

**EUR(O)VISION**  
OPERATED BY EBU

**ORF**

# EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 2015 MEDIA HANDBOOK

**EURO**  **VISION**  
SONG CONTEST  
VIENNA 2015

BUILDING  
**BRIDGES**

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AT LEAST FOR THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST!

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APP.EUROVISION.TV



TECHNOLOGY PARTNER



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# WORD OF WELCOME FROM THE EBU



Over 60 years ago, a group of broadcaster executives met in the United Kingdom. They left the room with a big idea; a brand new competition that would fully exploit the potential of new technologies, and at the same time bring Europe together through music. And here we are, celebrating the 60th edition of the Eurovision Song Contest!

There is probably no better place than Vienna, right in the heart of Europe, to celebrate the diamond jubilee of a contest that, from its early days, was meant to bring people together. Artists from 40 countries, some 1,500 journalists, more than a thousand delegates, thousands of fans and an audience of millions across Europe and around the world via television, radio and the internet.

Your coverage of the 60th Eurovision Song Contest is one of the most powerful ways to bring this year's theme **Building Bridges** across to millions of people, to encourage them to come together for the three amazing shows that Host Broadcaster ORF has lined up. We are looking forward to facilitate you doing exactly that in the best possible way.

**JON OLA SAND**  
EBU Executive Supervisor  
Eurovision Song Contest

**SIETSE BAKKER**  
EBU Event Supervisor  
Eurovision Song Contest



# WORD OF WELCOME BY ORF

**B**uilding Bridges - this is not only the motto for the 60th Eurovision Song Contest, but also our goal for the anniversary of the biggest TV entertainment event in the world: bridges of respect and understanding between cultures, traditions, world views and generations - from North to South, from East to West and all around the globe. As a matter of course, journalists and media play a central role here, because they carry this message out into the world.

During the last year, we have been working hard to build an attractive Press Centre, both functional and charming, for more than 1,550 accredited journalists. Our goal was to create a meeting place for the media, fans and artists that also meets our aim for a certified Green Event - from the materials used to the catering. In addition, the ORF Event Team has put together the most extensive offer of free activities for delegates and journalists that has ever been provided at the Eurovision Song Contest - the so-called Trips for Free.

We hope that many of these bridges built in Vienna may be preserved after the Song Contest, and we would like to invite all of you to celebrate this significant anniversary together with us in the EuroClub, at the Eurovision Village and at the Wiener Stadthalle. And please let us know how we can contribute to making your time in Vienna as memorable and pleasant as possible.

## **EDGAR BÖHM**

Executive Producer  
Host Broadcaster ORF

## **ROMAN HORACEK**

Head of Press  
Host Broadcaster ORF



Photos: Günther Pichlkostner (ORF)

# THE BASICS

About the EBU  
Eurovision Family of Events  
Eurovision Song Contest  
The organisation  
The host broadcaster  
Governance  
The Marcel Bezençon Awards

# ABOUT THE EBU

**T**he European Broadcasting Union (EBU) is the world's leading alliance of public service media (PSM) with 73 active Members in 56 countries in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East broadcasting in 96 languages to a potential audience of 1.02 billion people. As the most influential media community in the world, our vision is to make PSM indispensable. Our mission is to be a first class media services provider, a centre of learning and sharing for Members, and the authoritative voice of PSM.

The EBU operates EUROVISION and EURORADIO.

EUROVISION is the name under which the EBU produces and distributes top-quality live sport and news, as well as entertainment, culture and music content – including the Eurovision Song Contest, the most watched live entertainment programme in Europe attracting 195 million television viewers worldwide.

For more than 60 years, the EBU has negotiated sports rights and successfully distributed multilateral coverage of the world's most important international events. A community of more than 300 broadcasters around the world connects to its worldwide satellite and fibre network. Unparalleled EUROVISION know-how ensures reliable on-air delivery of a range of events including the FIFA World Cup, the UEFA Euro, the UEFA Champions League, National Football Leagues, Formula One, the Vienna Philharmonic

Orchestra New Year Concert, the Biathlon and FIS World Skiing Cups and Championships. Our global presence includes offices in Brussels, Beijing, Moscow, Washington, New York, Singapore, Beijing and Rome.

The organization's Permanent Services in Geneva are led by Director General Ingrid Deltenre and provide support in five key areas:

- Advocacy and policy development, lobbying on international (EU, world) stage for public service values, sustainable funding and independence, technology standards and more;
- Legal expertise, offering legal advice and services, contract toolkits and publications;
- Partnership Programme, leading to strategic consultancy, training, political interventions, and other tailored assistance for less well-funded Members;
- Representation with political interventions on behalf of Members on funding, independence, national policy development and more;
- Technical expertise with advice, advocacy, guidance, tools and recommendations.





# ABOUT THE EUROVISION FAMILY OF EVENTS

**T**he Eurovision Song Contest is part of the so-called Eurovision Family of Events. This 'family' comprises the flagship events of the EBU's Media Department.

The Eurovision Family of Events was set up in 2007. "Together with our Members, we have dozens of coproductions running, some big, some small. We are dealing with drama, animation, concerts and documentaries," says Jon Ola Sand, who is not only Executive Supervisor of the Eurovision Song Contest, but also the EBU's Head of Live Events. "By bringing four of our flagship events closer

together under one umbrella we optimally use our experience and resources, and we hope to bring each event to a broader audience," continues Sand.

The Eurovision Song Contest is the pater familias, the Junior Eurovision Song Contest was the second member. The Eurovision Dance Contest, the third member of the family, was held in 2007 and 2008.

Other events by the EBU's Media Department that are worthy of mention are the Eurovision Young Dancers contest and the Eurovision Young Musicians contest. Both events take place every second year.

## JUNIOR EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

The first Junior Eurovision Song Contest was held in Copenhagen in 2003. After almost 50 years, the Eurovision Song Contest saw the birth of a healthy son!

Currently, children aged from 10 to 15 can take part in the contest, with songs they have written themselves. Help from adults is allowed, but the child or children should always be the main rightsholder(s). The children perform their songs live on stage during a live broadcast. The 2015 contest – the 13th of its kind! – will be held in Bulgaria on 21 November.

Read more: [www.junioreurovision.tv](http://www.junioreurovision.tv).

## YOUNG DANCERS & YOUNG MUSICIANS

Eurovision Young Dancers was first held in Reggio Emilia in Italy in 1985. It is staged every two years, although it took a break from 2005-2011 for the Eurovision Dance Contest. Spain has won the competition the most often, five times, while Sweden, Belgium, and Switzerland have each come second twice.

Eurovision Young Musicians began in 1982 with six participating countries and has become one of the most important international classical music contests.

Read more: [www.youngdancers.tv](http://www.youngdancers.tv) and [www.youngmusicians.tv](http://www.youngmusicians.tv).

# THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST AN INTRODUCTION

**D**uring a meeting in Monaco in 1955, EBU Director Marcel Bezençon (1907–1981) launched the idea of bringing Europe together in a televised, pan-European music competition in the style of Italy's Sanremo Music Festival. Additionally, the Eurovision Grand Prix (as it was called back then) would be an ambitious experiment to broadcast live to several countries at the same time. That's how it all started...

The idea was approved during an EBU General Assembly in Rome on 19 October, 1955. The Swiss national public broadcaster was proposed to organize the first Grand Prix, held in Lugano on 24 May 1956. Seven countries were represented with two songs each, the only time this happened.

The Eurovision Song Contest is currently produced each May under the auspices of the European Broadcasting Union, and is a state-of-the-art, world-class television production featuring songs representing the various countries of the participating EBU Members. Only Active Members of the EBU are eligible to take part.

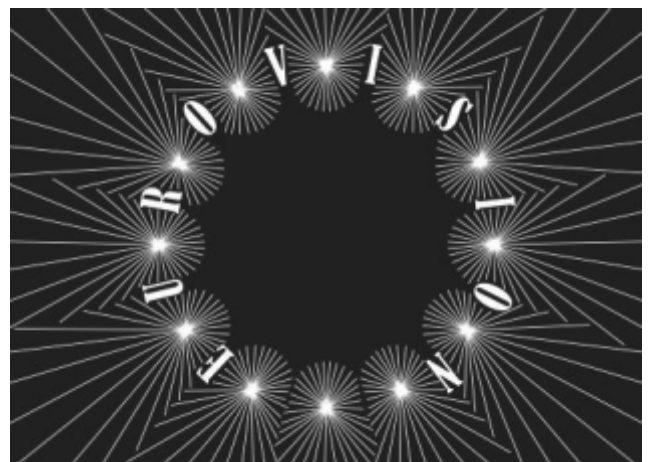
In 2004, the format of the Contest was amended and a Semi-Final was introduced in the lead-up to the Final. In 2008, a second Semi-Final was introduced. Under the Rules, up to 20 participants can compete in each Semi-Final. The host country, together with France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom are automatically qualified for the Final. In 2009 the EBU re-introduced professional juries

that have a 50% stake in the outcome of the Final. Since 2010, juries also contribute 50% to the outcome of the Semi-Finals.

This year, 27 countries will be represented in a spectacular Final. The winner is chosen by televoters and professional juries in all 40 participating countries. Traditionally, the winning country is invited to host the following year's Contest.

The Eurovision Song Contest is the world's biggest non-sporting live TV event and a strong household name among hundreds of millions of people in Europe. In 2014 the Contest reached some 195 million people in over 45 countries. Famous former participants include Julio Iglesias, Olivia Newton-John, Céline Dion, ABBA, Johnny Logan, Alla Pugacheva, Patricia Kaas, the group Blue, not forgetting the bearded lady, Conchita Wurst.

The contest also saw the birth of Riverdance, which started as the interval act at the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest, then took the world by storm, going on to become one of the most successful dance shows in history.



# THE ORGANIZATION

**A**s with any major event, organizing the Eurovision Song Contest is a complicated affair. Every year, hundreds of people are involved in the television production, event management and marketing, as well as financial, legal and communication matters. Without going into the many logistical details that are connected to the event, this Media Handbook provides a general overview of the organizational force behind this event.

The Eurovision Song Contest is coproduced by the participating broadcasters and the host broadcaster under the auspices of the EBU. The EBU Executive Supervisor is directly responsible for overseeing and guiding all aspects of the finances, organization, creative planning and execution of the event. He works in close cooperation with the host broadcaster to support all aspects of the national planning and production, and is also a member of the Reference Group.

The Reference Group comprises representatives of participating EBU Members and liaises directly with the EBU to guide and approve the major elements of the concept, development and preparation of the Contest. The host broadcaster is in charge of all rights and duties connected with organizing, producing and transmitting the Eurovision Song Contest, under the supervision of the EBU Executive Supervisor.

The EBU is responsible for the centralized marketing of all commercial exploitation rights, which it exclusively owns and manages. The EBU appointed

Highlight Event to handle the marketing of these rights. External communication, public

relations and new media activities are centrally coordinated by the EBU, in cooperation with the Netherlands-based company Wow!works. Voting is centrally coordinated as well, in cooperation with televoting partner digame mobile GmbH and under the auspices of independent notaries in all participating countries, as well as centralized observers from PwC.

Each participating broadcaster appoints a head of delegation, who is the point of contact with the EBU, the host broadcaster and all other participating broadcasters and, as such, is fully responsible for all aspects of its organization's participation.

*More information about the EBU's Executive Supervisor, the Reference Group and the Heads of Delegation can be found elsewhere in this Media Handbook.*

## THE HOST

**T**his year's Host Broadcaster is the Austrian public broadcasting corporation ORF.

ORF was launched in 1955. Today, ORF is Austria's leading media organization on television, radio and the internet, both nationally as well as regionally.

The Austrian public broadcaster has been a Member of the EBU since its foundation. ORF's Director General is **Dr. Alexander Wrabetz**, who also fulfills the role of Vice President of the EBU.

# GOVERNANCE

The Eurovision Song Contest Reference Group is the executive expert committee acting on behalf of all Members. Its purpose is to oversee and manage the Eurovision Song Contest. The Reference Group was set up by the EBU's Television Committee in 1998 and its main tasks are to approve the development and future format of the Eurovision Song Contest, secure financing, keep the brand up to date, raise awareness, and oversee preparations by the year's host broadcaster.

The Reference Group meets four or five times a year on behalf of all participating broadcasters, and is required to take decisions in the general interest of the Contest. The Reference Group comprises a chairman, elected Heads of Delegations, Executive Producers from previous host countries, as well as the Executive Producer of the current Host Broadcaster and the Executive Supervisor.

