

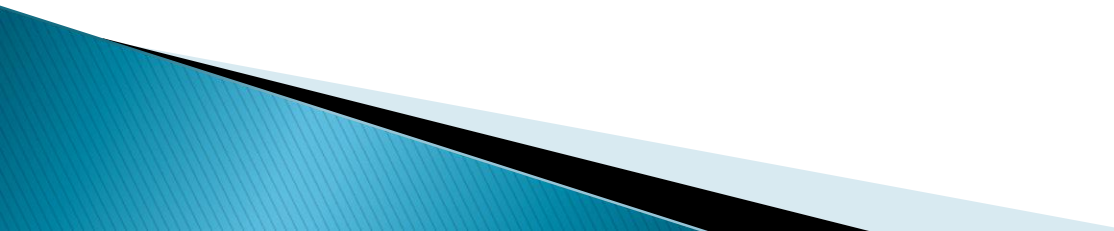
Criteria for Top Prize Winners of Other Chopin Competitions to Gain Automatic Acceptance to Warsaw Competition

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Agenda

- A short profile of the Darmstadt Chopin Society
 - History and tradition of the Darmstadt Chopin Competition
 - Selection and number of candidates
 - Competition repertoire
 - Prize money
 - Composition of Jury
 - Proven record
 - Problems and possible way forward
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A Short Profile of the Darmstadt Chopin Society

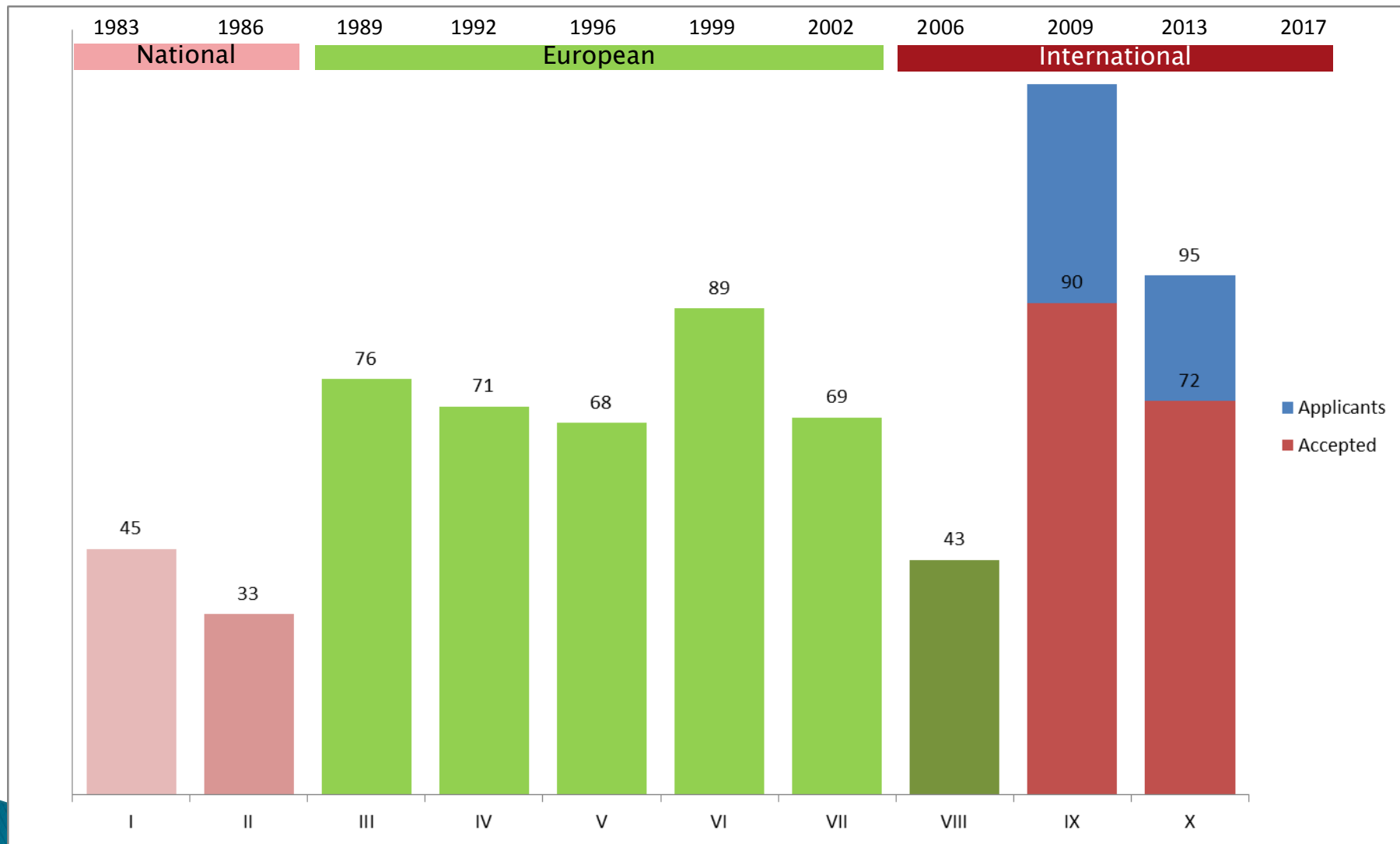
- ▶ 1970 founding of the Chopin–Gesellschaft in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland e.V. in Darmstadt
- ▶ Aims
 - Spread the knowledge about the life and work of Chopin
 - Promote cultural ties between Germany and Poland via Chopin's music
 - Further the careers of young pianists
 - Piano tuition based on the Polish school
- ▶ Achievements
 - 22 Master Classes
 - 10 Competitions
 - Around 500 concerts
 - 5 festivals of Polish culture
- ▶ 45th anniversary in 2015 with special events
 - Chopin Marathon
 - Chopin Festival

