

# INFORMAL TOURNEY AWARD of the "e4 e5" 2016

## Endgame studies

Judge: Árpád Rusz



During 2016 in the magazine there were published 30 original studies. The level was not too high but out of these I could have selected 9 works to be included in the award. Thanks for all participants! In the following pages you can find the awarded studies but first I have some general remarks and advices...

I really dislike when someone inflates the solution with dualistic variations and tries. In a win study only variations with unique winning white moves and tries with unique black refutations should be part of the solution. The real solution should tell the story alone and for analytical variations we have the computer... Finally... Not all studies should be published! Or even better: not all studies should be even composed. Focus on your best ideas and dedicate them much more time. You will see a rise of quality in your work.

Alexander Zhukov

1<sup>st</sup> Prize

"e4 e5", 2016



(9+6) BTM +-

### 1st Prize: Alexander Zhukov (RUSSIA) (no. 112/2016)

After Rinck, we have a modern master of the domination theme studies. Recently Alexander Zhukov has created several studies featuring surprising queen dominations. In this study, the magnificent queen sacrifice in the sixth move (6.Qc7!!) is followed by a queen domination. But that is not all! The study continues with a second phase: a logical study with foresight theme!

6.Qc7!! Qxc7 7.Nb5! [domination] 7...Qb6! [7...Qb7 8.Nxd6+-; 7...Qc6 8.Nd4+-; 7...Qb8 8.Nd4+ Ke5 9.Nc6+-] 8.Bxb6 [8.Nd4+? Ke5 9.Nxf3+ exf3 10.Bxb6 Nxb6=] 8...Nxb6 9.Nxd6+ Kf4! 10.Nxe4!! [Thematic try: 10.h4? e3 11.fxe3+ Ke5!! (11...Kxe3? 12.Nf5+ Kf4 13.Ng3+-) 12.Nf7+ Kd5! 13.e4+! Kd4! 14.Nd6 f2 15.Nf5+ Kxe4 16.Ng3+ Kf3 17.h5 Kg2 18.h6 Kxh2 19.Nf1+ Kg1(2) 20.h7 (20.Nd2 Nc4!)=] 20...Kxf1 21.h8Q Kg1(2)= position B] 10...Kxe4 11.h4! Kd3 12.h5 Ke2 13.h6 Kxf2 14.h7 Kg2 15.h8Q! [15.h8R? Nd5 16.b5 Nc7 17.b6 Ne6+ 18.Kh6 f2=] 15...f2 [(position A) Unlike position B from the end of the thematic try, now we have an extra pawn on h2.] 16.Qf8! +-

1...d6+ 2.Nd7 Nf6+  
[2...Qe4+ 3.Kg8+-]  
3.Kg7 Nxd7 4.Be3+!  
[4.Qa7? Nxc5+ 5.Qxb7 Nxb7=]  
4...Kf5! 5.Qc2+!  
[5.Qb5? Nb6+  
6.Kh6 Qe7=;  
5.Qb3? d5  
6.Qd3+ e4=]  
5...e4



Position A



Position B

Anatoly Skripnik & Pavel Arestov

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

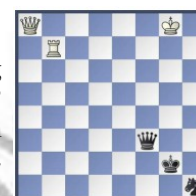
"e4 e5", 2016



(5+6) +-

**2nd Prize: Anatoly Skripnik & Pavel Arestov (RUSSIA) (no. 98/2016)** In the end of this study we find a problem-like position with Banny & Roman Themes. The mutual zugzwang position was already featured (with colours reversed) in a work by Skripnik (e4e5, 2013) but this is clearly a better achievement.

