



Report for the 87th FIDE Congress in Baku, Azerbaijan

Dear Mr. President,

Dear Delegates,

Here is our main information and proposals:

European Chess Union organized the European Individual Championships 2016 in Gjakova, Kosovo* and Mamaia, Romania with 120,000 euros and 60,000 euros net prize fund respectively. More important is that ECU has secured the organisers and the sponsorship of the European Individual Championships Open and women till 2018.

The European Women Rapid & Blitz Championships started to be organized again, while a number of fees waived for the women clubs participation in the European Club Cup.

The financial results of the years 2015, the first results of the new ECU administration shows a significant increase of the annual income about a 30% and an important raise of development actions of the European Chess Union.

ECU supported the European Small Nations Individual Championship, which was held in Luxemburg from 1st to 11th April 2016, and the launch of chess in school programs in Europe.

The Chess in School Conference, organized as a result of the co-operation of the European Chess Union and European Parliament, was held on 24 February in Brussels/Belgium.

The Conference was attended by the European Union officials and Members of the European Parliament, FIDE, ECU and National Federations' representatives, among whom Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili, the ECU President, Mrs. Ana Claudia Tapardel, MEP, Mr. Kevin O'Connell, Chairman of FIDE Chess in School Commission, representatives of bank of Georgia, the main sponsor of the ECU, and numerous school teachers.

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ECU will co-organise with of the Georgian Chess Federation a second “**Chess in School Conference**” from **24th to 27th October 2016 in Batumi**, parallel with the FIDE World Cadets Championship 2018.

FIDE Presidential Board, Executive Board and General Assembly shall be informed for the serious matter with the alleged ECU invoices and transactions to unknown bank account and offshore companies established in the Delaware of the United States.

The FIDE Executive Board 2015, which was held in Abu Dhabi, UAE asked ECU to investigate the matter.

http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS_2015/FIDE_News/2015_EB_Agenda__Annexes/2015_Executive_Board_Minutes.pdf

In the same direction were the decisions and in the ECU General Assembly, held in Bar. Montenegro on 10th October 2015. <http://www.europechess.org/1st-ecu-congress-concluded/>

Unfortunately it is a fact today that alleged payments to ECU transferred to bank accounts not be referred to ECU files or books. The first signal come from Montenegro Chess Federation and then from the official investigation reports in Bulgaria.

ECU Board after exhausting communication with the Bulgarian Chess Federation which denied to provide the necessary documents and explanations decided to propose to the ECU General Assembly 2016 the suspension of the Bulgarian Chess Federation ECU membership.

Additionally and in connection with the final decisions at the ECU General Assembly on 10th September 2016 **we are asking the FIDE General Assembly and the Presidential Board to discuss the whole matter and the possible sanctions against the Bulgarian Chess Federation**. We note that the most of the tournaments involved are qualification stages for World Chess Championship and the World Chess Championship Cycle, which managed by FIDE.

Annex 1 we enclose the ECU letter to FIDE on 9th June 2016.

Annex 2 we enclose the Notice and Exhibits sent to Bulgarian Chess Federaiton on 7th July 2016.

Sincerely,
Zurab Azmaiparashvili
European Chess Union President