

Skopje (Solidarnost) 1967 – 1971 and 1976

Skopje, Macedonia (former Yugoslavia), **Turnir solidarnosti (Solidarnost)** 1967 – 1971, and 1976, held at Skopje, sometimes including the two nearby villages of Krusevo and / or Ohrid. Plus the **Karpos Open**, played annually at Skopje; and some minor closed tournaments (eg. 1991).

→ **20th Chess Olympiad 1972** at Skopje:

Skopje was the first Olympiad which combined the men and women tournament at the same place!

Skopje, the Macedonian capital is on its way to reclaim the fame and its chess tradition, which it enjoyed at the time of the former Yugoslavia, chess force to reckon with. After the unfortunate earthquake in 1963, for several years, a **Solidarity Tournament** ran as an annual event which saw its golden age in terms of participants, possibly **best marked by the 20-year Jubilee Olympiad for Men and Women, in October 1972**. The Soviet-Union won with a team fielding Petrosian, Korchnoi, Smyslov, Tal on the first four boards, plus rising Karpov and IM Savon (surprising national champion from 1971) as reserve player. Spassky had been just beaten earlier in 1972 by Fischer and was not part of the Olympic team. It was the eleventh consecutive men olympian team gold for the USSR, above Hungary and Yugoslavia. Later, **in 2015, the European Chess Club Cup and the European Chess Club Cup for Women**, and **in 2019 the European Individual Chess Championship 2019** took place in Skopje, FYR Macedonia.

Skopje Solidarnost: Tournament series

Survey: 6 editions, 3 World Champions participating (Smyslov, Fischer, Karpov)

Skopje (1st Solidarnost) 1967	1. Fischer , 2./3. Geller, Matulovic, 4. Kholmov, 5. Bukic
Skopje/Ohrid (2nd Solidarnost) 1968	1. Portisch , 2. Geller, 3. Polugaevsky, 4. Hort, 5. Matulovic
Skopje (3rd Solidarnost) 1969	1./2. Hort, Matulovic , 3./5. Smyslov, Kholmov, Uhlmann
Skopje (4th Solidarnost) 1970	1./2. Taimanov, Vasiukov , 3. Gheorghiu, 4. Marovic, 5. Balashov
Skopje (5th Solidarnost) 1971	1. Polugaevsky , 2./3. Planinc, Velimirovic, 4. Gufeld, 5.= Bukic
Skopje (6th Solidarnost) 1976	1. Karpov , 2. Uhlmann, 3. Timman, 4./5. Kurajica, Tarjan

Tournament report from the inaugural edition, Fischer wins: [Skopje \(1967\) - Chessgames.com](#)
The notorious zero moves game at Skopje/Ohrid Tournament: [Janosevic vs Geller, 1968](#)

Further prominent names at Skopje series apart from the mentioned top placed players: Gligoric, Ivkov, Matanovic, Parma, Ostojić, Janošević, Puc, Adorjan, Bilek, Forintos, Dely, Tringov, Ciocâltea, Soos, Browne, Reshevsky, Wade, Westerinen, Langeweg, Panov, Vaganian, a.o.

Botvinnik, Tal, Petrosian, Spassky, Korchnoi, Keres never took part in that tournament series, but Petrosian, Tal, and Korchnoi did play at Skopje for the USSR team in the **Chess Olympiad 1972**:

Skopje Solidarnost 1972: Chess Olympiad

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/20th_Chess_Olympiad (Wikipedia)

<http://www.olimpbase.org/1972/1972in.html> (Olimpbase)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwXMAFf35ls> (Video)

Men: Gold for the USSR: Petrosian, Korchnoi, Smyslov, Tal, and as reserve Karpov, Savon. Individual board gold for **Korchnoi** (board 2), **Tal** (board 4) and **Karpov** (first reserve board). Women: Gold for the USSR: Nona Gaprindashvili, Alla Kushnir, and as reserve Irina Levitina. Individual board gold for **Gaprindashvili** (board 1) and **Kushnir** (board 2).

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