



#EYR&BCC2022

European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Champions 2022 crowned in Thessaloniki

ECU GA & Elections 2022

Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili re-elected ECU President



UKRAINE AND UZBEKISTAN CLAIM CHESS OLYMPIAD 2022



In brief..

The 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 took place from 28 July - 10 August in Chennai, India. Uzbekistan won the Open event and Ukraine claimed gold of the Women's Olympiad..

The ECU General Assembly and Elections 2022 took place in Thessaloniki, Greece on Saturday, July 23. The ticket of Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili was elected with 44 votes in favor, 2 blank and 3 invalid ballots in a total of 49 votes cast.

The FIDE General Assembly and FIDE Elections 2022 took place on 7th and 8th August in Chennai, India. Arkady Dvorkovich has been reelected for a second term as President of the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

The European Senior Chess Champions were crowned in Lublin, Poland. The event took place from 4th-14th July.

European Youth Team Chess Championship took place from 11 July to 19 July in Thessaloniki, Greece which hosted also **the European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship** from 19 July to 23 July 2022.

The European Amateur Chess Championship 2022 started on Sunday, 14th August in Zagreb, Croatia.

European Chess Union has its seat in Switzerland,
Address: Rainweidstrasse 2, CH-6333, Hunenberg
See, Switzerland .

European Chess Union is an independent
association founded in 1985 in Graz, Austria;
European Chess Union has 54 National Federation
Members;
Every year ECU organizes more than 20 prestigious
events and championships;

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*Photo: FIDE/
Lennart Ootes*

Uzbekistan and Ukraine claim the 44th Chess Olympiad

The 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 took place from 28 July - 10 August in Chennai, India.

After a dramatic finish, Uzbekistan won the Open event and Ukraine claimed gold of the Women's Olympiad.



Team Uzbekistan;
Photo by: FIDE/Stev Bonhage



Closing ceremony;
Photo by: FIDE/Lennart Ootes

Uzbekistan wins 44th Chess Olympiad

Uzbekistan defeated Netherlands in the last round with a narrow 2.5-1.5 victory, while Armenia took a victory over Spain to join them on the top with 19 match points.

Tiebreaks criteria determined Uzbekistan as the Winner, and Armenia came silver. India 2 clinched bronze with 18 match points.

Uzbekistan team composition:

1. Abdusattorov Nodirbek (2688)
 2. Yakubboev Nodirbek (2620)
 3. Sindarov Javokhir (2629)
 4. Vakhidov Jakhongir (2564)
 5. Vokhidov Shamsiddin (2552)
- Team coach/captain: Ivan Sokolov

The golden Uzbekistan team with five players of an average age of 20 and an average rating of 2625 was ranked 14th on the starting list of teams.

Final rankings and results of the 44th Chess Olympiad (open section) can be found [here](#).



Photos by: FIDE/
Lennart Ootes



Ukraine is the Winner of the Women's Chess Olympiad 2022

Photos: Lennart Ootes



In the tense last round of the Women's Chess Olympiad, India lost to USA dropping to the third place in the final rankings. Ukraine won their match against Poland with a convincing 3-1 result, while Georgia took a 3-1 victory over Azerbaijan to tie with Ukraine for the first place with 18 match points. Ukraine won the event with better tiebreak criteria, and Georgia came silver. India won bronze.

The composition of the Ukrainian women's team:

1. Muzychuk Mariya (2540)
2. Muzychuk Anna (2529)
3. Ushenina Anna (2423)
4. Buksa Nataliya (2401)
5. Osmak Yuliia (2420)

Coach/captain: Brodsky Michail

Final rankings of the Women's Chess Olympiad 2022 can be found [here](#).

Gaprindashvili cup came to the federation with the best sum of the results of the open and women's teams and it was India with 34 match points and best additional tiebreaks that lifted the trophy.

Altogether with the team Winners and medalists of the Chess Olympiad 2022, the best individual players per boards received special prizes and medals.

Women's section best individual players:

- Board 1: GM Pia Cramling
- Board 2: GM Nino Batsiashvili
- Board 3: WIM Oliwia Kiolbasa
- Board 4: WCM Bat-Erdene Mungunzul
- Board 5: WGM Jana Schneider

Open section best individual players:

- Board 1: GM Gukesh D
- Board 2: GM Nihal Sarin
- Board 3: GM David Howell
- Board 4: GM Jakhongir Vakhidov
- Board 5: GM Mateusz Bartel

Detailed information about the event, results, and all the rankings can be found on the Official website of the event.

