



ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT – 13 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Electoral Commission (hereinafter, the ELC), composed of Roberto Rivello (Chairman of the Constitutional Commission), Yolander Persaud (Chairwoman of the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission) and Allen Priest (Chairman of the Verification Commission), met remotely, using online means and electronic communications. It examined and discussed the following agenda items and unanimously adopted the following decisions.

1) COMPLAINTS AND REQUESTS RELATED TO THE FINAL LIST OF DELEGATES

After the publication on the FIDE website, on 9 September 2026, of the final list of the Member Federations entitled to vote and their delegates, the Electoral Commission received further requests for changes and a complaint concerning the names of the Delegates of the following Member Federations: Sudan (received on 10 September 2026), Philippines (received on 11 September 2026), and Cambodia (received on 12 September 2026).

In the last published list, the following are the names indicated as President and Delegate for these Member Federations:

Federation	President	Delegate
Cambodia	Hout, Ly	Hout, Ly
Philippines	Pichay, Prospero	Pichay, Prospero
Sudan	Omer Deab	Omer Deab

In accordance with the Electoral Rules (underlining added to certain passages and words deemed of greater relevance):

- 3.6 Sixty (60) days before elections, the FIDE Offices shall make public, on FIDE website, and sending them to all Member Federations, a list of Member Federations having right to vote and a separate list of suspended Member Federations, if any, together with the names of the Presidents and FIDE Delegates, specifying who is deputed to exercise the right to vote. Until thirty (30) days before elections, each Member Federation can communicate any election or nomination of a different FIDE Delegate or President.

Communications received after that date will not be taken into account for the purposes of the legitimacy to exercise the right the vote. Only in case of proven impossibility of the person entitled to exercise the right to vote, communicated no later than fifteen (15) days before the elections, the FIDE Delegate of a Member Federation may be replaced by the President of that Federation, or the President by the FIDE Delegate, and only if their names were already included in the above-mentioned list. Immediately after this deadline the Electoral Commission shall verify the lists, approving a final version of them that the FIDE Offices shall make public, on FIDE website, the latest twelve (12) days before elections, by 6.00 PM CET time.

- 3.8 Complaints related to the participation of the FIDE Delegate in the President's place or vice versa may be submitted no later than 2 days from the date of publication of such a list, by 6.00 PM CET time. Complaints submitted after the deadline cannot be considered.

Cambodia

On 12 September 2026 Mr Ly Hout, President of the Cambodian Chess Federation, communicated that he was admitted to hospital, needing medical care, “therefore I now appoint El Rozak as Delegate for Cambodia”.

However, in accordance with Article 3.6 of the Electoral Rules, in cases of “proven impossibility of the person entitled to exercise the right to vote” - which would apply here - communicated no later than fifteen (15) days before the elections - which is not the case, since the request was communicated after the applicable deadline of 11 September 2026 expired - “the FIDE Delegate of a Member Federation may be replaced by the President of that Federation, or the President by the FIDE Delegate, and only if their names were already included in the list” published before. This condition is not met, since, for the Cambodian Chess Federation, Mr Ly Hout was previously indicated both as President and Delegate of the Federation, while the name of Mr El Rozak did not appear in any previous list. Therefore, the request for a change cannot be authorised.

Philippines

On the 11 September 2026, the Chess Federation of the Philippines communicated “the appointment of Grandmaster Jayson O. Gonzales as the FIDE Delegate of the Philippines”.

Also in this case, not all the conditions indicated in Article 3.6 of the Electoral Rules are met: the request was communicated before the applicable deadline of 11 September 2026, but this is not a case of “proven impossibility of the person entitled to exercise the right to vote”; and Mr Prospero Pichay was previously indicated both as President and Delegate of the Federation, while the name of Mr Jayson O. Gonzales did not appear in any previous list. Therefore, the request for a change cannot be authorised.

Sudan

On the 10 September 2026, the Sudan Federation asked to change the name of Sudan delegate from Mr Omer Deab to Ms Amina Ahmed, indicating that this was not a new request: on 27 August 2026, the Board of Directors of the Sudan Chess Federation heard directly from Mr Omer Deab and was fully informed of his medical condition and the difficulties preventing him from travelling and attending the FIDE General Assembly and, after considering his medical circumstances, the Board decided to replace Mr Omer Deab with Ms Amina Ahmed as the official delegate of the Sudan Chess Federation, then the Sudan Chess Federation immediately notified FIDE of the change, on the same day, 27 August 2026, within the communicated deadline for changing delegates.

