

ESC Insight – www.escinsight.com



**Notes and Links on coverage of the
2024 Eurovision Song Contest season
from ESC Insight**

*Compiled by Ewan Spence, March 2025
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Introduction

ESC Insight is an independent organisation that creates, promotes, and distributes in-depth editorial, discussion, commentary, and multi-media programming around the Eurovision Song Contest.

Set up in 2010 to act as a 'Eurovision home' for BAFTA nominated broadcaster Ewan Spence, the last decade has seen Insight deliver on its promise of exceptional content, analysis, commentary, and knowledgeable articles around the Song Contest. The approach can be likened to a weekly periodical, contrasting with the daily news focus of Eurovision.tv, and the rolling coverage provided by community sites such as Wiwibloggs, EscXtra, Eurovoix, and ESC Today.

We also supply unbranded 'white-box' content for other publishers, broadcasters, and media organisations on a commissioned basis.

ESC Insight returned to covering the Eurovision Song Contest on the ground in Malmo. A small contingent of our editorial team were accredited as press to provide reaction and discussion during rehearsals and press conferences; the editorial team also covered events, meet and greets, and organised interviews, in the Host City.

We continued to partner with the Eurovision Audience Poll, alongside ESCXtra, The Eurotrip Podcast, and OGAE Sweden, to survey the audience at the evening rehearsals about their favourite songs to gauge public support for the performances.

Due to significant political issues around the Contest, several contributors declined to participate in the 2024 Contest and subsequently stepped back from ESC Insight.

Our core editorial team (Ewan Spence, Ben Robertson, and Sharleen Wright) supported both our long-time contributors while bringing in new and diverse voices from the wider Eurovision community.

During 2024 our focus remained on our mix of long-form and analytical articles, supplementing coverage from daily news sites and online social networks. We continue to have a strong 'off-line' audience found through syndication of our radio programming on Digital, FM and AM stations around the world.

This audience grew through our 'Radio Only' audio shows produced during April and May. Our partnership with The Podcast Radio allows us to broadcast our podcasts on Digital Radio across the UK with daily broadcasts in May and twice weekly broadcasts during the rest of the Eurovision season. Our partnership with Radio Six International provided international distribution of shows for online, FM, AM, and shortwave broadcasts.

Our 'Chat Over Coffee' interview strand continued growing to encompass more areas of the Song Contest not normally covered, including discussions with technical staff, designers, production, broadcast directors, and the Reference Group; 'Juke Box Jury' remains our flagship series for song reviews, and the weekly news podcasts offered a space for longer discussions on the Contest and the community. Our Patreon members continued to grow and support the site; members received early access, exclusive podcasts, and extra written content.

Thank you for support during this year's Contest, and the whole ESC Insight team look forward to working with you in the future.

There now follows a detailed breakdown of ESC Insight's own coverage for your information.

Ewan Spence, Chief Editor and Co-Founder.
ESC Insight (www.escinsight.com)

ESC Insight - Notable Content

The Guide Book

Our [fourteenth guide book to a Eurovision Song Contest](#) once more proved a popular download both in [PDF Format](#) and in an [Amazon Kindle](#) suitable file format.

Our guide books feature each country performing at that Contest, **as well as National Final details and historical results**, it provided the popular mix of information and opinion we're proud of to everyone. It is also a **handy reference** for those covering the Contests.

Malmo Preview Trip

ESC Insight attended the Semi Final Allocation Draw in Malmo. Following this we interviewed key players from the EBU and Malmo Council on preparation for the Contest, a look behind the scenes at the organisation required, and the impact of the Contest on Malmo. These were published over the following four months as both written articles and audio interviews.

Eurovision Audience Poll

Following its introduction in Liverpool, the Eurovision Audience Poll returned. This project gauges the opinion of the general public before each of the three live shows are broadcast to millions around the world. Members from six different Eurovision community sites, [ESC Insight](#), [ESCXTRA.com](#), [The EuroTrip Podcast](#), [Eurovoix](#), [That Eurovision Site](#), and [12 Points From America](#), collaborated to survey people leaving the arena after seeing the first public rehearses of the three shows. More details can be found at [eurovisionaudiencepoll.com](#).

