Inspection of Kocaeli, Turkey for the European Youth Team Championship 2019

<table>
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<th>Date for championship:</th>
<th>16. – 24.08.2019</th>
<th>Federation:</th>
<th>Turkey</th>
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<tr>
<td>Inspector:</td>
<td>Kurt Gretener</td>
<td>Inspection Date:</td>
<td>04.07.2017</td>
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<td>Accompanied by:</td>
<td>N. Erman Üsküdarlı, Sportsdirector Turkish Chess Federation</td>
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Kocaeli Province is a province of Turkey and one of only two to not have the same official name as its capital, İzmit, which is thus also sometimes called Kocaeli. The largest towns in the province are İzmit and Gebze. The province is located at the easternmost end of the Marmara Sea around the Gulf of İzmit. Kocaeli is bordered by the province of İstanbul and the Marmara Sea to the west, the Black Sea to the north, the province of Sakarya to the east, the province of Bursa to the south and the province of Yalova to the southwest. The metropolitan area of Istanbul extends to the Kocaeli-Istanbul provincial border. The size and natural conditions of the Bay of İzmit allow for extensive port facilities, including the Gölçük Naval Base. The province is called the industrial capital of Turkey. Kocaeli has an airport named Cengiz Topel Naval Air Station which is used for military and civilian transport. Kocaeli has two universities: Kocaeli University and Gebze Technical University.

Basis of the inspection was the official bid of the Montenegro Chess Federation from 26. April 2017

**Tournament hall:** “Elite Hotel Bitinya Ballroom”

The size of the playing hall is 700 sqm. The light condition is sufficient. Next to the playing hall there are 3+5 toilets for men and 4 for women. The tables (80x80 cm) are in FIDE standard. The room next to the playing hall will be used for analyzing. There are rooms available that could be used for journalist and tournament office.
Quality of hotels

“Elite Hotel Darica” 5 stars

This hotel is in the same hotel Complex as the paying hall. The hotel has 194 standard rooms, most of them with the sea view. The hotel offers an indoor and outdoor pool for the guests. The SPA is included in the hotel price. Full board will be available for 55 € per person in double room, 80 € per person in single. Buffet menu will be served in both hotels with breakfast, lunch and dinner. Wi-Fi is available in all rooms of both hotels.

Airport connections:
Sabiha Gokcen, Istanbul is one of the easy cities to arrive from any node in Europe. There are daily 45 flights from Europe.

Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen Airport Transfer fee: 20 €

Additional information/remark:
Video streaming will be in all the playing halls during the games. Live Garnes 120 boards Seminar for FIDE Arbiters. Seminar for FIDE Trainers.

Conclusion:
The bid of the Turkey Chess Federation corresponds to the standard of a top class chess event. It is obvious that Kocaeli will be a very good venue for this tournament.

04.07.2017
Kurt Gretener