

Question 143:

Q143. Are community members aware of the identified community and each other?

Yes. Members of the identified global chess community demonstrate awareness both of the community as a whole and of the distinct groups and segments that comprise it. This awareness is reflected in recurring representative governance, international competitions and community events, surveys directed to particular constituencies, educational and social programs, and events in which players, federations, clubs, organizers, officials, educators, media, researchers, and other contributors participate within a common chess framework.

The evidence from the two years preceding this application demonstrates that members do not participate merely as isolated individuals sharing an interest in chess. National federations act collectively through FIDE governance; players represent those federations in international competition; arbiters and organizers administer the same events; educators and social-project leaders participate in common programs; and surveys seek information from defined segments for use in planning for the wider chess community.

Representative Governance Demonstrates Mutual Awareness

The structure of organized chess creates continuing awareness among its constituent groups. FIDE Member Federations participate in a common international governance system involving FIDE, its Continents, Zones, Affiliated Organisations, commissions, committees, competitions, ratings, titles, and recurring assemblies.

Member Federations participate in FIDE governance through their delegates to the General Assembly, FIDE's supreme governing body, which convenes as part of the FIDE Congress. Through this process, Member Federations submit and consider proposals, exercise voting rights, address membership and governance matters, and make decisions affecting the wider international chess community. Through these processes, national representatives interact with the broader global chess community and with other national, regional, and specialized bodies participating within it.

The 2024 FIDE Congress, including the meeting of the FIDE General Assembly, conducted in Budapest in connection with the Chess Olympiad, provides recent documentary evidence of that interaction. The Congress brought delegates and representatives from across FIDE's membership together during the same period and at the same location as the community's largest international team competition, connecting the governance and competitive segments of the community.

The 2024 Chess Olympiad Provides Direct Cross-Segment Evidence

The 45th Chess Olympiad in Budapest provides substantial evidence that different parts of the community are aware of and interact with one another. FIDE reported that the opening brought together thousands of participants, including players from 194 countries, team captains, FIDE Congress delegates, officials, tournament guests, and media.¹

The event brought together national federations, professional and amateur players, officials, organizers, governance representatives, journalists, spectators, and other participants in the chess ecosystem. The Olympiad regulations also provide for participation by national teams of FIDE Member Federations together with representative organizations for blind, physically disabled, and deaf chess players.² This structure recognizes distinct constituencies while integrating them into a common international framework.

The Olympiad also included the Global Chess Festival, workshops, demonstrations, tournaments, and the EDU Chess Summit addressing the role of chess in education.³ These activities connected competitive chess with educators, organizers, families, cultural participants, and other constituencies and provided opportunities for interaction among different segments of the community.

Surveys Demonstrate Awareness of Distinct Constituencies

In November 2025, FIDE launched a Global Survey on Chess in Education directed to federations, schools, and partner organizations worldwide. The stated purpose was to identify global trends in educational chess and inform FIDE's Educational Strategy and Action Plan for 2027-2030.⁴

The survey demonstrates recognition of educators, schools, federations, and partner organizations as identifiable segments of the broader chess community. It also provides a

¹ International Chess Federation, [45th FIDE Chess Olympiad Is Officially Open](#)!, Sept. 10, 2024, reporting that the opening brought together players from 194 countries, team captains, FIDE Congress delegates, officials, tournament guests, and media.

² International Chess Federation, [Regulations for the FIDE Chess Olympiad 2024](#), §3, providing for participation by national teams of FIDE Member Federations and representative teams of IBCA, IPCA, and ICCD.

³ International Chess Federation, [Chess Beyond the Board: Exciting Side Events at 2024 FIDE Chess Olympiad](#), describing the Global Chess Festival, games, workshops, demonstrations, tournaments, and EDU Chess Summit

⁴ International Chess Federation, [FIDE Launches Global Survey on Chess in Education](#), Nov. 17, 2025, inviting federations, schools, and partner organizations worldwide to participate and explaining that the results would inform FIDE's educational strategy for 2027-2030.

mechanism for those groups to contribute information to a common global planning process intended to inform chess education internationally.

FIDE's Commission for Women's Chess also documented survey and research initiatives concerning women in chess during the relevant period, including a global survey and Women in Chess Index work.⁵ These activities similarly demonstrate recognition of women players as a distinct constituency whose experiences are considered within the broader community.