- [Semi Final 1 results](#).
- [Semi Final 2 results](#).
- [Grand Final results](#).

ESC Insight Website Changes

No visible changes were made to the website this year.

Patreon

Launched in 2018, ESC Insight's community continues to contribute towards the site through small monthly donation. Organised through the popular membership platform Patreon, donations start from as little as \$1 a week. Patreon supporters have access to additional editorial posts, informal podcasts talking about breaking news, and standalone podcast series.

Notable content includes early access to our 'Chat Over Coffee' interview podcasts, a weekly review of Melodifestivalen, and alternative edits and National Final songs from our 'Juke Box Jury' Podcasts.

More details can be found at [patreon.com/escinsight](#).

ESC Insight - Written Content

Articles, Editorial and Insight for the 2023/2024 Season

The following list covers articles published by ESC Insight on our own website. It does not cover commissions or white-label content that was published elsewhere.

- [Nine Things To Expect From Sweden And Eurovision 2024](#)
- [Changing Eurovision's Delicate Balance Between Jury And Televote](#)
- [Which 2023 National Finals Sent The Right Artists To Liverpool?](#)
- [Ireland And The Decline Of A Eurovision Giant](#)
- [All That Happened At Eurovisions: The ESC Academic Conference](#)
- [Seven Ideas Eurovision Should Steal From Melodifestivalen](#)
- [Politics, Voting, And Othering At The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [The United Kingdom Can't Afford To Risk A National Final... Yet](#)
- [How Liverpool 2023 Made the BBC Whole Again](#)
- [Why You Must Not Get Too Excited About September 1st](#)
- [You Should Have Sent This Song To Eurovision](#)
- [Why Now Is The Right Time To Remove The 'Big Five' Rules](#)
- [Introducing The Complicated History of Festivali i Këngës](#)
- [As Geopolitics Collides With Eurovision Again...](#)
- [Forget Spotify, Eurovision Is The Authentic Music Discovery Engine](#)
- [Why November Might Be The Month For Eurovision Magic](#)
- [Yes, "United By Music" Is A Good Slogan](#)
- [Melodifestivalen 2024: Everybody's Andra Chansen](#)
- [Why The United Kingdom Is Suddenly The Bookies Favourite For Eurovision](#)
- [A Guide To Volunteering At The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Which Country Is Luckiest In Allocation Draw History?](#)
- [How Liverpool Won The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Who Pays More? The Hidden Cost of Eurovision's Allocation Draw](#)
- [The Subtle Difference of a Six Song Melodifestivalen Heats](#)
- [Is Norway's 60/40 Split The Future Of Eurovision?](#)
- [Ellie's Postcard From Benidorm Fest](#)
- [Melodifestivalen, Fröken Snusk, And A Guide To The Genre Of EPA-Dunk](#)
- [Why Finland Broadcasts UMK In Ten Different Languages](#)
- [Tampere, The Wannabe Eurovision Host City](#)
- [UMK's Nine Hour Party For 13,000 Fans](#)
- [Five Ways AI Can Improve The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Explaining and Predicting The Melfest Final Qualifiers Round](#)
- [The Logistics and Sustainability of the Melodifestivalen Tour](#)
- [Nine Things You Need To Know About Eurovision's Exciting Changes](#)
- [Memories After Attending 25 Eurovision National Finals](#)
- [Israel's Participation And Its Impact On The Artists At Eurovision 2024](#)
- [Thoughts And Disruptions On Malmö 2024's Semi Final Running Order](#)
- [What Could Malmö 2024's Big Rule Change Be?](#)
- [How Hotel Bookings Work in a Eurovision Host City](#)
- [The Choice That Is The Producer's Choice](#)
- [The Other Controversies Impacting 2024's Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [A Guide To Bringing Children To Eurovision](#)