In the lead-up to the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest, the composition of the Reference Group was as follows:

MEMBER	ROLE	FROM
Dr. Frank-Dieter Freiling (DE)	Chairman	ZDF
Jon Ola Sand (CH)	Executive Supervisor	EBU
Edgar Böhm (AT)	Member (2015)	ORF
Pernille Gaardbo (DK)	Member (2014)	DR
Martin Österdahl (SE)	Member (2013)	SVT
Aleksander Radic (SI)	Member (elected)	RTVSLO
Christer Björkman (SE)	Member (elected)	SVT
Nicola Caligiore (IT)	Member (elected)	RAI

# THE MARCEL BEZENÇON AWARDS

**T**he Marcel Bezençon Awards were first presented during the Eurovision Song Contest 2002 in Tallinn to honour the best songs competing in the Final. Founded by Christer Björkman (Sweden's representative in the 1992 Eurovision Song Contest and current Head of Delegation for Sweden) and Richard Herrey (member of the Herreys, 1984 Eurovision Song Contest winner from Sweden), the awards are named after the creator of the Eurovision Song Contest, Marcel Bezençon.

The awards are divided into three categories: the Press Award (given to the best entry voted for by the accredited media), the Artistic Award (presented to the best artist voted for by the commentators), the Composer Award (a jury consisting of the participating composers who vote for the most original composition).

The awards will be handed out shortly before the Final. The outcome will be communicated on the official website, [www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv).

Accredited journalists will be invited to vote for the Press Award by email during the event.

More information about previous winners of the awards can be found on [www.marcelbezenconaward.se](http://www.marcelbezenconaward.se).

# THE CONTEST

Brand values  
Visual identity  
Voting  
The Official Trophy  
EBU Eurovision Song Contest team



This year, the Eurovision Song Contest will be held in the heart of Europe, with the theme of **BUILDING BRIDGES**. The graphic visually interprets this year's motto, illustrating constantly forming relationships that allow for new encounters. Emanating from Vienna, and spreading across Europe, every single contribution acts as a building block to a pan-European event which, having been unified from many single pieces, will form a cross-border arc to the biggest TV show in the world.

This diversity is independently and clearly represented in the graphic appearance. The entire colour spectrum of the rainbow along with the seemingly alive, dynamic and musical bridges, composed of thousands of unique parts spanning the entirety of Europe, reflect the positive diversity of all artists, of the variety of their songs as well as the diversity of the audience itself and the visibly-lived tolerance they demonstrate during the event.

The logo, called **THE SPHERE**, captures this DNA, emphasises the thought behind creating the bridges and symbolises, through the shape of a three-dimensional globe, the endless versions of this diversity. The clear combination of shapes and colours defines a compact visual symbol and subsequently creates a strong and unique branding for the 60th Eurovision Song Contest.

The creative team behind The Sphere:  
Michael Hajek, ORF Art Director  
Bernhard Noll  
Matthias Kobold  
Jasmin Mondschein  
Christian Stangl  
Norbert Wuchte

# BRAND VALUES

**T**he Eurovision Song Contest is a familiar brand in the minds of hundreds of millions of people around the world. This section describes the values of a strong, clearly defined brand that appeals at an emotional level to millions of Europeans.

## BRAND VISION

Bring Europeans together by creating the ultimate musical event of the year.

## BRAND VALUES

**SURPRISING:** Magical, distinctive, fun  
**CULTURAL:** European, international  
**CONNECTING:** Sharing the moment  
**EMOTIONAL:** Excitement, in touch  
**COMPETITIVE:** Flag waving, songs, interactive

## BRAND PERSONALITY

A modern classic.

## BRAND ESSENCE

A positive cultural and emotional experience.





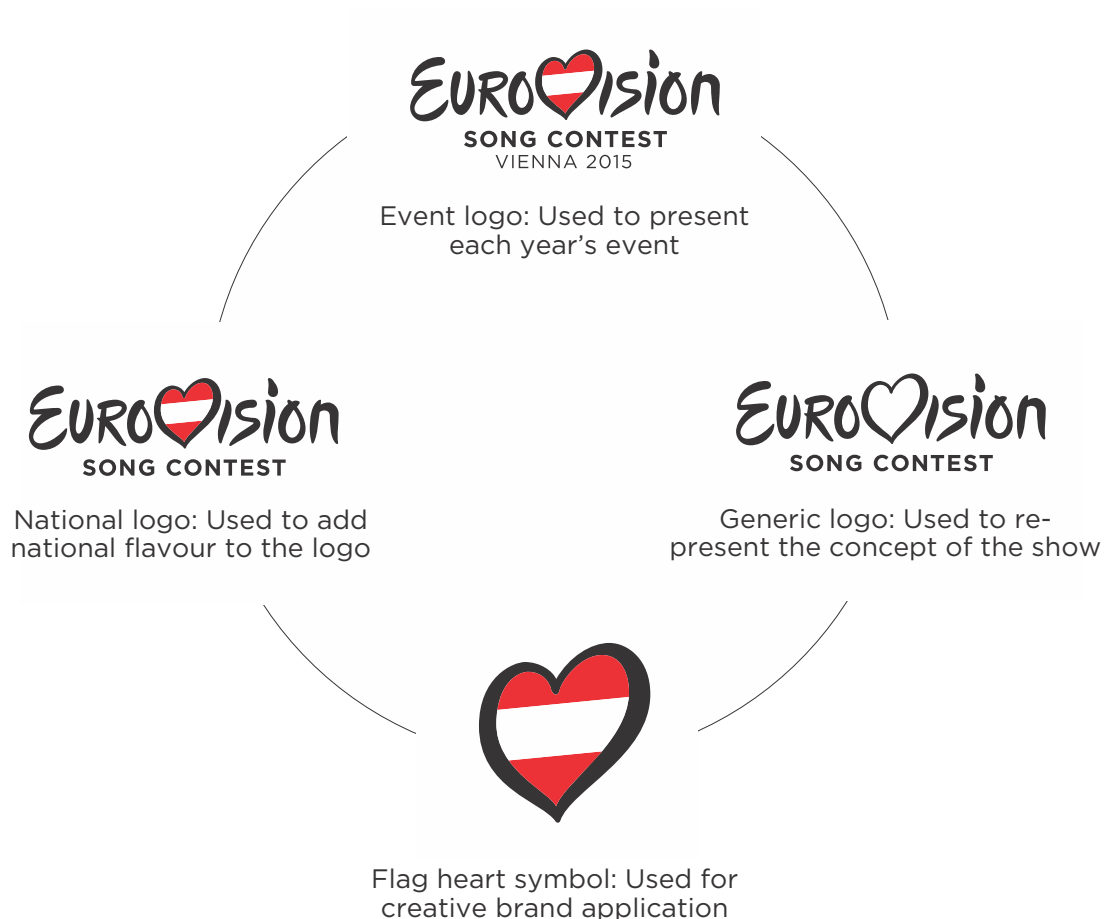
# VISUAL IDENTITY

Up to 2004, a new logo was designed for each Eurovision Song Contest. After the designs were showcased to a worldwide audience, they became history. In 2004, the European Broadcasting Union revealed a generic logo for the Eurovision Song Contest, to be accompanied by unique theme art for each contest.

The Eurovision Song Contest's generic logo, as revealed on 24 January, 2004, was created by the London-based JM International for the European Broadcasting Union.

In the lead-up to the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest, the EBU introduced a **revamped version** of the logo. It was designed by the Amsterdam/Boston-based agency Storytegitic.

Logo files can be downloaded from <http://press.eurovision.tv>.



# THE BRAND Q&A

## CAN WE USE THE OFFICIAL LOGO IN OUR PUBLICATION?

The logo of the Eurovision Song Contest can only be used in media publications, for the purpose of promoting the Eurovision Song Contest and covering it as a news item. It is not permitted to use the logo for commercial purposes without explicit written permission of the EBU.

## CAN WE USE THE OFFICIAL LOGO IN PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS?

It is not permitted to use the logo of the Eurovision Song Contest in promotional actions and competitions, unless explicit written permission is given by the EBU.

## CAN WE PRODUCE MERCHANDISE WITH THE OFFICIAL LOGO?

The EBU works together with its marketing partner Highlight Event to produce all official Eurovision Song Contest merchandising. Consequently, no other company may produce products carrying the Eurovision Song Contest logo. You can purchase merchandising items at [www.eurovisionshop.tv](http://www.eurovisionshop.tv)

## IS IT ALLOWED TO MAKE MODIFIED VERSIONS OF THE OFFICIAL LOGO?

It is not allowed to modify the logo of the Eurovision Song Contest. Should you wish to use the logo and are unsure whether the application is permitted, please contact Highlight Event. You can find their contact details on the last page of this handbook.

## SHOULD WE ASK FOR PERMISSION TO USE THE OFFICIAL LOGO?

Yes. Permission to use the official logo of the Eurovision Song Contest can be requested from Highlight Event. You can find their contact details on the last page of this handbook.

## WHERE CAN I DOWNLOAD THE OFFICIAL LOGO OF THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST?

The logo of the Eurovision Song Contest can be downloaded through [press.eurovision.tv](http://press.eurovision.tv), where you can also find the Brand Guidelines. It is strongly recommended to read those guidelines before using the logo.

KOSTA  
BODA  
SWEDEN 1742

# THE OFFICIAL TROPHY



In 2008, the European Broadcasting Union revealed a new, permanent official trophy for the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest. The hand-made piece of art has the shape of a classic microphone with a wonderful sense of nostalgia. It is made from solid transparent glass with sand-blasted and painted detailing.

Designer Kjell Engman (1946) of Kosta Boda has worked as a glass artist for thirty years. Recently, he has focused on art glass and his creations can be found in exhibitions around the world.

This year, the microphone-shaped official trophy will be awarded for the eighth time.

# ABOUT THE VOTING

## IN THE SEMI-FINALS

Viewers at home and professional juries each determine half of the outcome of the two Semi-Finals of the Eurovision Song Contest. In each Semi-Final, 10 contestants qualify for the Final. This chapter explains the voting procedure of the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest in detail.

- Viewers in all countries taking part in that particular Semi-Final are invited to vote via the official app, telephone and/or SMS. The voting window opens after the last song has been performed, and ends 15 minutes later. Televoters determine 50% of the outcome;
- Professional juries in all countries taking part in that particular Semi-Final are required to vote. Televoters determine 50% of the outcome. The jury, which consists of five members (including a chairperson), is the same jury that will vote in the Final;
- Based on the combined full ranking of all songs in the televoting and jury voting, each country will distribute 1 to 8, 10 and 12 points;
- In the first Semi-Final, viewers and juries in Australia, Austria, France and Spain will also vote (as determined by a draw). In the second Semi-Final, viewers and juries in Australia, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom will also vote (as determined by a draw);
- The qualified countries will be announced at the end of each Semi-Final;
- The full score board will be made available shortly after the Final on [www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv), to maintain the excitement until the end of the Final.

## IN THE FINAL

Viewers at home and professional juries in all 40 participating countries each determine half of the outcome of the Final of the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest.

- Viewers can vote via the official app, telephone and/or SMS. The voting window opens after the last song has been performed, and ends 15 minutes later. These votes determine 50% of the outcome;
- Professional juries in all 40 participating countries are required to vote. They also determine 50% of the outcome. The jury, which consists of five members (including a chairperson) is the same jury that voted in one of the Semi-Finals. They will watch live and base their decision based on the second Dress Rehearsal, the so called Jury Final;
- Based on the combined full ranking of all songs of televoting and jury voting, each country will distribute 1 to 8, 10 and 12 points;
- The combined results of jury voting and televoting will be presented on air during the Final by spokespersons in all participating countries. As usual, the points 1 to 7 will appear on screen. The spokesperson will then reveal 8, 10 and 12 points.

A video explaining the voting procedure can be found on [www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv) and the contest's official YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/eurovision](http://www.youtube.com/eurovision)).

# JURY RULES

- The jury voting will be monitored by an independent notary in each country;
- The jury should consist of a variety of members - 5 in total - in terms of age, gender, and background;
- All jury members must be citizens of the country they are representing;
- Jury members may not have been part of their national jury in the preceding two years;
- None of the jury members must be connected to any of the participating songs/artists in such a way that they cannot vote independently. The participating broadcasters must send a letter of compliance with the voting instructions together with signed declarations by each jury member stating that they will vote independently;
- The names of the jury members will be revealed by the EBU on Eurovision.tv on the 1st of May and must be presented by the relevant participating broadcasters during the Final;
- Each jury member of each national jury will rank all songs in the show;
- The combined rank of each country's jury members determines the jury result of that particular country;
- By judging each song each jury member will focus on the vocal capacity of the artist(s), the performance on stage, the composition and originality of the song, and the overall impression by the act.

# MERGING RESULTS

- In each country, the televoting and jury voting result in two ranked lists of all songs;
- The EBU's televoting partner Digame will determine the national result by merging these two ranked lists, and will award 12 points to the country with the best rank, then 10 points to country with the second-best combined rank, etc. The country ranked 10th in the combined ranking receives 1 point;
- If there is a tie between two or more songs in the combined ranking between televotes and the jury, the song that obtain more votes from the audience is ranked highest;
- The ranking of the jury vote and televote of the Eurovision Song Contest will be published on [www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv) as soon as possible after the Final.

