

## NEWSLETTER 67 (March 19, 2012)

### THE DAY FOR THE HISTORY OF CHESS - DECLARATION ADOPTED WITH 415 SIGNATURES, APPLAUSE IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT!



“This is a historical success for the European chess. The date of March 13th, 2012 will go down in chess history as the date when the game of chess advanced to a higher level of recognition by the society – not just like sport, but also like a part of education in the modern world.” – said Mr. Silvio Danailov, the President of the European Chess Union.

The President of the European Chess Union Mr. Silvio Danailov was applauded by all the MEPs for the success of the ‘Chess in School’ Declaration. This happened during the official parliamentary session at the EU Parliament where Mr. Danailov was invited as a special guest and presented by the Bulgarian MEP Mr. Slavi Binev. The President of the EU Parliament, Mr. Martin Schulz officially announced from the rostrum that the Written Declaration 50/2011 about Chess in School was endorsed by the EU Parliament.



After the session, some of the MEPs said to Mr. Danailov that the acceptance of the Declaration is really a great success, because the EU MEPs usually adopt only small number of Declarations, 10-15% of them.

The final number of the MEPs who have signed the Written Declaration 50/2011 is 415.



**From left to right: MEP John Attard-Montalto, Mr. Jan Callewaert, MEP Slavi Binev, Garry Kasparov, Mr. Silvio Danailov, MEP Hannu Takkula**

Silvio Danailov, Bulgarian MEP Slavi Binev and the chess legend Garry Kasparov, also gave an official press conference, which reached audience on 250 national TV stations from Europe and the world.



**ECU President Silvio Danailov speaks to the journalists**

All activities and events connected to the project “Chess in school” were held under the high patronage of the previous President of the European Parliament, prof. Jerzy Buzek and Mr. Slavi Binev, who is the main supporter of the project and who introduced the Written Declaration 50/2011. During the press conference, Mr. Danailov gave a special award to Mr. Binev for his big contribution to the acceptance of the Written Declaration.



MEPs John Attard-Montalto and Hannu Takkula, who were among the strongest supporters of the project, also took part in the press conference.

The Written Declaration will be officially communicated from the Parliament to the Commission and to the Parliament of each EU Member State together with the list of signatories.



**The European Parliament in Strasbourg, France**





**Mr. Silvio Danailov & MEP Mario Mauro**



**Mr. Silvio Danailov & MEP Milan Zver**



**Silvio Danailov & MEP Pablo Arias Echeverria**



**Silvio Danailov & MEP Andrey Kovatchev**



**Silvio Danailov & MEP Hannu Takkula**



**Silvio Danailov & MEP John Attard-Montalto**



Silvio Danailov & MEP Nirj Deva



Silvio Danailov & MEP Cristian Silviu Busoi

The declaration calls on the Commission and Council:

- To encourage the introduction of the program “Chess in School” in the educational system of the Member States;
- To pay, in its forthcoming communication on sport, the necessary attention to the program “Chess in School” and to ensure sufficient funding for it from 2012 onwards;
- To take into consideration the results of any studies on the effects of this program on children’s development.

The development and implementation of the program will be carried out as a joint project between the European Chess Union and Kasparov Chess Foundation Europe.

President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov visited Strasbourg and there he had a few important meetings. President Danailov took the opportunity to award recognitions to the most deserving persons for the contribution to the adoption of Written Declaration 50/2011 about Chess in school endorsed by the EU Parliament.

Pictures speak more than words about the reputation of chess in the European Parliament and this historical moment.

