

To: FIDE Planning & Development Commission  
Su: Report of the year 2022

February 5, 2023

Dear Chess Friends,

We are pleased to present our Annual Report on the European Development Fund 2022 that included 18 different projects. All the details of the projects are included and in our description of each project by each specific request.

We would like to point out that we strive to implement the entire program within the framework of the main directions set by FIDE. ECU uses the funds strictly for innovative and development projects that brings additional value to chess. There are no use funds for the ECU annual competitions program which covered by the European Chess Union budget. Exception this year is the Women's Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship in Katowice, Poland due to the cancelation by Kiev and the Year of Woman in Chess.

Few projects are still in progress since needs more time to be completed. We point out that from 7000 euros that was asked to support Senior's medalists' players for the World Senior Chess Championship 2022, 5000 euros were used as 2 out of 7 players were not registered. We will plan to allocate these 2000 euros to support Seniors players.

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou', written in a cursive style.

Theodoros Tsorbatzoglou,  
ECU Secretary General

<b>A. TABLE OF PROJECTS and AMOUNTS APPROVED</b>			
PROJECTS	AMOUNT	STATUS	
1. Training Webinar for Olympic Teams European Small Nations	2,500	Completed	Report
2. European Women's Rapid & Blitz Chess Championship/Katowice, Poland	10,000	Completed	Report
3. Consultancy & Building Capacity of CIS Programs	7,500	Completed	Report
4. FIDE Organizers Seminar Online	2,500	Completed	Report
5. Global Chess Festival/Educational Summit, Budapest, Hungary	5,000	Completed	Report
6. European Women's Gala, Monaco	10,000	Completed	Report
7. Tournament of Peace, Zagreb Croatia 2022	5,000	Completed	Report
8. Annual ECU Training Online Academy	8,000	On Progress	Report
9. Support of Senior Chess players (max 7000 euros) - Italy	5000	Completed	Report
10. CIS Erasmus Conference/Zurich, Switzerland	7,000	Completed	Report
11. European Cities & Towns Chess Championship	10,000	Completed	Report
12. ECU School Teacher Webinars/Forums - Attendance and Seminar Presentations at UK Games Expo	3,000	Completed	Report
13. "A Chess Board for all" Free Board for Visual Impaired Players	5,000	On Progress	Report
14. Development of European Journalists Database	2500	On Progress	Report
15. Development and translation of the special Chess in education Newsletter -First rank in 6 languages	5000	On Progress	Report
16. Development of Guidelines, for discrimination and human rights violations	2500	Starts on 2023	
17. Workshop "Equal Opportunities" (Amount may be reallocated to another social project)	5000	Transferred to 2023	
18. Arbiters Webinar/Refreshment Course:	2,500	Transferred to 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> quarter)	
<b>Total (euros)</b>	<b>98000</b>		

## A. REPORTS FOR PROJECTS

### 1. EUROPEAN WOMEN'S CHESS GALA



European Women's Chess Gala, a special multi-event dedicated to Women's Chess, took place on 26-27 February in Monaco. The events supported by Monaco State, European Chess Union and FIDE Development fund.

The event started with activities on Saturday, 26th of February. IM Almira Skripchenko and GM Pia Cramling had the simultaneous exhibition, playing a simul on 16 boards. The Prince Albert II of Monaco participated in the simultaneous exhibition.

The special LIVE Stream Debate Show for the promotion of Women's Chess was held on Saturday afternoon, and it was broadcasted through ECU Facebook page and ECU Twitch channel. Sonja Johnson, Chairperson of FIDE Planning and Development Commission, moderated the debate. ECU President Mr. Zurab Azmaiparashvili and ECU Vice President and FIDE CEO Mrs. Dana Reizniece-Ozola were first to join the live studio and discussed the impact of Women in Chess, as well as the impact on Chess by Women. They also explained what are the steps to improve Women's position in chess society.

The second day of the event opened with a tournament for youth. The best ranked players got prizes, and the best girl player was awarded with the special prize. On Sunday afternoon, the Blitz Gala Tournament with participation of special guests and VIP persons took place in Hotel Hermitage.

Report: <https://www.europechess.org/european-womens-chess-gala-concluded-in-monaco/>

## 2. CHESS A GAME TO BE SPREAD IN SCHOOLS” CONFERENCE



The Chess in School conference “Chess a Game to be Spread in Schools” took place on 14th May 2022 in Dorint Airport Hotel, Zurich.