44th Chess Olympiad

The 2022 Chess Olympiad was played from 29th July – 9th August, in 11 rounds, swiss system, with 188 teams in the Open section and 162 teams in Women's section breaking a participation record previously set at the 2018 Batumi Chess Olympiad.

More than 1700 players competed in the event representing their countries.



Communique of the ECU General Assembly and Elections 2022

The ECU General Assembly and Board elections 2022 took place at the Porto Palace hotel in Thessaloniki on the 23rd of July 2022 with the participation of 50 European National Chess federations. ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, FIDE President Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich, President of Greek Chess Federation Mr. Stathis Efstathopoulos, and Greek Chess Federation Vice President Mr. Georgios Makropoulos welcomed the delegates in Thessaloniki.

Elections

The ticket of Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili was elected with 44 votes in favor, 2 blank and 3 invalid ballots in a total of 49 votes cast:

ECU President: Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili (GEO)

Deputy President: Mrs. Dana Reizniece-Ozola (LAT)

Vice President: Mr. Gunnar Bjornsson (ISL)

Vice President: Mr. Malcolm Pein (ENG)

Secretary General: Mr. Theodoros Tsozbatzoglou (GRE)

Treasurer: Mr. Ion-Serban Dobronauteanu (ROU)

Followed the individual elections for the three (3) ECU Vice Presidents 49 federations voted, each candidate needs 50% + 1 vote to be elected:

Mr. Alojzije Jankovic, (CRO) elected on the 1st round with 36 votes.

Ms. Eva Repkova (SVK) elected on the 1st round with 26 votes.

Mr. Jean Michel Rapaire (MNC) elected on the 3rd round with 30 votes.

The ECU General Assembly re-elected **Mr. Peter Wyss (SUI)** as the ECU Auditor.

ECU President Zurab Azmaiparashvili proposed the appointment of Mr. Vanja Draskovic and Mr. Johann Poecksteiner as ECU Honorary Vice Presidents without voting rights. The proposal was approved by the ECU General Assembly.

European Championships:

The following competitions were awarded to the respective venues:

>European Amateur Chess Championship 2024 to Zagreb, Croatia

>European Youth Team Chess Championship 2024 to Thessaloniki, Greece

>European Women's Chess Championship 2024 and European Youth Chess Championships 2026 (combined bid) to Rhodes, Greece

>European Individual Chess Championship 2023 and European Chess Club Cup and Women's Club Cup 2024 to Vrnjacka Banja, Serbia.

>European Senior Team Chess Championship 2024 to Terme Catez, Slovenia.

>European Senior Chess Championship 2024 to Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy.

>European Senior Chess Championship 2025 to Porec, Croatia.

>European School Chess Championship 2024 to Limerick, Ireland, through a secret ballot Irish bid received 28 out of 49 votes in favor.

ECU GA & Elections

The ECU General Assembly and Board elections 2022 took place at the Porto Palace hotel in Thessaloniki on the 23rd of July 2022.

The ticket of Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili was elected with 44 votes in favor, 2 blank and 3 invalid ballots in a total of 49 votes cast.



Main information and decisions

- >The closing of the year 2021 was unanimously approved and the Board was discharged for the year 2021.
- >The budget for the year 2023 was approved.
- >Secretary of ECU Arbiters Council Mr. Geert Bailleul presented an overview of the activities of the Arbiters' Council in the year 2022.
- >ECU General Assembly authorized the new elected ECU Board authorized to discuss and make the final decision the proposal for an increase to Arbiters' stipends.
- >Chairman of ECU EDU Commission Mr. Jesper Bergmark Hall presented the report on the Educational Commission's activities in 2022 and the next steps and targets of the Commission.
- >Chairman of ECU Women's Chess Commission Mr. Jean Michel Rapaire presented the projects during the year 2022, the year of Women in Chess.
- >Secretary of ECU Events Commission Mr. Paris Klerides presented the inspection reports for the European Chess Championships 2024.