# EBU EUROVISION SONG CONTEST TEAM

## EXECUTIVE SUPERVISOR

Norwegian **JON OLA SAND** was appointed Executive Supervisor of the Eurovision Song Contest on behalf of the EBU in 2011.

Sand has more than 17 years' experience in major productions and coproductions at Norwegian public broadcaster NRK and in commercial companies. He has produced or directed a variety of programmes, such as the Nobel Peace Prize Concert and the Norwegian national selection for the Eurovision Song Contest. Sand was Head of Delegation at the contest for Norway from 1998 to 2005. After that, he was commissioning editor for Drama & Entertainment at NRK. In 2010 he became Executive Producer of the Oslo contest.

## EVENT SUPERVISOR

After running the leading independent Eurovision Song Contest website for six years, **SIETSE BAKKER** joined the team as project manager for New Media in 2006. In 2008 he became Communications & PR manager for the contest. In January 2011, Bakker was appointed Event Supervisor of the Eurovision Song Contest, overseeing the event organization.

## OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TEAM

After fulfilling various roles at the EBU, **STEPHANIE CAFLISCH** was appointed Executive Assistant of the Junior- and Eurovision Song Contest in January 2011. She is the main point of contact between Heads of Delegation, the EBU and the Host Broadcaster.

**JARMO SIIM** joined the team in 2008. As Communications Coordinator, he is the editor-in-chief of the official website [www.eurovision.tv](http://www.eurovision.tv), and handles all incoming media inquiries regarding the Eurovision Song Contest.

**WOUTER VAN VLIET** came on board in 2008 as Project Developer. As such he is responsible for the online infrastructure of the Eurovision Song Contest.

In 2012, **ANDREAS SCHMITZ** joined the team as Security Advisor & Accreditation Manager for the EBU. In 2011, he was fulfilling the same job on behalf of the Host Broadcaster.

# MEDIA SUPPORT

Accreditation  
Archive material  
Media facilities  
Press centre  
Schedule of events  
Photography



# ACCREDITATION

The EBU considers the Eurovision Song Contest Press Accreditation to be a working tool, for use by bona fide media professionals. At the same time, the EBU acknowledges the importance of Eurovision Song Contest fan outlets, such as fan websites, blogs and fan club magazines, which the EBU invites to report on the event as well.

The accreditation procedure is centrally coordinated by the EBU. Applications are evaluated by the delegation through which each journalist applies. Each delegation can accept a limited number of applications, and it is recommended to apply for accreditation as early as possible. Accreditation takes place online through [press.eurovision.tv](http://press.eurovision.tv).

Accreditation (P) gives you access to:

- Press Working Area
- Press Conference Area
- Second round of open rehearsals
- 1st Dress Rehearsal of each show
- EuroClub

During the accessible rehearsals, taking photos and filming is allowed, while flashlights and wireless equipment, including microphones, are strictly prohibited. Usage of such equipment may lead to loss of accreditation.

Media representatives who wish to attend the live shows are advised to purchase tickets through the official ticket agent. Only assigned pool photographers can access the arena without tickets during the live show.

# ARCHIVE MATERIAL

The EBU regularly receives requests for archive material of the Eurovision Song Contest, to be used in news reports, documentaries and print media.

The EBU's physical archives are not open to the public and access to material is only given in extraordinarily rare circumstances.

For archive material from a specific Eurovision Song Contest up to 2003 we recommend you contact the archive department of the relevant host broadcaster.

For archive material from a specific Eurovision Song Contest from 2004 to 2014, we recommend you contact Stephanie Caflisch at the EBU ([caflisch@ebu.ch](mailto:caflisch@ebu.ch)).

# FREE CONTENT

HD footage and stills of Vienna, Austria and events related to the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest (e.g. the allocation draw, Insignia Ceremony or the setup of the Wiener Stadthalle) are available free of charge in MXF or Apple ProRes (other file formats on request).

For more information, please contact Paul Passler at [paul.passler@orf.at](mailto:paul.passler@orf.at).

# MEDIA FACILITIES

## **INTERVIEW ROOMS**

The Press Centre will include five interview rooms equipped with chairs and logo backdrops for conducting one-on-one interviews. All certified media, HoDs and HoPs are welcome to book these rooms on a first-come, first-served basis. Bookings are made at the Information & Service Desk.

## **RADIO STUDIOS**

The Press Centre will include two fully-equipped radio studios available for use on a per hour basis. The studios are located in the area between Press Centre and Press Conference Room and will be equipped with a table and chairs, power, ISDN and LAN outlets as well as live radio equipment. Booking at the Information & Service Desk. The studios are made available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **PIGEONHOLES**

All press or promotion material from the delegations to the press will be distributed through the pigeonholes at the Information & Service Desk. It is not permitted for delegations to hand out material at the press centre, nor during press conferences.

## **LUGGAGE**

Luggage facilities for safely storing belongings for shorter periods of time will be made available for accredited media and fans at the Info Desk. These are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **CATERING**

At the Press Centre, there will be a restaurant offering a variety of meals, snacks and hot and

cold drinks throughout the day.

## **PRESS DURING OPEN REHEARSALS**

Accredited media will have access to the arena from the second rehearsal onwards for each Semi-Final. Accredited media can follow the first rehearsals on the screens in the Press Centre.

## **USE OF WIRELESS EQUIPMENT**

Use of personal wireless equipment (PMSE or similar) at the Press Centre or anywhere else in the venue is strictly forbidden, and may result in a loss of accreditation rights.

## **PHOTO AND VIDEO RIGHTS**

Cameras and video equipment are allowed during the second open rehearsals of each delegation and each of the first dress rehearsals of the shows in the hall within the designated areas only.

## **STAND-UP POSITIONS**

Eurovision Special Events, in association with ORF, will establish production and transmission facilities at Wiener Stadthalle.

There are two stand-up positions in Hall B (Press Centre & working area) and two in the arena. For booking and further information please contact Bruno Beekman, [beekman@eurovision.net](mailto:beekman@eurovision.net).

## **LAN/WIFI**

Internet connection via LAN and WiFi will be available in the press centre. WiFi access will be available throughout the entire venue. Login details can be obtained at the Show Desk.

# PRESS CENTRE

The Press Centre is situated inside the Wiener Stadthalle in Hall B. Signage will lead you to the press entrance once you get close to the venue.

There is direct access to the Press Centre from Vogelweidplatz and the corner of the Alberichgasse. It has an overall area of approximately 1,800 square metres.

The Information & Service Desk is located right in front of the Press Centre. Press officers will man the desk, helping all accredited reporters, photographers and fans with information and other enquiries. Pigeonholes for accredited members of the media are also located at the Information & Service Desk.

The working area in the Press Centre is spacious enough for up to 1,500 journalists and photographers, with approximately 800 separate work spaces. 50 laptops will be provided (as and when required; please ask at the Information & Service Desk). At least 100 workstations will be equipped with LAN cables as well as power sockets, and 550 will be equipped only with power sockets.

The latter workstations are useful to those working with WiFi. Printing facilities will be provided. The entire working area will be equipped with screens allowing members of the media to follow rehearsals, press conferences and live shows.

The Press Conference Room can accommodate up to 500 people and contains a camera platform and a photo wall. Camera crews and radio journalists will have access to a multipoint sound box.

OPENING HOURS			Opens	Closes
Sunday	10	May	12:00	18:00
Monday	11	May	10:30	21:30
Tuesday	12	May	10:30	21:30
Wednesday	13	May	10:30	21:30
Thursday	14	May	10:30	22:00
Friday	15	May	9:30	21:00
Saturday	16	May	9:30	21:00
Sunday	17	May	9:00	18:00
Monday	18	May	11:00	01:00
Tuesday	19	May	11:00	2:00
Wednesday	20	May	9:00	1:00
Thursday	21	May	11:00	2:00
Friday	22	May	10:00	2:00
Saturday	23	May	10:00	03:00

## REHEARSALS OPEN TO THE PRESS

### Friday 15 May

All individual rehearsals for 1st Semi-Final

### Saturday 16 May

All individual rehearsals for 2nd Semi-Final

### Monday 18 May

First Semi-Final, 1st Dress Rehearsal

### Tuesday 19 May

Individual rehearsals Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom.

### Wednesday 20 May

Second Semi-Final, 1st Dress Rehearsal

### Friday 22 May

Final, 1st Dress Rehearsal, 14:00

**All other Dress Rehearsals and Live Shows will be open to ticket holders only, and will be shown on the screens at the Press Centre.**

# YOUR HOST CITY VIENNA

**V**arious city organisations are joining their forces for the Press Centre. Together we have one goal: make your stay as productive and pleasant as possible. You will find our information desk at the entrance to the Press Centre. **Your Host City Vienna** will be at your service with the following setup:

- **City of Vienna Information Centre** gives useful information on transportation and leisure and will provide you with municipal facts and figures on the city;
- **Vienna Tourist Board** will help you with finding story angles on the city, and will provide you with research information from A like architecture to Z like Zoo of Vienna;
- **Vienna Film Commission** will help you on site with getting shooting permits on demand for extraordinary places that are not covered with your permanent shooting permit for the public area.

The following information applies to crews accredited to the Eurovision Song Contest 2015 who would like to film in Vienna.

For shooting in Vienna you first need to fill out the online application form by the Vienna Film Commission:

<http://www.viennafilmcommission.at/en/Shooting-Permits/Application-for-filming-in-the-course-of-the-Eurovision-Song-Contest-2015>

You will receive a letter of recommendation by the Vienna Film Commission for filming in the course of the Eurovision Song Contest 2015. It is valid from April to May for outdoor shootings and only at the locations listed in the application form.

For questions regarding any other locations, please contact +43 1 4000 87000 or [office@viennafilmcommission.com](mailto:office@viennafilmcommission.com).

List of shooting locations in Vienna (exteriors only) where filming concerning the Eurovision Song Contest is allowed with a permit by the Vienna Film Commission:

Streets of Vienna (e.g. Ringstraße, Kärntnerstraße, Prater Hauptallee), Parks (e.g. Park of the Schönbrunn Palace + Gloriette, Belvedere Garden, Stadtpark - Johann Strauß Monument, Rathauspark, Volksgarten, Burggarten - Mozart Monument, Palm House, Augarten, The Green Prater + the Prater Amusement Park), Markets (e.g. Naschmarkt, Brunnenmarkt, Karmelitermarkt), Bridges in Vienna (e.g. Danube Bridges, Bridges over the Danube Canal, Bridges over the Wienfluss), Municipal Swimming Pools (e.g. Amalienbad; Outdoor pools open from May 2nd), Churches (e.g. St. Stephen's Cathedral, St. Charles Church, Votive Church, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Otto Wagner Church at Steinhof), Traditional Viennese Cafés (Café Landtmann, Café Museum, Café Central), Belvedere, Vienna State Opera, Vienna City Hall, Parliament - Pallas-Athene Fountain, Heldenplatz, Burgtheater, The University of Vienna, Museum for Applied Arts (MAK), Albertina, Austrian Post Savings Bank, Majolica House, Urania, Hundertwasser House, Kunst Haus Wien, Spittelau Waste Incineration Plant, Mozarthaus, Musikverein, Konzerthaus, Beethoven Monument, MuseumsQuartier, Liechtenstein Garden Palace, Secession, Mölker Bastei, Dreimäderlhaus, Main Public Library, Donauinsel, Donauturm.

# EURO- VISION SERVICES

**E**urovision Special Events, in association with Host Broadcaster ORF, will set up SD and HD production and transmission facilities at the Wiener Stadthalle, including:

- Manned exterior platform (showcase 4:3 and 16:9) stand-up positions for live programme inserts with a relevant backdrop of the stage (limited access). The position is located within easy reach for the artists;
- Tape playout (multi-format) and recording unit;
- Editing (SP/SX, P2 and all DV formats non linear) with multilingual picture editor;
- ENG crew and local producer;
- Connectivity to the Eurovision Global Network;

The feed point is expected to be operational from 15 May (1600 GMT) until 23 May.

Bookings and prices can be requested through [bookings@eurovision.net](mailto:bookings@eurovision.net).

The Eurovision EVN and World Feed exchanges will offer its own daily packages of behind the scenes highlights starting from the 17th to 23rd of May.