On behalf of Swiss Chess Federation Secretary General Mr. Oliver Marti welcomed all participants in Zurich. Main items in the program:

- CGS project overall presentation
- Psychomotricity on giant chessboard – CASTLE/ERASMUS+ project
- Report of the CGS research and Chess Teaching Models.
- Case Studies by pioneer Chess organisations
- Chess and Coding presentation
- Strategy Games on the chessboard
- Interactive online training platform
- ECU and FIDE Presentations of CIS programs and actions.

**Report:** <https://www.europechess.org/chess-a-game-to-be-spread-in-schools-conference-successfully-concluded-in-zurich/>



### **3. CONSULTANCY & DEVELOPMENT OF CIS PROGRAMS (FAROE ISLANDS, FINLAND, SLOVENIA, CROATIA)**



The Chairman of ECU EDU Commission Mr. [Jesper Bergmark Hall](#) made a 3-day working visit to Finland from May 6 to 8. On May 7 and 8, several meetings were organised with key people for Chess in School programmes in Finland, including a workshop in groups with the aim of obtaining a SWOT -analysis of CIS in Finland. Different possible solutions for further development of CiS in Finland were discussed and a future action plan was established. The working visit ended with a presentation, a short course, on how to teach chess when the goal is to develop social intellectual skills.



After Faroe Islands and Finland, ECU EDU Commission Chairman Jesper Bergman Hall had a working visit, in Slovenia on 30 and 31 of May. During two days in Ljubljana, Jesper visited schools, chess clubs, discussed with the representatives of Slovenian Chess federation, principals, teachers and instructors on how Chess in Schools can be developed. The program concluded with a capacity-building workshop and a Chess Teacher training course! A great potential for chess development in Slovenia!

ECU EDU Commission Chairman Jesper Bergman Hall visited Croatia 12-14 August 2022. The trip was part of a project to develop CiS in different countries of Europe. On Friday 12 August he had a brief meeting with the key person of CiS in Zagreb. On 13 August he gave a course for club representatives “The Chess Club of Tomorrow”. After the course he had a meeting with Alojzije Jankovic. On Sunday 14 August he gave a course on Chess in Schools: “Chess in Schools – The Future of Chess”.

#### 4. ECU TEACHERS TRAINING COURSES



**ECU101**

## The SMART Method to Teach Chess

Training course to **IMPROVE** your chess teaching skills

**11-12 June 2022**

Certificated by the European Chess Union

**ECU101 - The SMART Method to Teach Chess**

Sat 11 Jun 2022 9:00 AM - Sun 12 Jun 2022 4:00 PM BST | Online, Zoom

[Register](#)

European Chess Union has organised two subsidized “ECU101 Training Seminar: The SMART Method to Teach Chess” in The seminars were supported by FIDE development fund and provided free participation for female participants as also participants for European federations of DEV levels of 3,4 & 5.



### How to teach chess in Primary School

1 Education context	4 Structured Thinking	7 Chess Language
2 The Playing Method	5 Didactic Techniques	8 Planning
3 Classroom Behaviour	6 Teaching Checkmate	9 Social Formats

Jesper Bergmark Hall

#### Information:

<https://www.europechess.org/ecu101-the-smart-method-to-teach-chess/>



# DISCUSSION GROUP

EVERY LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

HINTS & TIPS - EXCHANGING IDEAS - SHARING BEST PRACTICE





Register and join the discussion!