Belarus Delegates addressed the General Assembly requesting the lift of the sanctions decided by the ECU Board on 3rd March 2022 for Russian and Belarus Chess Federations.

After discussion the ECU General Assembly delegates voted on the item 9.1 of the agenda and decided that the sanctions which imposed by the ECU Board decisions on 3rd March 2022 to Russian and Belarus Chess federations shall remain in force and shall not be amended or lifted.

37 federations voted in favor of ECU Board decisions and that the sanctions imposed against Russian and Belarus Chess federations shall remain in force and not be lifted.

2 federations voted against the ECU Board decisions and that the sanctions imposed against Russian and Belarus Chess federations shall be lifted.

5 federations abstain 6 federations were not present.

ECU General Assembly 2022

Main information and decisions of the ECU General Assembly and the ECU Board meeting can be found in details on the ECU Website.

Reach photo gallery of the ECU General Assembly can be found on the Official website.



The letter of the Chess Federation of Russia informing ECU that they applied to transfer to the Asian Chess Federation and then they will withdraw from European Chess Union was discussed in ECU General Assembly.

The ECU Board noted that there is an unclear procedure to change Continent and FIDE shall clarify its regulations before any application be examined.

A letter to FIDE and FIDE constitutional commission will be drafted and sent in due time asking for clarifications about FIDE Charter and membership obligations as also to be developed regulations on federations transfers from one Continent to another since the FIDE Charter does not foresee such action.

The General Assembly unanimously authorized the ECU Board to make all necessary steps to protect the interests of European Chess Union respecting ECU and FIDE Statutes.



Detailed information can be found on the ECU Website.

FIDE General Assembly & Elections

The FIDE General Assembly and FIDE Elections 2022 took place on 7th and 8th August in Chennai, India, as part of the FIDE Congress which took place from 29 July - 9 August in the same venue.

Arkady Dvorkovich has been reelected for a second term as President of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) with 157 votes, against 16 for his electoral opponent, the Ukrainian chess Grandmaster Andrii Baryshpolets. A third candidate, the French Bachar Kouatly, withdrew his candidacy after giving his speech before the voting started.

Five-time World Chess Champion Viswanathan Anand, who was part of Dvorkovich's ticket, is the new FIDE Deputy President.

After the FIDE elections and the General Assembly held in Chennai, on August 7-8, 2022, FIDE announced the composition of its council and the FIDE President has established a new body, the FIDE Advisory board.

The main task of the FIDE Advisory Board will be to present its recommendations to the different governing bodies of FIDE regarding the most important issues of the organization of chess life.





The FIDE Council composition:

1. Arkady Dvorkovich, President
2. Vishwanathan Anand, Deputy President
3. Xie Jun, Vice President
4. Sheikh Saud bin Adulaziz Al Mualla, Vice President
5. Georgios Makropoulos, Vice President
6. Michael Khodarkovsky, Vice President
7. Zhu Chen, Treasurer
8. Joran Aullin-Jansson, Vice President
9. Mahir Mammedov, Vice President
10. Olalekan Adeyemi, Vice President
11. Mario Antonio Ramirez Barajas, Vice President - secretary of the Council
12. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, Continental President for Europe
13. Tshepiso Lopang, Continental President for Africa
14. Sheikh Sultan Bin Khalifa Al Nehyan, Continental President for Asia
15. Jorge Vega Fernandez, Continental President for Americas

This is the current composition as of August 9, 2022. The Confederation of Chess for the Americas (CCA) will hold elections in October, while the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) will hold them in December. Depending on the results, the composition of the FIDE Council could change accordingly. The Council is the strategic and oversight body of FIDE, and it has executive and legislative functions, and exercises the powers listed in the FIDE Charter (can be found on the FIDE Website).

Detailed information about the FIDE Council composition and members of the Advisory Board can be found on the FIDE website.

European Senior Chess Championship 2022

European Senior Chess Championship 2022 took place from 4th - 13th July in Lublin, Poland. The event was played in two age categories: 50+ and 65+ with separate prizes for female players.

The Closing Ceremony of the event took place on Wednesday, 13th of August, with Chief Arbiter Tomasz Delega announcing the Winners. Paweł Zaskalski – Vice President of the Polish Chess Federation joined the awarding ceremony.