The Electoral Commission has verified that the FIDE Secretariat received the above-mentioned communication on the 27 August 2026 but after 6.00 PM CET time, at the 8.40 PM CET time.

For the submission of candidacies (art. 21.5, 22.3, 24.2, 26.2), as well as for the submission of complaints regarding the right to vote (art. 3.6), Electoral Rules clearly specify both the day and the hour of the deadline, 6.00 PM CET time; but the same art. 3.6 of the Electoral Rules is less explicit for what regards the change of delegate, that must be “communicated no later than fifteen (15) days before the elections”, therefore, as already indicated in a previous report, given that interpretation by analogy is a widespread principle of interpretation, but it is not applicable in cases where it would result in specific effects that significantly impact the rights of individuals, the ELC considers that the 6:00 PM CET deadline established for the submission of candidacies does not extend to the submission of requests of change of delegate, that in this case may be regarded as having been submitted in due time.

Therefore, the request can be authorised, and **Ms Amina Ahmed** can be recognised as Delegate of the Sudan Chess Federation.

Except for the Delegate of the Sudan Chess Federation, the Electoral Commission does not approve any other change to the final lists of the suspended Member Federations and of the Member Federations entitled to vote and their Delegates.

2) COMPLAINTS REGARDING CANDIDATURES FOR THE POSITIONS OF ELECTED VICE PRESIDENTS

Complaint against the candidature of Mr. David Llada

On 2 September 2026, the Spanish Chess Federation (FEDA) submitted an official complaint to the Electoral Commission against Mr. David Llada, as a candidate for FIDE Vice President, regarding public statements posted on X on 18 August 2026. FEDA alleged that Mr. Llada made unsubstantiated accusations of corruption by strongly implying that FEDA exchanged its vote in the upcoming FIDE elections for the right to

host the FIDE World Youth Championships U7-U17 in Roquetas de Mar. Clarifying that it had stepped in at short notice after Brazil withdrew as host, and highlighting its long-standing history of organizing major FIDE events, FEDA maintained that Llada's public comments were damaging to the reputation of FEDA, FIDE, and the event itself, thereby violating Articles 11.6(b), 11.6(c), and 11.9(j) of the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Code. Consequently, FEDA requested that the Electoral Commission declare Mr. Llada in breach of the Code and impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions.

The Electoral Commission, having communicated a copy of the complaint to Mr. Llada, assigned him a deadline for his defences or observations.

On 8 September 2026, Mr Llada submitted a statement, requesting the full dismissal of the complaint. Mr. Llada argued that public speculation regarding FEDA's electoral preferences would be a legitimate consequence of the federation's persistent refusal to transparently disclose its voting intentions to its assembly members, despite direct public requests. Drawing upon personal experience from a September 2021 meeting with FEDA President Javier Ochoa, Llada maintained that his social media comments represented fair political commentary on FIDE governance and event-allocation practices rather than a specific, unsubstantiated allegation of corruption against FEDA. Asserting that suppressing such critical discourse during an election campaign would harm open democratic debate and fail the standard for ethical violations under Articles 11.6 and 11.9 of the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Code, he asked the Electoral Commission to reject the complaint in its entirety.

The Electoral Commission observes that the complaint submitted by the Spanish Chess Federation does not regard the eligibility of the candidate, the verification of the existence of the conditions listed in art. 4.1 of the Electoral Rules. Nor Mr. Lada has submitted any complaint regarding the right to vote of the Spanish Chess Federation or its Delegate.

Therefore, this complaint does not regard an issue of exclusive competence of the Electoral Commission.

The complaint regards an alleged violation of the Ethics and Disciplinary Code.

The Ethics and Disciplinary Commission is usually competent to decide on these complaints, including where the alleged conduct is attributable to electoral candidates in FIDE elections, following the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission Procedural Rules.

The Electoral Commission may as well have competence to decide on complaints on alleged breaches of FIDE Ethics and Disciplinary Code, but as an exception: when the complaint is submitted in the two months before elections and within two weeks following the event which gives rise to the complaint -and this would be the case-, and if the Electoral Commission opines that it is possible to reach a decision prior to the date of the elections while respecting the parties' rights of defence, in accordance with the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission Procedural Rules, bearing in mind that the

Electoral Commission has competence only “until elections” and, in addition, “cannot impose the most severe sanction of the exclusion of a candidate from the election in the period starting from fifteen days before elections”. This second condition is not fulfilled in this case.

Otherwise, the Electoral Commission may only adopt any *interim* measures it deems necessary, as for the remainder, the Electoral Commission must refer the case to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission, which can then process it in full compliance with its procedural rules and the rights of the parties.