History and Tradition of the Darmstadt Chopin Competition

- ▶ Founded in 1983
- ▶ Evolution from national to international competition
- ▶ Organisation by members of the Chopin Society on a volunteer basis
- ▶ Venue Akademie für Tonkunst in Darmstadt
- ▶ Duration: 11 days
- ▶ 3 rounds (final round with orchestra)
- ▶ Purpose
 - To honour Chopin's music
 - To promote young talent
 - To inspire the search for the best interpretations of Chopin's music
 - To prepare candidates for Warsaw



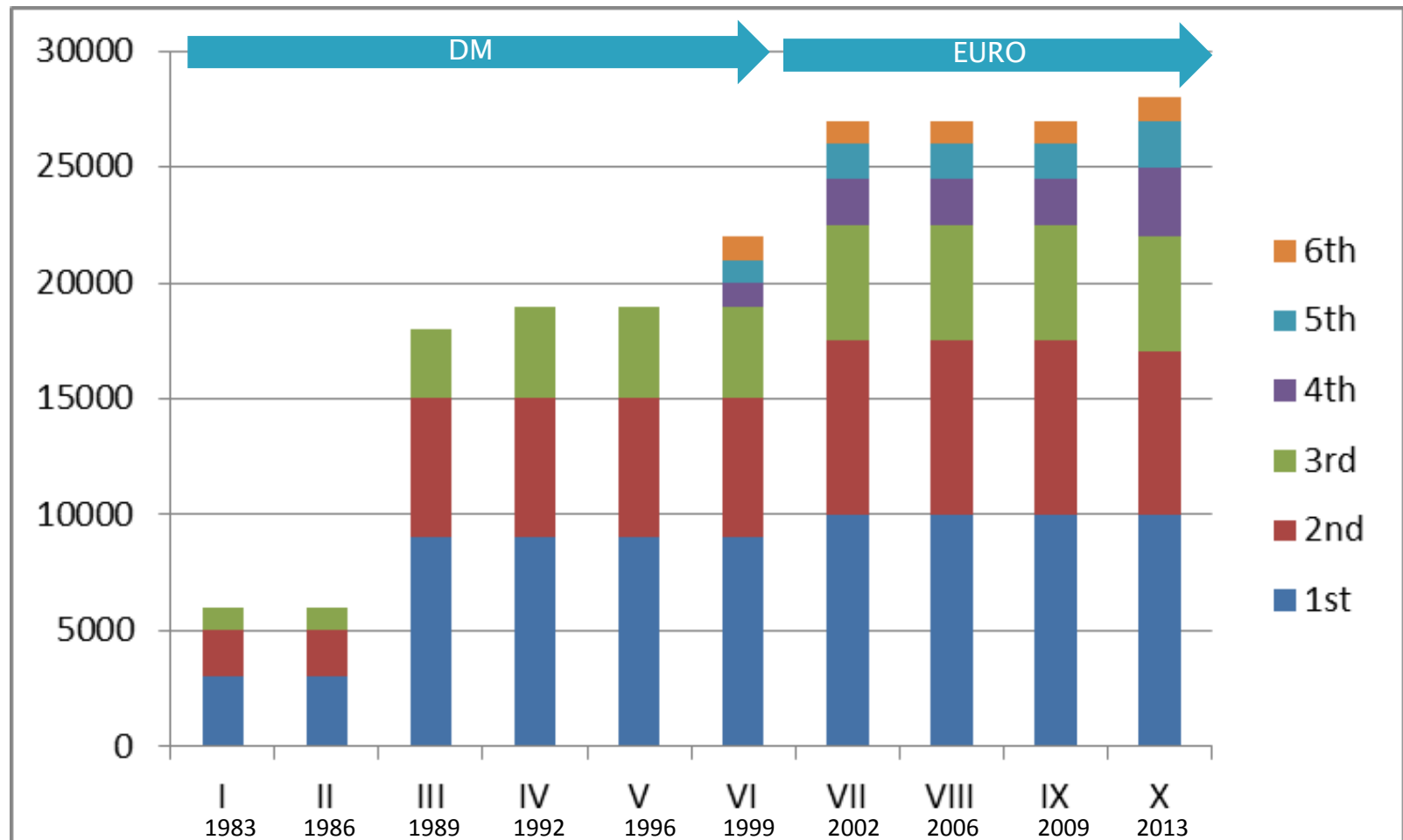
Evolution of the Darmstadt Chopin Competition - Candidates