1.Ne1+ Kf2 2.Nxg2 f3! [2...Bxb5 3.Nxf4+-] 3.Rxf7! Bd3+ 4.Kg8!! [Thematic try: 4.Kh8? Kxg2 5.a7 Be4 6.b6 f2 7.b7 Bxb7! 8.Rxb7 f1Q 9.a8Q Qf3! mutual zugzwang (WTM) 10.Kg8 Qd5+! 11.Kh8 Qf3! 12.Rb2+ (12.Rg7+ Ng3=) 12...Nf2=; 4.Kg7? Kxg2 5.a7 Be4 6.b6 f2 7.b7 Bxb7 8.Rxb7 f1Q 9.a8Q Kg1!! (9...Qf3? 10.Kh8!+- main line) 10.Qa7+ Nf2 (10...Qf2? 11.Qa1+ Kg2 12.Rb2+-) 11.Rb2 Qg2+=] 4...Kxg2 [4...Bxb5 5.a7 Bc6 6.Nh4+-] 5.a7 Be4 6.b6 f2 7.b7 Bxb7 8.Rxb7 f1Q 9.a8Q Qf3 10.Kh8! [mutual zugzwang (BTM) & Banny Theme & Roman Theme] 10.Rg7+? (A) Ng3!= (a), 10.Rb2+? (B) Nf2!= (b), 10...Ng3 (a) 11.Rb2+ (B) 11...Ne2 12.Rxe2+-, 10...Nf2 (b) 11.Rg7+ (A) 11...Ng4 12.Rxg4+-



Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize

"e4 e5", 2016



(6+6) =

**3rd Prize: Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (DENMARK) (no. 118/2016)** Lively play with mutual sacrifices, pins and unpins, checkmates and a stalemate final. Starting position with perfect material equality, several pieces but still an enjoyable, human friendly play with good flow.

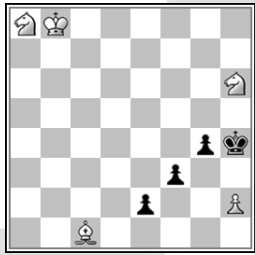
1.Re7 [1.a7? c1Q-+] 1...Re4! [1...Rf5 2.a7=] 2.a7! [2.Rxe4? c1Q-+] 2...Bc6 3.Rxe4 c1Q 4.Re8+! Bxe8 5.a8Q Bxf7+ [5...Qd1+ 6.Kh6 g4+ 7.Kh5 Bxf7+ (7...g3+ 8.Kh4=) 8.Kh4 Kxh7 9.Qe4+ Kg8 10.Qxg4+=] 6.Kh6 Qc6+! [6...g4+? 7.Bf4+-; 6...Qh1+? 7.Bh2+! (7.Qxh1? g4+ 8.Bf4 Bxf4#) 7...Qxa8 8.Be5#]



7.Bd6+! [7.Qxc6? g4+ 8.Bf4 Bxf4#] 7...Be8 [7...Qxa8 8.Be5#] 8.Qa1+ [8.Qxc6? g4+ 9.Bf4 Bxf4#; 8.Qxe8+? Qxe8-+] 8...Bc3 9.Qxc3+! Qxc3 10.Be5+ Qxe5 stalemate



**Vladislav Tarasiuk**  
**1st Honourable Mention**  
 "e4 e5", 2016

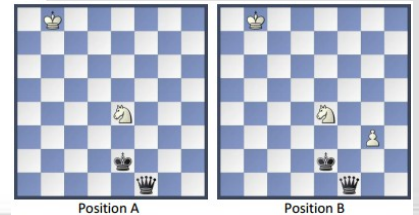


(5+4) =

**1st Honourable Mention: Vladislav Tarasiuk (UKRAINE) (no. 116/2016)**

Logical study with black trying to keep the g3 square blocked but finally white succeeds to unblock it and can use it for a knight fork.