Official web site: [www.europechess.net](http://www.europechess.net)



# ECU CHESS IN SCHOOL PROJECT

## CHRONOLOGY

### SILVIO DANAILOV: "HISTORICAL SUCCESS FOR THE EUROPEAN CHESS"



The ECU project "Chess in school" had a historical success in the European Parliament. The needed number of MEPs' signatures (378 signatures – 50%+1 from the total number of 754 MEPs) was almost gained during the session of the Parliament which was held in Strasbourg, France, on February 13-16, 2012. **Just a few signatures left for the next session in March.**

The joint project of the European Chess Union and Kasparov Chess Foundation Europe was supported by the MEPs from all parties represented in the European Parliament. *"We are very close to the full success. After the acceptance of the Written Declaration, the EU Commission will start to work on the project "Chess in school."* - commented Silvio Danailov, the President of the ECU and continued: *"I always say that besides being a popular sport, the game of chess is also a science, education and part of the cultural heritage of the European nations. This is a historical moment for the European chess. From now on the game of chess will have totally new position and acceptance among the European society. And we shall see all the benefits from this new position of our favorite game in the near future."*



One of the two halls for the presentation of the project

The President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov and the most legendary chess player Garry Kasparov arrived to Strasbourg to promote many educational benefits from the implementation of chess as an obligatory subject in the European schools. They participated in seminars dedicated to the program "Chess in school" and had many meetings with MEPs. Garry Kasparov played a simultaneous chess sessions against children and European deputies.



MEPs are signing the Written Declaration no. 50/2011

During his visit, ECU President Silvio Danailov met with the previous President of the European Parliament, prof. Jerzy Buzek and they discussed the future development of the game of chess and the project "Chess in school". Professor Buzek strongly supports this ECU program.



The presentation of the "Chess in school" project



Mr. Silvio Danailov & Prof. Jerzy Buzek

Web site: [www.danailov-for-president.com](http://www.danailov-for-president.com)





## **SILVIO DANAILOV VISITED STRASBOURG IN ORDER TO ASSIST DURING THE SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**



ECU President Silvio Danailov visited Strasbourg from 16th to 19th of January in order to assist during the session of the European Parliament. Mr. Danailov, together with the Chairman of the ECU Chess in School Commission Mr. Jan Callewaert, was collecting signatures for the Written Declaration 50/2011 on the introduction of chess in the educational system of the European Union.

Together with their team, they collected new 126 MEPs' signatures. Now the Declaration has 238 signatures in total and needs 143 more to succeed. The deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> of March.

Web site: [www.danailov-for-president.com](http://www.danailov-for-president.com)

## **SILVIO DANAILOV PRESENTED WRITTEN DECLARATION NO.50/2011 ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PROGRAMME "CHESS IN SCHOOL" IN FRONT OF 100 EURO DEPUTIES IN BRUSSELS**



ECU President Silvio Danailov presented today, November 30, the project "Chess in School" and the Written Declaration no. 50/2011 on the introduction of the programme in the educational systems of the European Union in front of 100 Euro Deputies in Brussels at the ACES Europe Ceremony of the Flags for the municipalities candidates to the Awards of "European Capital Cities and Towns of Sport 2012/2013".

The Written Declaration will be open for signatures today, on November 30, 2011 and the deadline for signing the declaration is March 15, 2012. It is necessary to be collected at least 369 signatures (50% +1 from the total number of 736 MEPs) in order that the declaration is accepted officially in the EU Parliament.



After that, if the declaration is accepted, the EU Commissions will start to work on the project “Chess in School”.



It is necessary at least 369 signatures to be collected (50% +1 from the total number of 736 MEPs) in order that the declaration is accepted officially in the EU Parliament. After that, if the declaration is accepted, the EU Commissions will start to work on the project ‘Chess in School’.



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 – 2014

30.11.2011

0050/2011

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the introduction of the programme ‘Chess in School’ in the educational systems of the European Union

