



EUROPEAN
INDIVIDUAL CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP 2016



EUROPEAN
SENIOR CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP
2016



EUROPEAN
AMATEUR CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP
2016



EUROPEAN
YOUTH CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP
2016

EUROPEAN CHESS UNION NEWSLETTER



CHESS PROMOTION IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Chess in School Conference, organized as a result of the co-operation of the European Chess Union and European Parliament, was held on 24 February in Brussels/Belgium.

The Conference was attended by the European Union officials and Members of the European Parliament, FIDE, ECU and National Federations' representatives, among whom Mr. Zurab

Azmaiparashvili, the ECU President, Mrs. Ana Claudia Tapardel, MEP, Mr. Kevin O'Connell, Chairman of FIDE Chess in School Commission, Mr. Irakli Rekhviashvili representative of the Bank of Georgia, the main sponsor of the ECU, and numerous school teachers.



Mr. Azmaiparashvili and Mrs. Tapardel addressed to all the present with the welcome speeches and officially opened the Conference.

The host of the event, MEP Ana-Claudia Tapardel, expressed her will to organize a conference dedicated to CIS every year, and the goal for the next year will be to present what has been done since the last conference.



The ECU President gave five rewards - to MEPs Ana Claudia Tapardel from Romania and Silvia Costa from Italy, to Mr. Sorin Iacoban, President of Romanian Chess Federation and Member of Romanian Parliament, and to Judit Polgar and Garry Kasparov chess foundations, for their contribution in the implementation of chess as a subject in the European schools.

After the opening speeches, Mr. Jesper Hall (Sweden), Chairman of the Educational Commission of the ECU introduced all the speakers, as well as the ECU survey which was conducted last year.

Mr. Martin Huba (Slovakia), the ECU Treasurer, presented the ECU-EU potential projects.



The full list of presentations followed as announced in the program can be found in the [ECU Press Release](#).

The conference was well covered in the media and it was broadcast live on YouTube. Reply the Conference [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#)

Special thanks to the Bank of Georgia for sponsoring the Conference with 10.000 euros.

[Full report](#) [CIS Presentations](#)

Women's World Chess Championship Match 2016

Women's World Chess Championship Match 2016 between the current World Champion Mariya Muzychuk of Ukraine and her challenger Hou Yifan of China (former World Champion 2010-2012, 2013-2015) is taking place in Lviv, Ukraine, 1-18 March, 2016.

The prize fund for this match is 200,000 EUR and will be split between the players as follows: 60% for the winner and 40% to the loser if the match ends within the 10 regular games. Mariya Muzychuk is holding the title after 2015 Women World Championship in Sochi while Hou Yifan had a right to challenge her after she became first in the Grand Prix Series 2013-2014.

Mariya Muzychuk and Hou Yifan played two times against each other in the past. They met first time during Gibraltar tournament in 2012 and the second game has been played during FIDE Women Grand Prix in Monaco 2015.



FIDE Deputy President Georgios Makropoulos, President of the Chess Federation of Ukraine Mr. Viktor Kapustin, Lviv Mayor Mr. Andriy Sadovy, Chief Arbiter of the Match Mr. Carol Jarecki, and the players Mariya Muzychuk and Hou Yifan addressed the audience at the opening ceremony. The honorary guests of the opening ceremony were the ECU President Mr. Zurab azmaiparashvili and the Ecu Board members.

The opening ceremony included choreographic and singing performances: Zhytta ballet, violin virtuoso Olexandr Bozhyk, quartet Tenors Bel'canto, and the participant of Holos Krainy Show (means 'voice of the country' show) Khrystyna Soloviy, all have performed at the main Lviv stage.

The first move in first game was made by Mayor of Lviv Andriy Sadovyi.

Photos by Vitaliy Hrabar

During the Match, the ECU Board took place, hosted by Ukrainian Chess Federation. The ECU Board meeting took place 1-2 March, and it was opened by President of Ukrainian Chess Federation Mr. Viktor Kapustin.



Main information and decisions about the ECU Board is available in the [ECU Press Release](#) attached.

[Official Website of the Match](#)

ECU NEWS

European Individual Chess Championship 2016

The European Individual Chess Championship 2016 will be held in Gjakova (Kosovo*), 11 - 24 May 2016, at the “Pashtriku” Hotel.

The organizer of the competition is Gjakova Municipality together with the Kosovo Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union.