1.Bf4 [1.Bd2? f2-+; 1.Nf5+? Kh3-+] 1...e1Q 2.Bg3+ Qxg3+ 3.hxg3+ Kh3! [3...Kxg3 4.Nxg4! Kxg4 5.Nb6! f2 6.Nc4 Kf3 7.Nd2+ Ke2 8.Ne4 f1Q 9.Ng3+=] 4.Nf5! [Thematic try: 4.Nxg4? Kxg4 5.Nb6 f2 6.Nc4 Kf3 7.Nd2+ Ke2 8.Ne4 f1Q-+ (Position B)] 4...f2 5.Ne3 Kxg3 6.Nb6! [6.Nc7? Kf3 7.Nxg4 Kxg4 8.Nd5 Kf3!-+ (8...f1Q? 9.Ne3+=) ] 6...Kf3 7.Nxg4! [7.Nf1? g3 8.Nc4 g2-+] 7...Kxg4 8.Nc4 Kf3 9.Nd2+ Ke2 10.Ne4 f1Q (Position A) 11.Ng3+



**Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen**  
**2nd Honourable Mention**  
 "e4 e5", 2016



(7+5) +-

**2nd Honourable Mention: Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (DENMARK) (no. 104/2016)**

Two knight sacrifices in a row and a deadly pawn battery.

1.Bd4+ [1.Ke7? Rg8 2.Bd4+ Kc7 3.Be5+ Kb6 4.Bd4+ Kc7 positional draw] 1...Kc6 2.Nb4+ Kd6 3.Ke8 Rg8+ 4.Kf7 Rd8 5.Be5+! Kxe5 6.Nc6+ Kxf5 7.Nxd8 h1Q



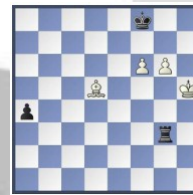
8.Ne6! [8.Nb7?? Qd5+--+] 8...Qxh4 [8...Nxe6 9.d8Q Qb7+! 10.Bd7!+- (10.Bxb7?? Nxd8+--+); 8...Qg2 9.Ng7+ Ke5 10.d8Q+-; 8...Qd5 9.d8Q+-] 9.Ng5! Ne6 [9...Kxg5 10.d8Q+-; 9...Qxg5 10.d8Q+ Ne6 11.Bxe6+ Kf4 12.Qd2+--+] 10.d8Q Qxg5 11.Bxe6+ Kf4 12.Qd2+-

**1st Commendation: Peter Krug (AUSTRIA) (no. 111/2016)**

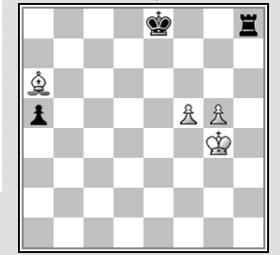
Repeated manoeuvres to pass the right to move to black.

1.f6 [1.g6? 0-0! 2.Kg5 Kg7=] 1...Kf8! [1...Kf7 2.Bc4+ Kg6 3.Bd3+ Kf7 4.Kf5+-] 2.g6 [2.Bb7? Rh7 3.Be4 Rd7 4.g6 a4 5.Kg5 a3 6.Kh6 a2 7.g7+ Rxx7 8.fxx7+ Ke7=] 2...Rh1 3.Bb7 Rg1+ 4.Kh5 [White threatens to play Kh6 followed by g7.] 4...Rg3! 5.Bd5! [It was very important not to let the black king into the corner which would allowed stalemate resurses. Now black is in zugzwang!] [5.Kh6? Rh3+ 6.Kg5 Rg3+ 7.Kh5 Kg8! 8.Bd5+ Kh8! The black king has reached the corner! 9.Kh6 Rh3+ 10.Kg5 Rg3+ 11.Kh5 a4 12.Kh6 Rh3+ 13.Kg5 Rg3+ 14.Kh5 a3 15.Kh6 Rh3+ 16.Kg5 Rg3+ 17.Kh5 a2 and draw because after taking the pawn the rook becomes rabid.] 5...a4

[White has to pass the right to move to black.] 6.Kh6! Rh3+ 7.Kg5 Rg3+ 8.Kh5! [Done!] 8...a3 9.Kh6! [White repeats the manoeuvre.] 9...Rh3+ 10.Kg5 Rg3+ 11.Kh5! a2 12.Bxa2 Rg1 13.Bd5 Rg3 14.Kh6! [The manoeuvre has to be repeated one more time.] 14...Rh3+ 15.Kg5 Rg3+ 16.Kh5! Rh3+ 17.Kg4 +-



