

## EDU Report for 2021 FIDE Council

The most important lines of the work carried out by the Commission this year:

- Preparation of Lecturers
- Preparation of Teachers
- Pre-School – Early Years Skills
- Pre-School – creation of non-psychomotricity model
- Development of a University ‘Chess 101’ course
- Development of a new programme for the preparation of teachers in universities
- Promotion and Marketing
- Global Survey of Chess in Schools Worldwide.
- EDU development & Strategy
- Conferences
- Commission work – cooperation with other Commissions
- Commission work – other aspects

### Preparation of Lecturers

This is an entirely new course (PoL), to prepare the Lecturers (Chess in Education Lecturers – CELs) who would then train the teachers who deliver educational chess in the classroom. Two years in development by eight members of Armenia’s Chess Scientific Research Institute (CSRI) and three members of the EDU Commission, a pilot course was run 12-14 February, 2021. This was followed by feedback meetings and the course was modified accordingly.

Two courses in English have since been held, in March and June, resulting in net income (on average per course) to FIDE of about €1400 of which about €500 is to be applied to EDU expenditure.

The course will be translated into Spanish, French and Arabic, following on from the PoT course (below).

There is now a pool of 38 CELs, including 4 Arabic, 4 Spanish, and 1 French.

### Preparation of Teachers

This course (PoT) replaces the School Instructor course which we ran 2012-2018. It continues to award the School Instructor title. Like the PoL course, it has been two years in development by eight members of Armenia’s Chess Scientific Research Institute (CSRI) and three members of the EDU Commission.

A pilot course was run 16-18 April, 2021. This was followed by feedback meetings and the course was modified accordingly.

Two courses in English have since been held, in May and July, resulting in **net** income (after payment of Lecturer fees) on average per course to FIDE of about €3000 of which about €1350 is to be applied to EDU expenditure.

The course is currently being translated into Spanish, French and Arabic and courses in these languages will be held in September and October.

The course has added 69 new School Instructors to the 619 from the old programme, (total 688).

### **Pre-School – Early Years Skills (psychomotricity)**

The new contract (replacing that signed in 2015 and which had been ‘running on empty’ since 2018) was signed between FIDE and the copyright holders (AlfiereBianco) and publishers (Le Due Torri) in January. Le Due Torri are providing 6 e-books in three languages (two each in English, Spanish and French). They, together with the upgraded web site ([eys.fide.com](http://eys.fide.com)) which will include an online exam for kindergarten teachers to qualify to teach the programme, will be complete by the end of the year.

### **Pre-School – creation of non-psychomotricity model**

Creation of an online model for the training of lecturers and kindergarten teachers of a pre-school chess course different from our psychomotricity Early Years Skills course. The programme, being developed in Armenia, has attracted a grant of €10.000 from the IOC.

### **Development of a University ‘Chess 101’ course**

A University ‘Chess 101’ course to improve students’ thinking. NB The background to this was covered in some detail in our document [2020 1109 UNI Minutes](#)). Among those collaborating on this project is the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

### **Development of a new programme for the preparation of teachers in universities**

NB The background to this was covered in some detail in our document *2020 1109 UNI Minutes*). Currently, we are holding discussions and doing research to create a model to be introduced in 2022.

### **Promotion and Marketing**

Creation of a new edition of our booklet *Chess – A Tool for Education & Health*.

The 2018 edition was distributed in Batumi 2018 in a print edition (English) thanks to sponsorship by DGT and is available in 4 languages (English, French, Spanish and German) as a free PDF download from <https://edu.fide.com/why-chess/> The new edition will bring everything up to date, to have a suitable promotional tool for FIDE.

## **Global Survey of Chess in Schools Worldwide.**

The global survey of Chess in Schools Worldwide has been completed, with 196 responses from 151 countries, and a final report published (<https://cloud.fide.com/s/c3EYQ8J5Bmo5AHc>) as part of an online seminar on 28 May. The survey, financed by FIDE and conducted as a joint venture between FIDE, ECU & CSRI, was led by Dana Reizniece-Ozola, Jesper Hall (ECU) and Jerry Nash (FIDE-EDU). Many in-depth follow-up interviews involved Leontxo Garcia (FIDE-EDU). A tremendous amount of work was done by CSRI, especially on data analysis.

