



Upon the request from the letter of IM (WGM) Ekaterina Atalik, sent to the European Chess Union on 22nd April, I bring the following

## **DECISION**

To allow the individual registration of Ekaterina Atalik for the participation at the European Individual Women's Championship in Belgrade, as well as her participation under the ECU flag.

With respect to the rating and other rights in relation to the participation in this tournament, the current federation to which Mrs. Atalik belongs shall be taken into account.

This decision is in no connection, nor does it prejudice the status and internal relations between Mrs. Atalik and Turkish Chess Federation.

### *Reasoning:*

Mrs. Ekaterina Atalik submitted the abovementioned request to the European Chess Union office on 22nd April. At the ECU Board meeting in Legnica, it was decided to contact the Turkish Chess Federation before bringing a decision and ask the Federation's opinion with regard to this request.

The European Chess Union sent a letter to the Turkish Chess Federation on 15th May, and received an answer on 11th June. Judging by Mrs. Atalik's letter and the answer of the Turkish Chess Federation, it is evident that the two parties have a completely different position concerning Mrs. Atalik's participation, as well as that the sent request is in connection with the long history of their internal relations.

The European Chess Union and its President do not wish to take the role of arbiters in this dispute, nor is it a matter within their competence. In addition, by this decision we do not wish to influence Mrs. Atalik's potential change of federation.

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Simply, when bringing this decision we were led exclusively by sports motives, as we believe that it is not acceptable for a former European champion not to participate in this tournament. Additionally, it is completely evident from the received correspondence that Mrs. Atalik's participation is only possible by allowing it in this decision, and in no other way.

According to the European Chess Union documentation, this kind of decision has been reached for the same competition at least twice so far. Therefore, we believe that it is not an unknown way when temporarily trying to find a solution in situations of this kind.

**European Chess Union  
President**



**Silvio Danailov**

Sent to:

- *Mrs. Ekaterina Atalik*
- *Turkish Chess Federation*
- *Organisers of the tournament in Belgrade*
- *ECU archive*

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