## **NEWS PRODUCER**

Bruno Beeckman

Phone: +32 494 60 43 11

Email: [beeckman@eurovision.net](mailto:beeckman@eurovision.net)

## **NEWS ITEMS & WORLD FEED**

Suzana Fenster

Email: [fenster@eurovision.net](mailto:fenster@eurovision.net)

# REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

## MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal 1<sup>st</sup> Semi-Final / 1<sup>st</sup> Half

Countries in starting order	1st Rehearsal on stage	Press Meet & Greet
	30 min	20 min
Moldova	12:00-12:30	14:25-14:45
Armenia	12:40-13:10	15:05-15:25
Belgium	13:20-13:50	15:45-16:05
The Netherlands	14:00-14:30	16:25-16:45
BREAK	14:40-15:40	
Finland	15:50-16:20	18:15-18:35
Greece	16:30-17:00	18:55-19:15
Estonia	17:10-17:40	19:35-19:55
F.Y.R. Macedonia	17:50-18:20	20:15-20:35

## TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal 1<sup>st</sup> Semi-Final / 2<sup>nd</sup> Half

Countries in starting order	1st Rehearsal on stage	Press Meet & Greet
	30 min	20 min
Serbia	12:00-12:30	14:25-14:45
Hungary	12:40-13:10	15:05-15:25
Belarus	13:20-13:50	15:45-16:05
Russia	14:00-14:30	16:25-16:45
BREAK	14:40-15:40	
Denmark	15:50-16:20	18:15-18:35
Albania	16:30-17:00	18:55-19:15
Romania	17:10-17:40	19:35-19:55
Georgia	17:50-18:20	20:15-20:35

## WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final / 1<sup>st</sup> Half

Countries in starting order	1st Rehearsal on stage	Press Meet & Greet
	30 min	20 min
Lithuania	12:00-12:30	14:25-14:45
Ireland	12:40-13:10	15:05-15:25
San Marino	13:20-13:50	15:45-16:05
Montenegro	14:00-14:30	16:25-16:45
BREAK	14:40-15:40	
Malta	15:50-16:20	18:15-18:35
Norway	16:30-17:00	18:55-19:15
Portugal	17:10-17:40	19:35-19:55
Czech Republic	17:50-18:20	20:15-20:35

## THURSDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final / 2<sup>nd</sup> Half

Countries in starting order	1st Rehearsal on stage	Press Meet & Greet
	30 min	20 min
Israel	12:00-12:30	14:25-14:45
Latvia	12:40-13:10	15:05-15:25
Azerbaijan	13:20-13:50	15:45-16:05
Iceland	14:00-14:30	16:25-16:45
BREAK	14:40-15:40	
Sweden	15:50-16:20	18:15-18:35
Switzerland	16:30-17:00	18:55-19:15
Cyprus	17:10-17:40	19:35-19:55
Slovenia	17:50-18:20	20:15-20:35
Poland	18:30-19:00	20:55-21:15

## FRIDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY

2<sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal 1<sup>st</sup> Semi-Final

Countries in starting order	2nd Rehearsal on stage	Press Conference
	20 min	20 min
Moldova	10:20-10:40	11:20-11:40
Armenia	10:45-11:05	11:45-12:05
Belgium	11:10-11:30	12:10-12:30
The Netherlands	11:35-11:55	12:35-12:55
Finland	12:00-12:20	13:00-13:20
Greece	12:25-12:45	13:25-13:45
LUNCH	12:45-13:45	
Estonia	13:50-14:10	14:50-15:10
F.Y.R. Macedonia	14:15-14:35	15:15-15:35
Serbia	14:40-15:00	15:40-16:00
Hungary	15:05-15:25	16:05-16:25
Belarus	15:30-15:50	16:30-16:50
BREAK	16:00-16:30	
Russia	16:30-16:50	17:30-17:50
Denmark	16:55-17:15	17:55-18:15
Albania	17:20-17:40	18:20-18:40
Romania	17:45-18:05	18:45-19:05
Georgia	18:10-18:30	19:10-19:30

Rehearsal for the opening / 1<sup>st</sup> Semi-Final

all participants	19:40- 20:40
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**SATURDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final

Countries in starting order	2nd Rehearsal on stage	Press Conference
	20 min	20 min
Lithuania	10:20-10:40	11:20-11:40
Ireland	10:45-11:05	11:45-12:05
San Marino	11:10-11:30	12:10-12:30
Montenegro	11:35-11:55	12:35-12:55
Malta	12:00-12:20	13:00-13:20
Norway	12:25-12:45	13:25-13:45
LUNCH		12:45-13:45
Portugal	13:50-14:10	14:50-15:10
Czech Republic	14:15-14:35	15:15-15:35
Israel	14:40-15:00	15:40-16:00
Latvia	15:05-15:25	16:05-16:25
Azerbaijan	15:30-15:50	16:30-16:50
BREAK		16:00-16:30
Iceland	16:30-16:50	17:30-17:50
Sweden	16:55-17:15	17:55-18:15
Switzerland	17:20-17:40	18:20-18:40
Cyprus	17:45-18:05	18:45-19:05
Slovenia	18:10-18:30	19:10-19:30
Poland	18:35-18:55	19:35-19:55

Rehearsal for the opening /2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final		
all participants		20:05-21:05

**SUNDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal Big Five & Australia & Austria

Countries in starting order	1st Rehearsal on stage	Press Meet & Greet
	30 min	20 min
Italy	09:40-10:10	12:05-12:25
Austria	10:20-10:50	12:45-13:05
Spain	11:00-11:30	13:25-13:45
Germany	11:40-12:10	14:05-14:25
United Kingdom	12:20-12:50	14:45-15:05
France	13:00-13:30	15:25-15:45
Australia	13:40-14:10	16:05-16:25

**MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

1 <sup>st</sup> Dress Rehearsal 1 <sup>st</sup> Semi-Final	15:00-17:30
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dress Rehearsal 1 <sup>st</sup> Semi-Final	21:00-23:00

**TUESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

3 <sup>rd</sup> Dress Rehearsal 1 <sup>st</sup> Semi-Final	15:00-17:00
1 <sup>st</sup> Semi-Final Broadcast	21:00-23:00
Press Conference	23:30-00:15

**WEDNESDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rehearsal Big Five & Australia & Austria

Country in starting order	2nd Rehearsal on stage	Press Conference
	20 min	20 min
Italy	10:00-10:20	11:00-11:20
Austria	10:25-10:45	11:25-11:45
Spain	10:50-11:10	11:50-12:10
Germany	11:15-11:35	12:15-12:35
United Kingdom	11:40-12:00	12:40-13:00
France	12:05-12:25	13:05-13:25
Australia	12:30-12:50	13:30-13:50
1 <sup>st</sup> Dress Rehearsal 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final		15:00-17:30
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dress Rehearsal 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final		21:00-23:00

**THURSDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY**

3 <sup>rd</sup> Dress Rehearsal 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final	15:00-17:00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi-Final Broadcast	21:00-23:00
Press Conference	23:30-00:15

**FRIDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY**

Rehearsal for opening Grand Final	11:00-12:00
1 <sup>st</sup> Dress Rehearsal Grand Final	14:00-18:00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dress Rehearsal Grand Final	21:00-00:30

**SATURDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**

3rd Dress Rehearsal Grand Final	13:00-16:30
Grand Final Broadcast	21:00-00:30
Press Conference	01:00-01:45

# PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO POOL A: International press/photo agencies can apply for a position in the photo pool of the live shows. A designated area close to the stage, equipped with high-speed internet and power sockets, is available. Applications have to be submitted before 20th of April to [jarmo.siim@eurovision.tv](mailto:jarmo.siim@eurovision.tv).

PHOTO POOL B: Photographers in a second photo pool are granted access to the arena as soon as the qualifiers or winners are on stage. Access to this pool is limited to one photographer per participating country, on the invitation of the respective Head of Delegation or Head of Press of the country's representing broadcaster.

The organizers of the Eurovision Song Contest believe that a good picture says more than a thousand words. So, one of the key elements in our media strategy is to provide the best working conditions for photographers to take the best photos.

There are numerous opportunities for photographers to take great photos that capture the spirit of the event and the emotion of its contestants and their fans.

**High-resolution photos of all events can be downloaded via [press.eurovision.tv](http://press.eurovision.tv), free of charge.**

## PRESS CONFERENCES & PHOTO SHOOTS

Each contestant hosts a meet-and-greet and a press conference in the days leading up to the live shows. At the beginning of these press conferences, photographers are invited to take pictures. As soon as the press conference starts, photographers are kindly asked to return to their seats. After each press conference, there is a photo opportunity against a special backdrop.

## OPEN REHEARSALS

During the open rehearsals, a designated area close to the stage is available for photographers and film crews. Flash and camera lights as well as wireless equipment are strictly prohibited.

## DRESS REHEARSALS

The first Dress Rehearsal of each live show is open to journalists, photographers and film crews. For photographers and film crews, a designated area close to the stage is available. **Flash and camera lights as well as wireless equipment are strictly prohibited.**



# 60 YEARS OF EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

To celebrate 60 years of Eurovision Song Contest, the EBU undertook a variety of activities.

In February, a special website was launched to take people on a journey that started in 1956, introducing the past 59 years of Eurovision Song Contest legacy. The website can be found on **60th.eurovision.tv**.

On the 24th of April, the EBU held a **conference** in London, bringing scientists, journalists and Eurovision Song Contest ambassadors together to explore the impact of the event on European society.

The EBU commissioned **additional content** for its Members, many of whom are producing dedicated programmes to look back at six decades of Europe's favourite TV show.

The EBU also endorsed a **book** documenting 60 years of Eurovision Song Contest anecdotes, written by John Kennedy o'Connor, and together with Universal Music launched a Greatest Hits album.

Highlight of the anniversary year was the **Greatest Hits show**, produced by the BB and aired in more than 25 countries. Just turn the page..!





# GREATEST HITS

On 31 March 2015, the BBC and the EBU co-hosted Eurovision Song Contest's Greatest Hits, presented by Graham Norton and Petra Mede. 26 EBU Member broadcasters joined forces to bring together some of the Contest's most celebrated acts.



# HISTORY IN A NUTSHELL

**T**he history of the Eurovision Song Contest began as the brainchild of Marcel Bezençon of the EBU. The Contest was based on Italy's Sanremo Music Festival and was designed to test the limits of live television broadcast technology.

The first Contest was held on 24 May 1956, when seven nations participated. With a live orchestra, the norm in the early years, and simple sing-along songs on every radio station, the Contest grew into a true pan-European tradition.

In the beginning, it was obvious for the participants that they should sing in their country's national language. However, as the Swedish entry in 1965, *Absent Friend*, was sung in English, the EBU set very strict rules on the language in which the songs could be performed. National languages had to be used in all lyrics. Song writers across Europe soon tagged onto the notion that success would only come if the judges could understand the content, resulting in such entries as *Boom-Bang-A-Bang* and *La La La*. In 1973, the rules on language use were relaxed, and in the following year ABBA would win with *Waterloo*. Those freedom of language rules would be soon reversed in 1977, to return with apparent permanent status in the 1999 contest.

The voting systems used in the Contest have changed throughout the years. The modern system has been in place since 1975. Voters award a set of points from 1 to 8, then 10 and finally 12 to songs from other countries – with the favourite being awarded the now

famous *douze points*.

Historically, a country's set of votes was decided by an internal jury, but in 1997 five countries experimented with televoting, giving members of the public in those countries the opportunity to vote en masse for their favourite songs. The experiment was a success and from 1998 all countries were encouraged to use televoting wherever possible.

Nowadays members of the public may also vote by SMS. Whichever method of voting is used – jury, telephone or SMS – countries may not cast votes for their own songs.

The end of the Cold War in the early 1990s led to a sudden increase in numbers, with many former Eastern Bloc countries queuing up to compete for the first time. This process has continued to this day with more and more countries joining. For this reason, in 2004 the Semi-Final format was introduced by the EBU which turned into two Semi-Finals for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2008. Now all countries, except the Big Five – France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom – together with the host country, must be in a Semi-Final top-10 to qualify for the Final.

Last year saw the 40th anniversary of ABBA's Eurovision Song Contest victory, which launched one of the biggest careers in the music industry of the past few decades.

# FROM 1956 TO 1959

Inspired by Italy's Sanremo Music Festival, the idea of organizing a pan-European competition for light music was born at a meeting of the European Broadcasting Union held on 19 October 1955.

It was decided that the first Eurovision Song Contest would be hosted the following year in the Swiss resort of Lugano on Thursday 24 May.

Although Marcel Bezençon is credited with creating the Eurovision Song Contest, much of the format that we recognize today came from British actor Michael Brennan, who in March 1954 came up with the idea of a song contest that featured regional juries and a scoreboard. This idea eventually became the Festival Of British Popular Songs, which was first screened on 7 May 1956.

Seven countries took part in the first Contest – Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, France, Luxembourg and Italy – with each country presenting two songs.

It was the second Swiss song of the evening, Refrain by Lys Assia that became the first ever winner of the Eurovision Song Contest. It was chosen by a jury, comprising just two members from each of the seven countries taking part, but the scores of the voting have never been made public, leaving room for lots of speculation throughout the years.

Lys Assia continues to this day to be associated with the contest, making guest appearances in recent contests, as well as trying to represent Switzerland again in 2012.

In the first few years the Eurovision Song Contest was mostly a radio show due to the fact that not many European families had a television set at that time. The first show lasted 1 hour and 40 minutes, with subsequent events in the 1950s running to around just over an hour. Nowadays the Grand Final is around three and half hours long.