**Slavi Binev, John Attard-Montalto, Nirj Deva, Mario Mauro, Hannu Takkula**

0050/2011

**Written declaration on the introduction of the programme 'Chess in School' in the educational systems of the European Union**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Articles 6 and 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in its Article 6, provides that sport **is among the areas 'where the Union shall have competences to carry out actions to support, coordinate or supplement the actions of the Member States';**
- B. whereas chess is an accessible game for children from every social group and can help social cohesion and contribute to policy objectives such as social integration, combating discrimination, reducing crime rates and even the fight against various addictions;
- C. **whereas whatever the age of the child, chess can improve children's concentration, patience and persistence and can develop the sense of creativity, intuition, memory, and analytic and decision-making skills; whereas chess also teaches determination, motivation and sportsmanship;**
1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to encourage the introduction of the programme 'Chess in School' **in the educational systems of the Member States;**
  2. Calls on the Commission, in its forthcoming communication on sport, to pay the necessary **attention to the program 'Chess in School' and to ensure sufficient funding for it from 2012 onwards;**
  3. Calls on the Commission to take into consideration the results of any studies on the effects of this **programme on children's development;**
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and to the Parliaments of the Member States.

[http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=121:ep&catid=1:news](http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=121:ep&catid=1:news)

**VISITS OF THE ECU PRESIDENT SILVIO DANAILOV  
CONNECTED TO THE PROJECT CHESS IN SCHOOL**

The President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov made a series of visits, connected to the project Chess in School.



On 14-th of September 2010 in Paris, the candidate for President of the European Chess Union, Mr. Silvio Danailov met with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Mrs. Irina Bokova.

ECU President Silvio Danailov met with the Irish Minister of Environment Community and Local Government Mr. Phill Hogan T.D. on October 3rd, 2011 in Dublin. The Minister promised full support from all the 13 Irish MPs in the EU Parliament for the project Chess in School.



ECU President Silvio Danailov met with the Minister of Education, Sport and Culture of Jersey, Mr. James Reed, during the simul, which GM Veselin Topalov gave vs. 25 talented kids in Victoria College, one of the most prestigious on this British island. Mr. Reed promised his full support for the program Chess in Schools which hopefully will be implemented very soon in all the Jersey schools.

ECU President Silvio Danailov met with the Minister of Education of Guernsey, Mr. Jon Bridel, in hotel Peninsula during the Veselin Topalov's clock simul vs. 16 Guernsey players. Together with the President of Guernsey Chess Federation, Mr. Fred Hamperl, they discussed the ECU project Chess in schools. Mr. Bridel promised full support for the project and wish a lot of success to the new ECU management for the future.



On Saturday 15th, 2011, ECU President Silvio Danailov visited Armenia and met with the President of the Republic of Armenia, Mr. Serzh Sargsian. During his stay in Yerevan, Mr. Danailov also visited schools where he observed chess classes.

Links with the original articles: [www.europechess.net](http://www.europechess.net)



## SILVIO DANAILOV AND GARRY KASPAROV PRESENTED WITH GREAT SUCCESS THE PROJECT "CHESS IN SCHOOL." IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



On Tuesday, September 20-th, 2011 the President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov and the chess legend Garry Kasparov presented with a great success the project 'Chess in school' during the public hearing in the European Parliament. The presentation was accepted with great interest.

The event was held under the high patronage of the President of the European Parliament Prof. Jerzy Buzek.



**"Check and mate! It takes a heartbeat to win or lose. These are the rules of the game. You win today and you lose tomorrow and you move on. It is the same in life, isn't it? Success and failure follow each other permanently as you go on with your life. That is what chess teaches us – surmount your difficulties and keep on. Chess is a powerful tool for developing thinking and memory in children. It teaches children to think analytically, logically and on at multiple levels. It educates them to make their own decisions and to be responsible for those decisions consequences.**

These are the qualities that would come in handy to anyone no matter who they are or where they are in their lives – no matter of religion, nationality and race. Research shows that children who have been exposed to chess at early age achieve better results in school not only in math-related subjects, but across outside the board.”-said Mr. Danailov in his speech.

The press conference after the presentation was attended by many international journalists who came especially for the event.



On the cocktail after the public hearing in a short speech, the world’s most legendary chess player Garry Kasparov gave his special thanks to the President of the European Chess Union, Mr. Silvio Danailov, about his full support and partnership in this joint project.