30TH NOVEMBER 2022

17:00 - 18:30 London Time

## Attendance and Seminar Presentations at UK Games Expo Birmingham NEC 3-5 June 2022



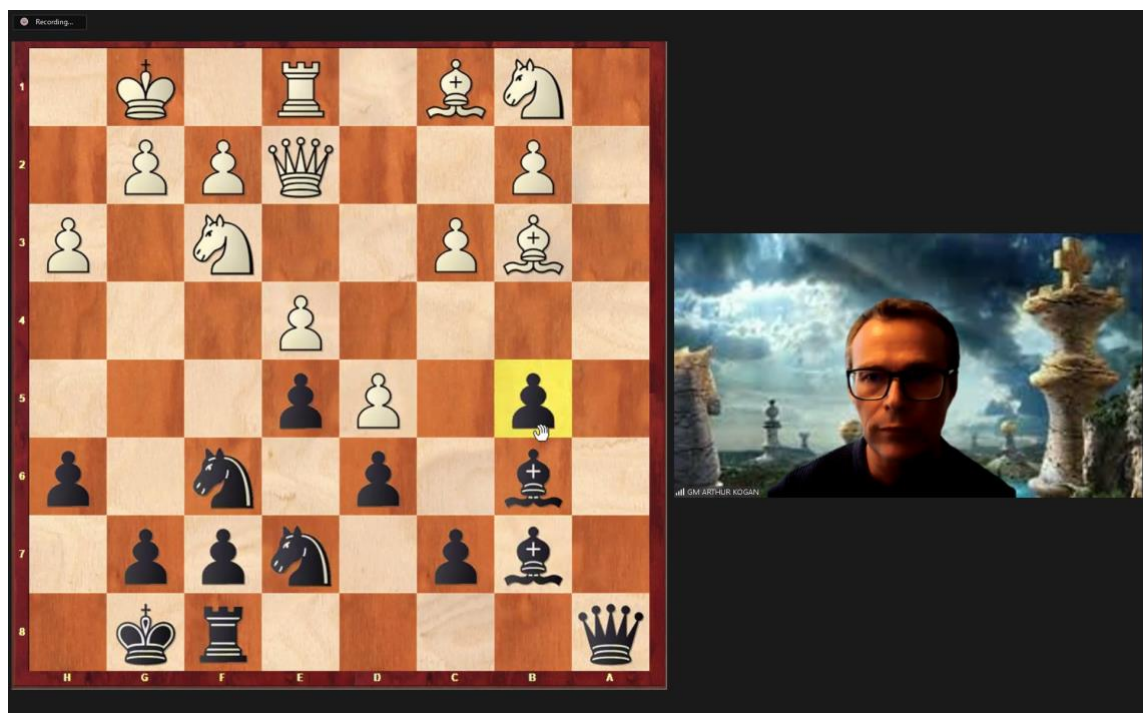


## 5. TRAINING WEBINAR FOR OLYMPIC TEAMS EUROPEAN SMALL NATIONS

<a href="http://www.europechess.org">www.europechess.org</a> European Chess Union	<b>IMPROVE YOUR CHESS</b> February 28th - March 31st 2022, every Monday and Thursday		<a href="http://www.european-chessacademy.com">www.european-chessacademy.com</a> European Chess Academy
	<b><u>GM Dorfman Iossif</u></b> "Static play" <i>Monday, February 28th 2022, 5pm CET</i>		<b><u>GM Mikhalechishin Adrian</u></b> "Isolated pawn in the endgame" <i>Thursday, March 17th 2022, 5pm CET</i>
	<b><u>GM Prusikin Michael</u></b> "Strategy of the attack on the king" <i>Thursday, March 3rd 2022, 5pm CET</i>		<b><u>GM Sokolov Ivan</u></b> "Material imbalance" <i>Monday, March 21st 2022, 5pm CET</i>
	<b><u>GM Jankovic Alojzije</u></b> "King walking through the fire" <i>Monday, March 7th 2022, 5pm CET</i>		<b><u>GM Cheparinov Ivan</u></b> "Fighting for the initiative" <i>Thursday, March 24th 2022, 5pm CET</i>
	<b><u>GM Kogan Arthur</u></b> "Make all your pieces smile: How to achieve harmony" <i>Thursday, March 10th 2022, 5pm CET</i>		<b><u>GM Nielsen Peter Heine</u></b> "Misunderstanding of King's Indian" <i>Monday, March 28th 2022, 5pm CET</i>
	<b><u>GM Papaioannou Ioannis</u></b> "Attack with opposite-colored bishops" <i>Monday, March 14th 2022, 5pm CET</i>		<b><u>GM Sulypa Oleksandr</u></b> "Dynamic defense in Ivanchuk's games" <i>Thursday, March 31st 2022, 5pm CET</i>

European chess Union and European Chess Academy under the support of FIDE Development fund organized a training course free for European Small Nations (Zone 1.10) Olympic Teams from 28<sup>th</sup> of March to the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2022.

20 players of European Small Nations participated free on the seminar with top level trainers.





## 6. ECU/FIDE ONLINE ORGANISERS WEBINAR



European Chess Union in cooperation with FIDE Events Commission, FIDE Women's Commission, co-funded by FIDE Development Fund, organises the Internet Seminar from 11 to 14 of April. The seminar had free entry for female participants.

A part of lectures was dedicated to new FIDE regulations for online and hybrid chess events and to the changes in Rating and Titles regulations.

**Twenty-seven (27) participants (20 female)** registered for the seminar.

Twenty (20) participants took the examination successfully and achieved a FIDE International organizer norm:

**Report:** <https://events.fide.com/2022/04/27/report-fide-io-seminar-online/>

## 7. TOURNAMENT OF PEACE CROATIA



The historical chess tournament, Tournament of Peace 2022, took place from 12th – 20th October 2022 in Zagreb, Croatia.

