



Warsaw, 17 October 2013

**MINISTER  
SPORTU I TURYSTYKI**

*Joanna Mucha*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I would like to most heartedly welcome all participants, organisers, guests and hosts of the European Team Chess Championship.

I have the honour to invite you to take part in the 1<sup>st</sup> historical edition of the event. The Polish Chess Federation is the host of this most prestigious chess event in Europe for the very first time. It is the largest such event in the chess world organised in Poland since the Chess Olympiad in Warsaw in 1935.

It is again the capital of Poland that was selected to host the European Championships in 2013. The prestige of the event that has been developing over the last few editions attracted the best players from 40 Chess Federations, including over 200 Grandmasters. Meetings of the greatest personalities of European chess most certainly constitute a fascinating show for the fans of the discipline.

Let us quote the words of one of the best Polish and French chess players, Savielly Tartakower „There’s always the right move. You just need to find it”.

I would like to wish all the best to all players – have a truly competitive time battling for the championship. Already today, having the honour to compete in this prestigious event you are the winners. Great effort, work and devotion put into your training have brought each and every of you to the successes in sporting competition and allowed you to compete in the European Championships.

I would like to thank the organisers and hosts of the European Team Chess Championship for this professional organisation of the event. I wish you the best time, many successes to the athletes and unforgettable moments for the fans.

*Yours Sincerely*

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joanna Mucha". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.