



WORLD CHESS
THE BEST MIND WINS



World Chess Candidates tournament was won by Russia

On the 29 of March the closing ceremony of the 2016 Candidates Tournament was held at Moscow's multifunctional space DI Telegraph. The competition was organized by Agon Limited as part of the World Chess Federation (FIDE) World Championship cycle. Tashir Group was the event's General Partner. The Russian grandmaster Sergey Karjakin won the right to play against the current World Champion—the Norwegian Magnus Carlsen in New York City on November 10 to 30.

The closing ceremony was attended by the Aide to the Russian President Igor Levitin, the President of the Russian Olympic Committee and First Deputy Speaker of the State Duma Alexander Zhukov, FIDE's President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, Deputy Sports Minister Pavel Kolobkov and notable Russian businessmen, including representatives of Tashir. Mr. Ilyumzhinov awarded Sergey Karjakin the gold medal.

"I would like to thank these eight very strong players who gave us viewers the joy of watching them in action and congratulate Sergey Karjakin on winning," said the head of FIDE. "From November 10 to November 30 in New York City there will be a battle of the century—two young players, peers born in 1990, will meet over the game board."

"We have hoped to see a Russian player fight for the highest title for a long time, and it finally happened. I thank Sergey Karjakin for the bravery he displayed during the tournament, the Chess Federation, the Ministry of Sports and everyone who was involved in organizing the competition. In sports the best man wins, and I am glad this candidate will represent Russia. I wish him luck at the most important game of the century," said Igor Levitin.

Alexander Zhukov said: "I want to express my gratitude to all the participants, they gave immense pleasure to the millions of the world's chess lovers who followed the games. The last game, when the winner was determined, could hardly have been more exciting. I think all Russian chess lovers are happy that Sergey Karjakin was the winner and will be the challenger."

In turn, Mr. Karjakin shared his feelings after the triumph: "Thanks everyone who supported me and everyone who helped to bring this competition about. The

tournament was first-class! And I will be glad to represent Russia in New York City—as a Russian and a Crimean.”

For reference

FIDE

World Chess Federation (FIDE) is recognized by its members and the IOC as the international overseer of the chess sport and all international chess competitions. FIDE has exclusive rights to hold World Championships and Chess Olympics.

Agon Limited

Agon Limited is the official partner of FIDE, owner of the World Chess brand and commercial rights to organize all competitions in the championship cycle. The company’s goal is development and commercialization of chess, making the most intellectual of sports attractive to sponsors, media and the general public.

The company received its commercial entitlements in 2012, in 2012–2013 it organized the Grand Prix series, in 2014 the World Championship game in Sochi, in 2015 the Fast Chess World Championship in Berlin. It manages official translation of championship-cycle events at worldchess.com.

Tashir Group

Tashir is a diversified federation-wide group of companies founded in 1999 and uniting over 200 companies in various sectors of Russia’s economy, including construction, manufacturing, finance, energy, development, and retail. Its staff totals over 45,000 people. The company’s geography covers 25 cities of Russia and neighboring states. Tashir’s founder and President is Samvel Karapetyan; the company is headquartered in Moscow.

The Group’s primary business is development and managing of commercial real estate, with a focus on retail and residential estate. Tashir is a leader in development in Russia and has so far built 2.5 million sq m of modern, hi-tech commercial and residential real estate.