The contest in the 1950s was still finding its way in terms of the rules, and the 1957 Italian entry, Corda Della Mia Chitarra, performed by Nuzio Gallo, lasted for a total of 5'09". This led to the introduction a three minute maximum duration for any entry.

A recording of the fifth heat of the Festival Of British Popular Songs was shown to the EBU in the autumn of 1956, and the idea of using juries and a scoreboard was incorporated into the 1957 contest, and has remained ever since.

Another rule was that only solo artists or duets could take part.

A few groups managed to get around this rule by having one (or two) of their singers named, while the remaining members of the group became backing vocalists.

The next few years brought more participants, increasing the number from the original seven countries to twelve, with United Kingdom, Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Monaco joining the event, adding to the excitement.

Although some of the songs did not win, they nevertheless became worldwide hits: the Italian entries Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu (better known as Volare) by Domenico Modugno and his Piove (famous as Ciao Ciao Bambina), are two examples.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
1956	Switzerland	Lys Assia	<i>Refrain</i>
1957	The Netherlands	Corry Brokken	<i>Net Als Toen</i>
1958	France	André Claveau	<i>Dors Mon Amour</i>
1959	The Netherlands	Teddy Scholten	<i>Een Beetje</i>

# FROM 1960 TO 1969

**T**he Eurovision Song Contest grew more glamorous and exciting in the 1960s as more countries became involved and European superstars, including Cliff Richard, Françoise Hardy and Nana Mouskouri, took to the stage.

Early Contests had been held on various weekdays but, from 1963, one Saturday every year became the day when families sit down to cheer for their own country, watch and finally see which song takes the Grand Prix.

The presenter who holds the record for presenting the most finals is Katie Boyle for the United Kingdom, undertaking the task in 1960, 1963, 1968 and 1974.

Postcards were scripted, and filmed for the 1963 Contest featuring two puppet pigs, called Pinky and Perky. Ultimately though the idea was dropped during rehearsals. In Vienna this year the postcard films will feature the artists filmed in their own country. This was first done for the 1970 contest, although then, the artists representing Luxembourg and Monaco were actually filmed in Paris.

The list of participating countries grew to 18, with Norway, Spain, Finland, Yugoslavia, Portugal and Ireland swelling the ranks.

This also resulted in more popular hits, such as Congratulations and Puppet On A String, both representing the United Kingdom. The latter, sung barefoot by Sandie Shaw, won with one of the largest margins ever seen in the history of the Contest. The song garnered more than twice

as many votes as the runner-up from Ireland. But not only were the juries charmed by Sandie Shaw's song, it became a huge success all over Europe and is nowadays remembered as one of the biggest successes from the Eurovision Song Contest.

The Eurovision Song Contest also saw technical improvements this decade, with the 1968 contest being the first to be produced and broadcast in colour by the BBC, despite the fact that very few viewers across Europe owned colour TV sets.

Even in the United Kingdom just over half a million viewers saw the colour transmission when it was repeated on the only colour channel the following afternoon. However, colour was here to stay and all Contests since then have been broadcast in colour.

Growing competition between participants led to the record-breaking four winners in 1969, when France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom all got 18 points. Since there was no solution for this unforeseen situation, all four countries were declared winners.

Luckily, there were enough medals available for the winning singers – medals had been intended for the winning singer and three winning songwriters.

However, having four winners caused lots of criticism from the media and several TV stations reconsidered participating in the following Eurovision Song Contest.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
1960	France	Jacqueline Boyer	<i>Tom Pillibi</i>
1961	Luxembourg	Jean-Claude Pascal	<i>Nous Les Amoureux</i>
1962	France	Isabelle Aubret	<i>Un Premier Amour</i>
1963	Denmark	Grethe & Jørgen Ingmann	<i>Dansevisé</i>
1964	Italy	Gigliola Cinquetti	<i>Non Ho L'età</i>
1965	Luxembourg	France Gall	<i>Poupée De Cire, Poupée De Son</i>
1966	Austria	Udo Jürgens	<i>Merci Chérie</i>
1967	United Kingdom	Sandie Shaw	<i>Puppet On A String</i>
1968	Spain	Massiel	<i>La, La, La</i>
1969	Spain United Kingdom The Netherlands France	Salomé Lulu Lenny Kuhr Frida Boccara	<i>Vivo Cantando</i> <i>Boom Bang-A-Bang</i> <i>De Troubadour</i> <i>Un Jour, Un Enfant</i>



# FROM 1970 TO 1979

**T**he 1970s started with a major drop in the participants – only 12 delegations decided to take part in 1970 due to the “voting scandal” from the previous year that resulted in four winners. A new rule was devised: if two or more songs gained the same number of points, each song had to be performed once more and all the other juries had to select their favourite song. If entries were still to tie, both of them would share the first position.

The rule of performing either solo or as a duet was abolished in 1971: now groups of up to six persons were allowed to perform at the Contest and this has since led to many groups winning the contest.

More changes were in the air between 1971 and 1973 there was a short-lived voting system, involving just two jurors from each participating country, awarding between 1 and 5 votes to each song. This resulted in some countries awarding more votes than others, and the system was quickly discredited.

Another important rule change for the 1973 Eurovision Song Contest was that participants could choose the language in which they wanted to sing their songs.

This rule remained until 1976, although exceptions were permitted for the 1977 contest, and was reintroduced in 1999.

In 1975, (when the Contest was first staged in Sweden), another voting system was

introduced and is still in use today. Juries in every country would give 1-12 points to their 10 favourite songs, with the famous 12 (douze) points going to their top favourite, then 10 to the second favourite, 8 to their third choice, 7 to their fourth and so on down to 1 point for their tenth favourite. For the rest of the decade the votes were cast in the order the songs were performed.

The 1970s saw many hits from the contest, including entries such as All Kinds Of Everything by Dana, Beg, Steal Or Borrow by The New Seekers, Après Toi by Vicky Leandros, Teach-In’s Ding-A-Dong, Save Your Kisses For Me by Brotherhood of Man and the song that was chosen to be the best Eurovision Song Contest entry of all time (in 2005) Waterloo by the Swedish foursome ABBA.

ABBA had actually already tried to enter the 1973 Eurovision Song Contest with the song Ring Ring, which later became a hit for them in many European countries, but they only managed third place in the Swedish national selection.

Malta, Israel, Greece and Turkey also entered the contest for the first time in the 1970s.

More and more countries all over the world decided to broadcast the Eurovision Song Contest, including Brazil, Chile, Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Dubai and Thailand.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
1970	Ireland	Dana	<i>All Kinds Of Everything</i>
1971	Monaco	Séverine	<i>Un Banc, Un Arbre, Une Rue</i>
1972	Luxembourg	Vicky Leandros	<i>Après Toi</i>
1973	Luxembourg	Anne-Marie David	<i>Tu Te Reconnaîtras</i>
1974	Sweden	ABBA	<i>Waterloo</i>
1975	The Netherlands	Teach-In	<i>Ding-A-Dong</i>
1976	United Kingdom	Brotherhood Of Man	<i>Save Your Kisses For Me</i>
1977	France	Marie Myriam	<i>L'oiseau Et L'enfant</i>
1978	Israel	Izhar Cohen & Alphabeta	<i>A-Ba-Ni-Bi</i>
1979	Israel	Gali Atari & Milk And Honey	<i>Hallelujah</i>

# FROM 1980 TO 1989

**T**he 1980 Contest, the 25th event of its kind, had a last minute organizer, Dutch broadcaster NOS stepped in after Israel decided not to host the competition twice in a row. In fact, Israel didn't even take part in the year after winning with Hallelujah as the selected date clashed with a national holiday. The first and so far last time this has happened.

One innovation at that contest was that each song was introduced by the TV presenter that country, although the real silver wedding anniversary took place the year after in Norway where most winners performed at a special concert in Momarkedet in Mysen.

The 1980s brought more up-tempo winners than in the past, such as Norway's first victory with La Det Swinge in 1985. Another first-time winner was Germany with Ein Bißchen Frieden, composed by the legendary Ralph Siegel and performed by Nicole who finally brought home victory in 1982. Belgium also won the Eurovision Song Contest in this decade with 13 year-old Sandra Kim and singing J'aime La Vie. Shortly before breaking up, Yugoslavia won in 1989 with Rock Me by Croatian group Riva.

Writing himself into Eurovision history was Australian-born Irish artist Johnny Logan, who secured Ireland's second victory in 1980 with What's Another Year and again in 1987 with Hold Me Now. From then on he'd be known as 'Mr Eurovision', especially after Linda Martin won the contest with another Johnny Logan song Why Me? in 1992, making Logan the only

person to have won the contest three times.

More superstars were launched at the Eurovision Song Contest in the 1980s. For Céline Dion, winning the 1988 Eurovision Song Contest was another step on her way to global superstardom. Germany's and Austria's entries in 1989 were both written by German pop titan Dieter Bohlen, who became famous in Germany in the 1980s as one half of the duo Modern Talking.

As acts became more visual, the organizers also had some tricks up their sleeves. The Contest in 1985 was hosted by former participant Lill Lindfors who surprised the audience with an act in which it appeared that she had her skirt torn off. This was of course well rehearsed, and remains one of the most remembered highlights in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest.

The number of Eurovision Song Contest participants grew once again. In 1980, for the first time in the history of the Contest an African country, Morocco, took part with Samira, a star in all the Arabic-speaking countries, but her entry Bitakat Hob ended up in 18th position with just 7 points. The islands of Cyprus and Iceland also joined the Eurovision party in the 1980s.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
1980	Ireland	Johnny Logan	<i>What's Another Year?</i>
1981	United Kingdom	Bucks Fizz	<i>Making Your Mind Up</i>
1982	Germany	Nicole	<i>Ein Bißchen Frieden</i>
1983	Luxembourg	Corinne Hermès	<i>Si La Vie Est Cadeau</i>
1984	Sweden	The Herreys	<i>Diggi Loo Diggi Ley</i>
1985	Norway	Bobbysocks	<i>La Det Swinge</i>
1986	Belgium	Sandra Kim	<i>J'aime La Vie</i>
1987	Ireland	Johnny Logan	<i>Hold Me Now</i>
1988	Switzerland	Céline Dion	<i>Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi</i>
1989	Yugoslavia	Riva	<i>Rock Me</i>

# FROM 1990 TO 1999

**T**his decade saw the biggest changes in the competition since its beginning. Changes that led to the Eurovision Song Contest as we know it now.

After the participation of two children in 1989 – Nathalie Pâque (11) for France and Gili (12) for Israel – caused some controversy, it was decided that from 1990 the minimum age limit for a performer would be 16 years old at some time during

the year of participation. That's why the young singer Emma could represent the United Kingdom in 1990, even though she was still only 15 by the date of the contest. This rule has been amended since then: now performers must be aged at least 16 on the day of the Final, while younger singers are able to take part in the Junior Eurovision Song Contest.

The enlargement of the Contest in this decade led to new issues. The show still needed to be around three hours long but this was hard to achieve when more than 25 countries decided to take part. Several possible solutions were put forward and tried out.

Starting with seven countries from eastern Europe participating in a preliminary heat called Kvalifikacija za Millstreet in Ljubljana (1993) and continuing with an audio preselection (1996) in which 22 countries out of 29 were selected to go through to the Final.

In 1997 the average results of all countries in the last five Contests were measured, and the 25 countries that had done best qualified for the final in Dublin. Joining the Eurovision

family in this decade were Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Estonia, Romania, Slovakia, Lithuania, Hungary, Russia, Poland and FYR Macedonia. Malta would also return after an absence of 16 years.

In 1999, the long-standing rule that each country had to sing in one of its own national languages was finally abolished.

It was also decided that France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom, as the highest-paying European Broadcasting Union subscribers, would automatically be allowed

to take part every year, irrespective of their five-year point average.

The orchestra was optional and since that time no orchestra has been on stage at the Eurovision Song Contest.

Televoting was introduced in the United Kingdom, Sweden, Austria, Switzerland and Germany in 1997 and would be extended to almost all participating countries the following year. Nowadays it is compulsory to use televoting.

This decade was unbelievably successful for Ireland, which won four times in total including three times in a row, in 1992, 1993, 1994 and then again in 1996. Some big hits were also created in this decade, such as Gina G's Ooh Ahh... Just A Little Bit representing the UK in 1996 or the 1998 winner Diva by Dana International, but the biggest commercial success of the 1990s was not one of the songs, however, but the interval act Riverdance in Dublin in 1994, which later became a worldwide hit.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
1990	Italy	Toto Cutugno	<i>Insieme: 1992</i>
1991	Sweden	Carola	<i>Fångad Av En Stormvind</i>
1992	Ireland	Linda Martin	<i>Why Me</i>
1993	Ireland	Niamh Kavanagh	<i>In Your Eyes</i>
1994	Ireland	P. Harrington & C. McGettigan	<i>Rock 'n' Roll Kids</i>
1995	Norway	Secret Garden	<i>Nocturne</i>
1996	Ireland	Eimear Quinn	<i>The Voice</i>
1997	United Kingdom	Katrina & The Waves	<i>Love Shine A Light</i>
1998	Israel	Dana International	<i>Diva</i>
1999	Sweden	Charlotte Nilsson	<i>Take Me To Your Heaven</i>

# FROM 2000 TO 2009

**T**he new millennium saw a continuous rise in the popularity of the Eurovision Song Contest all over Europe, leading to various changes. With Latvia and Ukraine joining the competition in 2000 and 2003 respectively, and with Belarus, Serbia & Montenegro, Albania and Andorra on the waiting list, the relegation system was already overstretched. Therefore, for the first time in its history, a televised Semi-Final was introduced in 2004.

