

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Cyprus**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC)

**Debut:** 1981 **Best Finish:** 2nd (2018)

**Number of Entries:** 37 **Worst Finish:** Last (1986)

**A Brief History:** Cyprus has had moderate success, finishing in the Top Ten ten times including reaching a new high, second place, in 2018. Cyprus holds the record for most entries without a victory, hitting 36 in 2019.

**Song Title:** *El Diablo* [The Devil]

**Performing Artist:** Elena Tsagrinou

**Composer(s):** Thomas Stengaard, Jimmy "Joker" Thornfeldt, Laurell Barker, Oxa

**Lyricist(s):** Thomas Stengaard, Jimmy "Joker" Thornfeldt, Laurell Barker, Oxa

**About the Performing Artist:** After competing on *Greece Got Talent*, Tsagrinou became the new lead singer of the band OtherView. Her success with the band led to coaching on the show *Just the 2 of Us* as well as voicing characters in Greek dubs of animated movies. She has been solo

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 08**

**Grand Final Running Order 01**



### **Albania**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Radio Televizioni Shqiptar (RTSh)

**Debut:** 2004 **Best Finish:** 4th place (2012)

**Number of Entries:** 17 **Worst Finish:** 17th place (2008, 2009, 2015)

**A Brief History:** Albania has had moderate success in the Contest, qualifying for the Final more often than not, but ultimately not placing well. Albania achieved its highest ever placing, 4th, in Baku with *Suus*.

**Song Title:** *Karma*

**Performing Artist:** Anxhela Peristeri

**Composer(s):** Kledi Bahiti

**Lyricist(s):** Olti Curri

**About the Performing Artist:** Peristeri's music career started in 2001 after her participation in *Miss Albania*. She is no stranger to competition, winning the celebrity singing competition *Your Face Sounds Familiar* and often placed well at *Kënga Magjike* (Magic Song) including a win in 2017.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 11**

**Grand Final Running Order 02**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Israel**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation (Kan/Makan)

**Debut:** 1973 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1978, 1979, 1998, 2018)

**Number of Entries:** 44 **Worst Finish:** 2nd Last (1986, 1993, 2006)

**A Brief History:** Israel has competed every year since joining the ESC, except once. In 1980, Israel became the first (and only) winner not to defend its title; the country withdrew after the EBU set the date for the 1980 Contest to fall on the Israeli Day of Remembrance. Israel was also the first country to win with televoting in 1998.

**Song Title:** *Set Me Free*

**Performing Artist:** Eden Alene

**Composer(s):** Amit Mordechay, Ido Netzer, Noam Zlatin, Ron Carmi

**Lyricist(s):** Amit Mordechay, Ido Netzer, Noam Zlatin, Ron Carmi

**About the Performing Artist:** Alene grew up in Jerusalem where she studied ballet. At 17, Alene won *X Factor Israel*. She has performed at various state events in Israel and eventually went on to win *HaShir HaBa L'Eurovision 2020* for the right to represent Israel at Eurovision.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 12**

**Grand Final Running Order 03**



### **Belgium**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Radio-télévision belge de la Communauté française (RTBF)

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1986)

**Number of Entries:** 62 **Worst Finish:** Last (61, 62, 65, 73, 79, 85, 93, 00)

**A Brief History:** Walloon RTBF and Flemish VRT, take turns competing. RTBF is responsible for Belgium's sole victory: *J'Aime la Vie* in 1986. This is only the second time it is sending a Flemish act, making up for last year's cancellation.

**Song Title:** *The Wrong Place*

**Performing Artist:** Hooverphonic [Alex Callier, Raymond Geerts, Geike Arnaert]

**Composer(s):** Alex Callier, Charlotte Foret

**Lyricist(s):** Alex Callier, Charlotte Foret

**About the Performing Artist:** Originally formed over twenty years ago, Hooverphonic has seen an array of line-ups, but has always consisted of songwriter and vocalist Callier and guitarist Geerts. Arnaert returns to the band this year after previously being its longest-serving singer from 97-08.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 11**

**Grand Final Running Order 04**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Russia**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Channel One Russia (C1R)

**Debut:** 1994 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2008)

**Number of Entries:** 24 **Worst Finish:** 17th place (1995)

**A Brief History:** Russia is one of the most successful countries in the Contest, only failing to qualify twice, 1996 and 2018, and finishing in the Top Ten 13 times, including one win, four 2nd places, and four 3rd places.