The championship will be played in 11-round Swiss system, in accordance with FIDE Laws of Chess and the ECU Tournament Rules. The rate of play will be 90 minutes for 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one. Default time is 15 minutes for each round.

The prize fund is 120 000 EUR, including main prizes and special prizes for the best performance and best senior players.

The European Individual Championship 2016 is a qualification event for the next World Cup.

*According to the ECU Statues any mention of Kosovo followed with an asterisk with reference to UN Resolution 1244, without prejudice of status

[Official Invitation](#)

European Senior Chess Championship 2016

The 16th European Senior Chess Championship will take place in Yerevan, Armenia from June 4 (day of arrival) to 14 June (day of departure) 2016. The tournament will be held in Chess House after Tigran Petrosian.

The European Senior Chess Championship will be played in two categories: one for those who shall have reached the age of 50 (category SENIOR 50+), and one for those who shall have reached the age of 65 (category SENIOR 65+).



Players who shall have reached the age of 65 by the 31st December 2016 are allowed to participate in the category SENIOR 50+ if they request it.

Women tournaments will be played separately. If in total the women participants are less than nine they will play in the Open tournaments with separate prizes.

The championship is based on Swiss system in accordance with the ECU Tournament Rules and FIDE Rules of Chess. The playing time will be 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

Total prize fund is 10.000 EUR, and the first prizes are 1.000 EUR (Open sections) and 650 EUR (Women sections).

[Official Invitation](#)

European Amateur Chess Championship 2016

The European Amateur Chess Championship 2016 will be held in Ruzomberok, a town in northern Slovakia, from June 5 (day of arrival) to June 12 (day of departure) 2016. The tournament will be held in the „Sports hall Koniaren“, and the official accommodating hotel is Hotel Kultura ***.



The Championship is open to all players representing Chess Federations, which comprise the European Chess Union (FIDE zones 1.1 to 1.10), who have no FIDE title and no FIDE rating above 2000 at the start of the tournament (5 June 2016), nor have had such a rating for at least two years prior to the start of the event (that is 5 June 2014 and on). There is no limit of the number of participants per federation. A separate championship for women shall be organized if there are at least 10 women entries for this championship.

The tournament is played in a 9-round Swiss system, with the time control 90 minutes for 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

The prize fund is 2 500 EUR.

The Championship is organized by Chess Club Prievidza, Chess Club Ruzomberok and Ruzomberok City, under the auspices of the European Chess Union.

[Official Invitation](#)

European Youth Chess Championship 2016

The European Youth Chess Championship 2016 is organized by AVE-KONTAKT Pardubice agency, Czech Chess Federation and the European Chess Union in Prague/Czech Republic, from 17th August (arrival) to 28th August (departure) 2016.

The tournament is played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18, Boys and Girls separately.

The entry form must be filled in by the national federation on the official website of the championship no later than 30th June 2016. This date is the registration deadline. After that, federations will not be able to register or modify any registrations. After this date all the registrations have to be confirmed by the organizer and the ECU.



The tournament will be played by a 9-rounds Swiss system, with the time control 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

The total amount of all prizes and presents will be 20.000 EUR at the minimum. The first three players in each group will be awarded medals; the first five players in each group will be awarded cups, diplomas and valuable prizes.

Lodging and boarding will be provided at the TOP HOTEL Praha ****, Blazimska 1781/4, Praha 11. All tournament halls are situated at this hotel.

[Official Invitation](#)

FUN ZONE

In February Fun Zone we are testing your skills in solving mate in two combinations.

In all diagrams White to play. Enjoy!



Solutions from the NL January 2016:

I 1. Nc5#

II 1. dxe8N#

III 1. Ng3#

IV 1. Qg5#

They told about chess...



“People who want to improve should take their defeats as lessons, and endeavor to learn what to avoid in the future. You must also have the courage of your convictions. If you think your move is good, make it.”

José Raúl Capablanca y Graupera (19 November 1888 - 8 March 1942), Cuban chess player, 3rd World Chess Champion (1921-1927).

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MARCH

STOCKHOLM CHESS CHALLENGE 2016	8 -13 March	Stockholm/Sweden	Official Website
REYKJAVIK OPEN 2016	8 - 16 March	Reykjavik/Iceland	Official Website
SAN SEBASTIAN OPEN 2016	19 - 26 March	San Sebastian/Spain	Official Website
CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT	10 - 30 March	Moscow/Russia	Official Website
60TH SOUTHEND CHESS CONGRESS	25 - 28 March	Southend/England	Official Website