



Apology of the Year

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British TV personality Piers Morgan has sincerely apologized to Novak Djokovic. Because Djokovic refused to be vaccinated against Covid, Morgan called the tennis star a "liar" and a "cheater." Three years later, he apologizes.

At a time when tennis players and other athletes were buying vaccination certificates, the greatest active tennis player remained openly unvaccinated. Novak Djokovic faced media scrutiny and suspension from competition, but maintained his perfectly logical stance: he didn't need a Covid vaccination.

[The persecution culminated in January 2022 in Australia](#), when he missed the tournament, was arrested for being unvaccinated, and deported. The media campaign against him was massive. Piers Morgan, for example, called Djokovic a "liar" and a "cheater" who circumvented the rules and was a bad role model for society. Morgan, on the other hand, was a defender of public health. On his podcast "Piers Morgan Uncensored," he intensified his criticism after the player's disqualification.



I want to apologize to Novak Djokovic. [English subtitles are available.](#)

Almost four years later, in November 2025, an exclusive interview took place between Morgan and Djokovic. In it, Morgan said: “I want to start with an apology. I was very judgmental of you during the COVID scandal.” He explicitly apologized for having called Djokovic a liar and a cheat. Morgan admitted that the vaccination debate was more complex than he had portrayed it at the time and praised Djokovic’s steadfastness.

“It speaks volumes about you that you apologized,” Djokovic replied calmly, accepting the gesture.

Morgan’s apology can be interpreted as symbolic of how public opinion is slowly but steadily changing. A different wind is blowing, especially from the US – just this week, the US Food and Drug Administration announced that the Covid vaccine had killed healthy children.

Djokovic never engaged in the debate about the safety and risks of vaccines. He always emphasized that the vaccination issue was a personal (and free) choice. A privilege many people didn’t have and who were practically forced into vaccination by the state.

The apology not only marks a small victory for Djokovic and for Covid critics, but also a moment rarely seen in the media: a moment of insight and humility. Even polarizing mainstream figures can admit to having made mistakes.