## **EDU development & Strategy**

Work on the Strategic plan began in April. A draft report of recommendations was received from the Certification and Endorsement group (headed by Boris Bruhn dated 28 June, received 2 July) as input to the Strategy group (headed by Jerry Nash) and is expected to be completed in August.

Advisory sub groups, with input to the Strategy group were established by Leontxo Garcia (Spanish speaking) and Sami Khader (Asia).

## **Conferences**

Preparatory work for the FIDE-EDU Conference online (20-21 November, 2021) is just getting under way. The Conference will be in Spanish and English (simultaneously) and will cover three main directions : kindergarten, school and high school.

Members of the Commission, especially Chairman, Honorary Chairman, Councillors Uvencio Blanco, Leontxo Garcia, and webmaster Luis Blasco de la Cruz have taken part in the following conferences:

January 8 Online (Romania) EDU Honorary Chairman gave a presentation that concentrated mainly on challenging stereotypical thinking about what is ‘chess in school’, ‘chess in education,’ and ‘educational chess’ (<https://edu.fide.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-0108-EDU-CiS-ROM.pdf>)

February 20-21 Online (Peru - Peon Ocho Rey) 1 Congreso Internacional de Ajedrez Preescolar – Leontxo Garcia presentation.

March 22-25 Online (Mexico) 1 Congreso Internacional Ajedrez Pedagogico e Inclusivo – Luis Blasco presentation.

April 14 Online (Chile) Ajedrez y Educacion

July 24-25 IV Congreso Internacional de Ajedrez Educativo Online (Peru) – Uvencio Blanco presentation.

## **Commission work – cooperation with other Commissions**

SOC: Commission Chairman devoted much time and effort to working on FIDE’s Chess in Prisons initiative. He introduced the post-event evaluation system of a social project carried out by FIDE

(Armenian psychologists/sociologists have developed a special survey for inmates to evaluate the impact of the project). That is special; probably to be used in other Commissions' work as well.

TRG: Discussions with and suggestions to TRG (requested by them) for a module of an hour or two to be presented by EDU lecturers during TRG seminars to explain what 'educational chess' is, how it differs from competitive or sportive chess, and what its advantages are.

TRG: EDU Chairman and Dana Reizniece-Ozola acted as jurists for the TRG awards to be announced on 21 July.

TRG: Following discussions, EDU Chairman gave recommendations about the criteria for FIDE Academies.

EVE: EDU worked closely with EVE to develop the World Universities Blitz and Rapid Championships which were held for the first time in March.

EVE: An EDU initiative has resulted in agreement on regulations for the 1<sup>st</sup> World Schools Team Online Chess Super Cup which will be held in 2022.

EVE: EDU Commission provided Input to the MoU with the International School Sports Federation (ISF), especially educational aspects of that agreement.

DIS: Cooperation with DIS began in 2020 and is to be developed along the lines we had discussed for teaching the visually impaired.

### **Commission work – other aspects**

Substantial progress was made with the development of Continental Chess in Education Commissions. The African Commission, headed by EDU member Mothokomedi Thabano and the Asian group, led by Sami Khader were added this year, making a complete set.

Luis Blasco de la Cruz celebrated the second anniversary of his appointment as FIDE-EDU's webmaster. He has also done much work to promote chess for ADHD.

Leontxo Garcia has been heavily involved in the development of the Spanish Pavilion for EXPO Dubai, which takes chess as a major theme.

Meetings with ministries and other high-level organizations dealing with education or youth are important for the promotion of educational chess around the world. Such meetings have been held this year with Montenegro Ministry of Education (Dana Reizniece-Ozola), European University Sports Association chairman Adam Roscek (EDU Chairman),

EDU Chairman

Smbat Lputian

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