

ESC Insight – www.escinsight.com

ESC Insight

**Notes and Links on coverage of the
2023 Eurovision Song Contest season
from ESC Insight**



*Compiled by Ewan Spence, May 2023
version 1.00*

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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 Liverpool. A small contingent of our editorial team were accredited as press to provide reaction and discussion during rehearsals and press conferences. A wider editorial team covered the Contest from the host city, including the events, meet and greets, and organised interviews.

We partnered with ESCXtra, The Eurotrip Podcast, and Bet Eurovision, to launch the Eurovision Audience Poll to survey the audience at the evening rehearsals about their favourite songs to gauge public support for the performances.

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 2023 we remained focused on long-form and analytical articles that supplement coverage from daily news sites and online social networks. Our 'off-line' audience grew through increased syndication of our radio programming on Digital, FM and AM stations around the world, with an associated increase of reach and audience listening to ESC Insight's content.

2023 saw a number of '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' informal interview strand became a small but established series, with artists, senior delegation members, and academics joining other community members; 'Juke Box Jury' for song reviews, and the weekly news podcasts, continue to be popular. Our Email Newsletter continued to have a direct connection to our readers, while 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 thirteenth 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.

Liverpool Events Calendar

Following a successful launch in Turin, our curated Events Calendar returned for those visiting Liverpool looking for official and unofficial events during the host city's Eurovision celebrations. [The archive can be found here.](#)

Eurovision Audience Poll

The Eurovision Audience Poll is a project to gauge the opinion of the general public before each of the three live shows are broadcast to millions around the world. Members from four different Eurovision community sites, [ESC Insight](#), [ESCXTRA.com](#), [The EuroTrip Podcast](#), and [Bet Eurovision](#) 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.](#)

The ESC Insight Email Newsletter

Our regular email newsletter was posted monthly through the year. It collated stories from around the Eurovision site, not just from ESC Insight, as well as providing opinion and editorial. John Paul Lucas and Ross Middleton sharing Editor duties.

Details on the Newsletter, access to the archives, and subscription options [can be found here on ESC Insight.](#)

ESC Insight Website Changes

No visible changes were made to the website this year, although we transferred hosting to a new platform based in Europe.

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 2022/2023 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 Eurovision 2023](#)
- [Nine Things To Consider For Eurovision 2023](#)
- [United Kingdom Returns To Junior Eurovision After 17 Years](#)
- [What Happens When You Disqualify Six Eurovision Juries?](#)
- [Looking Forward To Liverpool 2023 With A Few Predictions](#)
- [15 Song Semi Final? Why Only Nine Should Qualify](#)
- [Should Jury Problems Lead To Penalty Points?](#)
- [Introducing The New Eurovision Server on Mastodon](#)
- [Why Eurovision's Voting Change Makes No Difference, Yet Changes Everything](#)
- [What Happens To Our History When You Use The New Eurovision Voting?](#)
- [Questions and Answers: A Guide To Your First Junior Eurovision](#)
- [Returning to Yerevan: A Decade Of Junior Eurovision Experiences](#)
- [Understanding Junior Eurovision's Opening Ceremony And Running Order](#)
- [ESC Insight Asks: Why The Junior Eurovision Song Contest?](#)
- [Let The Junior Eurovision Winner Sing In Liverpool](#)
- [The News From The EBU Press Conference](#)
- [Is Ukraine Winning Junior Eurovision Inevitable?](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2022](#)
- [Why This Junior Eurovision Breaks The Budget](#)
- [Lessons From Junior Eurovision 2022](#)
- [Inside Vidbir: Eurovision's Most Important National Final](#)
- [The History Of Liverpool As It Looks Forward To Eurovision](#)
- [ESC Insight's Musical Moments Of 2022](#)
- [Scriptwriting, Stories, And Songs: Why We Love National Finals](#)
- [The Inspirations At Benidorm Fest 2023](#)
- [Winners And Losers From Liverpool's Semi Final Draw](#)
- [Why Benidorm Paid So I Could Attend Benidorm Fest](#)
- [Ulrikke at MGP: More Than Norway's Returning Winner](#)
- [Spanish Eurofans: The Ultras of The Eurovision Song Contest Community](#)
- [From Darkness To The Limelight: A Brief History Of Rap At Sanremo](#)
- [Magnus Carlsson and Seven Minutes of Schlager](#)
- [A Deep Analysis of Melodifestivalen's Rehearsal Poll](#)
- [The Joy Of Discovering Eurovision's National Finals](#)
- [Everything You Need To Know About 'Tattoo' By Loreen](#)
- [How UMK Became The Must Watch National Final](#)
- [Campus Logomo: The Most Fun Eurovision Show I've Ever Attended](#)
- [Defeating Finland's Fear Of Their Own Language At Eurovision](#)
- [Making A Model For The New Melodifestivalen Semi Final](#)
- [I Didn't Get Tickets For Eurovision, What Can I Do?](#)
- [The Melodifestivalen Final 12: The Performers, Artists, Opinions and Prediction](#)
- [Through The Darkness: The History And Rebirth Of Portugal's Festival da Canção](#)
- [Interviewing Anders Wistbacka, Melodifestivalen's New Executive Producer](#)

