

December 19, 2007

World Chess Championship to be held in  
Germany  
: Viswanathan Anand and

Vladimir

Kramnik battle for the highest chess title in October 2008

- When: From October 11 – 30, 2008

- Where: Art and Exhibition Hall of the  
Federal

Republic  
of  
Germany  
in

Bonn

- Overall Prize fund: 1,5 Million Euro

- Patron: German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrück

- Main sponsor: Evonik Industries AG

The World Chess Championship will be held from October 11 to 30, 2008 in the Art and Exhibition Hall of the  
Federal

Republic  
of  
Germany  
in  
Bonn

, between Viswanathan Anand (  
India  
) and Vladimir Kramnik (  
Russia

Russia

).

The match will consist of twelve games, played under classical time controls, in the period from October 11 to October 28, 2008. If there is a tie at the end of these games a tiebreak will be played on October 30, 2008. The prize fund, which will be split equally between the players, is 1,5 million Euro (approximately 2,1 million US Dollars) including taxes and FIDE licensee fees.

Viswanathan Anand (37) and Vladimir Kramnik (32) are the two outstanding personalities in chess today. The world championship match between them is keenly anticipated by chess fans all over the world. It is part of a 120-year tradition of chess history, which includes matches like Capablanca-Alekhine, Fischer-Spassky, Kasparov-Karpov and Kramnik-Topalov.

The reigning and undisputed World Champion Anand won his title in September 2007 at the World Championship

tournament in

Mexico City

. Kramnik, who was undefeated in his three world championship matches, became second in this double round robin event.

The World Chess Championship 2008 takes place under the patronage of the German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrück, who is himself an enthusiastic and ambitious chess player.

The main sponsor of the World Championship is Evonik Industries. This industrial enterprise is located in

Essen

,  
Germany

, and was the exclusive sponsor of the 2006 World Chess Challenge between Vladimir Kramnik and the chess program Deep Fritz.

The World Chess Championship 2008 in

Bonn

will be organized with the full cooperation of the World Chess Federation FIDE and its President Kirsan Ilyumzhinov. FIDE has its main office in

Athens

,  
Greece

, and is the head of 161 national chess federations with 40 million active chess players, making it one of the world's largest sporting organizations.

The organizer of the World Championship 2008 is Universal Event Promotion (UEP), which is located in Dortmund

(

Germany

) and has received all rights for the event from FIDE. UEP staged the World Chess Challenge between Vladimir Kramnik and the chess program Deep Fritz in 2006, an event that drew worldwide media attention and was very successfully commercialised.