The event was played in the National and University Library, with 10 world-class grandmasters competing over 9 rounds (round-robin system). The participants are: Santos Latasa Jaime (ESP, 2672), Moussard Jules (FRA, 2670), Shevchenko Kirill (UKR, 2642), Yilmaz Mustafa (TUR, 2634), Kozul Zdenko (CRO, 2582), Livaic Leon (CRO, 2576), Stevic Hrvoje (CRO, 2565), Bosicic Marin (CRO, 2544), Palac Mladen (CRO, 2516) and Zelcic Robert (CRO, 2495).

**Report:** <https://www.europechess.org/tournament-of-peace-2022/>



## 8. GLOBAL CHESS FESTIVAL



The Educational Chess Summit 2022 was organised by Judit Polgar Chess Foundation in partnership with the European Chess Union on 8th October 2022 as part of the Global Chess Festival 2022.

Themes: What are the benefits for children of learning about chess at an early age? What are the advantages of chess-oriented education starting in pre-school? How does chess support the learning of foreign languages? What opportunities does chess offer for the development of children with ASD? How does chess shape girls' thinking

Report (all the conference) : [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaNNRy\\_DcjY&t=6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaNNRy_DcjY&t=6s)

<https://www.facebook.com/GlobalChessFestival/>

Info: <https://www.europechess.org/educational-chess-summit-part-of-global-chess-festival-2022/>



## 9. EUROPEAN WOMEN'S RAPID AND BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP



The 2022 European Open and Women's Rapid and Blitz Chess Championships took place from 16-18 December in Katowice, Poland. The event gathered 1000 players coming from more than 40 European federations, with more than 800 participants in Blitz, and more than 900 participants in Rapid championship.

Report: <https://www.europechess.org/european-open-womens-rapid-and-blitz-chess-champions-2022-crowned-in-katowice-poland/>

## 10. SUPPORT OF SENIOR CHESS PLAYERS



1000 euros supports for each of 5 Senior Players medalists of European Senior Chamonship 2019 that lost their rights due to the World Senior Championships 2020 and 2021 had not take place due to pandemic. 1. GM Sturua Zurab GEO 2. GM Pavlovic Milos SRB 3. Terentiev Sergei LAT 4. WGM Makropoulou Marina GRE 5. GM Kristiansen Jens DEN

Official Website: <https://www.scaccomattissimo.com/assisi-2022/>  
Tournament Report: <https://www.fide.com/news/2106>

## 11. ANNUAL EUROPEAN ONLINE TRAINING ACADEMY



**EUROPEAN CHESS UNION**   

# ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM

**DEVELOP PRACTICAL WAY OF THINKING**

4 levels program  
November 27th 2022 - May 20th 2023  
Every Saturday  
Open for all ages and levels  
Lessons in English language  
Zoom platform  
ECU certificate  
Digital materials

**OUR LECTURERS**  
GM, FST ADRIAN MIKHALCHISIN  
GM, FST GEORG MOHR  
IM, FT TADEJ SAKELSEK

**REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION**  
Deadline: November 20th 2022  
✉ [info.zavod.esa@gmail.com](mailto:info.zavod.esa@gmail.com)  
🌐 <http://european-chessacademy.com>  
📌 European Chess Union  
📌 European Chess Academy

**LEVEL 1**  
ELO below 1600  
2 school hours weekly (total 48 hours)  
**Every Saturday, 10am CET**

- Attack the king and typical tactical motifs
- Openings and active opening repertoire
- Theoretical endgames
- Calculation of variations
- Basic strategical elements
- Meet great players from the history

**LEVEL 2**  
ELO between 1600 and 1900  
2 school hours weekly (total 48 hours)  
**Every Saturday, 12pm CET**

- Typical opening ideas
- Theoretical and practical endgames
- Advanced strategical elements
- Advanced tactical elements and attacks
- Technique of calculation

**LEVEL 3**  
ELO between 1900 and 2200  
2 school hours weekly (total 48 hours)  
**Every Saturday, 10am CET**

- Typical opening ideas
- Practical endgames
- Advanced strategical elements
- Advanced tactical elements and attacks
- Technique of calculation

**LEVEL 4**  
ELO above 2200  
2 school hours weekly (total 48 hours)  
**Every Saturday, 12pm CET**

- Newest opening and middlegame trends
- Play with unbalanced material
- Advanced strategical ideas
- Technique in complicated endgames
- Technique of calculation

The third ECU Annual training program organized by European chess Union, supported by the FIDE Development Fund and technical executed by European chess academy Maribor has started on 27th of November 2022 and will last until the end of May 2023.

