

Karpowership Launches Future Grandmasters Program to Discover and Support Young Chess Talent Across Its Countries of Operation

Karpowership has announced the launch of Future Grandmasters, a new social impact program implemented by its corporate social responsibility arm, One World Karadeniz Foundation. With Turkish Grandmaster Ediz Gürel joining the initiative as its international brand ambassador, the program will identify and support promising chess players under the age of 16 across Karpowership's countries of operation.

Istanbul, Türkiye – 3 August 2026 – Karpowership has announced the launch of Future Grandmasters, a new social impact program implemented by its corporate social responsibility arm, One World Karadeniz Foundation. With Turkish Grandmaster Ediz Gürel joining the initiative as its international brand ambassador, the program will identify and support promising chess players under the age of 16 across Karpowership's countries of operation.

Future Grandmasters was first piloted in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, with a chess tournament held on 11 April 2026. The tournament's top three finishers became the first young players selected for the program and earned the opportunity to receive one year of training and mentorship from Grandmaster Nebojša Nikčević.

Building on its first implementation in Côte d'Ivoire, Karpowership plans to gradually adapt Future Grandmasters across its other countries of operation. Working with local partners, the company will seek out promising young chess players and create opportunities to support their long-term development.

"Chess teaches young people patience, resilience, and the confidence to make decisions under pressure, qualities that extend far beyond the board. Following the selection of our first three players, we now aim to discover more young people who are passionate about chess across the countries where Karpowership operates and give them the guidance and opportunities they need to grow, both as athletes and as individuals," said Zeynep Harezi Yılmaz, Chief Commercial Officer of Karpowership.

A long-term platform for young talent

Designed as a long-term talent and leadership development platform rather than a one-off tournament, Future Grandmasters will combine structured chess training with mentorship and opportunities for personal growth. In the years ahead, participating players will also be encouraged to serve as ambassadors for the program in their own countries and, in

collaboration with Karpowership, help identify and inspire new generations of young chess talent.

Guided by its One World vision, Karpowership remains committed to creating lasting social value and meaningful opportunities for young people in the communities it serves.