84 and Rinaudo (ITA) topped the standings in Fencing with 24 victories. Gulyás (HUN) started first in the Laser-Run but she would ultimately finish just outside the medals.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “We saw a dramatic conclusion to the Women’s Individual Final with the winners coming from behind. What we saw from all competitors was a great passion and energy.

“I am more than happy along with my colleague, Viacheslav Malishev, the Executive Board Member for Development, about the success of this important development event.”

Men’s Individual: Kim (KOR) targets Tokyo 2020 medal after breakthrough gold

Korea’s reputation for producing young pentathletes of the highest pedigree was further enhanced when Kim Woocheol produced a commanding victory to become Men’s Individual champion.

Twelve months after Jeong Youngjin (KOR) produced a sensational sprint finish to win gold in the same event in Limerick (IRL), Kim (KOR) dominated the competition to claim the title with 19 sec to spare over silver medallist Ahmed Elgendy of Egypt, with Oleksandr Shelest of Ukraine battling his way to bronze.

Kim (KOR) said after receiving his gold medal: “I am very happy. Last year I won a gold medal in the Men’s Relay and this year I will go home with two gold medals and a bronze. My target for the future is to win a medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.”

Kim’s performance was truly a Tetrathlon masterclass, confirming the
promise he showed last year in finishing 6th and in contributing to Men’s Relay medals both in 2016 (gold) and earlier in the week (bronze).

Eighteen-year-old Kim (KOR) broke the 2min mark in Swimming to record the 5th-fastest time (1:59.61), then shared top marks in Fencing with Pele Uibel (GER) as they each scored 25V/10D.

That gave Kim (KOR) an 11sec advantage in Laser-Run over Gytis Gudlevicius (LTU) and 14sec over Shelest (UKR), and the leader never let anybody get a glimpse of him. For a while Gudlevicius (LTU) and Elgendy (EGY) threatened to make inroads into his lead but it didn’t materialise and the battleground took place between silver and bronze.

Korea won team gold thanks in part to the 7th place of Kim Khyoungwan.

Egypt secured silver as Mohanad Shaban supported Elgendy (EGY) in 4th place, and bronze went to Hungary.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “This was an excellent Men’s Individual Final and the way Korea dominated the team and individual events showed how developed our sport has become around the world.

“To have Egypt on the podium representing another continent – and they have won the most medals in this championships with still one more day to come – shows that our development work is really paying off and I wish all of them successful qualifying competitions for the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games, where the best 24 male and female athletes will compete.”
Mixed Relay: Italy finish on a high

Italy won their third title and fourth medal of the UIPM 2017 Under 19 World Championships with a hard-fought gold in the Mixed Relay.

All six UIPM continental confederations (Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania, NORCECA and South America) were represented by their best teenage athletes in this Mixed Relay and it was Elena Micheli and Giorgio Malan who came out on top after fending off a stern challenge from silver medallists Russia (Adelina Ibatullina & Pavel Babanin).

Bronze went to Egypt (Haydy Morsy & Ahmed Elgendy), who finished the competition as the most prolific nation with an exceptional six medals.

For the Italian team, the success of Micheli & Malan completed a strong demonstration of their own impressive development programme. Russia also fared well; today’s second place was their third medal of the championships. UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “I congratulate all the medallists who have performed so well at the UIPM Under 19 World Championships and I would like to thank the organisers and the volunteers who have made this week in Prague so special.”

The next major event on the UIPM 2017 calendar is the UIPM Junior World Championships (for Under-23 pentathletes) from August 7-14 in Székesfehérvár (HUN).
Beyond the podium

There are only so many times in any given year that athletes from all six continents converge in one place.

The 2017 UIPM Under 19 World Championships was one such happy occasion, as representatives of the six UIPM confederations - Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania, NORCECA and South America – were sent to compete in one of UIPM’s most important development competitions.

This underlined not only the growing importance placed on the Youth Olympic Games cycle – next year the world’s best teenage pentathletes will take part in a YOG for the third time, in Buenos Aires – but also the success of the global development work taking place in so many countries.

