



EICC

European Individual Chess Championship

KATOWICE 2026



INVITATION

ORGANIZERS:



HOST CITY:



PARTNER:





OFFICIAL INVITATION

1. INVITATION

Silesian Chess Federation in cooperation with European Chess Union have the honor to invite all National Chess Federations members of the European Chess Union and eligible players to the EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2026.

The championship will be organized in **Arena Katowice**, located at **1 Nowa Bukowa St., 40-803 Katowice**, Poland, from 6 April (arrival) to 20 April (departure).

2. PARTICIPATION

2.1 European Individual Chess Championship 2026 is open for all players from National Chess Federations members of the European Chess Union (ECU) without rating or title limitations and according to the decisions of ECU Board and General Assembly. There is no limit of number of participants per federation, but applications can only be sent by National Chess Federations or approved by the National Chess Federations.

2.2 By registering, each player confirms that they will participate in the EICC 2026, part of the World Championship Cycle and have acquainted themselves with the applicable ECU Tournament Rules and Regulations, FIDE Code of Ethics and ECU & FIDE Anti-Cheating regulations. Guidelines and conditions of participation are described in the ECU General Regulations of the Championship.

2.3 Players previously registered to Belarus Chess Federation and transferred to FIDE flag can participate according to the special FIDE status.

2.4 By accepting the current invitation and registering for the championship, players recognize and agree to all conditions of the official invitation and the ECU rules and regulations.

3. ECU ENTRY FEE

In accordance with ECU regulations titled players GM, IM, WGM, WIM, FM, players shall pay the ECU entry fee of 65 EUR, while other players shall pay 130 EUR. ECU is invoicing national chess federations for the participants. The ECU fee shall be paid by the federations to the ECU bank account before or at the start of the championship. If the ECU entry fee for a player is not paid until the end of the 2nd round, this player will not be paired in subsequent rounds.

The ECU entry fee must be paid to the account of the ECU:

- **Bank:** Credit Suisse, Postfach 357, CH-6301 Zug
- **Account number:** 1835105-42
- **Holder:** European Chess Union National Bank Code: 4835
- **BIC:** CRESCHZXXX
- **IBAN Code:** CH3604835183510542000



4. REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee is 120 EUR for each player and accredited person. Deadline for registration is 28th February 2026. In case of a late registration an extra fee in the amount of 100 EUR will be charged.

5. REGISTRATION

5.1 All players shall register until the 28th February 2026 (application deadline). The registration will be made exclusively online through the website www.eicc2026.eu not later than deadline 28th February 2026.

The organizer accepts only bank transfers.

- **Bank:** BNP Paribas Bank Polska Spółka Akcyjna
- **Account currency:** EUR
- **Holder:** SILESIAN CHESS FEDERATION
- **BIC:** PPABPLPK
- **IBAN Code:** PL43 1600 1462 1019 5563 7000 0003

5.2 The bank commissions must be paid by the sender. If not, the invoice is not considered fully paid.

6. TOURNAMENT SYSTEM

6.1 Tournament will be played according to the Swiss System, 11 rounds. Tournament rules for the ECU European Individual Championships are applied.

6.2 Rate of play is 90 minutes for 40 moves + 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds for every move starting from move 1. Default time is 15 minutes.

7. RANKING AND TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA

The order of players that finish with the same number of points shall be determined by applying tie-breaking criteria according to the ECU Scoring and tie-breaking system:

- Results of direct encounters between the tied players;
- Buchholz Cut 1;
- Buchholz;
- The greater number of games played with black;
- The greater number of wins.



8. PRIZES AND QUALIFICATION

8.1 The European Individual Chess Championship 2026 is a qualifying event for the FIDE World Cup.

- According to the FIDE regulations for World Cup and the ECU Board decision, 20 players* will qualify. In case of a tie, the qualification will be determined according to Article 7.
- According to Article 14.1.1 of the ECU Tournament Rules and Regulations, if one of the prize winners was absent during the closing ceremony, his/her prize will be reduced by 20% with a minimum of 100 EUR.

*) Under the current FIDE World Cup regulations, FIDE is the only body responsible for the qualification spots.

