



MAYOR OF TALLINN

H.E. Kirsan N. Iljumzhinov
President
FIDE Congress

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Tallinn, the capital of Estonia has been chosen to become the European Capital of Culture in 2011. The same year we will celebrate the 95th anniversary of Estonian chess grand master Paul Keres who was voted last century's best sportsman by the whole Estonian nation.

Throughout times, chess has been an important part of Estonian sports and culture and that to a large extent due to Paul Keres and his legacy. To honour the grand master's legacy the city of Tallinn has established the Paul Keres' Chess House and the Museum of Paul Keres. In Estonia every year we give out the Paul Keres honest game prize and hold the Paul Keres memorial tournament (supported by the city of Tallinn).


The city of Tallinn has decided to support the application of the Estonian Chess Federation to organize the chess World Cup tournament in Tallinn in 2011, an event where the best chess players of the world will compete for the highest title in chess. This kind of top level sports and cultural event would be very suitable and play a remarkable role in the program of the European Capital of Culture year and the celebrations the 95th anniversary of Paul Keres. Tallinn and Estonia would be honoured to organize the chess World Cup tournament.

We hereby confirm that the city of Tallinn would do everything in its power to make sure, that the participants, trainers and guests of the World Cup have a very pleasant stay in our capital city and that the tournament is organized professionally and according to the modern requirements for this kind of event.

We sincerely hope that the FIDE Congress will give the right to organize the World Cup tournament in 2011 to Estonia and that this important chess tournament will become an essential part of the program of our European Capital of Culture events.

The city of Tallinn is looking optimistically towards the future and is also willing to support the application for organizing the Chess Olympics on 2016 in Estonia, which is also the year when Estonia will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Paul Keres.

Yours Sincerely


Edgar Savisaar
Mayor of Tallinn

+372 6404570 Prit Silver