During the course of the Under 19 World Championships in Prague (CZE), UIPM took the opportunity to go beyond the podium and speak to some of the coaches and officials about their progress, as well as their hopes and dreams for the future.

ARGENTINA

Norberto Soto and Rafael Acosta (coaches, Modern Pentathlon Federation of Argentina)

• How important is the Under 19 World Championships to you?

It’s very important as we have a lot athletes competing. In addition, it allows our athletes to get more international experience for the future. The group, which trains in Buenos Aires, consists of 6 athletes, 4 « chicos » and 3 « chicas ». [Should it be 7 athletes or 4/2 or 3/3 ?]

• How much has the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games motivated you to improve your pentathlon?

It’s huge, it’s really important, six or seven athletes are already pre-selected. One “chico” and one “chica” will represent the Argentina at the Youth Olympic Games in Modern Pentathlon.

• How important is Modern Pentathlon in Argentina?

After the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, people started talking about this sport as we had athletes competing. Since Rio, a three-year project has been launched called ENARD in Buenos Aires at the national sport centre, which is dedicated to the 2018 Youth Olympic Games.

AUSTRALIA

Eszter Hortobagyi (team manager and Athens 2004 Olympian)

• How do you feel pentathlon in Australia is developing?

Our group of youth athletes is really enthusiastic, excited for the Youth Olympic Games. More and more people want to join the group. We had some training camps in Hungary with a group of four girls and three boys. It’s hard to train for pentathlon in Australia.

• How much have the achievements of Chloe and Max Esposito inspired you?

They are role models for the group. They came to visit our training camp in Canberra. The kids enjoyed seeing them training and talking to them, they are a very good source of inspiration.

• Are more people in Australia aware of the sport since Chloe’s Olympic gold?

There was big interest in Modern Pentathlon afterwards, a lot of emails received. The challenge is
that it’s difficult to train in Australia because it’s such a big country and athletes are spread out across the country.

- What do young athletes like about this sport?

They love pentathlon for the variety, the sport and the family.

**CZECH REPUBLIC**
Michal Sedlecky (Men’s Individual world champion in 2002)

- How important is this competition?

“The Under 19 World Championships is very important for younger guys because it’s long preparation for big days to come.

“For the Czech team it will help them to focus on the Youth Olympic Games in 2018 and the Junior and Senior World Championships.”

- What did you think of the venue here in Prague?

“I am very happy to be back at this venue, as this is where I trained and it’s like my home. It’s very good for sporting action.”

**THAILAND**
Anirut Posakrisna (Vice President, Thailand Modern Pentathlon Federation)

- When did Modern Pentathlon start to develop in Thailand?

Development work began three years ago, and then the Thailand Modern Pentathlon Federation was founded six or seven months ago with the help of Bernhard Petruschinski from the UIPM Technical Committee.

- Which UIPM sports have helped with this development?

Triathle has been the main development sport, as part of Beach sports. It was initiated during the 2014 Asian Games.

- How many athletes are taking part in UIPM sports?

A total of 35 athletes, and Triathle is the most popular. Athletes are taking part in events across different provinces within Thailand and UIPM Sports are taught in sporting schools across the country.

- How important is it for athletes to take part in international competitions?

It is very important. It’s not easy for them as Thailand is very far from where most of the major competitions are held. For that reason, this trip has been very special for them and they have enjoyed the Fencing Bonus Round, which they had never participated in before. After getting home from Prague the athletes will participate in a Laser-Run City Tour in Singapore and other national Laser-Run events in Thailand.

- What are the ultimate goals/ambitions for Modern Pentathlon in Thailand?

For athletes to qualify for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires and the Asian Games, and ultimately the 2024 Olympic Games.
Tokyo to host 2019 World Cup Final / Olympic Test Event

Tokyo will host the 2019 UIPM World Cup Final and the competition will double as an official Test Event for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Tokyo’s application to host the competition was rubber-stamped by the UIPM Executive Board and will take place in June 2019, 13 months before the finest male and female pentathletes in the world return to the capital of Japan for the Olympic Games.

