

## GARRY KASPAROV, FIGHTING FOR EDUCATION IN THE CHESS WORLD



**Chess is one of the most popular games in the world.** Hundreds of millions of people around the world value its beauty and complexity. It is an art, a sport, and a science, and all are captivated by its combination of strategic plans and creative struggle. Chess also has proven benefits in education by teaching the value of concentration, hard work, and logic.

But the popularity of game has no impact on, or help from, the bureaucracy of the World Chess Federation (*Fédération Internationale des Échecs*, or FIDE). Since 1995, FIDE has been run by Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, a corrupt Putin appointee who formerly governed the impoverished Russian region of Kalmykia.

Ilyumzhinov has turned FIDE into a shell operation for his cronies in the banking and energy sectors of the former USSR and ruined the international reputation of the organization and of chess by creating ties between Putin's KBG police state and some of the world's worst dictators.

**The only person capable of challenging Ilyumzhinov for the FIDE presidency in 2014 is former world champion Garry Kasparov**

A harsh critic of the Soviet system and of Putin's attempts to revive the USSR, Kasparov wants to clean house in FIDE and restore the image of chess while bringing the sport to new heights professionally and in education around the world.

Current FIDE President Ilyumzhinov with some friends. From top: Vladimir Putin, Bashar al-Assad, Muammar Gadhafi





Beating Ilyumzhinov will not be an easy task, even for a chess legend like Garry Kasparov. Ilyumzhinov has exploited his connections to infiltrate many federations around the world to expand his corrupt network and to accumulate votes.

Kasparov will open the sport to greater commercial sponsorship and use the platform of the FIDE presidency to press for transparency and dedication to chess in education with an emphasis on the developing world.

***“Today with education programs there is a great opportunity to bring chess back to prominence in its ancient homeland, the Arab world where modern chess was born and how it first arrived in Europe.”***

**– Garry Kasparov speaking in Abu Dhabi, 2008**



The experience of the Kasparov Chess Foundation, which has raised millions of dollars for chess-in-education programs worldwide, has demonstrated the enthusiasm for these programs in both the public and private sectors. This expertise will be at the service of FIDE, which will take the lead in bringing chess into every classroom.

KCF now has five centers around the world, in New York City, Johannesburg, Brussels, Singapore, and Mexico City. Chess has many proven benefits for kids, including improved concentration, logic skills, and creative problem solving.



***“It is a great honor to have Sheikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Hamed on my ticket. His passion for chess and for education are already having a big impact and his continuing efforts will create a tremendous legacy as a global model in both sport and education.”***

**– Garry Kasparov at his Tallinn campaign launch**

In August 2014, the election for FIDE president will take place in Tromsø, Norway.

**Now is the time to join the fight!**



## Abu Dhabi as a World Leader in Chess and Education A Commitment from a World Champion

- If Abu Dhabi provides full support for my FIDE nomination – as a the key power in the region, Abu Dhabi can help bring other votes, too – and I win the FIDE election in August 2014 and am elected President, I will immediately move the FIDE Headquarters to Abu Dhabi. In one stroke, this would transform Abu Dhabi into the central hub of the chess world, as well as the ambitious new chess in education initiatives my administration will launch.
- As part of this partnership, amenities such as tax exempt status, travel sponsorship, operating costs, and office space should be accommodated.
- The location of the FIDE HQ in Abu Dhabi will strongly influence FIDE's global policy by putting more emphasis on the Arab/Asian/African regions. I can guarantee number of high-quality intellectual events under the FIDE umbrella that will take place in Abu Dhabi and those three regions. No doubt this arrangement will dramatically boost Abu Dhabi's image as one of the world's intellectual and cultural strongholds.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kasparov", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Garry Kasparov  
April 15, 2014