**Peter Krug**  
**1st Commendation**  
 "e4 e5", 2016



(4+3) +-

**2nd Commendation: Michal Hlinka & Emil Vlasak (SLOVAKIA) (no. 106/2016)**

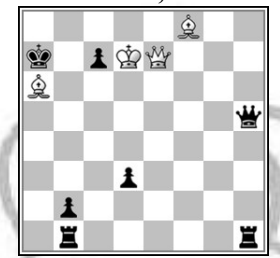
A king battery is formed one the first move but it is fired only much later. Meanwhile there are some nice moves along the battery line.

1.Kxc7 [White builds a dangerous king battery.] 1...Rbe1! 2.Qd7! Qh7! 3.Bg7! Qxg7! 4.Qxg7 Rh7! [4...b1Q 5.Qd4+ Kxa6?? 6.Qa4#] 5.Qxh7 b1Q 6.Bxd3 Qb4!



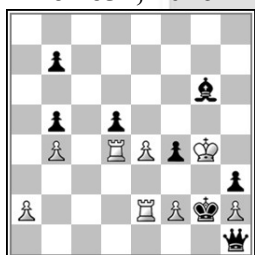
7.Kd7!! [mutual zugzwang - Switchback] [7.Kc6+? Re7-+] 7...Re5 [7...Kb7 8.Qg7!= Nice moves along the battery line!] 8.Kd8+! [The battery fires only now!] [8.Kc6+? Re7-+] 8...Ka8 [8...Kb6?? 9.Qc7#] 9.Qh1+ Kb8 10.Qb1 =

**Michal Hlinka & Emil Vlasak**  
**2nd Commendation**  
 "e4 e5", 2016



(4+7) =

**Pavel Arestov & Vladislav Tarasiuk**  
**3rd Commendation**  
 "e4 e5", 2016

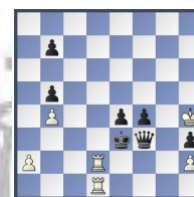


(8+8) =

**3rd Commendation: Pavel Arestov & Vladislav Tarasiuk (RUSSIA - UKRAINE) (no. 103/2016)**

King triangulation avoiding a mutual zugzwang position with two rooks against a queen.

1.f3+ Kf1 2.Red2! [2.Rdd2? Bh5+! 3.Kxh5 Qxf3+--+; 2.Rd1+? Kxe2 3.Rxh1 dxe4 4.fxe4 Bxe4 5.Rc1 f3-+] 2...Bh5+! 3.Kxh5 Qxf3+ 4.Kg5!! [4.Kh4? dxe4 5.Rd1+ Ke2 (5...Kf2) 6.R4d2+ Ke3 mutual zugzwang 7.a3 b6 mutual zugzwang 8.Kg5 Qg2+! 9.Rxx2 hxx2 10.Kg4 Ke2! 11.Ra1 e3! (11...f3? 12.Kg3 e3 13.Ra2+ Kd3 14.Ra1 Ke2 15.Ra2+ positional draw) 12.Kxf4 Kf2 13.Ra2+ e2-+] 4...dxe4 5.Rd1+ Kf2 6.R4d2+ Ke3 7.Kh4! [mutual zugzwang]



7...Qg2 8.Rxx2 hxx2 9.Kh3 Ke2 [9...f3 10.Kg3 Ke2 11.Rb1! e3 12.Rb2+ Kd3 13.Rb1 Ke2 14.Rb2+ positional draw] 10.Rb1! Kf3 11.Rg1 e3 12.Rxx2 e2 13.Rg1 Kf2 14.Rb1! [14.Rc1? f3 15.Kg4 Ke3 16.Kg3 f2 17.Rc3+ Kd2-+] 14...f3 15.Kg4 Ke3 16.Kg3 f2 17.Rb3+ Kd2 18.Rb2+ Ke3 19.Rb3+ positional draw.