The Big-4, the host country, and the 10 best-placed countries from the previous contest would directly qualify for the Final,

while all lower-ranking countries, as well as new participating broadcasters had to be in the top 10 in the Semi-Final to go through to the Final. This system was one big step forward, as it allowed all countries to take part every year, without taking a one-year break after a bad result.

The Semi-Final system also introduced a new moment of suspense, and not only for TV viewers: at the end, the 10 qualifiers are announced by opening envelopes. Many artists, delegations, and fans have spent a tense moment of anticipation while waiting for the last country to be read out. While real envelopes were used initially, the ceremony has since gone digital, with an animated announcement on screen.

While the unification of Europe came about in the 1990s, its impact on the Eurovision

Song Contest only started to show after 2000. Estonia was the first 'new' country to win the competition with Tanel Padar, Dave Benton & 2XL and their captivating song Everybody in 2001. This seemed to kick off a whole series of first-time victories, with Marie N winning for Latvia, Sertab for Turkey, Ruslana for Ukraine, Helena Paparizou for Greece, Lordi for Finland, Marija Šerifovi for Serbia, and Dima Bilan for Russia.

More and more countries expressed an interest in entering the Eurovision Song Contest: Bulgaria and

Moldova joined the show in 2005, Armenia followed suit in 2006, with Montenegro, Serbia, Georgia and the Czech Republic in 2007 and Azerbaijan and San Marino in 2008.

This resulted in a situation in 2007 where 27 countries were competing in the Semi-Final for only 10 available spots in the Final. The Second Semi-Final was therefore introduced in 2008. From then on, only the Big-4 and the host country would automatically qualify for the Final. All other countries had to gain a top-10 placing in one of the two Semi-Finals.

After televoting had been the sole decisive force in the contest for 10 years, a gradual reinforcement of national juries with increasing impact on the final scores started in 2008, when only the top 9 countries in each of the two Semi-Finals qualified for the final. The tenth qualifier in each show was the highest-ranked entry in the jury vote that had not yet been part of the televoting qualifiers.

The juries only had a say in the Final from 2009 when, in each country, a 50/50

combination of televoting scores and jury scores was calculated to get to the traditional Eurovision ranking, culminating in "douze points".

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
2000	Denmark	The Olsen Brothers	<i>Fly On The Wings Of Love</i>
2001	Estonia	Tanel, Dave & 2XL	<i>Everybody</i>
2002	Latvia	Marie N	<i>I Wanna</i>
2003	Turkey	Sertab	<i>Everyway That I Can</i>
2004	Ukraine	Ruslana	<i>Wild Dances</i>
2005	Greece	Helena Paparizou	<i>My Number One</i>
2006	Finland	Lordi	<i>Hard Rock Hallelujah</i>
2007	Serbia	Marija Šerifovic'	<i>Molitva</i>
2008	Russia	Dima Bilan	<i>Believe</i>
2009	Norway	Alexander Rybak	<i>Fairytale</i>



# FROM 2010 TO 2014

**P**roducers and executives of Norwegian broadcaster NRK had looked at the 2009 contest in Moscow with awe. 'How do you follow up on a spectacle of such gigantic dimensions?' they must have asked themselves. Instead of going even bigger, the Norwegians decided to go for better.

The contest in Norway was also one of the most interactive ones to date, as viewers were invited to join dancing flash-mobs all across Europe. They received instructions on the dance moves through videos on YouTube.

From 2010, the same way of combining televotes and jury scores was also introduced in the Semi-Finals.

2010 winner Lena from Germany impressed millions with her simple, yet effective performance of the catchy song Satellite. She brought the contest to Germany 28 years after Nicole's victory in 1982.

In 2011, Italy re-joined the Eurovision Song Contest after thirteen years of absence and finished second, right behind Ell & Nikki's Running Scared, who took victory for Azerbaijan for the first time.

The following year, the contest would be held more east than ever before. In Baku, Azerbaijan's capital, the live shows would start at midnight local time! The 2012 edition of the contest didn't just attract the attention of showbiz media and the fan community, but also from human rights activists and politicians who saw the event as an opportunity to voice

their concerns over social and political developments in Azerbaijan.

For the first time in many years, the contest in Baku brought forward a pan-European hit which would dominate the charts for months. Loreen's Euphoria, Sweden's entry to the competition, topped the charts in more than 20 countries, showed that the Eurovision Song Contest had not lost its potential to bring forward musical success.

Swedish broadcaster SVT had been chasing the opportunity to host the Eurovision Song Contest for many years. In order to find the right song, SVT perfected its national selection format Melodifestivalen for nearly a decade.

The experience of organising what many consider to be a mini-version of the Eurovision Song Contest, came in useful when SVT was given the challenge to host Europe's favourite TV show. Just as the Norwegians had done in 2010, the Swedes decided to reduce scale in exchange for quality. Most notably, Benny and Bjorn from ABBA joined forces with DJ Avicii to pen the Final's opening tune, We Write The Story.

Just like in 2000, Denmark won the contest in Sweden. A nation-wide bid resulted in Copenhagen being picked as host city. Unlike in 2001, when the event took place at the Parken Stadium, the venue was not available for the 2015 contest and the city proposed to host the spectacle at the B&W Hallerne, an old shipyard in the city's industrial area.

The contest was won by Conchita Wurst, the bearded lady from Austria, who brought her song Rise Like A Phoenix with the same passion as her plea for tolerance, diversity and peace.

Year	Winning country	Winning artist	Winning song
2010	Germany	Lena	<i>Satellite</i>
2011	Azerbaijan	Ell & Nikki	<i>Running Scared</i>
2012	Sweden	Loreen	<i>Euphoria</i>
2013	Denmark	Emmelie de Forest	<i>Only Teardrops</i>
2014	Austria	Conchita Wurst	<i>Rise Like A Phoenix</i>

# HISTORY TIMELINE

- 1955 The concept of the Eurovision Song Contest was presented by EBU Director Marcel Bezençon
- 1956 The first Eurovision Song Contest was held in Lugano, Switzerland, on 24 May
- 1958 Italy's Domenico Modugno finishes 3rd with Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu, better known as Volare. It would become the most covered song in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest
- 1964 A demonstrator manages to reach the stage during the live broadcast. Unfortunately, there is very little archive material of the 1964 contest available
- 1968 The first ever Eurovision Song Contest broadcast in colour
- 1969 A controversial outcome, as Spain, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and France all finish first
- 1974 ABBA wins for Sweden. They would become the most successful Eurovision Song Contest winners ever
- 1975 A new voting system is being introduced. Each country gives 1 to 8, 10 and 12 points to its top-10
- 1977 The contest has to be postponed from April to May due to a strike of cameramen at the BBC
- 1979 Israel wins the contest for the second time in a row
- 1980 Last year's winner Israel could not host the contest and the Netherlands offered to take over the production  
The Eurovision Song Contest celebrates its 25th anniversary
- 1986 13-year old Sandra Kim, who earlier claimed to be 15, wins for Belgium. She would be the youngest winner ever  
Luxembourg's entry L'amour De Ma Vie is the 500th song at the Eurovision Song Contest since 1956
- 1987 Johnny Logan, representing Ireland, wins the Eurovision Song Contest for the second time
- 1988 Canadian singer Céline Dion wins for Switzerland. She would become one of the world's most popular singers
- 1993 Representatives from seven countries compete in a regional qualification for three open slots at the contest.  
As a result, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Slovenia and Croatia took part for the first time
- 1994 As many as seven new countries take part: Estonia, Lithuania, Russia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia
- 1997 Ireland hosts the contest after winning for the third time in four years  
The first experiments with televoting take place
- 1998 Dana International sparks controversy, being the first transsexual to win the contest
- 1999 For the first time, there is no orchestra at the Eurovision Song Contest
- 2002 For the first time, the Eurovision Song Contest takes place in eastern Europe, as Estonia hosts the event
- 2004 For the first time ever, a televised Semi-Final takes place in the lead up to the Eurovision Song Contest  
A new, generic logo is introduced
- 2005 In a spectacular live show from Copenhagen, Europe celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Eurovision Song Contest  
ABBA's Waterloo is chosen as best Eurovision Song Contest song from the past 50 years
- 2006 Finland wins the contest after waiting for victory a record 45 years  
Ireland's Brian Kennedy performs the 1,000th song at the Eurovision Song Contest since 1956
- 2008 For the first time, two Semi-Finals take place in the lead-up to the Final  
A new record of 43 countries is represented
- 2009 Professional juries are being reintroduced in the Final. They have a 50% stake in the outcome
- 2012 Winner Loreen turns her song Euphoria into a hit in over 20 countries, becoming one of the biggest Eurovision Song Contest hits in the history of the show
- 2015 The BBC hosts Eurovision's Greatest Hits in London, to celebrate 60 years of Eurovision Song Contest  
The contest's official YouTube channel ([youtube.com/eurovision](https://www.youtube.com/eurovision)) passes the one billion video views

# FACTS, FIGURES AND VIENNA

Fact sheet: History  
Fact sheet: Vienna 2015  
Practical information  
Side events  
Tours in Vienna  
Code of Conduct  
Contact details  
Colofon

# FACT SHEET

# HISTORY

- The first ever Eurovision Song Contest was held on the 24 May, 1956, in Lugano, Switzerland
- In 59 years, over 1,400 songs have competed in the Eurovision Song Contest
- Noel Kelehan conducted five winners (1980, 1987, 1992, 1993 and 1996)
- Dutch conductor Dolf van der Linden conducted for seven different countries (Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland)
- Johnny Logan won the Eurovision Song Contest three times. In 1980 and 1987 he represented Ireland as performer and won both times, in 1992 he wrote Linda Martin's winning entry Why Me?
- Poland made the most impressive debut in 1994, when Edyta Gorniak came second with To Nie Ja, closely followed by Serbia's victory in 2007. Although Serbia & Montenegro had been represented twice before, it was the first time that Serbia had taken part as an independent country
- Norway could be found at the bottom of the list as many as 10 times! Its unfortunate performers came last in 1963, 1969, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1981, 1990, 1997, 2001 and 2004. Nevertheless, they also won three times (in 1985, 1995 and 2009)
- Ireland has won a record seven times, Luxembourg, France and the United Kingdom 5 times each. Sweden and the Netherlands have both won 4 times
- ABBA is the most successful Eurovision Song Contest winner. The Swedish pop band won the contest in 1974
- In 2008, a record number of 43 countries took part, just like in 2011
- The most covered Eurovision Song Contest song is Domenico Modugno's Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu, also known as Volare. The song has been covered by famous stars such as Frank Sinatra, Cliff Richard, David Bowie and many others
- Televoting was introduced in 1997
- In 2004, the first televised Eurovision Song Contest Semi-Final was held. In 2008, a second Semi-Final was introduced
- During the Final of 2014, more than 5 million tweets were posted with the hashtag #eurovision, peaking at more than 40,000 tweets per minute when Conchita Wurst performed Rise Like A Phoenix
- The 2014 Contest reached 195 million people in more than 45 countries. For the first time ever, more than one million people tuned in to the Eurovision Song Contest on line.

# FACT SHEET

## VIENNA 2015

The set design shows a large eye 43 metres wide and 14 metres high that surrounds the main stage.

The eye comprises 1,288 single steles each with a LED-lit front fascia.

All steles together contain 3,225 linear metres of tube material.

There is a 30x9-metre LED screen with a resolution up to 7.5 mm in the centre of the eye.

The circular main stage has 450 LED modules (10mm) integrated into the floor, which work in very low angled camera views and also can carry heavy loads.

45 linear metres of metal grids are placed next to the stage edge for use in special effects.

300 linear metres of LED strips are installed to highlight edges of the stage.

Nearly 5,000 square metres of floor space are used for designed set and technical areas, starting with the stage, presenter areas, EBU positions and ending with front-of-house and commentator areas.

Several roller screens and fast-fold screens allow the audience to see live camera views and other content projected by 10 DLP projectors.

Special camera systems and lighting effects are integrated in the stage design.

The 2015 Eurovision Song Contest is the 60th consecutive annual event, this year produced by Austrian public broadcaster ORF, under the supervision of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU).

EBU Member broadcasters in 39 countries are taking part in this year's competition.

Australia's SBS has exceptionally been invited to take part as the 40th participant.

