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Emanuel Lasker (1868-1941) achieved worldwide fame as a chess player and philosopher. At the time, he was one of the most widley known Germans abroad. From 1894 to 1921, he held the title of world chess champion for 27 years straight. No other player has achieved this performance to date.

Lasker was engaged on a high class level in a mass of different areas. He obtained a doctorate in mathematics, philosophical and political works, worked as editor of *Lasker's Chess Magazine* and was (involved as a contributor) to leading chess magazines.

In addition to books on chess, he also wrote about other games that he mastered. He was particularly interested in Bridge and the Japanese board game Go. He also wrote literary works such as the story *Wie Wanja Meister wurde* and the drama *Vom Menschen die Geschichte* (together with his brother Berthold Lasker).

After the Nazis seized power, Lasker realized earlier than others that his hometown/homeland would no longer be/provide a safe place for him as a Jew. He gave up most of his material wealth and emigrated abroad as early as 1933. The stations of his exile were Holland, England, Switzerland, the Soviet Union, and the USA, where he died in 1941.

## Goal

The Emanuel Lasker society seeks to promote chess as a cultural and educational asset. The aim is to convey values such as equal opportunities, tolerance, and civil courage. This corresponds to the intellectual and cultural heritage of Lasker and his contemporaries.

To this end, the society organizes scientific conferences and exhibitions on chess history and culture, awards chess prizes such as "Lasker, Viktor, Vera or Tartakower", hosts cultural receptions, celebrates Lasker's induction into the Hall of Fame of German Sport, and, together with many other organizations, promotes the recognition of chess as a sport, art, science and indispensable cultural asset.



## **Members**

The Emanuel Lasker Society was founded in Berlin on January 11, 2001. This took place at the start of the highly acclaimed International Potsdam Conference *Homo ludes - Homo politicus*, at the 60th anniversary of Emanuel Lasker's death. The initiator of the conference, cultural scientist Paul Werner Wagner, was elected as the first chairman of the society.



Our members include renowned grandmasters and former world champions as well as representatives from politics, business, science, art and culture.

Honorary members of the society include former German Federal President Prof. Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker, Dr. Michael Negele, Paul Werner Wagner, International Grand Masters like Edith Keller-Herrmann, Andrè Lilienthal, Dr. Wolfgang Unzicker, Lothar Schmid, Wolfgang Uhlmann, Dr. Thomas Thomsen, Dr. Helmut Pfleger, Viktor and Petra Kortschnoi, Artur Jussupow, Dr. Robert Hübner, Vlastimil Hort, and Lasker's hometown Barlinek.