After 9 played rounds, GM Martin Mrva (SVK, 2385) clinched the title of European Senior Chess Champion 50+. He scored 7 points to be the sole winner of the event, while two players tied for silver with 6.5 points each: CM Klimaszewski Dariusz (POL, 2096) and FM Lasinskas Povilas (LTU, 2096). Klimaszewski Dariusz had better tiebreaks and claimed silver medal and Lasinskas Povilas came third.

The best ranked female player of 50+ section WIM Teraladze Sopiko (GEO, 2141) scored 5.5 points and became European Women Senior 50+ Champion. WIM Leszner Liliana (POL, 1872) was second with 5 points and Baliuniene Margarita (LTU, 1935) won bronze with 4.5 points.



Photos from Official website of the event

IM Renman Nils-Gustaf (SWE, 2311) triumphed in the 65+ category with a convincing 7.5 points. FM Chapman Terry P D (ENG, 2207) won silver with 6.5 points, while four players tied for the third place with 6 points each. FM Stebbings Anthony J (ENG, 2283) had best tiebreak criteria to win bronze medal.

WIM Wagner-Michel Annett (GER, 2056) scored 4.5 points to be the best female player in the 65+ category. WFM Kasprzyk Irena (POL, 2017) was second with 4 points, and WFM Sosnowska Elzbieta (POL, 1726) clinched bronze with 3.5 points.



European Senior Chess Championship

The European Senior Chess Championship 2022 took place from 5-14 July in Arche Hotel Lublin. The event was played in two sections: 50+ and 65+ with separate prizes for the best ranked female players. The total prize fund of the event was 6.000 EUR.

Detailed information about the event, results and final rankings can be found on the Official website.

European Youth Team Chess Championship 2022

European Youth Team Chess Championship 2022 concluded yesterday in Thessaloniki, Greece. The event was played from 12-18 July and broke the participation record with 53 teams competing in two age categories: U12 and U18, open and girls sections separately.

Poland won three gold medals in the Championship, conquering the top of U12, GU12 and U18 sections. The Closing ceremony of the event took place yesterday evening with ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, ECU Secretary-General Mr. Theodoros Tsobatzoglou, Vice President of Mitropa Chess Association and Secretary-General of Slovenian Chess Federation Ms. Nina Rob and Secretary General of Croatian Chess Federation Mr. Alojzije Jankovic taking part in the awarding ceremony.

In the U12 category, Poland tied for the first place with the team of Turkey. Teams had the same score of 12 match points, but with better Olympiad Sonneborn Berger tiebreak, the Polish team clinched gold and Turkey came second. Romania won bronze with 10 match points.

Tiebreak criteria determined the winner of Girls U12 section as well. Poland and Hungary scored 8 match points with the Polish team claiming gold with better tiebreaks, and Hungary came second. Three teams tied for bronze with 7 match points: Israel, Turkey and Romania, but Israel came third having the best Olympiad Sonneborn Berger tiebreak criteria.



Poland and Israel/Tel Aviv teams had the same score of 11 match points to tie for the top of U18 section. Tiebreak criteria determined the Poland team golden, and Israel/Tel Aviv claimed silver. Israel and Germany 1 tied for bronze with 10 match points, each, but tiebreak criteria favored Israel and Germany finished the event in the fourth place.

Romania was the sole winner of GU18 section with 12 match points. Turkey and Hungary were in a tie for the third place with 10 match points, each, but Turkey eventually came second thanks to better tiebreaks, and Hungary clinched bronze.



European Youth Team Chess Championships 2022 was played from 12 July to 18 July in the Conference Hall of the 5 stars Lazard Hotel in Thessaloniki, which hosted also the European Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship 2022 from 19 July to 23 July 2022.

The event was broke the participation record with 53 teams competing in two age categories: U12 and U18.



European Youth Rapid Chess Champions crowned in Thessaloniki

European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Championships 2022 took place from 20-22 July in Hotel Lazart Thessaloniki, Greece. 250 players from 28 European federations participated in the events which were played within 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, and U18, open and girls separately.

The Closing ceremony of the event took place with attendance of ECU Secretary General Mr. Theodoros Tzorbatzoglou, the Vice President of Mitropa Chess Association and Secretary General of Slovenian Chess Federation Ms. Nina Rob, Tournament Director Mr. Nikos Kalesis and FIDE Events Commission member George Mastrokoukos.

