

EM50 Rules

We are reaching the 50th edition of the Eurovision Memories Song Contest, a milestone that shall be remembered in the coming years as the inflection point in which our contest passed from being just a simple game created by a Romanian eurofan; to be a serious music platform that withstands the pass of time, the coming and going of players, and the ever-changing music industry of Europe.

At the same time, we are living the dynamic process of globalization, in which all the cultures of the world should give out their intrinsic knowledge to the global melting pot in order to create a better understanding of our tools and missions as humankind. A very important part of this is the cultural development of the different nations that compose our planet: music and languages come to mind as some of the most important facades of such development.

In order to celebrate this, and to celebrate the immense diversity that Europe holds; we want to take EM50 as an excuse to highlight the hidden, but very rich, multicultural face of Europe.

In times where most of the artists decide to sing in English to cater for a broader audience, Eurovision Memories Song Contest wants to remind all the participating countries about their own worth... their roots. This is why; EM50 will have a special set of rules, to be explained in the following pages, in order to make it the most special of the regular EM editions.

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OVERVIEW

First of all, and considering that some of the players will have a hard time choosing an entry that complies with the rules AND that they like; rules 3.1., 3.2. and 4.7. will be suspended **ONLY FOR THIS EDITION**. Songs will be allowed to be longer than 5 minutes but not shorter than 2 minutes; and artists that participated in EM46, EM47, EM48 and EM49 will be allowed to enter. However, they will not be able to be sung in 'any' language; in fact, the style and language of the song will depend on each particular country. The respective restrictions are thoroughly explained in the following pages.

The Webmaster has already done research on the situation of each country, so if you are in need of help, we will be more than willing to provide useful information. In the event that you definitely do not find a suitable entry, you will be encouraged to temporarily switch countries so as not to miss this edition.

GROUP ONE: SMALL NATIONS (3)

The rules for these countries are applied because usually these nations are represented by foreign artists; however, in real-life Eurovision, they were at least once represented by native artists; and contemporary research shows there's a decent native music scene. This is not the case of Monaco or Liechtenstein (the smallest countries in EM), which is why they aren't included in this group.

Country	Entries must be sung in	Additional restrictions
Andorra	Any language except English; but preferably Catalan	Artist must be a native Andorran
Luxembourg	Any language except English; but preferably Luxembourgish	Artist must be a native Luxembourger
San Marino	Any language except English; but preferably Italian	Artist must be a native Sammarinese

GROUP TWO: NATIONS WITH VIBRANT REGIONAL LANGUAGES OR SECONDARY NATIONAL LANGUAGES (21)

The rules for these countries were created this way because these countries have important secondary languages that are overlooked in EM. In some cases, it is just about the non-Standard dialects of the national language, which are so divergent from the Standard that they can reach a point of unintelligibility (nonetheless, they are part of the daily life of a majority of the country's population). For other cases, read 'observations'.

Country	Entries must be sung in	Observations
Austria	Allemanic, Austro-Bavarian or Burgenland Croatian	Allemanic and Austro-Bavarian refer to the non-Standard dialects of German spoken in Austria

Belarus	Belarussian	Belarussian is currently being brought back to the public life sphere in Belarus. Examples include their JESC 2014 entry and some entries that will participate in the ESC 2015 national final.
Cyprus	Cypriot Turkish, Cypriot Arabic or Kurbetcha	In the current situation of Cyprus, peace is trying to be reached by creating a deeper contact with the northern part of the island, which does not speak Greek.
Denmark	Faroese or Greenlandic	The Faroe Islands and Greenland are two autonomous constituent countries of the Kingdom of Denmark, but they haven't been represented in EM.
Estonia	Võro	This (sometimes considered a dialect, sometimes considered a language) is the way Estonian is spoken in the south of the country. Music groups like "Greip" have showcased this.
Finland	Swedish	Swedish is the second official language of Finland. In fact, most Finnish speak both languages. It has not represented Finland in EM, but it has in ESC.
France	Alsatian, Antillan Creole, Basque, Breton, Corsican, Gallo, Gascon, Occitan or Tahitian	France is one of the most linguistically diverse countries in Europe, something helped by its overseas departments and territories.
Germany	Low German, Sorbian, Saterland Frisian or Romani	Low German refer to the non-Standard dialects of German spoken in Germany.
Ireland	Irish	Irish is the native and second official language of Ireland.
Israel	Arabic, Amharic, Ladino, Neo-Aramaic or Yiddish	Arabic is the second official language of Israel.
Italy	Arbëresh, Cimbrian, Griko, Franco-Provençal, Friulian, Ladin, Neapolitan, Occitan, Piedmontese, Sardinian and Venetian	Some of these names refer to the non-Standard dialects of Italian spoken in Italy. Same case as in France, a huge linguistic diversity.
Malta	Maltese	Maltese is the native and second official language of Malta.

