

---

## PRESS RELEASE

---

### Dick Norman after the draw: "Some lovely matches"

Antwerp, 17 October 2020 - The ATP 250 tournament in Antwerp starts tomorrow. Today the draw for the European Open took place in the Lotto Arena. With a strong field of players -8 out of the top 30 players - an exciting tennis week is expected. The draw promises us a number of beautiful posters for the first round of matches. "We are extremely pleased that the tournament can take place in good and safe circumstances, despite the recently stricter measures that have been taken. Together with Flanders and the city of Antwerp we have managed to make the tournament as corona-proof as possible", says tournament director Dick Norman.

Under the supervision of tournament director Dick Norman, a draw for the fifth edition of the European Open was held in the press room of the Lotto Arena. The first round already brings a number of very promising matches.

Tournament Director Dick Norman: "We are delighted that eight players from the top 30 are participating in the singles tournament. The field is even stronger than all previous editions. David Goffin has a good, achievable card to get into the quarter finals in the next round. As far as the doubles are concerned, we are very proud that we managed to bring the world's number 1 duo to Antwerp with Cabal/Farah. A few youngsters immediately play against each other in doubles. That will also result in some great duels."

#### Extra safety measures

In the light of the new corona measures, the organisation of the European Open has taken a number of new precautions. For example, two seats will be provided between each bubble in order to keep more distance. The curfew also ensures that matches will be brought ahead. In this way, both spectators and staff will also be able to respect this measure.

"The fifth edition of the European Open has a lot of great players", says a proud Flemish Minister of Sports Ben Weyts. "It's nice to see that our tennis players also get the chance to stand out in front of their own crowd. I strongly believe in the contagious power of sport and I am convinced that they can make many Flemish people excited to play tennis."

"With EventFlanders, we have done everything we can to ensure that this top event continues in these difficult organisational times. The fact that we can attract such a beautiful field of participants gives the citizens courage. Also for employment in the event sector, this tournament is no superfluous luxury in times of rising corona figures", says Flemish Minister of Tourism Zuhair Demir.