

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST OFFICIAL FLAG POLICY

This document provides Eurovision Song Contest (ESC) ticket holders, and particularly the fans on the arena floor, clear guidance on which flags are permitted and which conditions they have to meet. The flag policy has been approved by the ESC Reference Group and may be enforced by local security, arena staff, EBU officials and Host Broadcaster representatives (hereafter “the organisers”).

Flags allowed

Maximum size flag *without* stick: 120 x 80 cm

Maximum size flag *with* stick: 60 x 40 cm

Maximum length of the stick: 50 cm excl. flag (only plastic sticks, no metal/wood)

- Official national flags of the 42 participating countries (preferred), as well as the flags of countries that have recently taken part (e.g. Turkey, Portugal, Romania);
- Official national flags of other countries, provided the respective country is a Member of the United Nations (see <http://www.un.org/en/member-states/> for an updated list).

Rainbow flags and the European Union flag will be tolerated provided they will, according to the evaluation of the organisers, *not* be used as tool to intentionally make a political statement during the show. Particularly, the organisers request and urge the fan community to respect and appreciate the non-political nature of the Eurovision Song Contest.

Banned flags/banners

- Flags/banners that do not meet the above specifications;
- Local, regional or provincial flags;
- Flags/banners containing commercial messages;
- Flags/banners containing and/or representing a statement that the organisers consider of political or religious nature, in particular flags of disputed territories;
- Flags/banners containing statements or images that the organisers consider offensive, discriminatory or unsuitable for the public;
- Flags/banners containing statements in another language than English;
- Flags/banners/objects, such as selfie sticks, that otherwise obstruct the view of the cameras, production crew or other ticket holders.

Confiscated flags/objects will not be returned. Bringing in flags/objects that do not meet the requirements of this policy may lead to removal from the venue.

Be advised that in addition to the flag policy, ticket holders must at all times follow instructions given by the organisers, and that additional terms may apply, such as, but not limited to, instructions given on the ticket or during the ticket buying process.


EXAMPLES OF BANNED FLAGS

The following flags are examples of flags that are specifically **not** allowed at the Eurovision Song Contest. This list is non-exhaustive:

Kosovo	
Nagorno-Karabach	
Basque	
<p>Crimea</p> <p><i>Note the broad white band (not to confuse with the flags of France, The Netherlands, Serbia, Russia that have white bands of 1/3rd the flag size)</i></p>	
Palestine	

<p>People's Republic of Donetsk</p>	 <p>The flag of the People's Republic of Donetsk features a black top section with the text 'ДОНЕЦКАЯ НАРОДНАЯ' in white, a blue middle section, and a red bottom section with the text 'РЕСПУБЛИКА' in white. A white double-headed eagle with a red shield is centered over the blue section.</p>
<p>Northern Cyprus</p> <p><i>Not to confuse with the Turkish flag, which is primarily red with white elements.</i></p>	 <p>The flag of Northern Cyprus consists of a white field with a red crescent and a red five-pointed star, flanked by two horizontal red stripes.</p>
<p>Transnistria</p>	 <p>The flag of Transnistria features a red field with a yellow hammer and sickle and a yellow star in the upper left corner, a green horizontal stripe in the middle, and a red field at the bottom.</p>

In addition to the aforementioned flags, the below flag is strictly prohibited.

<p>Islamic State</p>	 <p>The flag of the Islamic State is a black field with the white Arabic text 'لا اله الا الله' (There is no god but Allah) at the top, and a white circle in the center containing the text 'الله رسول محمد' (Allah is the Messenger of Muhammad).</p>
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The official flag policy was accepted and approved by the ESC Reference Group, 27 April, 2016.