



ECU BOARD MEETING
LVIV 2016



FIDE CHESS
CANDIDATES
TOURNAMENT
2016



EUROPEAN
YOUTH TEAM
CHAMPIONSHIP
2016



EU YOUTH CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP
2016

EUROPEAN CHESS UNION NEWSLETTER



HOU YIFAN NEW WOMEN'S WORLD CHESS CHAMPION

SERGEY KARJAKIN WINNER OF CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT 2016

Hou Yifan became the new Women's World Champion, by defeating the reigning Champion Mariya Muzychuk with the score 6-3.

The Women’s World Chess Championship Match 2016 between the current World Champion Mariya Muzychuk from Ukraine and Challenger Hou Yifan from China took place in Lviv, Ukraine, 1-18 March, 2016.



World Champion of 2015 Mariya Muzychuk and three-time World Champion Hou Yifan (2010, 2011 and 2013) competed for the World Chess Crown. With the final score 3:6 Hou Yifan became the Women’s World Chess Champion for the fourth time.

Mr. Georgios Makropoulos, FIDE Deputy President, Mr. Andriy Sadovyi, Lviv Mayor, Mr. Oleh Synyutka, Head of Lviv Region State Administration and both players attended the closing ceremony, which took place in Potocki Palace.

Teams of both players, Chief Arbiter of the Match Carol Jarecki, FIDE representatives and representatives of the media, local organizers of the Match and special guests were also present at the ceremony.



Hou Yifan was awarded by the cup and the special crown, made by Dominika Dyka, a local master from “Treti Pivni” studio. The crown was created of wax by old method, which was very popular in the south Ukraine in the 18th and 19th centuries.



After the closing ceremony all the guests went to the gate of the Palace for the opening of a commemorative table dedicated to the Women’s World Chess Championship in Lviv.

Photos by Vitaliy Hrabar

[Official Website](#)

Sergey Karjakin wins Candidates Tournament 2016

Sergey Karjakin from Russia became the winner of the FIDE World Candidates Tournament 2016 and qualified for the World Championship match against Magnus Carlsen!

In the most dramatic finish of the event Sergey Karjakin and Fabiano Caruana entered the final round with equal points and paired one against another. There was one more variable at play, owing to the tie-break rules, and Anand's result was also important for the two leaders.



The closing ceremony was held on 29th March at the DI Telegraph in Moscow, with the presence of players, tournament officials and many distinguished guests and media representatives.



During the closing ceremony of the Candidates Tournament, in addition to honoring the winner Sergey Karjakin, the prizes for the Youth tournaments were awarded.

Cup to Vitaly Gurvich, the winner of the tournament "Young Stars of Moscow", was awarded by the President of Moscow Chess Federation, Mr. Vladimir Palikhata and the President of the European Chess Union, Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili.



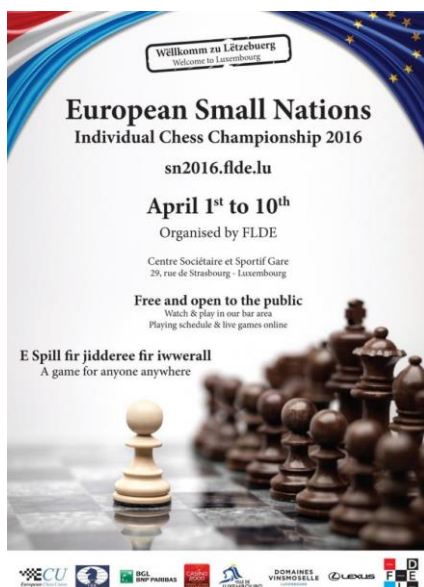
The FIDE World Candidates Tournament 2016 was held in Moscow/Russia, 9-31 March, in the DI Telegraph, a multifunctional space in the Central Telegraph building in Moscow.

Photos by World Chess and Russian Chess Federation

[YouTube channel](#)

[Official Website](#)

European Small Nations Individual Chess Championship started



The 2nd European Small Nations Individual Chess Championship 2016 started in Luxembourg with participants from Andorra, Cyprus, Guernsey, Faroe Islands, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco and San Marino. The winner of the Championship qualifies for the FIDE World Chess Cup 2018.

The competition is organized [with the support of the European Chess Union](#) and takes place in Luxembourg City from 1-11 April in the Centre sociétaire et sportif Gare at 29 rue de Strasbourg.