The project “Chess in School” is a top priority in the management program of the President of the European chess Silvio Danailov and his team. It was among the most important accents in his pre-election campaign for the Presidency of the ECU. The purpose of this program is to promote chess in schools in Europe among children by offering chess curriculum, chess materials, chess teachers and communication material to encourage and motivate children to discover and learn the game. After the public hearing was held simultaneous chess session in the President’s private saloon with the special participation of Mr. Garry Kasparov and the chess queen Judit Polgar who played simultaneously against 14 children.



**Link with the original text:**

[http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=102:euparlament&catid=7:archive&Itemid=20](http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=102:euparlament&catid=7:archive&Itemid=20)

**CHESS IN SCHOOLS SURVEY MADE BY THE EUROPEAN  
CHESS UNION**

Ion Dobronauteanu, a member of the European Chess Union Board and the Chess in School Commission, prepared a survey abstract concerning Chess in School project in national chess federations.

<b>ALBANIA</b>	<b>ANDORRA</b>
<p>Chess is accepted as a sport in schools curriculum</p> <p>No official chess manuals in schools</p>	<p>Chess is accepted as a sport and an educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>1 100 children are being taught chess is kindergartens and schools</p> <p>There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>2 chess instructors</p>
<b>ARMENIA</b>	<b>AUSTRIA</b>
<p>Chess is accepted as an educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>1 500 instructors</p>	<p>Chess is accepted as an educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>4 000 chess players, under 18.</p> <p>There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>12 A trainers, 32 B trainers and about 150 C trainers.</p>
<b>BOSNIA &amp; HERZEGOVINA</b>	<b>BULGARIA</b>
<p>1 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Banja Luka, Sarajevo and Siroki Brijeg. There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>60 instructors</p>	<p>Chess is accepted as a sport optional matter in schools curriculum. 1 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Veliko Tarnovo, Blagoevgrad.</p>



	<p>There are several official manuals in schools</p> <p>100 instructors.</p>
<p><b>CYPRUS</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport in schools</p>	<p><b>FRANCE</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as a sport and an educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>200-300 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Corsica, Cretei, Cannes, paris, La Reunion</p> <p>2 000-3 000 instructors</p>
<p><b>FINLAND</b></p> <p>Chess is played only in chess clubs, not schools</p> <p>1 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Helsinki-area (Espoo, Vantaa), Tampere, Turku, Jyväskylä</p> <p>There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>50 instructors</p>	<p><b>GEORGIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as an educational matter i</p> <p>300-400 children in kindergartens and 5 000 in schools, mainly in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Poti, Zugdidi, Batumi</p> <p>There are official manuals in schools</p> <p>1 000 instructors</p>
<p><b>GREECE</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport in schools</p> <p>50 000 children are being taught chess in schools mainly in Athens, Thessaloniki, Creta, Kavala, Peloponisos</p> <p>500 instructors</p>	<p><b>HUNGARY</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as an educational matter in schools</p> <p>5 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Budapest, Szeged, Szombathely, Debrecen, Miskolc, Gyor</p>
<p><b>IRELAND</b></p> <p>1 000 children are being taught chess in</p>	<p><b>LITHUANIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport and</p>