8.2 Prize fund in total amount of 100.000 EUR is divided as follows. General prizes: 92.000 EUR and special prizes: 8.000 EUR

GENERAL PRIZES:					
PLACE	PRIZE EUR	PLACE	PRIZE EUR	PLACE	PRIZE EUR
1	20.000	9	2.500	17	1.200
2	15.000	10	2.500	18	1.100
3	10.000	11	2.000	19	1.000
4	7.000	12	2.000	20	1.000
5	6.000	13	1.500	21	1.000
6	5.000	14	1.500	22	1.000
7	4.000	15	1.400	23	1.000
8	3.000	16	1.300		

SPECIAL PRIZES:				
RANK	BEST FEMALE PLAYER	BEST JUNIORS U18	BEST SENIOR +50	BEST POLISH PLAYER
1	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
2	600	600	600	600
3	400	400	400	400
TOTAL	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000



8. PRIZES AND QUALIFICATION

8.3 DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES - A player can win only one money prize (general standings or special prize), the highest one available. According to Article D.4.5 of the ECU Tournament Rules and Regulations, the prizes will be equally shared among the players with the same score for the general standing's prizes. The special prizes will not be shared and will be awarded according to the tie-break criteria. Silesian Chess Federation will transfer the Prize fund to the ECU bank account. Prizes will be sent to the winners by bank transfers.

9. SCHEDULE 06.04.- 20.04.2026

DATE	ACTION	DATE	ACTION
06.04	Arrivals	14.04	7th Round - 3 pm
07.04	• Opening Ceremony • 1st Round - 3 pm	15.04	8th Round - 3 pm
08.04	2nd Round - 3 pm	16.04	9th Round - 3 pm
09.04	3rd Round - 3 pm	17.04	REST DAY*
10.04	4th Round - 3 pm	18.04	10th Round - 3 pm
11.04	REST DAY	19.04	• 11th Round - 3 pm • Closing Ceremony
12.04	5th Round - 3 pm	20.04	Departures
13.04	6th Round - 3 pm		

*) A rest day is scheduled for 17 April due to the Polish Football Extraleague calendar. As both the match and the EICC are held in the same venue, the match may be played on 17 or 18 April, with the tournament schedule adjusted accordingly.

10. ARBITERS AND APPEALS PROCEDURE

Chief, Deputy Arbiters and Appeals Committee will be appointed by European Chess Union. Protests against decisions of the Chief Arbiter must be submitted in written form to the Chairman of the appeals committee not later than 1 hour after the end of the respective game. The protest must be accompanied by the sum of 200 EUR as a deposit from this signatory. If the appeal is granted, the sum will be returned immediately. If the appeal is refused, the deposit is forfeited to the ECU. The appeal must be lodged by the player. Decisions of the Appeals Committee are final.



11. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided at the Park Hotel Diamant 4*, 37 Wita Stwosza St., 40-042 Katowice, Poland.

- Single room – **87 €/day B&B**
- Double/Twin room – **98 €/day B&B**
- The hotel also offers HB or FB meal plans, which can be booked directly through the hotel's reservation system.

Click [here](#) to complete your reservation. Please use the special code: **EICC2026**

If the Hotel Diamant reaches full capacity, the organizer will arrange accommodation at another hotel for the remaining players.

Transportation between the hotel and the sporting venue (approximately 10 minutes) will be provided free of charge.

12. VISA INFORMATION

Players needing visas are requested to contact the Organizing Committee and apply on time to Polish Authorities. The Organizing Committee will provide invitations for visas only after the necessary payments.

The Organizing Committee has no responsibility for late or incomplete applications.

13. TRANSPORT

The organizer can arrange transfers between Katowice Airport and Hotel Diamant on the arrival day (6th April) and departure day (20th April). The transfer fee is 15 € per person one-way.

14. ADDITIONAL RULES

14.1 The [ECU Dress Code](#) is obligatory as in detail described in the ECU regulations, (shorts, caps, slippers, sun glasses, hats-except for religious reasons, etc. are not allowed).

14.2 The [ECU anti-cheating guidelines](#), the FIDE Code of Ethics and the [ECU Fair Play Code](#) are valid for all the European Championships and all players, arbiters, organizers & participants shall follow these regulations.

14.3 In the playing area only players, arbiters and tournament officials are allowed. The access of accredited persons will be specified by the Chief Arbiter. Flashes may be used only in the first 10 minutes after the start of the round.

14.4 Awarded players will give interviews and photo sessions for at least 15 minutes after the last round and after the awarding ceremony.

14.5 During the tournament, medical service will be provided according to FIDE and ECU rules.

14.6. Accepting the current invitation, and registering to the Championship players acknowledge and agree with all terms of the official invitation and the ECU Rulebook.



European Individual Chess Championship

KATOWICE 2026



CONTACT THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Official Channel:



office@eicc2026.eu



[Official website: www.eicc2026.eu](http://www.eicc2026.eu)

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