The top seed is International Master Ziska Helgi Dam from Faroe Islands (ELO 2539). [Pairings and results](#)

[Official Website](#)

ECU NEWS

ECU Board meeting in Lviv

The first European Chess Union Board meeting for 2016 was organized in Lviv, Ukraine on 1st and 2nd March, after the kind invitation of the Ukrainian and Lviv Regional Chess Federations. The meeting took place under excellent conditions in the hotel Leopoldis in the center of Lviv. The President of the Ukrainian Chess Federation Mr. Viktor Kapustin opened the meeting and welcomed the ECU Board in Lviv.



The main Information and decisions of the Board are as follows:

- ECU Board informed about the significant results of CIS Conference in Brussels to decide to launch the procedure for applying for EU funds for the CIS program in Europe.
- ECU Treasurer and Bookkeeper informed the Board about the financial results and closing of the year 2015. ECU Board members expressed their full satisfaction with the fact that in the first year of the new ECU administration the following targets were succeeded:
 1. The total of the ECU income exceeded the budget estimation
 2. The income of ECU increased around 30% in comparison with the year 2014 mainly from the sponsorships.
 3. ECU managed to receive all the deposit fees for the year 2015 and minimize the cash transactions.
 4. The administration expenses were decreased while the development funds were increased significantly.
 5. ECU added new funds in its reserves.



- ECU Board discussed a number of new development and business projects.
- European Chess Championship 2017 awarded to Minsk, Belarus.
- European Rapid & Blitz Championship 2017 awarded to Katowice, Poland.
- Serbian Chess Federation awarded the option to organize the European Amateur Championship 2017.
- Monaco Chess Federation awarded the option to organize the European Women Rapid & Blitz Championship 2017.
- ECU Board accepted the proposal of the Serbian Chess Federation for the European Club Cup 2016 to be organized in Belgrade, in the same dates as announced in the ECU Calendar.
- The ECU Board informed about the legal matters concerning the organization and especially the actions taken after the ECU GA in Bar.

ECU Board informed in detail about the official contribution asked from the ECU by the Bulgarian and Montenegro official investigation authorities in November and December 2015, concerning alleged ECU contracts, invoices, bank accounts and transactions. The next actions of ECU were decided until the full clarification of the case.

European Youth U18 Team Chess Championship 2016

Slovenian Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union organizes the European Youth U18 Team Chess Championship, which will be held in Celje/Slovenia, 9-17 July, 2016, in Hotel Celeia.



Each national federation affiliated to the European Chess Union has the right to enter unlimited number of teams of four players and one reserve in the open competition, and unlimited number of teams of two female players and one reserve in the girl's competition.

The Championship will be played according to the Swiss system in 7 rounds, with one open section and one section for the girl's teams, considered as separate competitions.

According to ECU and FIDE rules, the time control will be 90 min for 40 moves + 30 min for the rest of the game + 30 seconds increment for every move played starting from the first move.



The national federations are kindly requested to fill in and return the enclosed Application Forms to the organizers not later than June 10th, 2016. Applications have to be sent by the national federations only.

The completed application forms should be sent by official email to: eytcc2016@sah-zveza.si. The complete registration form must include surname/s, first name/s, FIDE ID number, FIDE rating and title, passport number of each player/captain/head of delegation.

It must also include the name and telephone/email/fax number of the person in charge of the Federation. Teams will not be registered until all their registration details have been fulfilled.

[Official Website](#)

European Union Youth Chess Championship 2016

14th European Union Youth Chess Championship will be held in Kouty nad Desnou/Czech Republic, 5-14 August 2016, in the Cultural Hall of Hotel Dlouhe Strane Kouty nad Desnou.

The organizer of the Championship is Czech Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union. EU member countries, EU candidate countries and their neighbouring countries are allowed to participate in the Championship.



Each Federation can register one player, a boy or a girl, in each of the categories - under 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. The player has to be registered as a player by the respective Federation on January 1st, 2016. Boys and girls will play in the same tournament, but with two separate scores.

Registration forms must be sent back **no later than June 30th, 2016** by email.

The first three players from each category will receive championship trophies, medals and diplomas. Every player of each category will receive commemorative championship medal and a diploma. Furthermore, players will receive prizes. The winners of each tournament receive a laptop, other medalists will receive a digital clock. Prizes will receive at least the first six players of each category. The total value of the prize fund will be at least 6.000 Euro. Girls in each category will be evaluated separately.