<p>schools, mainly in Kilkenny, Dublin, Limerick, Galway, Cork.</p> <p>15-20 independent instructors</p>	<p>educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>There are official manuals in schools</p>
<p><b>FYR OF MACEDONIA</b></p> <p>100 children are being taught chess in schools and clubs, mainly in Skopje, Prilep, Negotino, Struga, Kumanovo</p> <p>10 instructors</p>	<p><b>MOLDOVA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport and educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>3 000 children are being taught chess in schools, mainly in Chisinau, Beltsy, villages</p> <p>10 instructors</p>
<p><b>NETHERLANDS</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport in schools curriculum</p> <p>10 000 children are being taught chess, mainly in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Groningen, Arnhem</p> <p>There are official chess manuals in schools</p> <p>300-500 instructors</p>	<p><b>POLAND</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport and educational matter ( in some schools)</p> <p>10-20 000 children are being taught chess, mainly in schools from Wrocław, Warszawa, Suwałki, Gorzów Wielkopolski, Rybnik, Katowice Poznań, Skierniewice, Kielce, Koszalin</p> <p>There are official chess manuals</p> <p>400-500 instructors</p>
<p><b>ROMANIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport and educational matter (only in kindergartens); 5 400 children are being taught chess, mainly in Iasi, Brasov, Oradea, Vaslui, Ploiesti, Timisoara</p> <p>There are official chess manuals</p> <p>100 instructors</p>	<p><b>SLOVENIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>1 000 children are being taught chess in schools</p> <p>200 instructors</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RUSSIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as an educational matter</p> <p>There are official chess manuals</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SLOVAKIA</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport and educational matter in schools curriculum</p> <p>12 000 children will be taught chess in schools in 3-4 years, mainly in Bratislava, Ruzomberok, Secovska Polianka, Liptovsky Mikulas</p> <p>There are official chess manuals</p> <p>500 instructors in 3 years</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAN MARINO</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as sport in schools</p> <p>20 children are being taught chess in schools</p> <p>6 instructors</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UKRAINE</b></p> <p>Children are learning chess in schools, mainly in Kyiv, Kharkiv Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Odessa, Lviv</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SWEDEN</b></p> <p>Chess is accepted as educational matter in schools; 30 000 children are being taught chess in schools; There are official chess manuals</p> <p>270 instructors</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EUROPEAN CHESS UNION</b></p> <p>Address: Masarikova 5/19, 11 000 Belgrade, Serbia</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@europechess.org">office@europechess.org</a></p> <p>Phone: +381 11 414 2470 (5 lines)</p> <p>Fax: +381 11 306 1319</p> <p>Skype name: ECU.office</p> <p><b>Web site:</b> <a href="http://www.europechess.net">www.europechess.net</a></p>

**Link with the original article:**

[http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3:chess-in-school-survey&catid=7:archive&Itemid=20](http://www.europechess.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3:chess-in-school-survey&catid=7:archive&Itemid=20)



## SILVIO DANAILOV AND GARRY KASPAROV OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED THE JOINT PROJECT "CHESS IN SCHOOL."



*J.Callewaert, G.Kasparov, S.Danailov*

The President of the European Chess Union, Silvio Danailov, and the chess legend Garry Kasparov officially announced "Chess in school", the joint project between ECU and Kasparov Chess Foundation. This happened during the press conference concerning the official creation of Kasparov Chess Foundation Europe which was held on 8th of June 2011 at Bloom Hotel in Brussels, Belgium.

In the press conference, except Garry Kasparov and Silvio Danailov, also participated Mr. Jan Callewaert co-founder of the non-profit organization. Mr. Jan Callewaert was also appointed by Silvio Danailov as Chairman of the ECU Commission for Chess in School.

The project Chess in School is a top priority in the management program of the President of the European Chess Silvio Danailov and his team. Mr. Danailov is making continuous efforts to attract for the cause of Chess in School many important persons and organizations world-wide. You were already informed that He and the chess legend Garry Kasparov met with the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Mrs. Androulla Vassiliou on 21-st of March 2011 in Brussels. During the meeting they discussed about the project Chess in School. Mrs. Vassiliou gave her full support for the project.

On 20th of September this year, the President of ECU and the former world chess champion will do the final presentation of the project Chess in School to the members of the European Parliament.

### **Link with the original article:**

<http://danailov-for-president.com/silvio-danailov-and-garry-kasparov-officially-announced-the-joint-project-%e2%80%9cchess-in-school%e2%80%9d/>

## SILVIO DANAILOV DINED WITH THE WORLDWIDE FAMOUS SPANISH WRITER ARTURO PEREZ-REVERTE



*V.Topalov, A.Perez-Reverte, S.Danailov*

**25 March, 2011** - The President of the European Chess Union, Silvio Danailov, met with the worldwide famous Spanish writer Arturo Perez-Reverte during the prestigious Melody Amber chess tournament in Monte Carlo.

