



ECU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES CHESS GAMES 2016



BILBAO MASTERS 2016



DORTMUND 2016

EUROPEAN CHESS UNION NEWSLETTER



ISRAEL AND UKRAINE WIN EUROPEAN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

Teams of Israel in Open section and Ukraine in Girl's section are the winners of the European Youth Team U18 Chess Championship 2016, which was held in Celje, Slovenia. Both teams dominated the competition and well deserved triumphed.

In the Open event Israel defeated Austria in the final decisive round and won with 13 match points. Second place went to the first seed Hungary with 11 match points, while Ukraine came third with 9 match points.

[Open Section Final Standings](#)



In Girl's section Ukraine surprisingly lost their last match against Slovenia A, but nevertheless, thanks to the previous advantage, triumphed with 11 match points.

Two Polish teams grabbed the silver and bronze medals in Girl's section – Poland A came second with 10 match points, and Poland B third with 9 match points.

[Girl's Section Final Standings](#)



The Championship was organized by the Slovenian Chess Federation, under the auspices of the European Chess Union, and it took place from 9th to 17th July.

The event was played according to the Swiss system in 7 rounds, with boys and girls playing separately in Open and Girl's section. The time control of the Championship was 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.



During the competition, the European Chess Union was represented by Mr. Petr Pisk, the ECU Tournament Director and Mr. Adrian Mikhalchishin, member of the ECU Board. Mr. Pisk awarded the winners at the closing ceremony.

[Official Website](#)

[Closing ceremony Gallery](#)

Photos by Slovenian Chess Federation

European Universities Chess Games 2016 report

GM Hovhannes Gabuzyan (Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture) and Adela Velikic (University of Belgrade) are the winners of the European Universities Chess Games, which were held in Zagreb/Croatia, 12-15 July in Pauk Hall.

In the Open section GM Gabuzyan scored 8 points out of 9 games and convincingly triumphed ahead of his compatriot GM Zaven Andraisian and IM Maksim Chigaev (Ural State Mining University) who both gained 6.5 points and took silver and bronze respectively.

Open section Final Standings



Draw was enough for Adela Velikic in the final round of the Women's section to score the victory with 7.5 points. Silver medal went to the top seed WGM Baira Kovanova (Ural State Mining University) with 7 points, while WIM Jovana Eric (University of Belgrade) took bronze with 6.5 points.

Women's section Final Standings



In the team ranking Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture won the Open competition with 14.5 points, silver went to Ural State Mining University with 12.5 points, while University of Belgrade took bronze with 11.5 points.

University of Belgrade won in team ranking in Women's section with 14 points, second place went to Ural State Mining University with 12 points, and University of Ljubljana came third with 11.5 points.



Before the penultimate round a Blitz competition took place, played in two groups – Open and Women.

GM Zaven Andraisian (Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture) won in Open section with 8 points, followed by Russian compatriots GM Pavel Ponkratov and GM Maksim Chigaev (Ural State Mining University) with 7.5 and 7 points respectively.

Women's section was won by WFM Anastasia Travkina (Ural State Mining University) with 7.5 points. Second place went to Adela Velikic (University of Belgrade) with 6 points, while her compatriot WIM Mila Zarkovic took third place with 5.5 points.

The medal awarding ceremony for the chess event was held on 15th July. The medals to the winners were presented by Mr. Adam Roczek, EUSA President, Mrs. Ivana Ertlova, Chair of the EUSA Technical Commission and member of the EUSA Executive Committee, Mr. Oleksandr Sulypa, EUSA technical delegate, Mr. Alojzije Jankovic, Organising Committee's technical delegate and his assistant Mr. Vid Brzica. The chess event in Zagreb was fully supported by the European Chess Union.

[Official Website](#)

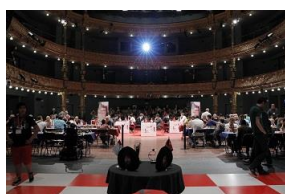
Magnus Carlsen wins Bilbao Masters 2016

World Champion Magnus Carlsen wins Bilbao Masters 2016 which was held in Bilabao/Spain, 13-23 July, 2016.