The Winners U8 category:

1. Kryshtafor Maksym (UKR) 8/9 points.
2. Uzun Pavlo (UKR) 7.5 points
3. Kovacs Balasz (ROU) 6.5 points.

The Winners GU8 category:

1. Russieva Svitlana (UKR) 8/9 points.
2. Molchanova Tetyana (UKR) 6 points
3. Gutserieva Bierta (UKR) 5 points.

The Winners U10 category:

1. Negrean Andrei (ROU) 8/9 points
2. Shilon Rahav Eliran (ISR) 6.5 points
3. Diachek Andriy (UKR) 6.5 points

The Winners GU10 category:

1. Svitenko Solomiia (UKR) 8/9 points
2. Matskevich Varvara (FIDE) 8 points
3. Siskou Evangelia (GRE) 6.5 points

The Winners U12 category:

1. Cherniaiev Tykhon (GER) 7.5 points
2. Tudor Henry Edward (ROU) 7 points
3. Sowinski Pawel (POL) 7 points

The Winners GU12 category:

1. Beber Anja (SLO) 6.5 points
2. Aydogan Arya (TUR) 6.5 points
3. Krkyasharyan Sona (ARM) 6.5 points

The Winners U14 category:

1. Bazakutsa Svyatoslav (UKR) 7.5/9
2. FM Seemann Jakub (POL) 7.5 points
3. Podolskyi Mykhailo (UKR) 6 points

The Winners GU14 category:

1. Vasiljeva Sofija (LAT) 6 points
2. Guid Taja (SLO) 6 points
3. Pert Nina (ENG) 6 points

The Winners U16 category:

1. FM Pasti Aron (HUN) 7.5 points.
2. FM Trost Edvin (SWE) 6.5 points
3. FM Borrmann Laurenz (AUT) 6.5

The Winners GU16 category:

1. WFM Bashylina Luisa (GER) 7 points.
2. Mihelic Vesna (SLO) 6.5 points
3. Zabrzanska Weronika (POL) 6.5

The Winners U18 category:

1. IM Koellner Ruben Gideon (GER) 6.5
2. IM Borhy Marcell (HUN) 6.5 points
3. FM Bilych Olexiy (UKR) 6.5 points

The Winners GU18 category:

1. WFM Wikar Martyna (POL) 8 points.
2. WFM Dylag Emilia (POL) 7.5 points
3. Sulyok Eszter (HUN) 7.5 points

European Youth Rapid Chess Championship

The 2022 European Youth Rapid Chess Championship was played on 20th and 21st July in Hotel Lazart Thessaloniki, Greece.

250 players from 28 European federations participated in the event which was played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18, open and girls sections separately.

All results and rankings can be found through the ECU website.



European Youth Blitz Chess Champions 2022

The European Youth Blitz Chess Championships 2022 were played on 22nd July with the Closing ceremony being held after the end of the games. ECU Chief Executive officer Mr. Erald Dervishi, FIDE Vice President Ms. Anastasia Sorokina and Tournament Director Mr. Nikos Kalesis took part in the awarding ceremony.

The Winners U8 category:

1. Kryshtafor Maksym (UKR) 18/18
2. Chen Geroge (ENG) 13.5/18
3. Apostu Rares-Stefan (ROU) 13/18

The Winners GU8 category:

1. Russieva Svitlana (UKR) 14 points
2. Hachkailo Dominika (UKR) 13 points
3. Gutserieva Bierta (UKR) 11 points

The Winners U10 category:

1. Negrean Andrei (ROU) 14.5 points
2. Hanache Kai (ENG) 13 points
3. Diachek Andriy (UKR) 12.5 points.

The Winners GU10 category:

1. Matskevich Varvara (FIDE) 15.5 points
2. Svitenko Solomiia (UKR) 15.5 points
3. Meshkova Aleksandra (FIDE) 13/18

The Winners U12 category:

1. Cherniaiev Tykhon (GER) 16.5 points
2. Dotzer Lukas (AUT) 14 points
3. Cieslak Patryk (POL) 13 points

The Winners GU12 category:

1. Aydogan Arya (TUR) 14.5 points.
2. Krkyasharyan Sona (ARM) 14 points
3. Caku Kler (ALB) 12 points

The Winners U14 category:

