

Dear Members of the Amsterdam City Council,

Subject: Max Euwe Center

Dear Members,

We understand the subsidy the City of Amsterdam has provided to the Max Euwe Center for some twentyfour years is at risk of being withdrawn.

The Max Euwe Center is unique in the world of chess. It was established in 1986 in honor of the only Chess World Champion the Dutch have produced, Professor Dr. Max Euwe, who later also became President of the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

The Max Euwe Center (MEC) initially directed its energies towards maintaining a small museum and a modest library which contained part of Euwe's chess inheritance and his books. Since then, the museum (run by dedicated and friendly volunteers) has been expanded with chess sets from all over the world and a large collection of unique photographs related to chess tournaments and matches. In addition to the fixed museum, exhibitions succeed each other on a regular basis.

The library now contains well over 10,000 books on a wide range of chess subjects and a large number of journals, both domestic and foreign. They may deal with purely technical matters, but also with the history of chess and the interconnections between chess and numerous fields of science. Chess, after all, is more than just a game.

Every year the MEC organizes a big summer chess festival with top grandmasters giving simultaneous displays. As part of the MEC's objective to promote chess, regular training sessions are being organized at the Center, newsletters appear a few times a year, schools frequently visit, an exchange market is held twice a year, and during important matches the Center provides a running commentary.

B. Ivanuk

VASYL IVANCHUK

24.08.2015 year

Lviv, Ukraine

Last year the MEC had 2,250 visitors from sixty different countries. In 1991 the City decided to name the square in honor of Max Euwe – now to withdraw the subsidy could be the end of the Center and would seem to be a very shortsighted decision.

We therefore urge you to reconsider your decision.

Yours truly,

B. Ivanchuk

24. 08. 2015 year Lviv, Ukraine

Vasil Ivanchuk, Grandmaster and World Elite Player for many years