Social Chess Activities Connect Different Community Segments

The 2025 Year of Social Chess provides further evidence of deliberate cross-segment engagement. FIDE's program called for establishment of a global network of social-chess participants, educators, and practitioners; engagement with national federations, athletes, sponsors, and local communities; and scheduled initiatives involving refugees, women, persons with disabilities, education, health, addiction, correctional settings, and social inclusion.^{6 7}

These programs demonstrate that the community recognizes forms of participation beyond elite tournament play and creates mechanisms through which different constituencies engage with the wider chess ecosystem.

That interaction continued into 2026. In January 2026, the FIDE Global Conference on Chess in Society and Education brought together education leaders, researchers, social-impact practitioners, and chess organizers for a three-day program.⁸ The event expressly focused on sharing experience, learning from one another, and strengthening cooperation around chess in education and social projects. The conference provided a common forum in which participants from different professional and functional segments exchanged experience and collaborated on shared educational and social-chess initiatives.

⁵ International Chess Federation, [Commission for Women's Chess, 2025 report](#), documenting the Commission's Global Survey and Gender Equality in Chess Index work and related initiatives concerning women in chess.

⁶ International Chess Federation, [Highlights from World Social Chess Initiatives Marathon](#), Jan. 19, 2025, describing the Year of Social Chess as an initiative aimed at connecting individuals, organizations, and institutions globally through chess.

⁷ International Chess Federation, [FIDE Social Year 2025](#), documenting initiatives concerning refugees, women, persons with disabilities, education, health, addiction, correctional settings, and social inclusion.

⁸ International Chess Federation, [Social Commission Report Q1 2026](#), documenting the January 2026 Global Conference on Chess in Society and Education and participation by education leaders, researchers, social-impact practitioners, and chess organizers.

Education Programs Create Recurring Cross-Border Networks

FIDE's Chess in Education program provides additional evidence of recurring interaction among Member Federations, schools, instructors, lecturers, and education professionals.

FIDE's 2025 Chess in Education Annual Report states that 48 courses were conducted during 2025, compared with 20 in 2024, involving 899 participants, up from 328 in the prior year.⁹ These courses included teacher and lecturer preparation delivered both in person and online.

These recurring programs create transnational networks of educators who participate in common training, qualifications, methodologies, and institutional programs, reinforcing awareness of an educational chess constituency within the larger international chess community.

Common Systems Reinforce Awareness Across Segments

Awareness is also reinforced by shared institutions and systems used across the community. FIDE IDs, ratings, titles, the Laws of Chess, national-federation structures, arbiters, tournament registration, championship qualification systems, and recurring international events provide common reference points across jurisdictions and participant categories.

A community of this scale does not require every individual member personally to know every other member. The relevant inquiry is whether members recognize their participation in a broader organized community containing identifiable institutions and groups beyond their immediate local activity.

The evidence demonstrates that relationship. Players encounter arbiters, organizers, coaches, federations, media, and other players through competitions. Federations interact with one another through governance and international events. Educators participate in international surveys and training. Social-program participants engage through common chess initiatives. Journalists and content contributors report on players, tournaments, federations, and officials. Organizers interact with players, arbiters, sponsors, venues, media, and governing bodies.

These recurring relationships reinforce awareness among and between the different segments of the identified community.

⁹ International Chess Federation, Chess in Education Commission, [FIDE EDU Annual Report 2025](#), reporting 48 courses and 899 participants in 2025, compared with 20 courses and 328 participants in 2024.

Conclusion

The evidence demonstrates that members of the identified global chess community are aware both of the community itself and of the different groups and segments within it.

During the two years preceding this application, that awareness is documented through the 2024 Chess Olympiad, which brought together players from 194 countries, team captains, federation delegates, officials, guests, and media; the FIDE Congress and proceedings of the FIDE General Assembly involving Member Federation delegates; global surveys directed to education and women's chess constituencies; the 2025 Year of Social Chess connecting diverse social and institutional groups; the 2026 Global Conference on Chess in Society and Education; and expanding international educator-training programs.

Taken together, these records show more than parallel participation in the same activity. They demonstrate a community whose constituent groups regularly encounter one another, participate in common institutions and events, recognize distinct roles and constituencies within the larger ecosystem, and collaborate through shared governance, competitions, programs, surveys, education, and communications.

The identified community therefore possesses both a common identity and demonstrable internal awareness of its diversity.