Together with the Bulgarian super grandmaster Veselin Topalov they dined in the refined atmosphere of the Japanese restaurant at hotel Monte Carlo Bay and discussed about the latest novelties and aspects of chess and world literature.

Arturo Perez-Reverte promised to Silvio Danailov to contribute actively for the realization of the project of the European Chess Union, Chess in School. The Spanish writer is known as a great chess lover.

*Arturo Perez-Reverte is Spanish journalist and worldwide famous writer. Often working as a war correspondent, including during the Bosnian war. In 1986 he published his first novel, Hussar, and from 1994 mainly deals with writing fiction. Member of the Royal Spanish Academy.*

*His book The Flemish master narrates about a painter who lived in the end of the fifteenth century and who turns his picture Chess game into a puzzle whose solution can reveal the mystery about the murder of a medieval nobleman and change a few lines in the history books. About his book New York Times writes: "Elegant and witty parlor mystery about life, art and chess game ... insanely entertaining."*

*San Francisco Chronicle determines Arturo Perez-Reverte as "master of the intellectual thriller". According to Kirkus Literary Review - "Books of Arturo Perez-Reverte" are one of the finest pleasures offered by the modern fiction."*

*His novel The Ninth Gate was filmed by the director Roman Polanski, starring the Hollywood actor Johnny Depp.*

**Link with the original article:**

<http://danailov-for-president.com/silvio-danailov-dined-with-the-worldwide-famous-spanish-writer-arturo-perez-reverte/>

## SILVIO DANAILOV AND GARRY KASPAROV PRESENTED THE PROJECT CHESS IN SCHOOL IN BRUSSELS



The President of the European Chess Union Silvio Danailov and the chess legend Garry Kasparov met with the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Mrs. Androulla Vassiliou on 21-st of March in Brussels.

*S.Danailov, G.Kasparov, A.Vassiliou*

During the meeting they discussed about the joint project of the European Chess Union and Kasparov Chess Foundation, Chess in School, which provides for implementation of the ancient game in the educational system of the European states. Mrs. Vassiliou gave her full support for the project. Between 19 – 22 September this year, the President of ECU and the former world chess champion will do the final presentation of the project Chess in School to the members of the European Parliament.



During their visit in Brussels, Silvio Danailov and Garry Kasparov also met with the European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Mrs. Kristalina Georgieva and with group of MEPs – representatives of all parties in the European Parliament from Bulgaria, Romania, Denmark, Finland and Spain.

**Link with the original article:**

<http://danailov-for-president.com/silvio-danailov-and-garry-kasparov-presented-the-project-chess-in-school-in-brussels/>



## **THE PRESIDENT OF ECU, SILVIO DANAILOV, ESTABLISHED COMMISSION FOR CHESS-IN-SCHOOL**

During his meeting with the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, Mrs. Androulla Vassiliou on 21st of March in Brussels the President of ECU, Mr. Silvio Danailov had an interesting discussion with her on the potential projects of the ECU supported by with the above-mentioned EU Committee.

In order to assist him in further steps related with this issue President Silvio Danailov appointed following persons as members of the ECU Commission for Chess-in-School:



