



# ECU 2030

Vision. Progress. Unity. European Chess.

**A VISION FOR EUROPEAN CHESS**  
**Our Achievements & Commitments**



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## What we did until now (2014–2025): -A modern ECU focused on development

Under the leadership of President Zurab Azmaiparashvili, the European Chess Union (ECU) has evolved into a comprehensive chess development organisation. Today, the ECU serves 54 member federations, reaching millions of chess players and enthusiasts across the continent.

### Educational Excellence

- **Chess in Primary Education Program:** Implementation of academic distance learning for chess teachers and tutors, focusing on pedagogical methodology and implementation across European countries.
- **ECU Training Hub:** The launch of [ecuhub.eu](https://ecuhub.eu) as a centralised digital access point for educational resources.
- **Trainer Licensing System:** Hundreds of licensed chess trainers and coaches across Europe, ensuring high instructional chess standards.
- **Innovation seminars and webinars for Chess Teachers**
- **A complete method and Teacher's kit** to teach chess in schools

### Championship Excellence

The ECU successfully delivers over 20 prestigious championships annually, seeing consistent growth in both participation and federation involvement. Key events include:

- **European Individual Championships** across age and rating categories (Open, Women's, Youth, Amateurs, Seniors)
- **European Team Championships** (Open, Women's, Seniors)
- **European Club Cups** (Open and Women's)
- Specialized championships in **Rapid, Blitz, and Fischer Random** formats
- **European Corporate Championships** engaging the business community and corporate partners.



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## Digital innovation and media development

- **Monthly E-magazine** with tournament reports, seminars, ECU commission activities, interviews, and chess puzzles.
- **Streaming ECU TV project:** Professional live coverage of major championships with the primary objective of reaching a global audience. By utilizing expert commentary and high-definition production, we aim to significantly expand viewership and bring European chess to fans in every corner of the world.
- **Stronger social media presence** across Facebook, Instagram, X/Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, increasing engagement and visibility.

## Strategic partnerships

- Partnerships such as **Sense Robot Chess**, bringing technology and marketing support to member federations
- Partnership with **Super Foundation**, the main supporter of Elite chess events in Europe with new projects like the Chess Super League 2026 (elite team competition with €300,000 prize fund), expanded education, and stronger digital delivery.

## Financial stability and consistency

The ECU's financial standing is currently at its strongest in history. Through disciplined fiscal management and a diversified revenue strategy, the organization has consistently achieved positive annual results. This has allowed for a significant increase in financial reserves, ensuring long-term sustainability and providing a robust safety net for future development projects and unforeseen global challenges.



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## What we will do (2026–2030): –Our commitments

Following years of institutional growth and stability, our vision for the 2026–2030 term is to elevate European chess to its next level of professional and social influence. We are committed to a strategy that balances the elite competitive circuit with grassroots development, ensuring that the ECU remains a modern, inclusive, and commercially viable organization. Our focus shifts toward deepening our digital integration, expanding our commercial reach, and providing even more direct, tailored support to each of our 54 member federations.

### Our approach (general commitments):

- **Federations first:** practical support, clear processes, and equal opportunity to participate
- **Grow participation and value:** more players, more events, better experiences, stronger legacy
- **Invest in people:** youth, talents, arbiters, trainers, organizers, volunteers
- **Modernize ECU:** digital tools, better communication, measurable outcomes
- **Continuation of Building trust:** transparency, good governance, and clear reporting
- **Sponsoring:** engagement with major Sponsors
- **Social Responsibility:** strengthen the positive influence of chess in society

Detailed program is under preparation.