**Song Title:** *RUSSIAN WOMAN*

**Performing Artist:** Manizha [Manizha Sanghin]

**Composer(s):** Ori Avni, Ori Kaplan

**Lyricist(s):** Manizha Sanghin

**About the Performing Artist:** Sanghin was born in Tajikistan and is ethnically Persian. She comes from a lineage of feminist activists; her grandmother was one of the first Tajik women to stop wearing a veil. Sanghin follows this path through her advocacy work and activism on behalf of children's health, victims and survivors of domestic violence (for which she released an app), and LGBTQ+ people. Her music career began when she was 12 and started winning competitions and awards across the former Soviet states.

**Semi-Final 1 , Running Order 03**

**Grand Final Running Order 05**



### **Malta**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Public Broadcasting Services Limited (PBS)

**Debut:** 1971 **Best Finish:** 2nd place (2002, 2005)

**Number of Entries:** 33 **Worst Finish:** Last (1971, 1972, 2006)

**A Brief History:** Despite its tiny size and lack of success, Malta is one of the ESC's most fervent countries. Additionally, an ESC legend, Chiara, hails from Malta; coming in 3rd in her first attempt, 2nd in her second, and bringing Malta to the Final in 2009 after two missed qualifications. Malta returned to the Top Ten in 2013 with pediatrician Gianluca Bezzina.

**Song Title:** *Je Me Casse* [I'm Leaving]

**Performing Artist:** Destiny [Destiny Chukunyere]

**Composer(s):** Malin Christin, Amanuel Dermont, Nicklas Eklund, Pete Barringer

**Lyricist(s):** Malin Christin, Amanuel Dermont, Nicklas Eklund, Pete Barringer

**About the Performing Artist:** Destiny is the second JESC champion to come to the adult version, having won in 2015 with *Not My Soul* with a record number of points. This victory earned her the Midalja għall-Qadi tar-Repubblika, an honor awarded by the Maltese president for service to Malta.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 16**

**Grand Final Running Order 06**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Portugal**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Rádio e Televisão de Portugal (RTP)

**Debut:** 1964 **Best Finish:** 1st (2017)

**Number of Entries:** 52 **Worst Finish:** Last (1964, 1974, 1997, 2018)

**A Brief History:** Portugal held the record for most participations without a victory until it finally won in 2017 with *Amor Pelos Dois*. Other than 2017, Portugal has not seen much success; its next best placing is 6th in 1996.

**Song Title:** *Love is on My Side*

**Performing Artists:** The Black Mamba [Pedro Tatanka, Miguel Casais, Marco Pombinho, Pity Vaz, Gui Salgueir

**Composer(s):** TATANKA

**Lyricist(s):** TATANKA

**About the Performing Artist:** Formed in 2010, The Black Mamba has released three albums, two of which reached the top twenty. The band crosses genres, allowing them opportunity to tour across Europe and the Americas and to share the stage with Lenny Kravitz and John Legend.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 12**

**Grand Final Running Order 07**



### **Serbia**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Radio Television of Serbia (RTS)

**Debut:** 2007 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2007)

**Number of Entries:** 13 **Worst Finish:** 18th place (2016, 2019)

**A Brief History:** Serbia won the Contest with its debut as an independent nation in 2007 with the song *Molitva*. Since then, Serbia has three Top Ten finishes and has qualified eight out of eleven times.