**Jan Callewaert (BEL) – Chairman**

**Ion Dobronauteanu (ROU)- Secretary- responsible for ECU Board**



**Judit Polgar (HUN)**

**Malcolm Pein (UK)**



**Leo Batesti (FRA)**

**Walter Raedler (GER)**



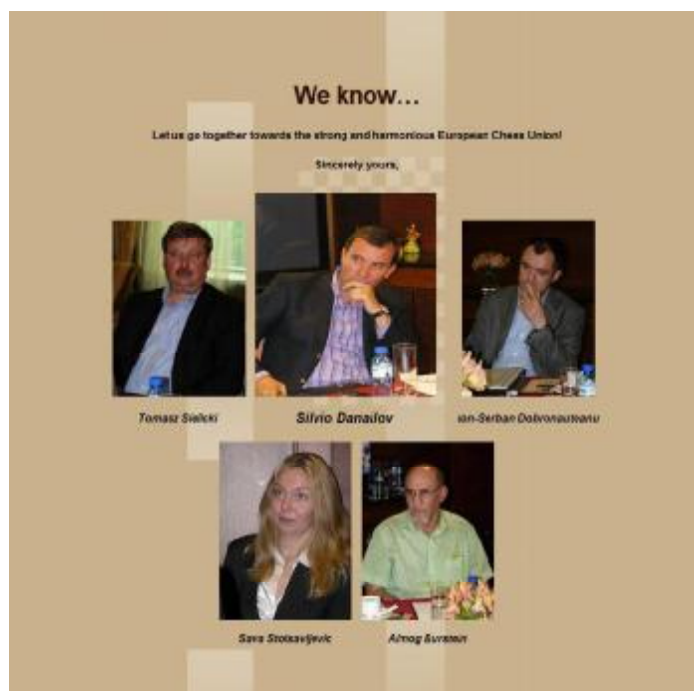
[www.europechess.net](http://www.europechess.net)

**CHESS IN SCHOOL-AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE ELECTORAL PROGRAM OF MR. SILVIO DANAILOV AND HIS TEAM**

Chess in School project was an essential part of the Electoral program of Mr. Silvio Danailov and his team.

They wrote in the document: "**CHESS AS... EDUCATIONAL TOOL**

We are aware of the fact that the base for the uppermost chess is created among young people. Because of this, chess in schools is the notion to be found in every program and wish of ours. Introducing chess to the schools in the majority of the European countries is also the part of our program, because **We know** how to do it. Our team consists of people who already succeeded to do it in their own countries.



We will offer our personal experiences, role models, programs, textbooks, etc. to all federations which want to decisively take part in the action "Chess in Schools".

European Chess Union will create the special team which will coach the potential and existing chess teachers and pedagogues all around Europe, since it is the foundation of for the successful implementation of the program."

## CHES AS ... A PRODUCT

"**T**o sell chess as a product" is perhaps the biggest challenge for our team. **We know** that the starting condition is to make chess a product. Our results in the area of business hitherto give us the right to try.

We intend to approach companies from "compatible" industries: ICT (information and communication technology), banks/financial services, etc.

There is one obstruction on this way which European Chess Union, in cooperation with FIDE, will try to overcome – the matter of the intellectual property and transmission/broadcasts rights.

As the result of this, we are assured that, in a very short term, we will be able to offer to the chess public the commercial project which will make chess the desired product for the first time in history.

## CHES AS ... OLYMPIC SPORT

**W**e know that more than a half of the national chess federations which are members of the European Chess Union are also full right members of the National Olympic committees in their countries.

By using their experiences, we will provide the support to all European national federations which are co-joined members or are not members at all of the national Olympic Committees, to become ones. This is the only way in which we can manage to achieve our goal: chess as the Olympic sport.

## CHES AS ... EDUCATIONAL TOOL

**W**e are aware of the fact that the base for the uppermost chess is created among young people. Because of this, chess in schools is the notion to be found in every program and wish of ours. Introducing chess to the schools in the majority of the European countries is also the part of our program, because **We know** how to do it. Our team consists of people who already succeeded to do it in their own countries.

We will offer our personal experiences, role models, programs, textbooks, etc. to all federations which want to decisively take part in the action "Chess in Schools".

European Chess Union will create the special team which will coach the potential and existing chess teachers and pedagogues all around Europe, since it is the foundation for the successful implementation of the program.

