

---

## PRESS RELEASE

---

### Jannik Sinner wins his first European Open!

**Antwerp, October 24, 2021 - Jannik Sinner (ATP-13) smoothly added the sixth edition of the European Open in Antwerp (ATP 250) to his list of honors. The youngest winner ever of the tournament in Antwerp blasted to victory against Argentine Diego Schwartzman with at times fantastic tennis.**

In the singles final, Argentine Diego Schwartzman faced Italian Jannik Sinner. The Argentine number 14 of the world was in the final of the European Open for the third time. For Sinner, it was his second time participating in the tournament. In 2019 he already received a wildcard and stranded in the semifinals. Then he lost against Stanislas Wawrinka.

The 20-year-old Italian shot out strong and immediately cashed in a break. Sinner showed no mercy in the first set and served out at 5/2. The Italian took the first set at 6/2. Schwartzman had to change tactics in the second set to have a chance against Sinner's excellent play. Nothing seemed to be able to stop the Italian. Sinner gave Schwartzman no chance in the second set either. An early break in the second set has put Sinner on course for victory. Sinner remained calm and won the second set and thus the match 6/2 6/2. Jannik Sinner can call himself the youngest winner in the history of the European Open.

"I was able to read my opponent's game very well today," said Jannik Sinner after his smooth win. "He is a mobile player and I found a solution to that. You have those matches where that doesn't work out, but this week I found my best tennis. Today I also found the solution at important moments and I am extremely satisfied that I can put this tournament win in my pocket. Two years ago I got a wildcard here, now I'm standing here with the trophy. That gives me a wonderful feeling."

The doubles final was fought earlier on Sunday between the French duo Nicolas Mahut/Fabrice Martin and Wesley Koolhof/Jean-Julien Rojer. Mahut and Martin started the match strongly. With a break on the first serve of Rojer/Koolhof, the tone was set. Throughout the match, the two Frenchmen remained the obvious, stronger team. In the first set they did not give away a single game and won 6/0. Also in the second set there was no strong enough answer from the camp of Rojer/Koolhof. Nicolas Mahut and Fabrice Martin thus crowned themselves the doubles champions of the European Open 2021.

"We knew for a long time that we were a good doubles duo, but we have now proven that on the court by winning this title", Mahut said. "In the second set, the match could have looked different, but we were able to make the difference at that crucial moment. At the end of the match we were really able to enjoy this tournament win," said the French duo Mahut/Martin afterwards.

**Kristoff Puelinckx, Founder&CEO Tennium:** "Corona is still there but despite everything we were able to welcome a lot of spectators at the European Open this year. A lot of people showed up from the beginning of the week. It was a pleasure to see that we managed to organize another safe tournament. We received many congratulations from the city of Antwerp, the Flemish and federal government, sponsors and many others about the organization. I would also like to congratulate Dick, Ilse and their entire team for organizing in still difficult circumstances."

**Dick Norman, Tournament Director European Open:** "We managed, despite everything, to put together a nice list of participants for this edition. Not only do we have a fantastic winner, but also other ambassadors have given an extra to the tournament. We have seen many exciting and beautiful matches, right from the first round. Just think of that third longest threesetter of this year between Tiafoe and Murray. We are already looking forward to the 2022 edition, for which preparations have already started."

**Deputy for Sport Antwerp Peter Wouters:** *"After a week full of top tennis and a lot of enthusiasm next to the tennis court, I can only draw one conclusion: tennis really lives in Antwerp. The numerous spectators asked for and received a succession of highlights. I'm thinking for example of the epic three-setter between Murray and Tiafoe, the successful performance of X-Man at the side of Harris who was playing double shifts, and the top favorite Sinner who lived up to the high expectations. Pure propaganda for tennis and therefore also good publicity for Antwerp, the sports capital of Flanders. At Sporting A we are already looking forward to the next edition."*

The Flemish government joins hands with the city of Antwerp through EventFlanders to make this top event possible. EventFlanders operates within Tourism Flanders, but is a collaboration between Tourism Flanders, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Culture, Youth and Media and Sport Vlaanderen.

**Follow us on:**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/europeantennisopen>

Twitter: @eurotennisopen

Instagram: @europeantennisopen

Web: <http://europeanopen.be>

Tickets: <https://europeanopen.be/nl/tickets-2/>

ATP: <https://www.atptour.com/en/tournaments/antwerp/7485/overview>