Players are divided in to the 4 levels according to strength. Each level will have 24 lectures. Participants can access all materials (recordings, lectures and homework) on our technical partner's app (<https://app.ichessclub.org/>).

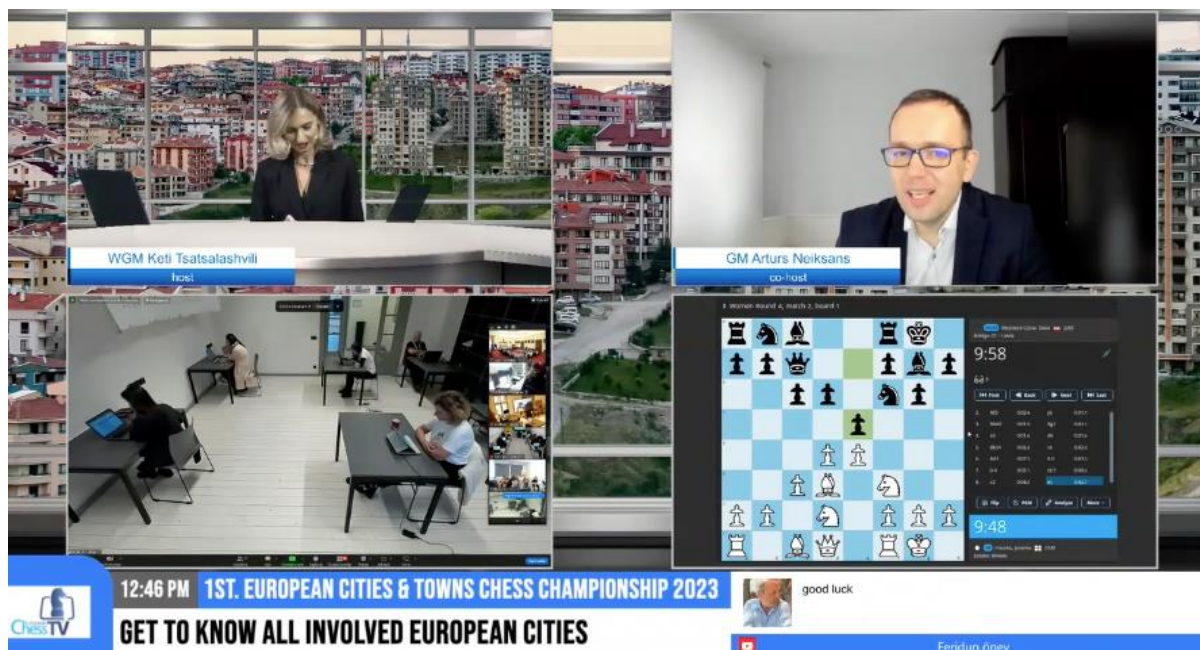
This year we have 205 participants from 42 countries.

We have gathered participants from different sources:

- European youth chess championship Winners – 30 participants
- Federation nominations – 74 participants
- European Small nations FIDE Zone 1.10 – 35 participants
- ECU Women commission nominees - 15 participants
- Additional registration – 51 participants

Info: <https://www.europechess.org/3rd-ecu-annual-training-program-develop-practical-way-of-thinking/>

## 12. EUROPEAN CITIES AND TOWNS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



The 1st European Cities & Towns Chess Championship was played on Sunday, January 29th with participation of 50 teams from 30 European cities.

The event was from hybrid cities & towns venues, **through Tornelo** online platform and consisted of three categories: Open/Seniors, Women's, and Youth U12. Each section featured 9 rounds played in swiss system, with the time control of 10 minutes + 3 seconds increment after each move. The first pilot event supported by the **FIDE Development fund**.