On these bases, given that there are no requests, nor reasons for the Electoral Commission to adopt any *interim* measure, the validity of the candidature of Mr. Llada is confirmed and the case is referred to the Ethics and Disciplinary Commission.

Complaint against the candidature of Mr. Pavel Kolobkov

On 2 September 2026, Mr. Oleksandr Kamyshin (President of the Ukrainian Chess Federation), Mr. George Mastrokoulou (candidate for FIDE Vice-President), and David Llada (candidate for FIDE Vice-President) submitted a formal complaint to the Electoral Commission challenging the eligibility of Mr. Pavel Kolobkov (“listed as RUS”) for the position of elected FIDE Vice-President. The complainants argued that because the Chess Federation of Russia was suspended by the FIDE Council on June 10, 2026, Article 13.6 of the FIDE Charter explicitly bars its officials and representatives from participating in any FIDE congress, event, or governance activity, thereby forfeiting the right to stand for Council office. Warning that allowing an ineligible candidate on the ballot creates a severe legal risk of setting aside and rerunning the entire Vice-President election, the complainants requested that the Electoral Commission declare Kolobkov ineligible under Articles 10 and 13.6 of the FIDE Charter and remove his name from the final list of candidates.

The Electoral Commission, having communicated a copy of the complaint to Mr. Kolobkov, assigned him a deadline for his defences or observations.

On 9 September 2026, Mr. Pavel Kolobkov submitted his answer to the Electoral Commission, requesting the complete dismissal of the complaint. Refuting the complainants' allegations, Mr. Kolobkov emphasized that his candidature was validly nominated by the Member Federations of Belarus, Cuba, and Tajikistan, and not by the Chess Federation of Russia, and clarified that he holds no current office, position, or mandate within the Chess Federation of Russia that would trigger the restrictions of Article 13.6 of the FIDE Charter. Maintaining that Russian citizenship alone does not constitute being a federation official, that FIDE Council members serve in their individual capacity, and that maintaining his candidacy fully respects the binding CAS award without creating a nationality-based exclusion, he asked the Electoral

Commission to apply the published electoral rules strictly and confirm his eligibility for the upcoming election.

The Electoral Commission observes that the suspension of the Russian Chess Federation does not imply a sanction against all Russian citizens. Mr. Kolobkov does not represent the Russian Federation, and he has never incurred any sanction of ineligibility, ban or exclusion from office, in relation to any violation of the FIDE Ethics and Disciplinary Code. In addition, it has to be reminded that, in accordance with art. 16.9 of the FIDE Charter, “persons elected or nominated as members of FIDE organs shall sit on those organs in their individual capacity and must act exclusively in the best interest of FIDE, without undue influence from third parties, their Member Federation or FIDE Continent”.

Therefore, the complaint is rejected and the validity of the candidature of Mr. Kolobkov is confirmed.

Complaint against the inadmissibility of the candidature of Mr. Benjamin Hoareau

The Electoral Commission rejected as inadmissible the candidature of Mr. Benjamin Hoareau, given that he did not submit, before the previewed deadline, a valid application.

On 11 September 2026 Mr. Benjamin Hoareau submitted a complaint against this decision, indicating that he “was not aware of the fact that” he “had to submit an application letter as it is my first time I am applying to contest in this election. Hence see attached letter of application”.

A not sufficient knowledge of the FIDE Rules is not a justification for not respecting the previewed deadlines. Therefore, the complaint is rejected, and the candidature of Mr. Benjamin Hoareau is not valid.

3) COMPLAINTS REGARDING CANDIDATURES FOR THE POSITIONS OF ZONAL PRESIDENTS AND UPDATED LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITIONS OF ZONAL PRESIDENTS

Complaint against the candidature of Mr. Husan Turdaliev

On 4 September 2026, the Uzbekistan Chess Federation submitted a complaint against the candidature of Mr. Husan Turdaliev for the position of Zonal President of Zone 3.4, observing that the Uzbekistan Chess Federation has formally decided to nominate and support Ms Hulkar Tohirjonova as its sole candidate for the position of Zonal President of Zone 3.4 and has never nominated, endorsed or otherwise authorised the candidature of Mr Turdialiev for this position.

The Electoral Commission, having communicated a copy of the complaint to Mr. Mr. Turdaliev, assigned him a deadline for his defences or observations.

On 11 September 2026, Mr. Husan Turdaliev submitted his answer to the Electoral Commission, requesting the complete dismissal of the complaint, having no legal grounds.

