

PRESS RELEASE

Initiative group for creation of a new International Chess Union aimed to unite chess professionals and experts in the area of chess sports, culture, education, business.

It's not a secret for anybody that nowadays chess loses step-by-step its leadership in an area of mind sports and games regarding the level of organization and the extent of investments being inferior to the card and computer games.

One of the most important reasons is the absence of the legal rights protection mechanism and the impossibility or sometimes even just lack of knowledge concerning chess players' juridical abilities.

Despite the fact that last years some attempts have been undertaken to change this state of things in chess – various public and professional chess organizations had been created – the time showed that to the point these organizations had been nonviable and directed to resolve local tasks not covering interests of all chess community.

It seems the time has come to change something.

We are convinced that to become an organization representing interests of wide range of chess experts it is necessary to develop the following directions:

- Representation and protection of social, economic rights and interests of all chess players and chess personalities: players, chess trainers, chess teachers, chess arbiters, chess managers, chess journalists, chess businessman and others, related to creative and professional interests in the area of chess art, culture, education, sports and business;

- Concrete marketing and sports projects (more details in the Program);

- Increasing the importance of the cultural and educational component of chess;

- Active collaboration with other mind games representatives and also mutual working out of educational program for all levels of education.

It is necessary particularly: to achieve the status of state employees for chess professionals and experts, to get the right of participation in FIDE leadership elections for the representatives of chess professionals, decrease the figures of payments for rating counting and title awarding, etc.

The name of the organization: International Professional Chess Union (ChessPro).

Along with an official headquarters in the place of registration in one of the countries of European Union it is planned to create the representative office in Moscow – on the basis of the Chess Department of the Russian State University of Physical Education, Sports, Youth and Tourism (<http://foreign.sportedu.ru>), under collaboration with numerous partners.

Dear colleagues, all chess friends, we hope for your understanding and support! We invite you to join a trade union of chess players! The more members will be the more preferences will receive - both economic, and social.

General meeting of members of trade union will take place in the Internet in the beginning of 2012 and it will elect Union's Council for the next two years. We invite everybody of You who would like to work in the Union we invite to propose yourselves as a candidate into the Council, as well as various commissions of the Union.

Yuri Averbakh (Russia)	Grandmaster, International Arbiter, FIDE Vice-President 1972-75
Evgenij Agrest (Sweden)	Grandmaster
Irina Alatorseva (Russia)	President of Chess Culture Development Fund
Alexey Barsov (Uzbekistan)	Grandmaster
Igor Berdichevski (Russia)	Grandmaster
Guenter Delhaes (Belgium)	President of Belgian Royal Chess Union
Eduard Dubov (Russia)	International Arbiter, Honourary FIDE Member
Igor Glek (Germany / Russia)	Grandmaster, FIDE Senior Trainer, FIDE International Organizer
Viktor Goncharov (Russia)	International Arbiter, FIDE International Organizer
Alexander Khalifman (Russia)	Grandmaster, FIDE World Champion 1999
Oleg Korneev (Russia / Spain)	Grandmaster
Nikolay Kralin (Russia)	Grandmaster of Chess Composition, Deputy Director of GPNTB
Ilena Krasenkova (Poland)	International Master
Irina Lymar (Ukraine/Russia)	Grandmaster, Advocate
Alexander Raetsky (Russia)	Grandmaster, International Arbiter, FIDE International Organizer
Alexey Shirov (Spain / Latvia)	Grandmaster, FIDE World Vice-Champion 2000

2011 Decemer 27th

Temporary web-site address of the Union in the Internet:

www.chess-events.org/en_US/ChessPro.html

Contact: unionchess@gmail.com