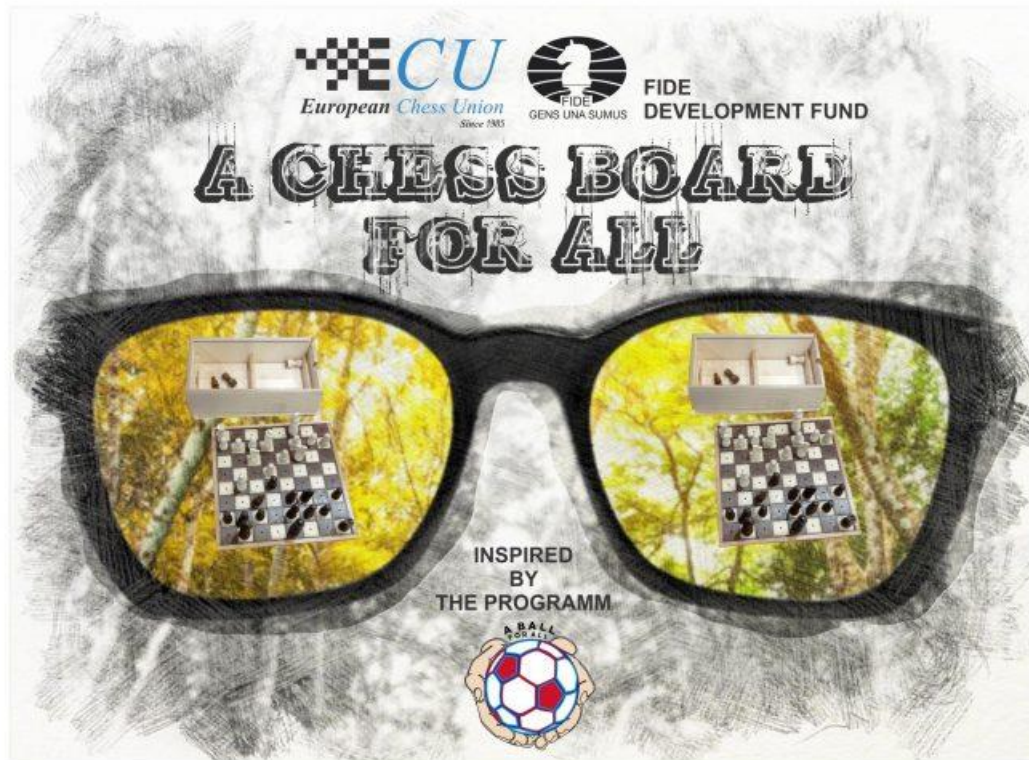
**The first pilot event was followed by 100,000 unique viewers on a single day according to the official statistics.**

Report: <https://www.europechess.org/european-cities-towns-chess-champions-2023-announced/>

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### 13. A CHESS BOARD FOR ALL.



The European Chess Union launched the campaign “A Chessboard for All” with the aim of donating specially made chessboards to blind or visually impaired children and young people throughout Europe. The donation will also be distributed to general schools and special schools for inclusive educational activities. Distribution has begun in February 2022. Already 100 special boards have been distributed to European National Chess Federation and Special schools from February till July 2022. 80 special boards have been additionally ordered by the end of 2022 and the distribution is on progress.





#### 14. DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS DATABASE



In the context of better communication between the whole European chess community and the ECU in particular, we have decided to focus in the next period on constant information of journalists who edit chess columns or report on chess via television, radio or the internet.

<https://www.europechess.org/journalists-directory/>

The action started in April 2022 and already a significant development of the directory has been made. As part of the plan, ECU established from October 2022 the ECU media commission that takes the next steps of the project.

<https://www.europechess.org/media-communication-commission/>



## 15. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSLATION OF THE SPECIAL CHESS IN EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



The ECU Educational Commission Chess Rank acts as constant support for Chess Teacher and is sent to 10,000 subscribers who work in schools and chess development. Translated in more languages makes available the material to wider audiences.

9 issues per year x 6 languages

Language Translator - Proofreader In charge for publication & extra content

- Dutch Newsletter originally written in Dutch Philippe Vukojevic
- English Philippe Vukojevic – John Foley – Sarah Nash John Foley
- Spanish Pep Suarez Pep Suarez
- Italian Moreno Bargis Alessandro Dominici
- German Philippe Vukojevic – Boris Bruhn Walter Rädler
- French Philippe Vukojevic Philippe Vukojevic

### Examples:

#### English

<https://mailchi.mp/8d2f77dd8d69/first-rank-newsletter?e=f39c9aa527>

#### Dutch

<https://mailchi.mp/637af3e0c9cb/first-rank-58-nieuwsbrief-van-de-ecu-edu?e=07bb6c0b97>

#### French

<https://mailchi.mp/a2d331377625/first-rank-58-bulletin-de-lecu-edu?e=3b3d8ad023>

#### Spanish

<https://mailchi.mp/335acde0fedd/ajedrez-y-educacin-2023?e=1e7aecfd7d>