FISM
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques
International Federation of Magic Societies

FISM Newsletter

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To all Presidents of the FISM member societies and Delegates in the General Assembly

Dear President, Dear Friend in Magic,

It's a pleasure to keep you informed on our latest developments and projects.

FISM ECM 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

FISM EUROPE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Saint-Vincent, Italy – On May 23, 2024, the FISM Europe General Assembly was held at the Hotel Billia Convention Center, bringing together representatives from 34 member societies.

FISM Europe President Andrea Baioni welcomed the attendees and gave an overview of the triennial report, highlighting that FISM Europe now includes 67 societies in 29 countries, for a global network of 1,114 societies. The Board activities over the past three years included 68 online meetings, 10 ongoing projects, 24 newsletters and replies to over 1,500 emails.

The financial report, which reflects careful management and a positive balance, was unanimously approved. Key projects were discussed, such as guaranteeing European Championship winners' participation in the World Championship of Magic, introducing a live-streamed drawing process for contest line-ups, and enhancing the opening ceremony with an oath-taking and a parade of contestants. Efforts to ensure gender equality in the jury panels for 2024 were also pointed out.

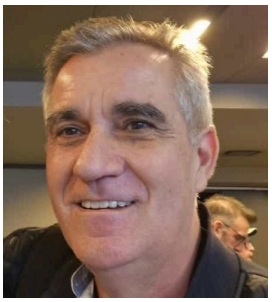
Manresa, Spain, was chosen as the host city for the 2027 European Championship of Magic scheduled for July 7-11.

Andrea Baioni resigned from his position to dedicate all his time and energy to the FISM International. He was honored by being appointed as the new Honorary President of FISM Europe.

FISM EUROPE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Elections brought new leadership with Xavier Tapias as President and Christina Nyman as Vice President.

FISM EUROPE PRESIDENT: XAVIER TAPIAS (SPAIN)



Xavier Tapias, a renowned international artist and competitor, has participated in many national and international competitions, including three consecutive FISM WCMs, achieving fourth place in Beijing 2009. He is also known for creating highly valued unique tricks, such as the electronic replica of Robert-Houdin's Orange Tree, and for selling his creations as well.
Xavier has organized events, festivals and meetings, including the famous "Claustro" and serves as the CEO of magic companies.
Since 2014, he has been involved in FISM internal organization, serving on the FISM EEB, acting as an international judge, promoting the FISM OSS (Online Scoring System), and leading numerous projects to elevate magic as an art form.

FISM EUROPE VICE PRESIDENT: CHRISTINA NYMAN (LUXEMBOURG)



Christina Nyman, originally from Stockholm, Sweden, holds a Master of Laws Degree and worked for the Swedish Parliament. Now residing in Luxembourg, she is President of Magica Club Lëtzebuerg, Past President and current Vice President of the Swedish Magic Circle, and a Lifetime member of the Swedish Magic Academy. Christina has been a FISM Europe Executive Board member since 2014. Fluent in ten languages, she has attended magic conventions for over 30 years, performs in multiple languages and writes for magic magazines. With extensive knowledge of magic history, she researches the topic and attends related lectures. Co-organizer of magic conventions, Christina has also 20 years of judging experience at national and international levels and has been an official FISM judge for 10 years.

FISM EUROPE SECRETARY: PRISKA WALTHER (SWITZERLAND)



Priska Walther dedicated 40 years as a secretary in the Swiss automobile industry before retiring in 2019. In the magic community, she is a respected member of the Magic Circle of Switzerland (MRS), the Magischer Zirkel von Deutschland (MZvD), and the Club Magico Italiano (CMI). As Vice President of MRS, she has played a key role in organizing Swiss magic events, including the Swiss Championship and Swiss Magic Grenchen. A FISM judge since 2011, Priska has judged competitions worldwide. Among others she served as a jury member at the WCM 2022 and at the European Championship 2024. She has been the Secretary of FISM Europe since 2007 and FISM international Secretary since 2015.

FISM EUROPE BOARD MEMBER: EBERHARD RIESE (GERMANY)



Eberhard Riese, born in Leipzig, is a magician, author and theater director. Until his retirement, he was a maths, German and History teacher at Paracelsus-Gymnasium-Hohenheim in Stuttgart-Plieningen where he also served as a headmaster.
Ebs has been passionate about magic since 1969. Since 2011, he has been the president of the Magic Circle Association of Germany. He also founded the Stuttgart Magic School, mentoring young talents, including Topas, Franklin, Jorgos Katsaros, Roxanne, Julius Frack, Junge, Junge! and Simon Pierro. In 2006, Ebs authored "Foundations: The Art of Stage Magic," a foundational text for artists aiming to master stage magic.

FISM EUROPE BOARD MEMBER: SERGE ODIN (FRANCE)



Serge Odin has seamlessly blended his medical and magical passions. He has practiced magic since childhood, inspired by his father's magic shop. Professionally, he worked as a geriatrician at Saint-Chamond Hospital and had a private practice until his retirement in 2023. Serge also served as Deputy Mayor of Rive-de-Gier from 2014 to 2020. In magic, he has been President of the FFAP since 2012 and a FISM Europe ECM Consultancy Group member since 2023. An official FISM judge since 2022, he has judged competitions worldwide. He also organized five national Magic FFAP Conventions, co-organized the European Convention in 2014, directed the National French magic magazine and founded “Art Magic Production” in 2005. Winning the 1st Prize in General Magic at the Franco-Italian meeting in 1983 highlights his skill.

FISM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC 2024 - COMPETITION

The FISM ECM 2024 featured 55 stage competitors, 32 close up competitors and 15 invention candidates. To enhance visibility, the stage competition was moved to the evening, ensuring that performers received the spotlight they deserved. 22 of them got direct wild card entries to the FISM World Championship of Magic (WCM) 2025 in Turin. Three inventions were recognized and an award was given to the Most Original Act.

Here is the number of awards by country:

-	Spain	5	-	Portugal	2
-	France	5	-	Georgia	2
-	Germany	3	-	Belgium	1
-	Italy	4	-	Norway	1
-	Russia	2	-	Sweden	1

These results highlight the diversity and talent across Europe, with each country contributing uniquely to the art of magic.

In addition, important elements were implemented in both the ceremonial and organizational aspects, such as the parade of all participating nations and the oath-taking by the judges and competitors. A comprehensive protocol (FISM ECM Guidelines) for all moments of the competition was also developed and shared with the organizers.

NEXT FISM CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

FISM NORTH AMERICA – N.A.C.M.: August 30th to September 2nd, 2024, Arlington, Texas, USA

FISM ASIA - A.C.M.: 24th to 29th September, 2024, Shenzen City - China

Best regards,

Andrea Baioni

FISM International President

29° WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC FISM ITALY 2025

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