Carlsen became the Champion of this event for the third time, scoring 17 points, 5 points more than the second Hikaru Nakamura, the only undefeated player in the tournament. Yi Wei and Wesley So tied for the third place with 11 points.



The closing ceremony was held after the final round, during which Carlsen was crowned with the champion's txapela. The Councillor for Economic Development, Trade and Employment within Bilbao City Council, Mr. Xabier Ochandiano, was charged with the task of presenting the trophies.



Final Standings:

- 1 Magnus Carlsen (Norway) 17 pts
- 2 Hikaru Nakamura (USA) 12 pts
- 3-4 Yi Wei (China) and Wesley So (USA) 11 pts
- 5 Sergey Karjakin (Russia) 9 pts
- 6 Anish Giri (Netherlands) 7 pts

The 9th Villa de Bilbao International Open, which was played simultaneously to the Masters Final, ended with the triumph of the Sestao EDP player from Madrid Gabriel del Rio.

[Official Website](#)

Maxime Vachier-Lagrave winner of Dortmund 2016

Grandmaster Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (France) became the winner of the Dortmund's Sparkassen Chess Meeting with 5.5 points after 7 rounds.

The Frenchman secured the title with one round to spare, breaking the 2800 limit in the same time, which made him the World #2 in [live rating](#).



Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), Fabiano Caruana (USA) and Leinier Dominguez Perez (Cuba) tied for the second place with 4 points.

Final Standings:

1 Maxime Vachier-Lagrave 5.5

2-4 Vladimir Kramnik, Fabiano Caruana and Leinier Dominguez Perez 4 points

5-6 Ruslan Ponomarev and Liviu - Dieter Nisipeanu 3.5 points

7 Evgeniy Najer 2 point

8 Rainer Buhmann 1 point



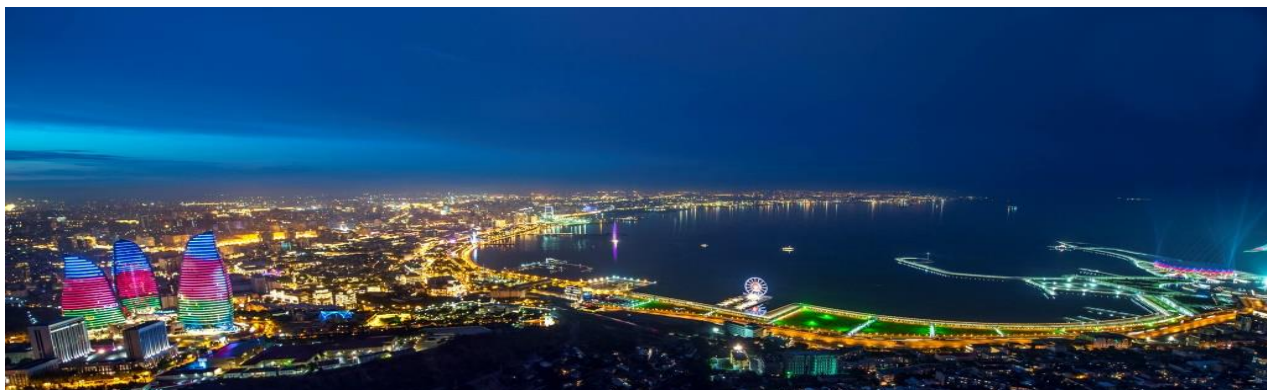
The 44th Sparkassen Chess Meeting was held 9-17 July, in the NRW Orchestra Center in Dortmund, Germany. This year's tournament was part of the 175th anniversary celebrations of the local Sparkasse bank, which is sponsoring this event for the 21st time.

[Official Website](#)

ECU NEWS

ECU General Assembly 2016 in Baku

The ECU General Assembly 2016 will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan on Saturday 10th September 2016.



On behalf of the ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili we herewith invite all the ECU member federations to attend the annual ECU General Assembly 2016.

The Assembly will start at 09.30 am in Baku Fairmont Hotel.

The Agenda of the ECU GA 2016, as well as the other documents can be downloaded on the [ECU website](#).

