Nikšić is the second largest city of Montenegro, with a total population of 57,278, located in the west of the country, in the centre of the spacious Nikšić field at the foot of Mount Trebjesa. It is the center of Nikšić Municipality (Population of 75,282), which is the largest municipality by area and second most inhabited after Podgorica. It is an important industrial, cultural, and educational center.

Nikšić has a long tradition of big GM tournaments, 1983 a strong international chess tournament and 5 years later another international event was organized by the city that was even stronger than the first. Fifteen of the world’s best grandmasters attended the round robin tournament held in August of 1983. The participants were (in order of ELO): Garry Kasparov (2690), Ljubomir Ljubojevic (2645), Ulf Andersson (2640), Mikhail Tal (2620), Yasser Seirawan (2605), Boris Spassky (2605), Jan Timman (2605), Lajos Portisch (2600), Anthony Miles (2585), Tigran Petrosian (2580), Gyula Sax (2570), Bent Larsen (2565), Predrag Nikolic (2540), Bozidar Ivanovic (2515), and Svetozar Gligoric (2505).

Basis of the inspection was the official bid of the Montenegro Chess Federation from 28. April 2017

**Tournament hall: “Hotel Onogost”, Niksic**

There is a renovation planned in 2018.
The size of the playing hall is 670 sqm. The light condition is sufficient.
Next to the playing hall there are 5+8 toilets for men and 5 for women.
The tables (70x70 cm) are in FIDE standard.
The room next to the playing hall will be used for analyzing.
There are more rooms available that could be used for journalist and tournament office.
Quality of hotels
“Hotel Onogost”

There is a renovation planned in 2018.
This Hotel is in the same hotel Complex as the paying hall.
The hotel has 118 standard rooms.
Full board will be available for 50 € per person in double room, 55 € 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:**
Nikšić can be reached by three airports Podgorica (55km) and Tivat (105km) as well as Dubrovnik (100).
Podgarica airport has connections to Moscow, Prague, Vienna, Zurich, London, Rome, Copenhagen, Minsk, Frankfurt, Istanbul, Ostrava, Ljubljana, Budapest, Odessa and Belgrade.

**Additional information/remark:**
The organizers do have the experience for such international tournaments

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

16.06.2017
Kurt Gretener