1. FM Seemann Jakub (POL) 14 points
2. Bazakutsa Svyatoslav (UKR) 13/18
3. Cnejev Vladimir-Alexandru (ROU) 12.5

The Winners GU14 category:

1. Vasiljeva Sofja (LAT) 14 points
2. Hajdinic Ema (CRO) 12 points
3. Guid Taja (SLO) 11 points

The Winners U16 category:

1. FM Prokofiev Valentyn (UKR) 14/18
2. Kovac Petar (CRO) 13 points
3. FM Palczert Matyas (HUN) 11.5

The Winners GU16 category:

1. WCM Shujja Klean (ALB) 12.5/18
2. WFM Bashylina Luisa (GER) 12 points
3. WCM Blokhin Sofia (EST) 12 points t

The Winners U18 category:

1. FM Koelle Tobias (GER) 13 points
2. FM Fromm Marius (GER) 12 points
3. IM Baum Jonasz (POL) 12 points

The Winners GU18 category:

1. WFM Wikar Martyna (POL) 14.5/18
2. WFM Demeter Dorina (HUN) 11/18
3. Ruzic Pia Marie (SLO) 10.5 points

European Youth Chess Blitz Championship

The European Youth Blitz Chess Championship 2022 was played on 22nd July 2022 in Hotel Lazart Thessaloniki, Greece.

The Championship was played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18, open and girls sections separately.

All rankings and detailed information about the event can be found on the Official website.

European Amateur Chess Championship 2022

The European Amateur Chess Championship 2022 commenced on Sunday, 14th of August in Zagreb, Croatia. The event has three rating categories: U2300, U2000, and U1700, taking place from 14 – 21 August in Hotel Aristos****.



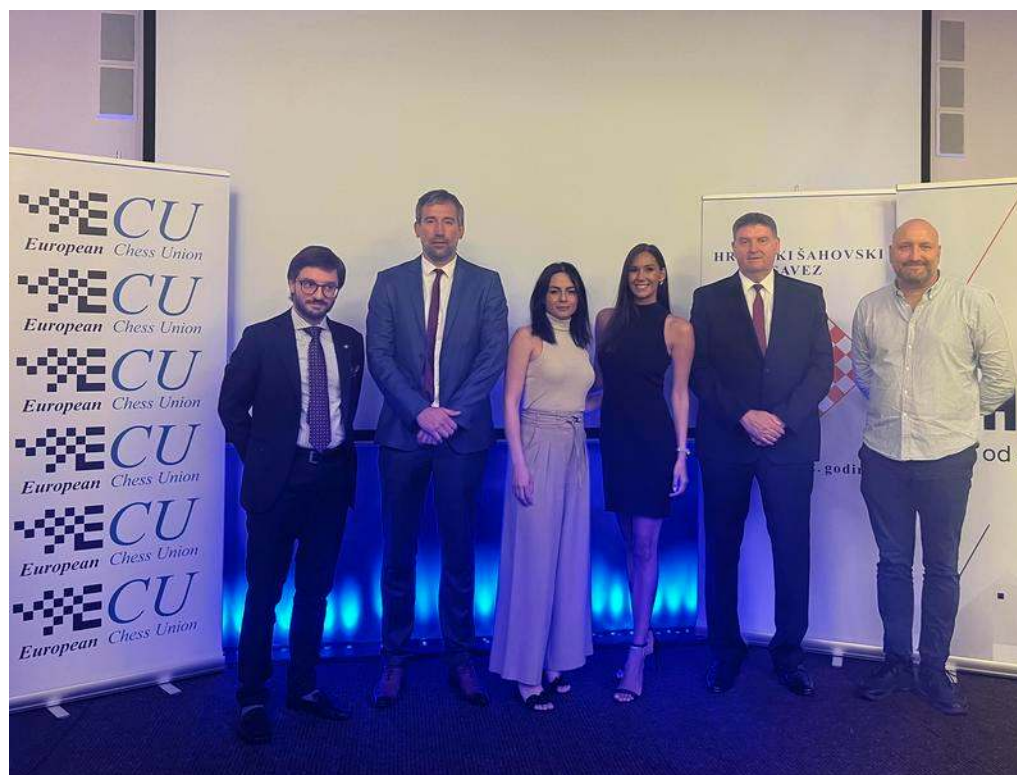
The Opening ceremony of the event was held shortly before the start of the first round in the playing venue of the Championship with the presentation of ECU Vice President Mr. Alojzije Jankovic.