Competition Repertoire

- ▶ 3 rounds requiring over 100 minutes playing time
- ▶ Demanding repertoire
 - Mazurkas, Polonaises, Etudes, Sonatas, Nocturnes, etc.
 - Concerto with orchestra in final round
 - Addition of Cello Sonata op. 65 foreseen for 2017
 - Short optional element of improvisation being considered for 2017

Evolution of the Darmstadt Chopin Competition – Prize Money



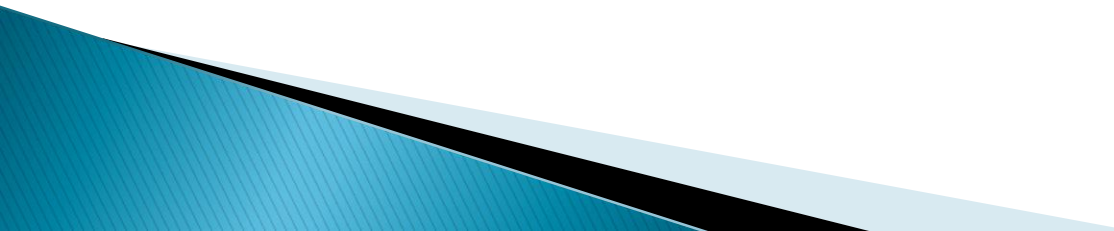
Jury

- ▶ 7 internationally acclaimed pianists/pedagogues, e.g.
 - Halina Czerny–Stefanska
 - Edith Picht–Axenfeld
 - Julian von Karolyi
 - Adam Harasiewicz
 - Marta Sosinska
 - Eugene Indjic
 - Kevin Kenner
 - Dang Thai Son
 - Renate Kretschmar–Fischer
 - Karl–Heinz Kämmerling
 - Dominique Merlet
 - Christopher Elton
 - Katarzyna Popowa–Zydron

Proven Record

- ▶ 16 competitors from Darmstadt in Warsaw in 2010
 - Hélène Tysmann (finalist)
 - Pawel Wakarecy (finalist)
 - Claire Huangci (semi-finalist)
- ▶ 6 of 8 Darmstadt finalists from 2013 selected for Preliminaries 2015
 - Ivett Gyöngyösi
 - Kausikan Rajeshkumar
 - Marek Kozak
 - Miyako Arishima
 - Vladimir Matusevich
 - Andrzej Wiercinski (winner of the 2015 Polish National Competition)
- ▶ Success of competitors in other competitions, e.g. Queen Elisabeth, Belgium, ARD Competition, Munich, Clara Haskil, Vevey

Problems and Possible Way Forward

- ▶ Funding the competition in a climate of austerity
 - ▶ Increasing effort required to recruit sponsors
 - ▶ Limited personnel available
 - ▶ Difficulties enhancing status of the competition
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A measurable increase in status would be achieved if the Darmstadt Competition, with its long, consistent and reliable tradition, were given automatic qualification to the main competition in Warsaw for its first or first two prizewinners