- [Finding A Winning Strategy With Eurovision's Rehearsal Clips](#)
- [We Ask The Citizens Of Malmö: What Should We Do In May?](#)
- [SVT And Its Vision For Eurovision 2024](#)
- [The Swedification Of The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Nine Sustainable Things You Will Notice In Malmö](#)
- [The Eurovision Audience Poll: How Useful Is It?](#)
- [Eurovision 2024 By The Numbers](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The First Semi Final Of Eurovision 2024](#)
- [Eurovision 2024: The Staging Revolution](#)
- [Pre Eurovision Euphoria, Mental Well-Being, And The Song Contest](#)
- [Amen: The Past, Present, and Future of Sampling at Eurovision](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The Second Semi Final Of Eurovision 2024](#)
- [The Eurovision 2024 Grand Final Running Order Analysis](#)
- [The Final Day Of Tension At Eurovision 2024](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The Grand Final Of Eurovision 2024](#)
- [After Malmö, Eurovision Needs A Transparent Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Flatpicks, Accessibility, And The Eurovision Song Contest](#)
- [Ireland And The Return Of A Eurovision Giant](#)

ESC Insight – Multimedia Content

FM/AM/SW/DAB Radio Coverage

ESC Insight works year-round with two key radio partners. [Radio Six International](#) provides worldwide distribution for our radio packages through online, FM, AM, and Shortwave frequencies. In the UK we work with [The Podcast Radio](#) which broadcasts our shows across the country on DAB and online.

ESC Insight makes available a number of worldwide radio syndication packages designed to give the smaller community and local radio stations around the world Eurovision content in the run-up to the live shows. These radio-edited packages are not available online. The 2024 season saw our radio packages broadcast on stations based in the United Kingdom, Ireland, the United States, New Zealand, Taiwan, and Singapore.

This year ESC Insight offered:

- A radio-specific preview package that profiled every song entering this year's Contest.
- A 'radio-edit' version of 'Juke Box Jury'.
- A daily discussion show from backstage in the Press Room in the weeks ahead of the Contest.
- Interview packages collated from interviews conducted throughout the year.

Europe's Heartbeat

We also produce an 'out of season' music show. Europe's Heartbeat (europesheartbeat.com) is a syndicated radio programme broadcasting new music, lost classics, and forgotten hits from across the European continent, including a significant number of Eurovision songs and artists. The show can be heard on stations in the United Kingdom, Ireland, the United States, New Zealand, Taiwan, and Singapore.

Podcasts and Online Audio

[ESC Insight's core product is our audio podcast](#). This runs throughout the year, fortnightly over the summer months, weekly during the 'on-season' period of September-April, and daily when we reach the host city.

For most of the year, it runs as a magazine-styled show, with news headlines, short discussions, and musical performances. During the time in Malmö, it switched to the discussion panel format, hosted by ESC Insight's Fin Ross Russell and featuring contributors from ESC Insight and other noted Eurovision voices.

The shows are available to [stream direct from ESC Insight](#) or [via RSS](#). You can find the show in the major Podcast services such as [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), and [Spotify](#). We are featured in the key podcast applications... [Castbox](#), [iHeart Radio](#), [Overcast](#), [Player FM](#), [PodChaser](#), and [PodHero](#). You'll find even more links over at [PodNews' podcast library](#).

Juke Box Jury

In the seven weeks running up to the Semi Finals and Grand Final, we previewed the year's Eurovision songs in our [Juke Box Jury format](#), with a discussion between two judges and host Ewan Spence before rating each song as hit, miss, or maybe.

- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #1](#)
Greece, Cyprus, Moldova, Belgium, and Estonia.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #2](#)
Albania, Ukraine, Spain, San Marino, and Italy.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #3](#)
Denmark, Czechia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, and Poland.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #4](#)
Iceland, Germany, Malta, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, and Finland.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #5](#)
Slovenia, Armenia, Portugal, Norway, and Lithuania.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #6](#)
Ireland, Serbia, Austria, Switzerland, and The Netherlands.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2024 #7](#)
France, Georgia, Australia, Latvia, and Sweden.

Artist Interviews

We interviewed the 2024 artists during the London and Amsterdam preview parties, collecting these in 'omnibus' editors in the two weeks leading up to the Grand Final.

- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Meet The Artists, London Eurovision 2024](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Meet The Artists, Eurovision in Concert \(Part 1\)](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Meet The Artists, Eurovision in Concert \(Part 2\)](#)

Chat Over Coffee

Our podcast interview series, Chat Over Coffee, allows us the chance to sit down and explore the Eurovision Song Contest with a single guest for an extended-length show.

- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, BBC R&D's Dave Marston And Eurovision's Next Generation Audio](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, with Aftonbladet's Tobbe Ek](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, with Eurovision Reference Group Chair Bakel Walden](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, Volunteering At Malmö's Eurovision](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Malmö's Challenge Of Performing In The Round](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, Making Malmö 2024 Sustainable](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, Eurovision Technical Director Ola Melzig](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, BBC Eurovision's Transmission Director Stephen Neal](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee, Rockart Design's Nicoline Refsing](#)

Podcast 1001

As Malmö came to a close, the ESC Insight podcast passed the 1000 episodes mark. To celebrate, the team from The Eurotrip interviewed Ewan Spence on history of ESC insight, the podcast, and his life with the Contest.

- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Celebrating 1001 Podcasts](#)

Eurovision Wars

During the summer months, ESC Insight syndicated the second season of Eurovision Wars, a six-part podcast series investigating how geo-political issues including war, conflict, and dissent play out on the Eurovision stage.

- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: Russia vs Ukraine \(2014-2016\)](#)
- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: Russia vs Ukraine \(2017-2021\)](#)
- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: Russia vs Ukraine \(2021-2022\)](#)
- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: The Banned Song Contest](#)
- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: Azerbaijan vs Armenia](#)
- [ESC Insight Presets... Eurovision Wars: Revolutions](#)

The Daily Podcast Shows From Malmo

The successful and anticipated daily chat shows were the backbone of the coverage from Malmo as the weekly ESC Insight podcast switched to a daily schedule. This allowed us to provide more of our trademark in-depth coverage and analysis from backstage, bringing all the news and opinions of the 2024 Contest as it happened, though a rotating line up of guests from many Eurovision websites.

- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Monday 6th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Tuesday 7th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Wednesday 8th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Thursday 9th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Friday 10th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Daily News From Malmö, Saturday 11th May](#)
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Our Final News From Malmö, Sunday 12th May](#)

Thank you to our supporters

ESC Insight is a year-round operation, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our supporters from the 2023/2024 season.

- **Radio Six** is a private non-profit radio station operating from Scotland and playing an interesting mixture of songs from the world's unsigned and indie artists in their native languages. Radio Six supported ESC Insight with radio broadcast and production facilities throughout the year, with a particular focus on broadcasting from JESC and ESC. Find out more at www.radiosix.com
- **The Podcast Radio** showcases fantastic podcasts to the world. From the weirdest to the most wonderful, the biggest and the best, to the unheard gems awaiting your discovery. Broadcasting on DAB radio across the UK and streaming directly from its own website, The Podcast Radio combines live presenters, and hourly news updates, and acts as a constant source of podcast inspiration 24 hours a day. Find out more at www.thepodcastradio.co.uk.

A Final Thought

ESC Insight aims to deliver a unique and thoughtful experience for our readers, and we continue to strive to deliver a unique experience that provides in-depth editorial, discussion, and commentary around the Eurovision Song Contest for our existing readers, and those who have yet to discover us.

Contact ESC Insight

ESC Insight runs around the year. You can get in touch with the team at any time via...

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