[Official Website](#)

NOTICE: Registration deadline for European Individual Championship and European Individual Women's Championship

The two most important individual championships in the ECU calendar are upcoming in May, and their deadlines are approaching. We would like to remind you that the registration deadline for the [European Individual Chess Championship 2016](#) is **11 April 2016**.

[EICC Participants](#) registered so far

The European Individual Chess Championship will be held in Gjakova/Kosovo*, 11-24 May, 2016.

The registration deadline for the [European Individual Women's Chess Championship 2016](#) is **25 April 2016**.

[EIWCC Participants](#) registered so far

The European Individual Women' Chess Championship will take place in Mamaia/Romania, 26 May - 8 June, 2016.

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

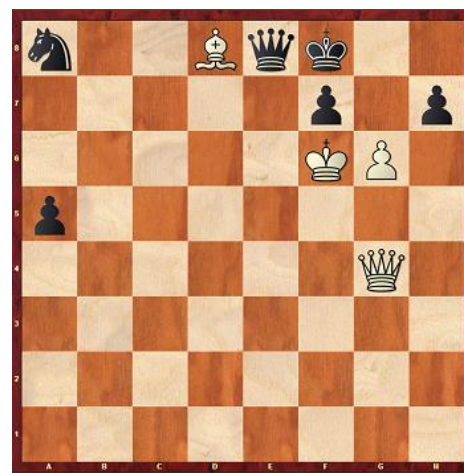
FUN ZONE

Positions shown below will test your calculation.

In all diagrams White to play. Enjoy!



Mate in 13



Mate in 13



Mate in 14



Mate in 14

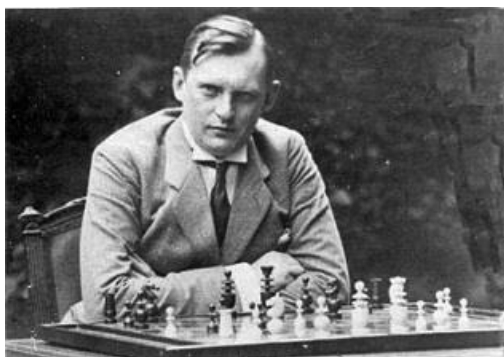
Solutions from the NL February 2016:

I 1. Ke4 Ke6 2. Kf4#

II 1. Qb6 Ke7 (1...Kc8 2. Be6#) 2. Qc7#

III 1. Qg8 Nxd2 (1...Ne3 or Ng3 or Nh2 2. d5#) 2. d5#

IV 1. Rf6 Kxf6 2. Bd4#

They told about chess...

“I believe that true beauty of chess is more than enough to satisfy all possible demands.”

Alexander Aleksandrovich Alekhine, Russian and French chess Grandmaster and the fourth World Chess Champion

UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL

ECU EVENTS

EUROPEAN SENIOR TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

European Senior Team Chess Championship 2016 will be held in Halkidiki, on the northern coast of Aegean Sea from 18th to 28th April 2016.

The games will take place in the conference center of 5-star Anthemus Sea Resort on the Sithonia peninsula of Halkidiki, 95 km from Thessaloniki airport. Anthemus Sea is an excellent holiday destination, surrounded by a sandy beach on the crystal clear waters of the Aegean Sea.



There will be two separate championships: category 50+ for players who were born in the year 1966 or earlier, and category 65+ for the players who were born in the year 1951 or earlier.

The tournament will be played according to the Swiss System in 9 rounds. Each team shall consist of 4 players in fixed order + 1 reserve player, who is only allowed to play on the board 4. The time control will be 90 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game + 30 seconds increment per move starting from move one.

In each category, a separate championship for women shall be organized only if there are at least 8 women teams in each category in order to have a 7-round tournament. Otherwise, the women's event will be merged with men (open).

The total prize fund of the Championship is 7.000 EUR.

[Official Website](#)

EUROPEAN EVENTS

KARPOS OPEN 2016	1 -8 April	Skopje/FYRM	Official Website
EDINBURGH CHESS CONGRESS 2016	8 - 11 April	Edinburgh/Scotland	Official Website
POLAR CAPITAL 2016	10 - 16 April	St Clement Bay/Jersey	Official Website
ALTIBOX NORWAY CHESS 2016	18 - 30 April	Stavanger/Norway	Official Website
ASCONA MIND GAMES 2016	22 - 24 April	Ascona/Switzerland	Official Website
13 TH OPEN DE BALAGNE	23 - 24 April	Calvi/Corsica	Official Website