## Chess as...educational tool in the Electoral program

Link with the full text of the program:

<http://danailov-for-president.com/the-electoral-program-of-mr-silvio-danailovs-team-is-ready/>

## EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS'2012

### IM VALENTINA GUNINA IS THE NEW EUROPEAN CHESS CHAMPION



IM Valentina Gunina (RUS) won the European Individual Women's Chess Championship with final result of 8.5 points. Second and third with the same score finished GM Tatiana Kosintseva (RUS) and GM Anna Muzychuk (SLO). The Championship organized by the European Chess Union and the Turkish Chess

Federation was held on March 02-13, 2012 in Gaziantep, Turkey.



It was played in 11 rounds according to the Swiss system with rate of play 90 minutes for 40 moves+30 minutes for the rest of the game+ increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one. The total prize fund was 106.000 EURO.



### Final Ranking-first 10 positions

Rk.	Title	Name	FED	Pts	ratP	BH.-1	BH.
1	IM	GUNINA Valentina	RUS	8½	2660	70	74½
2	GM	KOSINTSEVA Tatiana	RUS	8½	2649	68½	73
3	GM	MUZYCHUK Anna	SLO	8½	2631	70	75
4	GM	CMILYTE Viktorija	LTU	8	2592	67½	73
5	GM	SEBAG Marie	FRA	7½	2570	71½	77
6	GM	STEFANOVA Antoaneta	BUL	7½	2544	68½	73½
7	GM	LAHNO Kateryna	UKR	7½	2524	67½	72½
8	GM	DANIELIAN Elina	ARM	7½	2515	69½	64
9	IM	KHOTENASHVILI Bela	GEO	7½	2503	61	64½
10	WGM	POGONINA Natalija	RUS	7½	2501	61½	66½

Closing ceremony of the EIWCC took part in the Anatolian Hotel in Gaziantep, Turkey on 13 of March 2012. It was attended by FIDE Vice-President and President of TCF Ali Nihat Yazici, Honorary President of ECU Boris Kutin, the Deputy General Secretary of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality Ibrahim Evrim, who delivered their speeches to participants and guests.

Tatiana Kosintseva won the European Rapid Championship, Alexandra Kosteniuk won the silver medal, Elisabeth Paetz finished third. The Rapid tournament was held on March 15-16, 2012 at the same venue. Valentina Gunina won her second gold medal in Gaziantep and became the winner of the European Blitz Championship. Elisabeth Paetz got the silver medal, Nana Dzagnidze finished third. The Blitz tournament was held on March 17-18 at the same venue.

**Photos courtesy of the Turkish Chess Federation and FIDE**

**Official web site: <http://eiwcc2012.tsf.org.tr/>**

## EUROPEAN INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP- PLOVDIV'2012



The first symbolic move made by the Governor of Plovdiv,  
Mr. Zdravko Dimitrov

The 13<sup>th</sup> European Men's Individual Chess Championship has started on 19<sup>th</sup> of March and will continue until 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2012 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The Championship is organized by the European Chess Union and the Bulgarian Chess Federation.

In the tournament are taking part 344 chess players from 39 countries – among them 176 grandmasters and 4 women grandmasters.



Fifteen from the GMs have ELO over 2700. Five former European Champions are among the participants – Emil Sutovsky (ISR), Bartłomiej Maciejka (POL), Liviu-Dieter Nisipeanu (ROU), Zdenko Kozul (CRO) and Vladimir Potkin (RUS). The Championship will be played in 11 rounds according to the Swiss system with rate of play 90 minutes for 40 moves+30 minutes for the rest of the game+30 seconds increment per move, starting from move one. The total prize fund is 100.000 EURO.

VIP guests of the official Opening ceremony was the General Secretary of the European Chess Union Mrs. Sava Stoisavljevic, the Bulgarian minister of physical education and sports Mr. Svilen Neykov, the Mayor of Plovdiv Mr. Ivan Totev, the Governor of Plovdiv Mr. Zdravko Dimitrov, the head of the Budget committee of the Bulgarian Parliament Mrs. Menda Stoyanova and many others.



Official web site: [www.eicc2012.eu](http://www.eicc2012.eu)

