



EUROPEAN YOUTH  
CHESS  
CHAMPIONSHIP 2014



ECU  
EXTRAORDINARY  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY 2014



CHESS IN  
SCHOOLS  
CONFERENCE  
YEREVAN 2014



AQUAPROFIT  
POLGAR  
FESTIVAL  
BUDAPEST 2014

# EUROPEAN CHESS UNION NEWSLETTER



## 24<sup>th</sup> European Youth Chess Championship Batumi 2014

The 24th European Youth Chess Championship took place in Batumi, coastal town in Georgia, 18-29 October, 2014 in hotel Sheraton Batumi. The Championship was organized by the European Chess Union and the Georgian Chess Federation.

The competition gathered 992 chess players from 45 European countries, divided in 12 categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18, boys and girls separately.

The Opening ceremony was held in Batumi Drama Theatre in the great atmosphere and with rich cultural and art programme.

The Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs of Georgia, Mr. Levan Kipiani and Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, President of the European Chess Union greeted all the participants and wished them a successful tournament.

[The final results and the information about the new 12 European Champions for 2014 can be found here.](#)

[Official website](#)

## ECU Board and Extraordinary General Assembly in Batumi

European Chess Union Board and General Assembly meetings were held in Batumi/Georgia in the spirit of unity and harmony, with many important decisions made.

In the meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October, the ECU Board appointed the new ECU Commissions: Educational Commission, Events Commission, Arbiters Council and Women's Commission. The Commissions' compositions and the main Board decisions will be published in the coming ECU Circular Letter.

ECU Extraordinary Assembly was held by the presentation of 40 national federations (delegates or proxies). In his report, ECU President announced 200,000 euros sponsorship for the ECU through the Bank of Georgia. The amount is bigger than all previous sponsorships in total in the last 20 years and is going directly to the ECU annual budget. ECU GA also discussed legal matters with relation to the ECU administration and transitional period. The 2016 European Youth Championship was awarded to Prague, Czech Republic after two secret ballot votings.

The ECU budget for 2015 was adopted, including more than 100,000 euros allocated for development. A special Committee was created to propose changes of the ECU Statutes. It was decided for the next ECU GA to amend the ECU tournament and financial regulations. The case of European Youth Chess Championship "Budva 2013" was forwarded to the FIDE Ethics Commission for further and detailed investigation. ECU GA decisions will be published in more details in the coming ECU Circular Letter.



# ECU NEWS

## 8<sup>th</sup> International Aquaprofit – Polgar Chess Festival

This year's Chess Festival was organized by the greatest woman chess player of all time Judit Polgar and it offered a full day family programme in the Budapest Palace of Arts.

Apart from the programme for children, the 2nd Chess Palace International Educational Conference, supported by OTP Fay Andras Foundation took place.

Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, President of the European Chess Union was among the honored guests of the festival and took part in the press conference. Bank of Georgia, the new sponsor of European Chess Union, was one of the sponsors of the festival as well.



To mark the 40th Anniversary of the Rubik's Cube, Mr. Erno Rubik, the inventor of the famous Cube, was also present at the festival.

Among the prominent guests were also world champion athletes, artists, and leaders of the business and political world.

The festival ended with an exhibition simul given by Judit Polgar who has been leading the FIDE world rankings for 25 years setting a Guinness record, which was also announced at the festival.

[Video of the event](#)

More information [here](#)

## International Conference Chess in Schools in Armenia

From 16th to 18th October, 2014, the International Conference “Chess in Schools” was held in Yerevan, Armenia. The Conference was organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia, the World Chess Federation (FIDE), as well as the Armenian Chess Federation and the Chess Academy of Armenia, in cooperation with the Armenian State Pedagogical University named after Khachatur Abovyan.

During the first day of the conference FIDE President Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov and the President of the Republic of Armenia, who doubles as the President of the Armenian Chess Federation, were present at the opening session of the conference.



Mr. Armen Ashotyan, Minister of Education and Science of Republic Armenia and Mr. Smbat Lputyan, President of Chess Academy of Armenia, as well as Mr. Ilyumzhinov gave the speech at the beginning of the conference, after which the official programme started. Among the officials, Mr. Lewis Ncube, Continental President for Africa, Mr. Ion Serban Dobronauteanu, Continental Deputy-President for Europe, Mr. Alexander Kostyev, President of the International School Union and Mr. Jesper Hall, the Chairman of ECU Educational Commission, were present at the Chess in Schools Conference.



Mr. Kevin O'Connell, the Chairman of FIDE Chess in Schools Commission, stated that this was the most important CIS conference ever, due to the importance and relevance of the research studies conducted and finalized in Armenia after the first primary classes completed the 3 years studies of chess. Apart from the Armenian studies, interesting programs and achievements regarding implementing chess in schools from USA, India, Russia, Bulgaria, Sweden, Italy, Poland, Denmark, Greece and Germany were presented.