This is the second time the Eurovision Song Contest has been held in Austria; the previous event was in 1967.

Austrian Airlines is the Official Airline of the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest. Microsoft is Technology Partner. Österreichische Post AG and Österreich Werbung (Austria Tourism) are Official Partners, Osram is Official Lighting Partner.

Some 1,550 accredited journalists from over 85 countries are expected to cover the contest.

They will attend more than 80 press events.

A crew of some 800 people (excluding security personell and catering crew) is involved with the production and event, and 800 volunteers will help the event to run smoothly.

About 200 million viewers across Europe and the world are expected to tune in for the two Semi-Finals and the Final.

# VIENNA PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

The Tourist Information Offices offer general information, free maps of the city, brochures, hotel reservations, free WiFi and much more.

- Albertinaplatz / Maysedergasse, 1010 Vienna, daily 9.00 to 17.00
- Hauptbahnhof (in the OBB InfoPoint), 1100 Vienna, daily 09.00 to 17.00
- Vienna Airport Tourist Information, Arrival Hall, daily 07.00 to 22.00

## VIENNA IN FIGURES

Area: 414 square kilometers  
Population: 1.7 million  
Districts: 23  
Altitude: 171 m above sea level  
Language: German  
Currency: Euro  
Telephone: Country code +43  
Average temperature in May: 15°C

## FREE WIFI SPOTS IN VIENNA

Free wireless internet is available at the following hotspots:

- in the entire venue area
- at Tourist Information Offices, at Naschmarkt, in the Prater and on Danube Island
- at City Hall Park
- at Stephansplatz
- on Mariahilfer Strasse
- at the Westbahnhof on the station concourse
- at the airport in all areas

More information: [www.freewave.at/hotspots](http://www.freewave.at/hotspots) and [www.vienna.info/en/travel-info/faqs/wlan](http://www.vienna.info/en/travel-info/faqs/wlan)

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

European emergency call 112  
Fire department 122  
Police 133  
Ambulance & emergency services 144  
Emergency doctor 141

For night and weekend dental services call +43 1 512 2078

For pharmacies that are open at night and Sunday please call +43 1455 or see teletext page 648 on ORFeins or ORF2

For 24-hour car service, call ARBÖ at 123 or ÖAMTC at 120.

## ELECTRICITY

Austria uses 220 volt alternating current. Plugs and sockets are European standard with two round pins.

## TIME ZONE

Vienna lies within the Central European time zone (CET). From the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October, summer time is in effect (MESZ).

## CYCLING IN VIENNA

The bicycle has reached an important place in the metropolitan area and therefore contributes substantially to climate protection in Vienna. The goal of the city of Vienna is to increase the traffic share of bicycles to 8% of the entire traffic volume by 2015. Currently the bicycle traffic network covers more than 1,000 kilometres.

Besides various bike rental outlets, Citybikes were introduced in 2003. At 60 bike stations,



Photo: Milenko Badzic (ORF)

bicycles can be rent and also returned. Within the first hour, the use is free of charge. The only condition is a one-time registration via Cash Card, Citybike Card or Credit Card.

More information can be found at [www.citybikewien.at](http://www.citybikewien.at) and [www.vienna.info/en/vienna-for/sports/cycling/bicycle-rentals](http://www.vienna.info/en/vienna-for/sports/cycling/bicycle-rentals).

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

The accreditation badge is also valid as a ticket for public transportation (Vienna Transport Authority) during Eurovision Song Contest 2015.

With more than 80% coverage of all mobility needs of the Viennese population, the Wiener Linien (Vienna Transport Authority) network ranks among the best developed in the world.

Wiener Linien is committed to supporting economic and social responsibility, supply security as well as environmental sustainability; in 2001, the Climate Alliance Austria awarded Wiener Linien for its achievements.

- The underground trains (U-Bahn) run from about 5:00 am in the morning until about midnight;
- The underground trains run around the clock on Friday and Saturday and on the eve of public holidays;
- Night buses run every night along the city's most important routes;

We invite you to have a look at the website [www.wienerlinien.at](http://www.wienerlinien.at) (in English and German) to plan your trip by public transport.

To get to the Wiener Stadthalle by public

transport:

### **Subway U6**

Station Burggasse-Stadthalle/Urban Loritz-Platz

### **Subway U3**

Station Schweglerstrasse

Trams 6, 9, 18, 49

Bus 48A

More information can be found at [www.wienerlinien.at](http://www.wienerlinien.at).

## **BY CAR**

Since the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest is a Green Event we recommend to let your car have a rest at home and enjoy the comfort of one of the best developed public transportation network in the world.

If you nevertheless wish to travel by car, please note that tolls are compulsory on all motorways and expressways in Austria, and you will also need a vignette to use Vienna's city motorways. You can find detailed information on the toll charges at [www.asfinag.at](http://www.asfinag.at).

## **PARKING IN VIENNA**

Some of Vienna's districts are entirely short-stay parking zones. Around the Vienna Stadthalle in the 15th district, tickets must be purchased for the short-stay parking zone, which operates from Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 22.00.

Parking tickets (price for 30 minutes: 1 euro) are available from tobacco shops, cigarette machines, filling stations, Wiener Linien



(Vienna Transport Authority) ticket offices, and Wiener Linien ticket machines.

More information can be found on [www.vienna.info/en/travel-info/to-and-around/parking](http://www.vienna.info/en/travel-info/to-and-around/parking).

### **TAXI**

If you need a taxi call +43 1 40100 or use the taxi.eu app. The app can be downloaded for free from Google Play or Apple's App Store. If you want to go to or from Vienna Airport you are strongly recommended to ask for the airport fare which is 36 euros from or to any location in Vienna. At the airport please proceed to the Yellow Taxi 40100 counter in the arrival hall.

For more information: [www.taxi40100.at](http://www.taxi40100.at).

### **VIENNA PASS**

The Vienna Pass is an all-inclusive city-card, provided free-of-charge for all delegations and journalists. The Vienna Pass offers many advantages for guests - including free admission to the most famous sights in

Vienna, unlimited use of the hop-on hop-off sightseeing buses, priority access at sights (fast lane), a guidebook, a smartphone app and great discounts with exclusive partner companies. Including public transportation is an essential part of the Vienna Pass concept, which is fortunately easy, as all sights are perfectly reachable by underground, bus and tram. For details visit [www.viennapass.com](http://www.viennapass.com).

Journalists will be provided with their Vienna Pass cards at the Service and Information Desk in the Press Centre.

## **DOWNLOAD EVISION15**



Scan the QR code with your smartphone and download the EVISION15 app, which will give you easy access to public transport routes in Vienna.

# SOCIAL ACTIVITIES IN VIENNA

## EUROCLUB 2015

Welcome to the EuroClub hosting location of the Eurovision Song Contest 2015: The Ottakringer Brewery, situated close to the Wiener Stadthalle. Not only is the brewery one of the city's hottest event locations but also it has been running as a fully operating brewery since its foundation in 1837 and has since become a true landmark for the city. This year's EuroClub motto, "My Number One" (GRE 2005), will be entirely under the theme of the 60th anniversary of the Eurovision Song Contest: Everything will be about the winning songs of the past six decades. Not only will the songs provide each floor with a name, but also you will come across the "Number One" hits of the past 60 years everywhere – partly in very surprising places.

"WILD DANCES" - UKR 2004 (Hefeboden)

On the main floor, pure party and ESC atmosphere is guaranteed with the EuroClub Band, who will present a different motto every evening. We look forward to the guests enlivening the theme of the main floor! A magnificent view of the stage can be enjoyed in the bookable gallery "Take Me To Your Heaven".

"INSIEME" - ITA 1990 (Gerstenboden)

"Together" is the theme of this very comfortable, quaint location in the Ottakringer Brewery. A provided instrument set invites the artists of all nations to create unique jam sessions and joint live performances together.

„EIN BISSCHEN FRIEDEN“ - GER 1982  
(Hopfenboden)

In this cozy lounge corner, the partying crowd

can relax and enjoy 'a little peace' as well as good conversations. A short rest is a wonderful thing and can rejuvenate any body and mind... yet the hotspots of the EuroClub await close by.

"THE VOICE" - IRE 1996 (Alte Technik)

Here the voices of the participating artists will resound live on stage - for example, by invitation of the delegations. Between the performances, "The Voice" will be the second party floor of the Euro- Club. Furthermore, the gallery "Love Shine A Light" invites to the delegation's very own private parties.

The EuroClub 2015 will be a place for everyone to celebrate, sing, dance, communicate and, above all, have fun together! The ORF and the Ottakringer Brewery staff are looking forward to welcoming guests from all over the world and to letting them experience Austrian joy and hospitality.

## EUROVISION NIGHTS

In the first week of the Eurovision Song Contest 2015 (11th till 16th of May) there will be no official EuroClub but the "Eurovision Nights" – each evening another typical Viennese spot with a special Song Contest motto to experience the diversity of nightlife in Vienna.

- Monday, 11th of May: EUROVISION START NIGHT at the Café Leopold
- Tuesday, 12th of May: EUROVISION JAM NIGHT at the U4
- Wednesday, 13th of May: EUROVISION JAM NIGHT at the Albertina Passage
- Thursday, 14th of May: EUROWIES'N NIGHT

at the Lower Belvedere (traditional clothing party)

- Friday, 15th of May: EUROVISION JAM NIGHT at the Chaya Fuera
- Saturday, 16th of May: EUROVISION LIFE BALL NIGHT at the Prater Sauna.

### **THE VIENNA STATE OPERA - POP MEETS OPERA**

17th of May 2015, morning performance

The Vienna State Opera will welcome 1,000 invited delegation members, artists and accredited media with an exclusive morning performance on Sunday the 17th of May 2015. World stars such as Placido Domingo, Juan Diego Florez and an ensemble consisting of musicians of the Vienna State Opera Orchestra and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra have already confirmed their participation at the morning performance. In addition, many further artists of the Vienna State Opera as well as Eurovision Song Contest artists from various countries will perform in one of the world's most famous opera houses.

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

17th of May 2015

The Opening Ceremony will take place in front of the Vienna City Hall on Sunday the 17th of May 2015. To welcome all delegations to the Eurovision Song Contest 2015, the longest red carpet of the Austrian capital will be rolled out (130 m). Accredited media and fans will be able to see all nations and do interviews with the competing artists and members of the delegations. After the grand opening on the big stage of the "Eurovision Village", the

delegations will be received by the Mayor of Vienna, Dr. Michael Häupl, in the "Festsaal" of the Vienna City Hall, where also a welcome party for the delegations and artists will take place. Unfortunately, press and fans will not be invited into the "Festsaal" of the City Hall, due to the limited room capacity. But at the same time, the EuroClub 2015 at the Ottakringer Brewery will open its doors.

### **THE OPENING PARTY - WELCOME TO AUSTRIA**

17th of May 2015, EuroClub

For all accredited fans, media, crew members, and, of course, for the delegation members and artists after they have participated in the Opening Ceremony, the EuroClub at the Ottakringer Brewery will be inaugurated with a big "Welcome to Austria" party - hosted by the Austrian delegation. Please do not forget your badge, as that is your ticket. ORF, the Austrian delegation and the Ottakringer Brewery staff are looking forward to welcoming you to Vienna!

### **EUROVISIONEN: EUROART AND PANEL**

For the 60th anniversary of the Eurovision Song Contest, ORF is planning a public value program with an exhibition - the EuroArt - with Song Contest artworks and a particular Song Contest panel - the EuroVisionen - with international experts discussing current political, economic and environmental topics. The Eurovisionen will take place at the Leopoldmuseum in the famous "Museumsquartier".

### **FASHION FOR EUROPE**

18th of May 2015, Rathausplatz



Photo: Milenko Badzic (ORF)

The program of the Eurovision Village starts with a fashion show highlight on Monday the 18th of May (by FLASHED events). Building bridges with fashion – connecting cultures with fashion. A lot of participating countries represented by one brand. Join this unique show: [www.fashionforeurope.com](http://www.fashionforeurope.com).

### **HELLO VIENNA - WELCOME EUROPE**

To mark the show week until the Grand Final and offer visitors and the media a place to gather, to be thrilled and to meet national communities but also to meet and celebrate together with other nations, HELLO VIENNA – WELCOME EUROPE was developed: An excellent stage for tourism, economy, education, culture and infotainment. A touristic world of experience around Europe. An event format that combines elements of a world exposition, a tourism fair and a representation of destinations. It will inspire thousands of guests and visitors.

Alternatively, the week from 18th to 23rd of May 2015, Vienna's Rathausplatz (City Hall Square) will host the Eurovision Village and turn the place into little Europe. We have developed a concept inviting all participating countries to join.

### **SEMI-FINAL AFTER-PARTIES**

After the Semi-Finals on the 19th and 21st of May, the official after-parties will be held at EuroClub. More information will follow.

### **GRAND FINAL AFTER-PARTIES**

The Grand Final After-Party will be held in EuroClub. More information will follow.