It will allow the Tokyo 2020 organising team to create a ‘dress rehearsal’ for the Olympic Games, where the Modern Pentathlon will take place for the first time in a venue – Tokyo Stadium – that can host all five disciplines in one day.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “This is a reality UIPM achieved together with the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games organising committee in 2013, and now our Modern Pentathlon community can look forward to a great opportunity to visit Tokyo in 2019 for the UIPM World Cup Final.

“Not only am I confident this will this be a very well-prepared World Cup Final that lives up to the standard that has been set in recent years, I believe we will also be presented with a clear vision for the wonderful Modern Pentathlon that will take place in the Tokyo Stadium – with all five disciplines in one venue – during the Summer Olympic Games in 2020.

“We look forward to working with the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan and the Tokyo 2020 organising committee as this vision takes shape.”

Noriyuki Nakamura, Modern Pentathlon Competition Manager for Tokyo 2020, said: “The Modern Pentathlon Test Event in Tokyo in 2019 will be an important part of preparations for the Olympic Games and we are pleased that the event will double as the World Cup Final, which is such an important fixture in the sporting calendar.

“We are working very closely with UIPM to deliver a wonderful Olympic Modern Pentathlon and this Test Event will give sports fans in Japan and around the world a glimpse of what is in store in 2020.”

Nobuo Namikoshi, President of the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan, added: “We are very pleased to host the 2019 World Cup Final. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to this event and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.”

Melanie McCann sets out on coaching pathway in Canada

The roll-out of the UIPM Coaches Certification Programme has continued with a Level 1 course offered to aspiring coaches in Canada for the first time.
The course, held from July 5-7 at Mount Royal University in Alberta, was attended by 13 students representing the regions of Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Guelph.

The participants came from diverse sporting backgrounds, including coaching newcomers, current high-performance coaches, advanced coaches in an individual sport, and current and former national team athletes in modern pentathlon and fencing including two-time Olympian Melanie McCann.

Beijing 2008 Olympic pentathlete Joshua Riker-Fox, who delivered the training, said: "The course syllabus covered training programme design and coaching fundamentals as well as physiology and event management. The high level of pentathlon knowledge and experience among the group stimulated a very productive environment of interaction and idea-sharing."

"Mount Royal University in Calgary is a historic institution which offered a great site for class work and practical education in the pool. This course will serve the coaches and community well going forward as it formalized a lot of shared knowledge into consistent themes and practices."

ECMP 2017 European Championships: Prokopenko and Lesun succeed on home soil

The 2016 Olympic champion, Alexander Lesun of Russia, added a fifth European title to his portfolio with a commanding performance in the Men’s Individual event at the ECMP 2017 European Championships in Minsk (BLR).

This victory was poignant for Lesun because he was born and brought up in Belarus, and he was not the only winner with emotional ties to the host nation. The Women’s Individual gold was won by Anastasiya Prokopenko of Belarus, to the delight of the local crowd.
Lesun (RUS) had built up some momentum with a top-10 finish at the World Cup Final in Vilnius (LTU) in June and proved his class in Minsk by topping a high-quality field including French duo Valentin Belaud and Valentin Prades and Hungary’s Robert Kasza, Bence Demeter and Adam Marosi.

It was extremely close as Lesun (RUS) prevailed by only 4sec from silver medallist Kasza (HUN), with Belaud (FRA) picking up bronze only 8sec behind the winner.

In the women’s event, Prokopenko (BLR) also overcame a classy field including 2016 Olympic silver medallist Elodie Clouvel (FRA), 2016 world champion Sarolta Kovacs (HUN) and a strong contingent from Italy. Laura Asadauskaite (LTU) fell ill on the eve of the competition and could not compete.