The conference attracted participants from 4 continents – Africa, America, Asia and Europe, with total of 180 people present at the University. According to all the lectures, one conclusion was imposed – Chess in Schools is a major task to improve education worldwide, by using chess as an educational tool. [Official Webiste of the Conference](#)

# FUN ZONE

In October Newsletter edition we present you two games from the Grand Prix series - one game from the European Youth Chess Championship in Batumi and one nice mate in 2. White to play in all 4 positions. Try your luck!



Gelfand vs Andreikin  
Baku GP 2014 R1



Yurtseven vs Boruchovsky  
EYCC Batumi 2014 R3



Mamedyarov vs Nakamura  
Tashkent GP 2014 R4



Problem No.1  
Mate in 2

## Solutions from the NL September 2014:

Alexei Shirov vs Henk Vedder, ECC Bilbao 2014 R1  
41.Rxg7+! Kxg7 42.Rg3+ Kf6 43.Ng4+ Kg7 44.Qd4+ e5 45.Nxe5+ 1-0

Alon Greenfeld vs Etienne Bacrot, ECC Bilbao 2014 R4  
60...Rcc3! 61.Rxf5 e5+! And White resigned because if 62.fxe5 Rcd3+ 63.Kc4 d5+ 64.Kb4 Rd4+ 65.Ka5 Ra3#

Veselin Topalov vs Peter Svidler, ECC Bilbao 2014 R7  
50...Be3+! 51.Kb5 Kd8 52.Kc6 Bd2! 53.Kxd6 Bc3 54.a5! Bxa5 55.Kxe5 Bd2 56.Be4 Ke7 57.Kf5 Be3 58.Kg5 Bf2 59.Kxf4 Kf6 and even though White is two pawns up, the position is a draw.

### Study

1.Bb3 Kb3 2.Bd6 Kc2 3.Rb2 Kd1 4.Nf2 Ke1 5.N2d3 Kf1 6.Rf2 Kg1 7.Rg7 Ng7 8.Rg2 Bg2 9.Ne2 Kh2 10.Kd4 Kh3 11.Nf2 Kh4 12.Be7 Kh5 13.Nf4 Kh6 14.Ng4 Kh7!! 15.Nf6 and Ng4 with draw

## They told about chess...

The chessboard is the world, the pieces are the phenomena of the Universe, the rules of the game are what we call the laws of Nature and the player on the other side is hidden from us.

Thomas Henry Huxley, English biologist, 1868.



# UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

## ECU EVENTS

### 14TH EUROPEAN YOUTH RAPID & BLITZ CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2014

Tournament will take place from 12 - 17 November, 2014 in Tallinn, Estonia and the organizers are the European Chess Union and Estonian Chess Federation.

Accommodation will be provided in [Meriton Grand Conference & Spa Hotel](#) and the tournament hall will be [Meriton Grand Conference & Spa Hotel Conference Centre](#)

The Championship consists of 5 competitions:

- (1) 14th Individual European Championship – Rapid
- (2) 13th European Rapid Cup - Rapid Superfinal
- (3) 14th Team European Championships - Rapid
- (4) 14th Individual European Championships - Blitz
- (5) 13th European Championship in Solving Chess Problems

The total prize fund for all events will be 8.000 EUR in goods, and 2.000 EUR in cash.

[Official website of the Championship](#)

## EUROPEAN EVENTS

### PETROSIAN MEMORIAL 2014

The super-tournament Tigran Petrosian Memorial (21st category), sponsored by Tashir Group, will take place from 3rd till 11th November, 2014 at the Hotel Novotel Moscow City.

Chairman of the organizing committee is the President of the Republic of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan. The prize fund is 100 000 euros.

Eight top players will play Round Robin tournament in 9 rounds:

[Petrosian Memorial official](#)



**CZECH EXTRA LEAGUE 2014/2015**

Starts on 1st November and it is played as a Round Robin tournament with 12 teams in 11 rounds. Novi Bor defends the title. [Regulations \(in Czech\)](#)

Schedule: 1-2 round 1-2 November, 2014, 3-4 round 29-30 November, 2014

5-6 round 10-11 January, 2015, 7-8 round 7-8 February, 2015 ,9-11 round 27-29 March, 2015

[Czech Extra League Website](#)

**MALTA OPEN 2014**

This year Malta Open will be held from 16-22 November, 2014 in Imperial Hotel – Sliema

The prize fund is EUR 3000 with the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of EUR 1000. [Official Website](#)

**BRNO OPEN 2014**

Brno Open is a part of CZECH TOUR 2014/2015 Series, which will take place 15-22 November, 2014. The Festival is held under the financial support of the city of Brno. Apart from the open tournament, the open tournament in rapid chess will be held on 16th November 2014.

[Official Website](#)

**BENIDORM 2014**

Chess lovers once again will have the chance to participate in the XIII “GRAN HOTEL BALI” International Chess Festival of Benidorm, which is organized from 28 November till 8 December, 2014. [Official Website](#)