

October 17, 2011

REPORT OF THE ECU PRESIDENT FIDE CONGRESS IN KRAKOW, POLAND

1. The ECU Board Meetings in Iasi and Albena

The ECU Board meetings were held in Iasi, Romania on 20-21 July and in Albena, Bulgaria on 13-14 September. The next ECU Board meeting will be held in Porto Carras, Greece on 04&06 November. The General Assembly will be held in Porto Carras as well on November 05.

2. Presentation in the European Parliament in Brussels

Together with Garry Kasparov, I had the presentation of the project "Chess in schools" during the public hearing in the European Parliament. The event was held under the high patronage of the President of the European Parliament Prof. Jerzy Buzek. The press conference after the presentation was attended by many international journalists who came especially for the event. José Manuel Barroso (EU Chairman) and Herman Van Rompuy (EU President) have been contacted to get support for this project. If the recommendation is accepted, EU commissions will start the work to implement the project in all EU countries.

3. Small Nations

The ECU made a decision that the team of Luxembourg that won the 2nd European Small Nations Team Championship 2011 in Klaksvík, Faroe Islands will be provided with full-board accommodation (three double rooms for 5 players and captain) at the European Team Championship 2011 which will be held in Porto Carras, Greece.

4. Meeting in Jersey

On October 05 I met with the Minister of Education, Sport and Culture Mr. James Reed. Mr. Reed promised his full support for the program Chess in Schools which hopefully will be implemented very soon in all schools in Jersey.

5. Meeting in Ireland

On October 03 I met with the Irish Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government Mr. Phill Hogan T.D. The Minister promised his full support for the project Chess in Schools from all 13 Irish MPs in the EU Parliament. Mr. Hogan also promised that the Irish Government will very soon recognize chess as a sport in Ireland.

6. Meeting in Guernsey

On October 07 I had meeting with the Minister of Education Mr. Jon Bridel. Together with the President of Guernsey Chess Federation Mr. Fred Hamperl, we discussed the ECU project Chess in Schools. Mr. Bridel promised full support for the project and wished a lot of success to the new ECU management in the future.

7. Meeting in Azerbaijan

On October 08 I had meeting with the Azerbaijan Republic Youth and Sport Minister Mr. Azad Rahimov, President of the Azerbaijan Chess Federation Dr. Elman Rustamov, and Mr. Mahir Mammedov, Vice President of the Azerbaijan Chess Federation.

8. Meeting in Armenia

On October 15 I visited Yerevan, Armenia. During my stay in Yerevan, I visited schools following which I visited the Chess House after Tigran Petrosian and Chess Academy where I had discussions with the authorities of the Armenian Chess Federation, Vice President Smbat Lputian and Secretary General Mr. Gaguik Oganessian.

9. ECU competitions

- The European Youth Team Chess Championship - Poland and Romania won the European Youth Team Championship U18. The event, organized by the European Chess Union, the Romanian Chess Federation and the Municipality of Iasi, was held in the town of Iasi, Romania on July 14-22, 2011.
- The European Youth Championship U8-U18 was held in Albena, Bulgaria from 10-21 September.
- The European Club Cup was held in Rogaska Slatina from September 24 – October 02 and the European Club Cup for Women from September 23 – October 01. The teams of St. Petersburg Chess Federation and AVS from Russia are the new European Chess Club Champions.
- The European School Team Championship was held in Varna, Bulgaria from June 30 – July 10.
- European Individual and Team Championships for Cadets and Juniors (Rapid & Blitz) was held in Druskininkai, Lithuania on October 01-07
- The European Amateur Championship was held in Pardubice, Czech Republic from 23-31 September
- The EU Youth Championship was held in Mureck, Austria from 02-11 August
- The European Individual School Championship was held in Antalya, Turkey from 11-19 October

Needless to mention, the organization of the above-mentioned competitions was excellent and I would like to thank the host federations and organizers.

10. Agreement ECU – Convekta

The contract between ECU and Convekta – chess software company was signed.

ECU President



Silvio Danailov