The events are played in 9 rounds, Swiss system, in accordance with FIDE Laws of Chess and the ECU Tournament Rules. The rate of play is 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

The total prize fund of the event is 4.000 EUR, including the separate prizes for the best ranked female players.

More than 180 players from 23 European federations registered for the event. The top seeds of the U2300 section are FM Vrban Mladen (CRO, 2297), FM Bouget Alexandre (FRA, 2282), and CM Paradzik Berislav (CRO, 2221). The battlefield of the U2000 section is led by Green Michael (ENG, 1997), Alashtar Aasef (FRA, 1995) and Prihoda Leonardo (CRO, 1995). Urbanc Suzana (SLO, 1686) headlines the field of the U1700 category, together with Grgurevic Benjamin (CRO, 1684) and Romic Darko (CRO, 1678).

Detailed preview and link to the official website of the event can be found on the ECU Website.



The 22nd European Women's Chess Championship will take place from 19th August – 1st September in Prague, Czech Republic.



European Individual Women's Chess Championship 2022

More than 120 players from 27 European federations registered for the event which will be played in 11 rounds, swiss system, with time control: 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.

6 Grandmasters, 24 Women grandmasters, 22 International masters, 27 Women international masters, and in total 109 titled players will compete in the event. The top seeds are: GM Nana Dzagnidze (GEO, 2531), IM Lela Javakhishvili (GEO, 2476), GM Antoaneta Stefanova (ECU, 2472), GM Nino Batsiashvili (GEO, 2466), and IM Gunay Mammadzada (AZE, 2466).

The 22nd European Individual Women Chess Championship is a qualification event for the FIDE Women's World Cup 2023. According to the FIDE regulations and the ECU Board decision, 9 players will qualify. The total Prize fund of the event will be 60,000 euros, with 10,000 euros for the Winner of the championship.

The official hotel of the event and the playing venue of the European Women's Individual Chess Championship 2022 will be ****Hotel Don Giovanni.

Starting list of players and detailed information about the 22nd European Individual Women's Chess Championship 2022 can be found on the Official website of the event.

Text by IA Geert Bailleul
Secretary of the ECU
Arbiters Council



2022, overview of 8 months activity of the ECU Arbiters Council

During the previous General Assembly of ECU in Thessaloniki, the ECU Arbiters Council presented their annual report. In fact it was not a report over a full year but only over 8 months because the General Assembly of 2021 was held in November of that year.

Compared with 2020 and 2021, one can say that, until now, 2022 was a normal year. Almost all measures related to Covid 19 were stopped.

Every chess player, chess organiser, board member and chess lover was relieved that over the board tournaments could be organised again without almost no restrictions whatsoever. Until now, in 2022 ECU organised 6 OTB tournaments during which 49 arbiters were active.

A detailed overview of all the arbiters who were appointed can be found on our website. In this overview all arbiters who were active during these events are listed and are classified by title and category (IA – FA/ A – B – C – D). It is possible to find in what event the arbiter was active, what position he/she had in that event and the number of events in which he/she was active. It is also possible to find the man/woman ratio and the local/foreign ratio. Furthermore, a report of each tournament with the arbiters also can be found.

At the end of last year ECU Arbiters Council set up a new call of interest for all European FIDE Arbiters and International Arbiters in order to be appointed as arbiter during ECU Events in 2022.

The system of points was based on the system which was already used in 2020.

Where necessary, it was adjusted based on the experience and feedback we received from the Call of Interest of 2020. ECU AC graded all applications giving points to the arbiters. In that way, we created some kind of queue, according to the given points. We received 152 applications which was a little bit less than 2 years ago. After checking all of them, all 152 applications were accepted. Until now 8 arbiters have been appointed by ECU Arbiters so far.

Just like in the previous years, the members of the council monthly wrote an article for the Arbiters Corner of the ECU Magazine. According to several reactions, this initiative was highly appreciated, specially the articles about “the good and the bad arbiters”. Every article which was published in the ECU Magazine was also published on our website.