Prokopenko (BLR) left nothing to chance and finished with a 14sec advantage over silver medallist Kovacs (HUN), with Ilke Ozyukssel (TUR) adding an impressive bronze to her growing medal collection.

The Mixed Relay was won by Russia (Gulnaz Gubaydullina & Kirill Belaikov), silver went to Italy and bronze to Hungary. Men’s Relay gold was claimed by Czech Republic (Martin Bilko & Ondrej Polivka) and Germany (Lena Schoenebom & Annika Schieul) picked up the Women’s Relay title.

There were 22 nations competing in Minsk and they will reconvene alongside members of the other five continental confederations for the UIPM World Championships in Cairo (EGY) from August 21-29.

Dmitry Svatkovsky, President of the European Confederation of Modern Pentathlon (ECMP), said: “This was a wonderful Championships and I am grateful to the Government of Belarus and the Belarus Modern Pentathlon Federation for their outstanding organisation.”

**YOY 2018 countdown:**

The month of August 2017 will see the first 10 qualifiers for the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 decided.

First there will be a European qualifying tournament from August 10-13 in Portugal, before a Pan American qualifying tournament takes place in Merida (MEX) from August 31 to September 3.

Three direct qualifying places in the Men’s Individual and three places in the Women’s Individual event at YOG 2018 will be up for grabs in Portugal, with two places for men and two for women on offer in Mexico.

The highest-placed male and female athlete from NORCECA (North America, Central America & Caribbean) will secure a place, as will the highest-placed male and female athlete from South America, irrespective of their overall finishing position.

Argentina’s involvement in the Youth Olympic Games is guaranteed with one male and one female place reserved for the host nation.

The 3rd Youth Olympic Games will take place in Buenos Aires (ARG) from October 6-18, 2018 with Modern Pentathlon featuring on October 12-14 and 16.

As in Singapore in 2010 and Nanjing (CHN) in 2014, there will be medals at stake in three Modern Pentathlon events: the Men’s and Women’s Individual and the Mixed Relay.

Athletes must have been born between 2000 and 2003 to be eligible, and they will pursue qualification at a series of qualifying events between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.
Tournament & Training
Camp Invitations

This is an important notice for all Athletes and Competitions organisers to continuously check pentathlon.org for all information related to invitations and visa letters.

Navigate to the National Federations Portal or to http://www.pentathlon.org to stay up to date with all tournament news.

Medical and Anti-Doping Corner

WADA RELEASES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) ON THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS (TUEs)

Since 13 September 2016, the cyber espionage group “Fancy Bears” have been releasing batches of confidential athlete data on their website, which they illegally obtained from a Rio 2016 Olympic Games account of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)’s Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS). Specifically, they are releasing data related to Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs) delivered by Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) – International Federations (IFs), National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADOs), and Major Event Organizers (MEOs).

This situation has led to a lot of media coverage; and, unfortunately, a tremendous amount of misinformation as it relates to TUEs. It is very unfortunate that athletes’ TUEs are being debated publicly on the basis of partial, confidential, medical information. Athletes should not be required to publicly justify their TUEs.

This FAQ has been designed to address the misinformation and uphold the rights of clean athletes as embodied within the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE).

The TUE program is a rigorous and necessary part of elite sport, which has overwhelming acceptance from athletes, physicians and all anti-doping stakeholders worldwide.

More information at pentathlon.org/medical-and-anti-doping
10.07.-12.07.2017, Lausanne (SUI)

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang joined the Extraordinary IOC Session where the 2024 Olympic Games bid cities Los Angeles and Paris gave excellent presentations.

There was also a discussion about an agreement between both cities linked to the Olympic Summer Games 2024 and 2028. The IOC Members will make the final decision on September 13 in Lima (PER) during the IOC Session.

President Dr Schormann also met UIPM Patron HM King Constantine, Honorary President HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and 1st Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch (also IOC Vice-President) to discuss UIPM policies.

17.07.-23.07.2017, Prague (CZE)

During the UIPM Under 19 World Championships President Schormann met with National Federation Presidents to be briefed about their activities on the national and international base.

