



GENS UNA SUMUS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

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Moscow

Russian Federation

HE Jüri Ratas

Prime Minister

Republic of Estonia

Your Excellency,

Today we are honouring one of the world chess legend and Grandmaster Paul Keres with another spectacular tournament. This has become a tradition as it is taking place already for the 7th time. What makes this event even more unique is that it always takes place in the park here at Paul Keres street and it is organized by you and your team.

I have been in Estonia many times, last time I was there for the Paul Keres 100 chess conference and the opening of the European rapid and blitz chess competitions. Estonia has a long and outstanding chess tradition. This was especially marked by nominating Paul Keres as the sportsman of the century in Estonia.

When organizing the FIDE Presidential Board meeting in Tallinn with the Estonian Chess Federation in 2007, I had the honour to meet with you and we talked about different chess traditions and the future of chess in Estonia. I am happy that many International chess events have been organized here during the recent years and that there is a good cooperation between the Estonian Chess Federation and FIDE.

It is not usual that the Prime Minister together with his team are organizing a chess tournament to honour a great Grandmaster. This is a great achievement and extremely important for the local chess community.

Once again I would like to thank you for your contribution and support for the Estonian chess community. I wish you and more than 200 participants here today lots of success and happiness.

Sincerely yours,

Kirsan Iljumzhinov
FIDE President