The ECU Arbiters Council submitted a proposal to increase the stipend for arbiters mainly because of the increase of the costs for transportation. Detailed information about this proposal can be found on our website. During the 2022 ECU General Assembly (in Thessaloniki), it was decided the Board of ECU will make the final decision about this proposal.

ECU Arbiters Council

ECU Arbiters Council publishes all the information about the Council's work on the Official website:
<http://arbiters.europechess.org/>

Contact email:
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2022, overview of 8 months activity of the ECU Arbiters Council

Until now, 2022 was, like the previous 4 years, a very challenging year for the ECU AC. We did our best to accept these challenges and to make sure that new and necessary projects were launched. It was a pleasure and an honour to work together so well with all the council members and with everyone who wants to best for chess in general and for chess in ECU. ECU AC would like to thank everyone who helped us succeed in all our goals this year. Without this very good cooperation this would not have been possible!

Finally...

2022 was also the last year of the term of the council in this composition. After the ECU General Assembly in Thessaloniki, a new council will be formed. At the beginning of this term, ECU AC made a working plan of what we wanted to achieve.

We are proud to confirm that we accomplished everything that was mentioned in this plan.

Worth to mention is the creation of our own website; the monthly articles in the ECU Magazine; several proposals for ECU tournament rules which were approved; the call of interest; several forms like reporting procedures (arbiters report form, tournament report form...), evaluation forms, GDPR form etc.; the creation of the titles of Online Arbitrer and National Online Arbitrer; organisation of several seminars, workshops and webinars (online as well as physically) and many more.

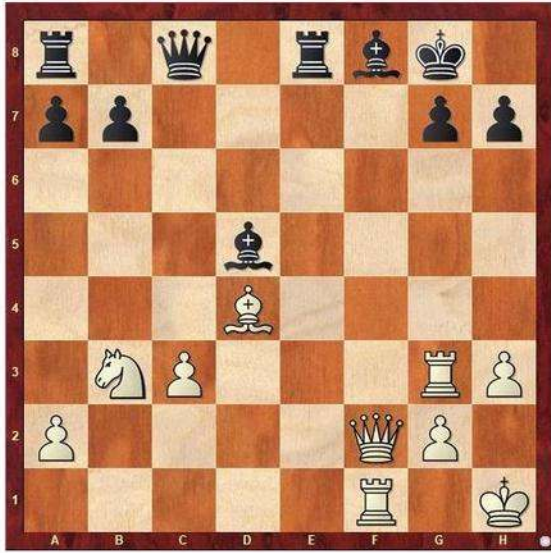
This 4 years really were amazing. On behalf of the ECU AC, I would like to express my gratitude for the trust and the confidence we have received to do this job during this 4 years.

IA Geert Bailleul
Secretary of the ECU Arbiters' Council.



**Text by: IA Geert Bailleul,
Secretary of the ECU Arbiters
Council.**

For all the Arbiters Corner articles and more information about the work of the ECU Arbiters Council, see the webpage of the council.



EFIM GELLER SAID ABOUT CHESS:

>Just as it is wrong to work on chess by studying only the first 10-15 moves, so it is wrong to play one and the same opening system, even though it be rich in variations and nuances.

>The choice of opening, whether to aim for quiet or risky play, depends not only on the style of a player, but also on the disposition with which he sits down at the board.

>From time to time, like many other players, I glance through my own games of earlier years, and return to positions and variations which have gone out of practice. I attempt to restore them, to find new ideas and plans.

>It so often happens that, after sacrificing a pawn, a player aims not to obtain the initiative for it, but to regain sacrificed material.

In July 2022 edition of the ECU Magazine, we present four positions where White mates in four moves!

Solutions from July Magazine

#Puzzle 1:

1.Ne7+ Kh8 2.Nxg6+ Kg8
3.Ne7+ Kh8 4.Qh7#

#Puzzle 2:

1.Nf5+ Kg8 2.Qf8!+ Kxf8
3.Rc8+ Qd8 4.Rxd8#

Puzzle 3:

1.Ba5+ Kb8 2.Rf8+ Be8
3.Rxe8+ Rd8 4.Rxd8#

#Puzzle 4:

1.Nf7+ Kg8 2.Nh6+ Kh8
3.Qg8!+ Rxg8 4.Nf7#



"Chess makes you smarter!"