- [How Would You Improve Sweden's Melodifestivalen?](#)
- [Wait, Is It Bad To Draw Last in the Grand Final?](#)
- [Eurovision Insight News Podcast: The Vue Is Lovely](#)
- [Every Fan Of Eurovision Is A True Fan Of Eurovision](#)
- [A Deeper Look At Eurovision's Running Order](#)
- [More Tea, Muller? The United Kingdom's Identity Crisis At Eurovision](#)
- [Eurovision's Running Order Bias Is Real and Unavoidable](#)
- [What If The Beatles Had Entered The Eurovision Song Contest?](#)
- [Käärijä's Journey From Illness And Unemployment To Eurovision Legend](#)
- [Why Liverpool Is The City Of Pop Music](#)
- [Estonia's Expensive Televote And How It Changes The Contest](#)
- [All The Liverpool Acts Who Found Eurovision Success](#)
- [How Do You Rank Your Eurovision Songs?](#)
- [The Importance Of 'You'll Never Walk Alone' To Liverpool](#)
- [Modern Eurovision Is Too Cool For Liverpool](#)
- [Eurovision's: The Story Of Eurovision's Academic Conference](#)
- [The Ukrainian Reminders At Liverpool's Song Contest](#)
- [Live Blog: Turquoise Carpet, Liverpool, 2003](#)
- [Manic Monday: Welcome To Eurovision's Most Wild Day](#)
- [Remembering Birmingham And The Last Eurovision Revolution](#)
- [Let 3, A Dictator's Worst Nightmare In Military Drag?](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The First Semi Final Of Eurovision 2023](#)
- [Eurovision 2023 Facts & Figures](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The Second Semi Final Of Eurovision 2023](#)
- [The Grand Final Running Order Analysis of 2023](#)
- [Watching Me, Watching You: Eurovision Watch Parties Around The World](#)
- [Your Spotter's Guide To The Grand Final Of Eurovision 2023](#)
- [The Voices of Ukrainian Eurovision Fans](#)
- [Which 2023 National Finals Sent The Right Artists To Liverpool?](#)
- [How Liverpool Put On The Ultimate Eurovision Party](#)
- [Ranks, Points, And How The United Kingdom Performed At Eurovision 2023](#)
- [What Is Post Eurovision Depression and How To Address It](#)
- [Talking About Our Experiences With Post Eurovision Depression](#)
- [Changing Eurovision's Delicate Balance Between Jury And Televote](#)
- [Nine Things To Expect From Sweden And Eurovision 2024](#)

ESC Insight – Multimedia Content

FM/AM/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 2023 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 Liverpool, 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 each country's song 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 2023 #1](#)
Spain, Iceland, Malta, The Netherlands, and Serbia.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #2](#)
Cyprus, Denmark, Ireland, Latvia, France, and Ukraine.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #3](#)
Australia, Poland, Greece, Czechia, and Finland.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #4](#)
Estonia, Israel, Armenia, Norway, and Slovenia.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #5](#)
Belgium, Croatia, Romania, Switzerland, Albania, and The United Kingdom.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #6](#)
Moldova, Georgia, Italy, Lithuania, and Sweden.
- [Eurovision Insight Podcast: Juke Box Jury 2023 #7](#)
Germany, Azerbaijan, San Marino, Austria, and Portugal.

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: Euro Bruno](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Dean Vuletic](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Second Cherry's Monty Moncrieff](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: The United Kingdom Is Hosting Eurovision 2023](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: We Have Our Host City!](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: The BFI and Eurovision 1962 With Gordon Roxburgh](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Organising Barcelona's Eurovision Party](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: OGAE UK's Early Liverpool Plans](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Why The Running Order Is Important](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Anthony J Brown And The Lyrics Of Blood And Glitter](#)
- [Eurovision Chat Over Coffee: Chris Semtner, Curator of the Edgar Allan Poe Museum.](#)

The Daily Podcast Shows From Liverpool

The successful and anticipated daily chat shows were the backbone of the coverage from Liverpool 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 2023 Contest as it happened, though a rotating line up of guests from many Eurovision websites.

- [Sunday 7th May](#)
- [Monday 8th May](#)
- [Tuesday 9th May](#)
- [Wednesday 10th May](#)
- [Thursday 11th May](#)
- [Friday 12th May](#)
- [Saturday 13th May](#)
- [Sunday 14th 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 2022/2023 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.
- **Visit Benidorm** is the commercial name of the Benidorm Tourism Foundation, a public-private partnership that promotes Benidorm around the tourism industry. Visit Benidorm supported ESC Insight's coverage of Benidorm Fest 2023 with accommodation, travel costs, and a program of events for the invited press delegation. Find out more at www.visitbenidorm.es.

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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