European Overview

Jesper Hall
John Foley
ECU Education Commission

London Chess Conference
10 December 2016
ECU Education Commission

- Commission created 2014 after Tromsö Olympiad
- 11 people in the Commission
- Chairman: Jesper Hall (Sweden)
- Secretary: Alexander Kostyev (Russia)
Survey Data Issues

• Few Federations keep statistics
• Many Federations lack resources (30/54 response)
• Lack of control:
  ✴ Separate CiS organisations
  ✴ Autonomous regions
  ✴ Private teaching
• Definition of “Chess in Schools” varies:
  ✴ Competition-only activities
  ✴ Within-school v After-school
  ✴ Remote learning via internet
5-Map Summary

- Level of Activity of Chess in Schools
- Public Funding
- Federation Involvement
- National Chess Curriculum
- Chess an Official Sport
Survey results
Chess in Schools activity

Map showing the level of chess activities in schools across Europe, with different colors indicating no response, high, and moderate levels.
Four CiS Archetypes

- Child centred
- Teacher centred
- Public funding
- Private funding

Countries:
- Sweden
- Russia
- England
- Turkey
The Main Issues

Survey Results
Biggest CiS Problem

25 countries
Role of the ECU - Federation Preferences

- Pedagogy
- Cooperation
- Lobby
- Finance/Research

25 countries
Role of ECU

- Website
  - Pedagogy
  - Cooperation
  - Lobbying
  - Finance/Research

- Materials
  - Partnering
  - Conference
  - Public Relations
  - Finance

- Training
  - Pedagogy
  - Cooperation
  - Lobbying
  - Finance/Research

25 countries
Conclusions

❖ Chess in Schools is a rapidly growing movement
❖ There is huge diversity in how CiS is implemented
❖ Vital role for a central organisation to establish chess as a pedagogical tool
❖ Survey to be continued: how many children play chess in school?
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