President Sharif Elerian (Egypt) provided important information regarding the 2017 UIPM World Championships in Cairo (August 21-28).

President Pieter Oosthuizen (South Africa) outlined detailed steps in preparations for the UIPM Laser-Run World Championships in Cape Town (October 12-15).

President Dr Schormann met Vice President Anirut Posakrisna (Thailand) to discuss the development of Modern Pentathlon in Thailand and throughout Asia.

With President Bohumil Hrudka and Secretary General Lucie Grolichova (Czech Republic) he discussed the
successful U19 World Championships as a big step ahead of the 2018 UIPM Junior World Championships and UIPM World Cups in 2019 and 2020, which will also be held in the country.

The UIPM President spoke with many coaches of participating nations and underlined the importance of educating and training young athletes to commit to fair play and resist any manipulation of competition in order to become high-profile athletes and ambassadors for UIPM Sports.

With Dr Viacheslav Malishev, UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, Dr Schormann discussed various strategies to strengthen development of Modern Pentathlon in all six continents.


UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the FIE World Fencing Championships to watch the team competitions.

During the visit he met FIE Secretary General Emmanuel Katsiadakis and Executive Board members to discuss close cooperation between the two federations, which share a long tradition.

He met with Gary Lu, owner of UIPM sponsors Absolute Fencing, and Vitaly Logvin, President of Fencing in PASO, and spoke with the Minister for Sport of France, Laura Flessel (five-time Olympic medalist in épée fencing) about the Paris 2024 Olympic Games bid and September’s IOC Session in Lima, where the final decision for 2024 and 2028 hosts will be made.

President Dr Schormann met Haibin Wang, President of the Chinese Fencing Association, to discuss cooperations in the city of Wuxi linked to the high school that will be soon be announced by UIPM as a training academy. With the 1st Vice President of the Russia Olympic Committee, Stanislav Pozdnyakov (Olympic champion in sabre), he spoke about the 2017 Kremlin Cup in Moscow and a visit to his office in Moscow to speak about the Olympic movement in Russia.
UIPM NEWSLETTER 17
31.07.-05.08.2017, Tianjing (CHN)

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang met with Gou Zhongwen, the Sports Minister of China and President of the National Olympic Committee.

They were accompanied on the visit by Chinese Modern Pentathlon Association Vice President Xu Haifeng (Olympic champion in Shooting in 1984) and Secretary General Bin Zhang.

They discussed future activities for Modern Pentathlon based on the long tradition of high-profile competitions in recent years in Chengdu, Wuhan, Shanghai, Nangjing and other cities.

The Sports Minister underlined the high value of Modern Pentathlon and UIPM as a multi-sport federation, emphasising that the educational elements of five different disciplines provide many possibilities for sport for all.

Minister Gou will strongly support UIPM and CMPA to organize future World Championships, Congress and international seminars, as well as supporting a close partnership with schools and universities.
UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the 13th Chinese National Games where Modern Pentathlon was hosted in the Tianjin Golden Metropolitan Polo Club and contested at a high level. There he met with Executive Board Members of CMPA to continue discussions of results achieved with the Sports Minister to initiate practical steps for plans in the near future.

With the General Manager of the Polo Club, Domenico Palumbo, President Dr Schormann discussed partnership between UIPM and CMPA, who are ready to host UIPM competitions in combination with polo or equestrian competitions.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the Juan Antonio Samaranch Memorial, which was established four years ago, to pay respects to the late former IOC President (also an Honorary Member of UIPM and Member of the UIPM Hall of Fame), who strongly supported the introduction of women to the Olympic Programme in 2000 in Sydney (AUS).
The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 11 August 2017:

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The Full New Balance World Ranking is available on www.pentathlon.org
Baron Pierre de Coubertin

“The Modern Pentathlon event would test a man’s moral qualities as much as his physical resources and skills, producing thereby the ideal, complete athlete.”

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