As already indicated in a previous report, the Electoral Commission observes that art. 26 of the FIDE Electoral Rules does not indicate as mandatory to receive a nomination for the positions of Zonal Presidents. The ELC opines that the point, being debated, could be better clarified in the future, but, currently, nominations cannot be considered necessary for the candidature.

Therefore, the compliant is rejected and the candidature of Mr. Husan Turdaliev is confirmed.

Updated list of candidatures for the positions of Zonal Presidents

In the report decided on the 30 August 2026, the Electoral Commission noted that, for some Zones, there were no valid candidatures, and decided that, if all Member Federations belonging to a given Zone express their consensus, and if no candidacies have been submitted, a new deadline for submitting candidacies may be authorised, at the latest by 10 September 2026.

Before the stipulated deadline, FIDE Offices received some new candidatures, that can be considered valid, while Mr. Sanjay Kumar Chadha (IND) has withdrawn his candidacy for Zone 3.7.

Therefore, the Electoral Commission approves the following updated list of candidatures:

Europe

Zone 1.1

Dominic Cross (POR)

Zone 1.2

Andre Voigtlin (SUI)

Zone 1.4

Milan Roman (SVK)

Zone 1.7

Toms Kalnins (LAT)

Zone 1.9

Oleksandr Kamyshin (UKR)

Zone 1.10:

Paris Klerides (CYP)

Americas

Zone 2.1

Allen Priest (USA)

Zone 2.2

Victor Plotkin (CAN)

Zone 2.3

Allan Herbert (BAR)

Zone 2.4

Kaiser Luiz Mafra (BRA)

Victor Pimentel Mendoza (PER)

Zone 2.5

Alejandra Andrea Diaz Sepulveda (CHI)

Asia

Zone 3.1

Dhafer Abdulameer Madhloom (IRQ)

Sabri AbdulMawla Sallam (YEM)

Zone 3.2

Syed Shahab Uddin (BAN)

Malinda Seneviratne (SRI)

Zone 3.4

Aizharkyn Shyngys Kyzy (KGZ)

Zafar Mirzo (TJK)

Vepa Malikgulyyev (TKM)

Hulkar Tohirjonova (UZB)

Khusan Turdialiev (UZB)

Zone 3.5

Huanyuv Chen (CHN)

Zone 3.6

Shaun Patrick Press (PNG)

Elections for the Zones of the African Continent were already held, in July 2026.

4) OTHER COMPLAINTS – OTHER ISSUES

In its report of the 5 September 2026, the Electoral Commission already examined the request “for urgent interim measures” submitted on 18 August 2026 by candidates for FIDE President Jan Henric Buettner and Deputy President Malcolm Pein, regarding the bidding timetable for the 2028 and 2029 FIDE World Championships, concluding that it was not a complaint having as object alleged violations of the Code of Ethics and did not concern matters included among the competences of the Electoral Commission, therefore that request could not be examined by the Electoral Commission.

In the same communication by Mr. Buettner and Mr Pein, it was reported that “President Viswanathan Anand responded to concerns we had raised regarding institutional neutrality during the presidential campaign”, stating “that the neutrality principle guides all actions of the Federation, its officers, and its employees”, and assuring that “no candidate will be afforded institutional advantage”, but it was also requested that “until the election has concluded, no FIDE official, Council member, Management Board member, Events Commission member, employee, adviser or other person acting on behalf of FIDE communicate privately with individual member federations concerning: the prospects of any particular bid; the likelihood that a federation may receive a particular championship; encouragement or recommendations to seek particular events; possible preferences among prospective bidders; or any commitment, assurance or indication concerning the future allocation of FIDE events, save for strictly neutral administrative information made equally available to all member

federations; and any preliminary expressions of interest already received be held confidentially and not disclosed outside those persons strictly necessary for their administrative receipt until the presidential election has concluded. These measures are preventative rather than punitive. They require no finding of wrongdoing by any individual and no determination regarding the motives behind the present timetable”.

The Electoral Commission did not interpret this part of the request as separated from the request of *interim* measures regarding the bidding timetable for the 2028 and 2029 FIDE World Championships.

After the publication of the report, Mr. Buettner asked if the Electoral Commission has decided on this part too.

Given that, from one side, this is not a complaint against specifically individuated FIDE officers and employees, therefore the Electoral Commission has no competence on that, and, from a different point of view, the Electoral Commission will do its best to assure that electoral procedures will be organised assuring full neutrality and equal conditions for all candidates, no other decisions have to be taken by the Electoral Commission,

13 September 2026

The Electoral Commission