CHESS AS A SOCIAL ACTIVITY

Chess for kids with Down syndrome

Society “Osmi Dan” from Pozarevac, Serbia, which gathers kids with Down syndrome and their parents, has decided to join forces with the local chess club “Dr Pera Mitrovic” and introduce chess to its members.



At the preliminary meeting the kids were delighted with the game, and following further consultation with “Osmi Dan” and the experts, it was agreed to start chess classes and playing sessions.

Chess coach Ivan Arsenijevic will work with a group of 14 kids aged between 3-13. Chairwoman of “Osmi Dan” Nevenka Gajic, specialist Aleksandra Petrovic and the parents will be actively involved.

The aim of the project is to help the kids’ communication, socialisation and integration. In the long term it is expected to include the kids in the regional chess competitions.



Society “Osmi Dan” and chess club “Dr Pera Mitrovic” were in part inspired by the success of the Mind Moves chess club from Tasmania.



With the lack of research related to the impact of chess on the kids with Down syndrome, the leaders of the project are urging the organizations with similar activities to get in touch and share their experiences (email vojkan5rovic@yahoo.com).

FUN ZONE

In July Fun Zone we prepared 4 Mate in 3 positions. Enjoy!



White to play



White to play



Black to play



White to play

Solutions from NL June 2016:

Diagram 1.

1. Qc7+!! Nxc7 2. Bxd4#

Diagram 2.

1. Bg6+ Rxc6 (1... Kxc6 2. Qh5#) 2. Qe7#

Diagram 3.

1. Qh6+ Kxh6 (1... Kf7, Kg8 or Kh8 2. Qf8#) 2. Bf8#

Diagram 4.

1. Qf8+ Kxf8 2. Ra8#

They told about chess...

“In almost any position the boundless possibilities of chess enable a new or at least a little-studied continuation to be found.”

Tigran Vartanovich Petrosian, Soviet Armenian Grandmaster, and World Chess Champion from 1963 to 1969.



UPCOMING EVENTS IN AUGUST

ECU EVENTS

EU YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

14th European Union Youth Chess Championship 2016 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.



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.

The first 30 boards of each tournament will be broadcast online, and on-line transmission will include at least 120 games. Webcast will be screened in the hall of the hotel. Viewers will be able to watch webcast online at the organizer's website.

[Official Website](#)

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

The European Youth Chess Championship 2016 is organized by AVE-KONTAKT Pardubice agency, Czech Chess Federation and the European Chess Union in Prague/Czech Republic, from 17th August (arrival) to 28th August (departure) 2016.

The tournament is played in 6 age categories: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18, Boys and Girls separately.



The event will be played by a 9-rounds Swiss system, with the time control 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.

The total amount of all prizes and presents will be 20.000 EUR at the minimum. The first three players in each group will be awarded medals; the first five players in each group will be awarded cups, diplomas and valuable prizes.

Lodging and boarding will be provided at the TOP HOTEL Praha ****, Blazimska 1781/4, Praha 11. All tournament halls are situated at this hotel.

[Preliminary starting list](#)

[Official Website](#)

EUROPEAN EVENTS

BUTNORIUS-70 CUP 2016	1 - 8 August	Kaunas/Lithuania	Official Website
SUMMER PRAGUE OPEN 2016	5 - 12 August	Prague/Czech Republic	Official Website
SINQUEFIELD CUP 2016	5 - 14 August	St. Louis/USA	Official Website
ARAD OPEN 2016	6 - 12 August	Arad/Romania	Official Website
HOGESCHOOL ZEELAND TOURNAMENT 2016	6 - 13 August	Vlissingen/Netherl ands	Official Website
RIGA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OPEN 2016	8 - 14 August	Riga/Latvia	Official Website

SPLIT OPEN 2016	13 - 20 August	Split/Croatia	Official Website
ST.PETERSBURG SUMMER OPEN 2016	17 - 25 August	St.Petersburg/Russia	Official Website
GIBRALTAR JUNIOR FESTIVAL 2016	18 - 23 August	Gibraltar/England	Official Website
MOUDANIA CHESS ACADEMY 2016	22 - 30 August	Nea Kallikrateia/Greece	Official Website