



GENS UNA SUMUS

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Report from the inspection of Tallinn

2008 Chess Olympiad Bid

The inspection was made from 14 to 16 July and was organized in the very best way by the representatives of the Estonian Chess Federation.

Tallinn is the capital of Estonia and is beautifully situated by the Baltic Sea. It is famous for its “old town”, but overall Tallinn is a modern and very well developed city.

Estonia has great chess traditions and during the inspection period the Estonian Chess Federation hosted the Paul Keres Memorial Tournament. The Federation is aiming to increase its contribution to international chess and see the hosting of a Chess Olympiad as a way to achieve their goals.

1. Transportation

The airport is modern and it takes 10 minutes by car to get to the city centre of Tallinn.

Daily flights from:

Amsterdam
Berlin
Brussels
Copenhagen
Frankfurt
Hamburg
London
Munich
Oslo
Paris
Prague
Stockholm
Gothenburg
Vilnius

Also flights from:

Kiev
Moscow
Dublin

In addition, the Helsinki Airport is in close vicinity with nearly 60 sea-connections daily.

2. Playing hall

Tallinn has an ultra modern Congress hall (Saku Suurhall) built in 2001, and located 10 minutes by car from the city centre. This hall will be the playing venue of the Chess Olympiad. It has since the opening hosted more than 300 events, among those the final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2002. It has all the space needed and the games will be played in one hall.

There are excellent facilities for players, spectators, VIP, offices, bars and restaurants. The Congress hall offers wireless internet connection.

3. Congress venue and accommodation

The Congress venue and FIDE Headquarters will be the Radisson SAS Hotel in Tallinn. It is a modern hotel that offers very good accommodation and wireless internet connection throughout the hotel. There are 280 rooms and 14 suits available.

In addition the city offers 2 400 rooms with 4000 beds within a radius of 1 km. Among these are the following 4 star hotels:

- Reval Hotel Olympia, 390 rooms
- Reval Park Hotel and Casino, 121 rooms
- Scandic Palace Hotel, 91 rooms
- Tallink Hotel, 350 rooms
- Meriton Grand Hotel, 164 rooms

If necessary, there are approximately 50 smaller hotels in the area of the old town.

4. Government support

The Minister of Culture and the representatives of the Majors office in Tallinn assured in the meetings that the Chess Olympiad bid has full support from the authorities.

5. Recommendation

Based on my two visits to Tallinn, I am absolutely convinced that the city is ready to host the Chess Olympiad and have the entire high quality infrastructure that is required for a very successful Chess Olympiad.

Oslo, 15 August 2004

Morten Sand
FIDE Vice President