



# 2019 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST SWISS REGULATIONS

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SRF, RTS, RSI and RTR (referred to collectively in the Regulations as "SRG SSR"), are looking for the Swiss song for the 2019 "Eurovision Song Contest" in Israel. Applications can be submitted between 1.9.2018 and 12 noon on 1.10.2018.

## GENERAL APPLICATION TERMS

1. SRG SSR is seeking a modern, striking song that complies with international requirements. Words must have a strong, clear and understandable message.
2. Applications must be submitted with an audio file via the official SRG SSR platform.
3. The application and the song may only be uploaded by the song's legal owners. Legal owners may submit no more than five songs each.
4. By uploading a song the legal owners accept the Swiss regulations and the international EBU rules relating to the Eurovision Song Contest.
5. Commercial, religious or non-profit organizations and foundations are absolutely prohibited from participating.
6. SRG SSR can utilize the final Swiss entry to the "Eurovision Song Contest" on all vectors (radio, TV, online, social media etc.) without conditions or restrictions of any kind. The song's legal owners retain their rights to the work in perpetuity.
7. The legal owners guarantee that the contractual creation and use of the work, production and performances do not conflict with any agreements with third parties such as labels, managers, event organizers or agencies in any way. The legal owners indemnify SRG SSR in respect of all third-party claims without any limitation of time, place and subject matter.
8. All rights to the song ((especially copyrights and ancillary copyrights) are transferred to SRG SSR for utilization without charge as part of the "Eurovision Song Contest" on all vectors (radio, TV, online, social media, etc.) unless they are held by a copyright collecting agency such as Suisa.
9. Once submitted, songs may not be subsequently withdrawn.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

10. Songs and artistes will be selected in a multi-stage, multi-level process by a panel of 100 viewers and an international jury of 20 experts.
11. SRG SSR channels have the option of awarding up to three wild cards each in a pre-selection process. SRG SSR channels need not exercise this option. These nine (or fewer) wild cards are also assessed by the viewer panel and the specialist jury, who do not know which songs are wild cards and which are not.
12. Manipulation, attempts at bribery or irregularities in the jury's voting may result in the exclusion of the song, the artiste(s) and the jury or panel member(s).

## SUGGESTION FOR THEMATIC CONTENT

13. Arousing the feelings of the viewers and jury members by addressing specific topics is part of the Eurovision Song Contest. We therefore encourage composers and authors to submit songs that address topical issues or which evoke an emotional reaction or recognition effect among ESC viewers. Examples: In her song "Toy", Netta from Israel took up the "me-too" debate. Michael Schulte addressed the death of his father in his song "You Never Let Me Walk Alone".

## SONG REGULATIONS

14. By submitting their application, the legal owners confirm that the song submitted (music and words) is their own creative work and that it is not plagiarized in any way whatsoever.
15. Composers and lyricists that are Swiss nationals or are resident in Switzerland will be given priority. However, nationality is not a deciding factor and does not prohibit anybody from submitting a song.
16. The song submitted must not be more than three minutes long.
17. The song must not have been published in part or in whole before 1.09.2018 September 2018 (radio, TV, internet, public performance, recording media etc.).
18. Song lyrics may be submitted in any language.
19. The song may not contain any political, racist or violent lyrics.
20. Instrumental versions are not permitted. Every title must contain words that are sung or spoken.
21. Songs may be submitted even if they do not yet have a specified artiste, though in this case a demo voice is required.
22. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection procedure by the end of 2018.
23. Songs that do not qualify are not published by SRG SSR.
24. If it wishes, SRG SSR can also call for the production of the winning song to be revised after the national live show, and after consultation with the legal owner of the song it bears sole decision-making rights in this respect.

## ARTISTE REGULATIONS

25. Artistes accept all regulations relating to the Eurovision Song Contest "Eurovision Song Contest".
26. Artistes may not represent more than one country in the "Eurovision Song Contest".
27. Artistes that are Swiss nationals or resident in Switzerland will be given priority. However, nationality is not a deciding factor and does not prohibit anybody from singing a song.
28. Artistes must be aged at least 16 on 1.05.2019.
29. As songs with demo singers can be submitted, whether or not the artiste wishes to take part in the competition must also be stated at the time of uploading.
30. Artistes - and thus voices - can be changed by SRG SSR for reasons of quality at any time during the selection process. After consultation with composers and producers the final decision as to which artistes sing which songs is made by SRG SSR.
31. Artistes will be notified by SRG SSR by the end of 2018. The winners' participation in the Swiss selection process for the Eurovision Song Contest will be the subject of a written agreement.
32. Artistes must be available for rehearsals from January 2019 and for promotional activities in March/April 2019.
33. By signing the agreement artistes commit themselves to performing the song, thus representing Switzerland, at the 2019 "Eurovision Song Contest". The international semi-final and final are scheduled to be held in Israel in May 2019. Contestants will be required to spend approximately two weeks in Israel. The timing will depend on the EBU's rehearsal schedule.
34. Artistes have to agree to the licence rules of the EBU. These are part of the Eurovision Song Contest rules.

## LIVE BROADCASTS OF THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

35. Artistes will perform their songs live.
36. Song will be performed by one or more singers and musicians. The number of people on the stage (including dancers, musicians and backing singers) is limited to six.
37. No animals are allowed on stage.
38. Political, racist or violent statements, gestures or symbols are not permitted.
39. SRG SSR bears sole decision-making rights in terms of staging. Among other things, staging includes clothing, choreography, lighting, LED content and set design.

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

40. The EBU publishes international regulations for the Eurovision Song Contest. Should the international regulations differ from the national regulations, the international regulations shall apply. These regulations relating to participation in the semi-final and final of the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest are binding on the winner of the national selection process.
41. Entries that violate national or international regulations will be disqualified by SRG SSR or the EBU.
42. SRG SSR reserves the right to make any amendments to the selection process that are necessary in order to meet quality requirements.
43. The song titles, artistes and composers/lyricists will be published on a date specified by SRG SSR.
44. The Swiss entry must be published commercially at a time defined by SRG SSR.
45. SRG SSR reserves the right to revise these regulations at any time or adapt them in line with international regulations. Participants may not assert any claims based on changes to the regulations.
46. Recourse to the law is excluded.
47. The German-language version of the regulations is the valid version.

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