Monaco	Alsatian, Antillan Creole, Basque, Breton, Corsican, Gallo, Gascon, Occitan or Tahitian	Since Monaco borrows artists from France, it will follow the same rules for France. Interestingly enough, a song partially sung in Tahitian in ESC 2006 represented Monaco.
Netherlands	Frisian, Limburgish, Low Saxon, non-standard Dutch or Papiamentu	-
Norway	Sami or Kven	These languages from the northern part of the country are nowadays entering more into the public Norwegian life.
Poland	Karaim, Kashubian, Lemko or Romani	Non-standard dialects of Polish will be accepted
Portugal	Mirandese	Mirandese is the only recognized regional language in Portugal.
Russia	Abaza, Adyghe, Aghul, Altai, Avar, Bashkir, Buryat, Chechen, Cherkess, Chuvash, Dargwa, Erzya, Ingush, Kabardian, Kalmyk, Karachay-Balkar, Khakas, Komi, Kumyk, Lak, Lezgi, Mari, Moksha, Nogai, Ossetic, Rutul, Tabasaran, Tatar, Tsakhur, Tuvan, Udmurt or Yakut	Out of all European countries, the one with the largest linguistic diversity is Russia. Hence, any language EXCEPT RUSSIAN will be accepted.
Spain	Basque or Galician	There are three co-official languages in Spain (they are co-official with Spanish). One of them has already been featured in EM (Catalan); here are the other two (Basque and Galician).
Switzerland	Romansh	Romansh is the native and fourth official language of Switzerland.
United Kingdom	Welsh, Irish, Scottish Gaelic, Lowland Scots or Cornish	These are the recognized regional languages of the United Kingdom.

GROUP THREE: NATIONS ASKED TO SUBMIT SONGS WITH FOLK OR TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS (16)

The following nations have a vibrant folk-inspired music scene, which has already been displayed in EM in previous editions. The only odd nation in this group is Sweden, which does not have an important regional or secondary language, but a very strong music scene in Swedish (and many players considered that allowing Sweden to send any song in Swedish would be unfair). Bear in mind that we are not only talking about the folk genre, but any song is allowed in ANY genre, AS LONG AS it incorporates some folk elements into it (and complies with the language rule, of course).

Country	Entries must be sung in
Armenia	Armenian, Kurdish or Assyrian
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijani, Lezgian, Talysh, Avar, Budukh, Juhuri, Khinalug, Kryts, Rutul, Tsakhur, Tat or Udi
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnian
Bulgaria	Bulgarian or Roma
Croatia	Croatian
Czech Republic	Czech or Romani
Greece	Cretan, Cappadocian, Pontic, Maniot, Tsakonian, Yevanic or Greek
Hungary	Hungarian or Romani
Macedonia (F.Y.R.)	Macedonian, Albanian or Romani
Moldova	Romanian or Gagauz
Serbia	Serbian or Rusyn
Slovakia	Slovak
Slovenia	Slovene or Prekmurian
Sweden	Swedish, Mëankieli, Danish, Norwegian or Norse
Turkey	Kurmanji (Kurdish), Zazaki, Kabardian, Gagauz, Turkish or Laz
Ukraine	Ukrainian

GROUP FOUR: NATIONS THAT ONLY MUST SING IN THEIR NATIONAL LANGUAGE(S) (13)

Country	Entries must be sung in	Why?
Albania	Albanian or Montenegrin	Albanian does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene (in an entry from this country).
Belgium	German, Flemish or French	Belgium does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene. The choice of German is encouraged because it has never been featured before.
Egypt	Arabic	Egypt's short list of EM participations (without counting EM Specials) does not include songs in the NATIONAL LANGUAGE (which is Arab).
Georgia	Georgian	Georgian has not appeared in EM since EMo4.
Iceland	Icelandic	Iceland does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene.
Kosovo	Serbian or Albanian	Kosovo does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene. The choice of Serbian is encouraged because it has never been featured before (in an entry from this country).
Latvia	Latvian	Latvia does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene.
Lebanon	Arabic	Lebanon does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene.
Liechtenstein	German	With such a small country, it was almost impossible to find native Liechtensteiner artists.
Lithuania	Lithuanian	Lithuania does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene.

Morocco	Arabic or Berber	The Berber music scene is underdeveloped, so Arabic will be allowed from Morocco.
Montenegro	Montenegrin or Albanian	It is already hard in EM to find Montenegrin artists; we would not want this to be more complicated.
Romania	Romanian	Romania does not have a significant regional language or a decent folk-inspired music scene.