

## **ECU STATEMENT ON FIDE CHARTER**

ECU Board on its meeting on 31st of January in Larnaca, Cyprus, made an open statement referring to the final draft of the new proposed FIDE Charter. (Annex 2.1 of [FIDE General Assembly Agenda](#)).

European Chess Union responded promptly in the debate on the FIDE Charter. Receiving the first working draft in July 2019, ECU prepared and sent a detailed answer to FIDE, within the deadline set on 26th of August 2019. In co-operation with ECU legal counselors, taking in consideration the statutes and structures of 4 major International Sports federations (FIFA, FIBA, FIBV, FINA), ECU sent its notices and proposals.

ECU took part in the discussions made during the FIDE Presidential meeting in Budapest (September 2019), presenting and explaining its positions.

After receiving the second draft of FIDE Charter, in late October 2019, in which have been already included part of our proposals, ECU made a new evaluation. We drafted and sent a new memo to FIDE with further reviews and proposals.

While underling the constructive reforms in the early drafts, the comments and proposals of ECU were focusing to the following key areas:

1. The relations between FIDE and Continents and the representation of the Continents.
2. The composition of the FIDE Council (current Board).
3. The main principle that all members of the FIDE Council shall be elected.
4. The relations and the powers of the main FIDE administrative bodies, the FIDE Council and the FIDE Management Board.
5. The transition period till 2022.

We need to mention that the FIDE Task force for the new Charter as also the FIDE PB were receptive to the notices and improvements on the Charter. We can at least suggest, that our proposals were adopted in a considerable part and introduced in the final draft that is attached as Annex 2.1 to the Agenda of the FIDE extraordinary Assembly in Abu-Dhabi.

We stress some points, in the FIDE Charter's final draft, that were part of ECU attention and feedback to FIDE. However may also similar considerations be delivered by other federations or/and FIDE officials who took part in the debate.

1. The relations between FIDE and Continents become better defined. Continents are autonomous entities with its constitutional name and statutes and represented in the FIDE Council at the highest level with the Continental President as in all major Sports Federations.
2. The FIDE Council, which till now included at least 9 appointed members, (mostly appointed Vice Presidents with voting or no voting rights) is now set up with fewer members who shall be elected by the General Assembly with a secret poll. The GA shall elect even the Council members that are proposed by the FIDE President with a secret ballot.
3. The new FIDE organ "Management Board" which is an organ exists and in other International Sports Federations mostly designated as "Executive Board", will be assigned and dissolved by the FIDE Council after the proposal of the FIDE President.
4. FIDE Council maintains the primary executive powers and decides for the major FIDE matters. The composition of the Management Board includes a minimum number of FIDE Council members, so the Council's electoral power is adequately represented and in the Management Board.
5. The representation of the Members Federations to the FIDE General Assembly becoming more transparent through their President or Delegates who shall be members of the federations.

The ECU Board taking in account:

- a) the need and the right of FIDE to establish a new and modern administration model,
- b) the open dialogue which was made between the institutions and not political groups competing in elections,
- c) the positive reforms,

considers that the new proposed FIDE Charter improves the FIDE operation, procedures and structures.

Noticing that all the National federations shall make their evaluation and their judgment in the whole Charter or in particular articles, and while we are still working to see all last details, we express our support to the new FIDE Charter as the final draft presented to the General Assembly.