### **EUROVISION VILLAGE**

In the heart of Vienna, the Eurovision Village is a vibrant centre of the Eurovision Song Contest 2015. The City Hall Square offers a unique setting for the get-together of fans, tourists and music lovers from all over the world. In a great setting, visitors can witness the three TV shows live via huge screens.

On the big stage in front of the venerable City Hall building, there will be a daily program from noon until late at night – live acts of the participating artists and exciting theme days such as 60 Years of Eurovision Song Contest, A Tribute to Udo Jürgens and, of course, the Queen of Austria Conchita Wurst. Visitors experience music highlights with former Austrian Song Contest participants as well as international culinary treats. With national and international DJs, the Eurovision Village provides a legendary atmosphere every night – generated from the greatest hits from 60 years of Eurovision Song Contest history.

The Eurovision Village kick-off is the grand Opening Ceremony on 17th of May 2015. The official program for the “Eurovision Village” will start on Monday, 18th of May, with the spectacular show “Fashion for Europe” – with emerging and renowned fashion designers from many of the participating countries.

On 23rd of May, the Eurovision Village will come to an end with the public screening of the Grand Final, which will be followed by up to 10,000 people on the City Hall Square, and of course a brilliant birthday party for the 60th Eurovision Song Contest. Highlight of the final evening will be the presentation of the votes of the Austrian jury – live from the big stage of the Eurovision village. The Eurovision Village 2015 – a meeting place full of emotions!

# CITY TOURS IN VIENNA

The Eurovision Song Contest Team at ORF and the Vienna Tourist Board would like to ensure that your leisure time in Vienna really becomes recreational – free of charge and definitely fulfilling. We have put together various proposals so that you may get to know Vienna and the surrounding areas in all their beauty and diversity.

## **BUILDING BRIDGES: CLASSICS & CURIOSITIES**

The Spanish Riding School, the Prater or the Schönbrunn Palace – these classics will be on the programme just as much as special tours and day-trips that will be compiled in exclusive packages for you. Experience a singular cruise on the Danube or an excursion to the exceptionally beautiful Wachau.

Discover the intricate alleyways and their fascinating history in the historic city centre, the intercultural markets or the UNO City with a guided tour.

An extensive visit to the traditional “Heurige” with Viennese wine shouldn’t be missed and those who want to walk in the footsteps of the “Third Man” will surely find themselves in the catacombs of the Austrian capital.

## **BUILDING BRIDGES: CREATIVE & CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS**

We will show you the “creative Vienna” as well as the emotional Jewish history of the Austrian capital. Vienna has a rich culture, fitting all tastes and we have worked tirelessly to secure complimentary tickets for you. Experience *Così fan tutte*, *Die Fledermaus* or *La Bohème* live at the Vienna Volksoper, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra in the Konzerthaus or the musicals *Mamma Mia* and *Mary Poppins* by the Vereinigte Bühnen Wien.

## **SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PROGRAM**

In this handbook there are only a few of the numerous proposals listed that we at ORF and

Vienna Tourist Board have compiled for you to make your stay with us unforgettable. Please note that all our offers are on a first-come, first-served basis and have a limited number of participants. The whole program will be available from March, 16th at [songcontest.orf.at/trips4free](http://songcontest.orf.at/trips4free)

## **CLASSICAL & CULTURAL**

### **SCHÖNBRUNN EXCLUSIVE NIGHT TOUR**

Schönbrunn Palace is a World Cultural Heritage site and Austria’s most-visited sight. The baroque total work of art consisting of palace and gardens was for centuries the property of the Habsburgs and is today largely in its original condition. Visitors will find numerous attractions here, from a tour through the authentically furnished residential and ceremonial rooms of the Imperial Family in the palace, to the maze and the labyrinth in the gardens and a separate Children’s Museum. We offer you an exclusive night tour (“Grand Tour”) to the historic display rooms at Schönbrunn Palace.

### **INDULGENCE IN THE WORLD CULTURAL HERITAGE WACHAU**

One of the most beautiful experiences is a boat ride through the culturally significant landscape of the Wachau. The ride passes typical steep-slope vineyards, where the famous Wachau wine grapes flourish, as well as picturesque villages nestled between green landscapes and the river itself. A particular highlight stands out when passing Dürnstein, where the old monastery of Stift Dürnstein presents itself in all its glory.

### **150 YEARS OF THE ‘RINGSTRASSE**

From a military stronghold to one of Europe’s most glamorous boulevards: the Viennese Ringstrasse is celebrating its 150th birthday with a variety of events and exhibitions.

In addition to an impressive array of imperial

palaces and historical monuments that dot the impressive boulevard, the Ringstrasse offers beautiful parks, traditional shops and some of Vienna's finest cafes.

### **CHILL OUT NIGHT - CITY CRUISE WITH THE DDSG BLUE DANUBE**

The tour starts at the Vienna Schwedenplatz dock and lets you experience Vienna at night.

Bring the day to a close in a relaxed atmosphere on board and enjoy sundown on the sundeck.

From Schwedenplatz, you travel on the Danube Canal through the illuminated city.

You pass modern architectural gems (Uniqa Tower, hotels and commercial buildings by Jean Nouvel, Media Tower by Hans Hollein) and historical landmarks (Schützenhaus, Underground Station and Nussdorf lock by Otto Wagner).

After a detour on the big Danube River to a modern part of Vienna (Millennium Tower, Donauturm, United Nations), the boat returns to Vienna Schwedenplatz.

### **THIRD MAN MUSEUM AND VIENNA SEWERS**

"The Third Man" is a thriller set in the bombed out city of Vienna right after WWII. Its famous chase scene with Orson Welles as Harry Lime was shot in the Vienna sewers.

The Third Man Museum is THE place to go for film fans and all those interested in the post-war history of Vienna. Plunge into Harry Lime's Vienna and travel through time to war-damaged, occupied post-war Vienna.

### **MUSIC & MUSEUMS**

ORF secured some complimentary tickets for you - here you'll find just a choice of all the offers we have compiled for you. Please note that all of our offers are on a first-come, first-served basis and have a limited number of participants. But all performances will take place several times.

### **CONCERTS & OPERAS**

Vienna State Opera: "Il barbiere di Siviglia", ballett "Van Manen / Ekman / Kylian", "La Sylphide", "La cenerentola"

Vienna Volksoper: La Boheme, Giselle Rouge (ballett), Philharmonia, "Schrammeln", The Fledermaus, Così fan tutte, Hello Dolly!, Classic meets folk music

Viennese Konzerthaus: "Gemischter Satz", Vienna Symphonic Orchestra Vereinigte Bühnen Wien: Mamma Mia!, Mary Poppins

Musikverein: Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin, Wiener Symphoniker, Orchester Wiener Akademie

### **CULTURE & ART**

Exclusive events and guides are reserved in the following museums and sights: Belvedere (Europe in Vienna - The Congress of Vienna 1814/15)

Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna The Imperial Treasury Hofburg Palace (Sisi Museum, Imperial Apartments, Silver Collection) Spanish Riding School etc.

### **VIENNA ENTERTAINMENT**

ORF has compiled a typical Viennese entertainment programme, for example: Waldseilpark Kahlenberg, the Viennese Prater and Schweizerhaus, Vienna cuisine (with gourmet chef Konstantin Filippou), Viennese wine culture (wine tasting and typical "Wiener Heurigenjause"), Ottakringer Brewery Tour, Creative Vienna Tour, Jewish Vienna Tour, UNO City Tour, etc.

**[View the entire trips4free program at  
songcontest.orf.at/trips4free](http://songcontest.orf.at/trips4free)**

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ACCREDITED INDIVIDUALS

- By submitting your application and wearing your accreditation you agree to the Code of Conduct, applicable to all accredited individuals at the Eurovision Song Contest:
- Accreditation to the Eurovision Song Contest (ESC) is open to staff, delegates, fans and journalists. The EBU and/or the Host Broadcaster have the discretionary right to decide whether or not to grant accreditation cards. Persons and/or media outlet which have been accredited at previous ESCs may be asked by the entity assigning accreditation to provide copies of their previous coverage of the ESC;
- The accreditation card is non-transferrable and must be borne and clearly visible at all times during the entire time spent on the ESC's premises. It is not valid as a ticket for the dress rehearsals or live shows;
- The accreditation card is the property of the Host Broadcaster. The rights granted to any accredited individual can be modified or cancelled discretionally at any time under any circumstance and for any reason, should this be deemed necessary by the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU;
- The accreditation card must be returned to the Host Broadcaster or the EBU immediately upon request at any time;
- The Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU or their authorised representatives may refuse the accredited person access to any area for any reason whatsoever at their absolute discretion;
- By entering the premises where the accreditation card is required for access, the accredited person agrees:
- To comply promptly with all instructions given by any representative of the EBU and/or of the Host Broadcaster at any time;
- To comply with all provisions in the Delegates' Handbook, which is available at the infodesk;
- To be inspected or searched for prohibited items and to have any prohibited items confiscated;
- Not to carry into or wear on the premises controlled by the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU any political, religious, racist, promotional or advertising material, sign, objects or messages;
- To work in such a way which does not infringe other persons' rights or limit or hinder anyone else's working capabilities. Physical and/or verbal abuse or aggression is strictly prohibited;
- Not to sell, offer to sell or possess with the intent of selling any goods or services whatsoever;
- To assume all risks related to attendance at the ESC and other related events controlled by the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU, and acknowledges that the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU shall not be liable for any damages, including indirect or consequential damages arising from attendance and/or in connection with attendance and/or in connection with the refusal of access and/or in connection with withdrawal of the accreditation card, directly and indirectly;
- Any use of material created by accredited persons which is not specifically allowed in the Delegate Handbook or hereunder shall be strictly prohibited except with the prior written express approval of the EBU;
- Accredited persons are strictly prohibited from recording and/or transmitting and/or making available (on any media, including, without limitation, the Internet and mobile devices such as mobile telephones and PDA's) images of the rehearsals, press conferences and live shows from any of the screens on the ESC's premises;
- The accreditation card shall in no case confer to accredited persons the right to broadcast, record, transmit or otherwise make available, neither in part or in whole the broadcast signal of the rehearsals and/or the Shows;
- Accredited persons grant the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU and/or their licensees the non exclusive right, free of charge, to utilize the accredited person's voice, image and likeness in connection with moving and still image broadcasts or other recordings of the ESC or other related events controlled by the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU without limitation in time;
- Any breach of the accreditation rules (including provisions of the Delegates' Handbook) or non compliance with any instructions given by authorized representatives of the EBU and/or of the Host Broadcaster shall result in being denied access to the premises or being evicted therefrom. In such a case all privileges granted by accreditation shall cease immediately. Denial of access and/or accreditation is perpetual, until decided otherwise;
- The accredited person shall compensate for any loss or damage and shall hold the Host Broadcaster and/or the EBU fully indemnified against all damages and liabilities resulting from and/or arising out of any breach of the present rules (including any provisions of the Delegate Handbook) and/or any behaviour harming the reputation and/or the image of the EBU, the ESC, the Host Broadcaster and/or the Participating Broadcasters.

Last updated: 26 January 2015

## THE PARTICIPANTS

You can find an updated list of contacts for all contestants on <http://press.eurovision.tv>

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# COLOFON

# GREEN EVENT

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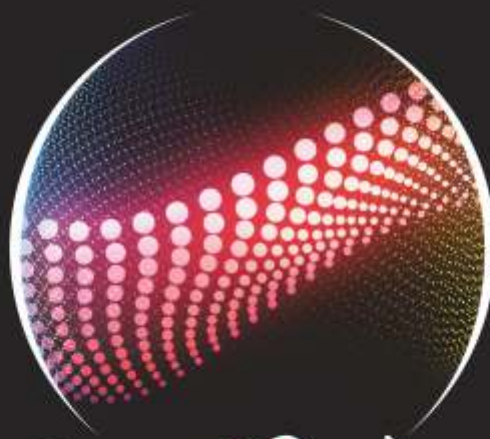
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**D**uring the 60th Eurovision Song Contest, the issues of tolerance, respect, diversity and sustainability are at the forefront. For the first time in Eurovision Song Contest history, the event will be universally designed according to recognised environmental standards and be conducted as a Green Event.

We would like to emphasise the importance of environmental and sustainability issues and set new standards for environmental and climate-friendly events. The Green Event concept is based on the criteria of the Austrian Ecolabel for Green Events and the **ÖkoEvent** initiative of the City of Vienna. The key principles of a Green Event are:

- Climate protection and careful use of resources
- Regional and sustainable products
- Accessibility and inclusion
- Communication and role model for future events

You can download more detailed information about the Green Event concept on <http://press.eurovision.tv>.



# EUROVISION

SONG CONTEST  
VIENNA 2015

## BUILDING BRIDGES

HOST CITY

City of  Vienna  
**#12 points**

TECHNOLOGY PARTNER



OFFICIAL AIRLINE

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