



## PRESS RELEASE

### Olaberria requests precautionary measures to prevent damage to her sports career

#### **She is demanding the RFEC before the National Sports Council for discriminatory treatment for being a mother.**

- The AMDP supports Leire Olaberria in her demand against discriminatory treatment.
- The olympic medalist has notified the UCI Ethical Commission of the discriminatory treatment she is suffering for being a mother.

**Madrid, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018.-** The olympic cyclist, Leire Olaberria, has presented a demand before the National Sports Council because she feels discriminated by the Royal Spanish Cycling Federation as it is failing to enable her to reconcile her right to be a mother with her condition as a sportswoman.

The Women Association for Professional Sport, when learning about the situation the cyclist is suffering, offered her legal aid as it considers that this is not only a matter of sports discrimination but a violation of fundamental rights, as the right of being a mother and not being discriminated against for it, are being violated, hence damaging her sports career.

The Equal Rights Law establishes in its **article 8**, *“It is considered direct gender based discrimination all unfavorable treatment of women because of pregnancy or motherhood”*, as well as in its **article 29 about Sports**, in which it states that *“All public development programmes shall include the effective consideration of the real and effective equality between men and women principle in its design and execution”*.

The discriminatory treatment started when the olympic medalist went back to compete again after having a child. She regained her shape and soon after she received the first call from the Spanish national team. Olaberria asked the manager of the national team to allow her to reconcile her condition as mother in order to enable her to go to a national training camp, as she was still breastfeeding her baby. The RFEC proposal was that she had to pay out of her own money the travel and accommodation expenses for the baby and the support person. Despite the obvious inequality, she accepted.

Once at the training camp, she was informed of her call for the European Championships in Berlin and they asked her again to pay for all the expenses related to the nanny and gave her such a schedule, that made it impossible for her to afford it, forcing her to renounce the calling. The manager of the national team, arguing that the cyclist was a rebel and that she disregarded superior authority, excluded her from the national team “based on bad behaviour”, without the existence of any disciplinary inquiry against her.



Later, the cyclist requested to be allowed to compete with her own team at the World Cup in Chile (Omnium format) assuming herself all the costs but she again got the coach's refusal, he claimed, untruthfully, that she didn't have the necessary UCI points. Despite the numerous obstacles, Olaberría insisted and was able to compete with her team, Gipuzkoa-Ogiberri, in different international class 1 events (Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Chile, Italy, Germany), in Madison as well as in Omnium format, reconciling her family life and obtaining excellent results that have allowed her to get, in only three months, the UCI points the rest of the cyclists got in a whole year. Out of the national team, she has competed as much, or even more, as before having her baby, showing that it is possible to reconcile motherhood and keep her sports level.

Because of all these, AMDP legal services have presented a requirement, previous to reporting the matter, before the RFEC, asking for its intervention to end the discriminatory treatment suffered by the sportswoman for being a mother. In this requirement, Olaberria asks for her right to reconcile her family life with her High Level sports career. The Federation has answered, justifying her elimination from the national team with technical criterion and claiming that *"it hasn't been proven that her motherhood had been an influencing factor in the manager's decision to exclude her"*. It seems, to say the least, curious that before asking for her rights as a mother she was called because of her results, but once called, when she brought up her needs and asked for her right to reconcile, is when all the problems began.

For this reason, a complaint was presented before the National Sports Council on Monday 25th June, requesting an investigation on the matter and the implementation of precautionary measures to stop damaging the sports career of a woman only for being a mother and defending her rights.

At the same time, a complaint has been brought before the UCI's Ethical Commission against the President of the National Cycling Federation, as it is considered that the maximum international cycling body's code is being violated, because of a clear discrimination against the sportswoman, as she hasn't been allowed to reconcile her sports and family life once back competing and after being a mother and having shown and excellent physical condition with good results at international competitions.

For more information:

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***AMDP works to end ALL kinds of discrimination against women in the sports world and fights to achieve their rights and equal opportunities.***

***Changing the rules of the game.***

## HISTORIAL DEPORTIVO DE LEIRE OLABERRÍA DORRONSORO

Principales resultados COMO PISTARD (ciclismo en pista)

### JJ.OO.

Medalla de bronce en los Juegos Olímpicos de Pekin 2008 en la prueba de Puntuación

13ª en los Juegos Olímpicos de Londres 2012 en la prueba de Omnium

### Europeos

ORO en el Campeonato de Europa de 2010 en la prueba de Omnium

BRONCE en el Campeonato de Europa de 2013 en Puntuación

### Mundiales

BRONCE en el Campeonato del Mundo 2010 en la prueba de Omnium

### Copa del Mundo

ORO en la General de Scratch en 2014

ORO en la prueba de Omnium Copa del Mundo de Melbourne 2010

PLATA en la prueba de Omnium Copa del Mundo de Cali 2014

BRONCE en la prueba de Omnium Copa del Mundo de Aguascalientes 2013

## Campeonatos de España (23 títulos de Campeona de España en pista + 3 títulos en carretera)

### Prueba de KEIRIN

ORO en 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008

PLATA en 2010 y BRONCE en 2015

### Prueba de VELOCIDAD

ORO en 2006

PLATA en 2004,

### Prueba de SCRATCH

ORO en 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011

PLATA en 2005, 2006, 2015

### Prueba de 500 METROS

PLATA en 2006, 2010

BRONCE en 2004

### Prueba de PUNTUACIÓN

ORO en 2008, 2010, 2011, 2015

PLATA en 2005, 2006, 2007

### Prueba de PERSECUCIÓN

ORO en 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2015

PLATA en 2006

### PERSECUCIÓN POR EQUIPOS

ORO en 2009 (junto a Eneritz Iturriaga y Ane Usabiaga) y en 2010 (junto a Usabiaga y Olatz Ferrán)

### Prueba de OMNIUM

ORO en 2010

### Prueba de MADISON

ORO en **2017** (junto a Eukene Larrarte)

### Prueba de Velocidad x Equipos

ORO en **2017** (junto a Tania Calvo)

She started track cycling when she was 26, in her first World Cup she got to the 8th position and five years after starting competing she won an Olympic medal.

She has won the Spanish Championship 26 times on track and on road.

She got her last two Spanish championships in October 2017, when she was 40 and after having been a mother.

Olaberria has a Teaching and a Turism Degrees, a Master in Sports Management and is currently finishing Nutrition and Dietetic studies at the Catholic University of Murcia.

## EN CARRETERA

### Contrarreloj

ORO en 2010 y 2014

PLATA en 2013

BRONCE en 2009 y 2015

**CAMPEONA DE ESPAÑA EN RUTA en 2010**