**Song Title:** *LOCO LOCO*

**Performing Artist:** Hurricane [Sanja Vučić, Ivana Nikolić, Ksenija Knežević]

**Composer(s):** Nemanja Antonić, Darko Dimitrov

**Lyricist(s):** Sanja Vučić

**About the Performing Artist:** Vučić is a philology student and polyglot. She also represented Serbia in 2016. Nikolić is an economics student and championship dancer. Knežević studies media and piano; she was a backing singer for her father's 2015 entry for Montenegro. Hurricane formed in 2018 in Saint Martin and is now based in L.A.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 09**

**Grand Final Running Order 08**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **United Kingdom**

**Competing Broadcaster:** British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

**Debut:** 1957 **Best Finish:** 1st place (67, 69, 78, 82, 98)

**Number of Entries:** 63 **Worst Finish:** Last (2003, 2008, 2010)

**A Brief History:** The UK, while tied for third in the wins column, stands above the rest when it comes to total success: five wins, 14 second-places, three third-places, and 14 other Top Ten finishes, the most recent in 2009.

**Song Title:** *Embers*

**Performing Artist:** James Newman

**Composer(s):** James Newman, Conor Blake, Danny Shah, Tom Hollings, Samuel Brennan

**Lyricist(s):** James Newman, Conor Blake, Danny Shah, Tom Hollings, Samuel Brennan

**About the Performing Artist:** At 35, Newman is already an accomplished songwriter, having worked with some of the UK's and US' biggest stars (including his younger brother John). He's penned several chart-topping tracks, the 2014 Brit Award winner for British Single of the Year, and two Grammy nominated songs. He has eight singles as a vocalist, including Dutch DJ Armin van Buuren's hit *Therapy*, which charted in Belgium, the Netherlands, and the US.

**Votes in Semi-Final 2**

**Grand Final Running Order 09**



### **Greece**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT)

**Debut:** 1974 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2005)

**Number of Entries:** 41 **Worst Finish:** 3rd Last (1985, 1990)

**A Brief History:** Until coming 17th in 2012, Greece was the only country to reach the Top Ten every year in the Semi-Final Era (since 2004). Greece has since had difficulty, reaching the Top Ten only once since then - in 2013.

**Song Title:** *Last Dance*

**Performing Artist:** Stefania [Stefania Liberakakis]

**Composer(s):** Dimítris Kontópoulos, Arcade

**Lyricist(s):** Dimítris Kontópoulos, Arcade, Sharon Vaughn

**About the Performing Artist:** Stefania hails from the Netherlands, where she competed in *The Voice Kids*. She went on to compete at JESC 2016 in the group Kisses. She has had several singles chart on the Dutch & Greek charts. Since 2018, she has been a lead on the teen drama series *Brugklas*.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 04**

**Grand Final Running Order 10**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Switzerland**

**Competing Broadcaster:** The Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SSR SRG)

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1956, 1987)  
**Number of Entries:** 61 **Worst Finish:** Last (1964, 1967, 1974, 1998, 2011)

**A Brief History:** Switzerland started off with a bang, hosting and winning the very first ESC. They won again in 1987 recruiting a rising star from Canada: Céline Dion. Since 2004, CH has been in five Finals, reaching the Top Ten in 2005 and 2019.

**Song Title:** *Tout l'Universe* [The Whole Universe]  
**Performing Artist:** Gjon's Tears [Gjon Muharremaj]  
**Composer(s):** Wouter Hardy, Nina Sampermans, Gjon Muharremaj, Xavier Miche  
**Lyricist(s):** Wouter Hardy, Nina Sampermans, Gjon Muharremaj  
**About the Performing Artist:** Muharremaj's stage name comes from when he brought his grandfather to tears at the age of nine by singing. Three years later, his grandfather brought him to his native Albania for *Albania's Got Talent*, where Muharremaj finished 3rd. He then went to be a semi-finalist on *Die Grössten Schweizer Talente* and *The Voice* (France).

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 16**

**Grand Final Running Order 11**



### **Iceland**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Ríkisútvarpið (RÚV)

**Debut:** 1986 **Best Finish:** 2nd place (1999, 2009)  
**Number of Entries:** 33 **Worst Finish:** Last (1989, 2001)

**A Brief History:** Of the five Nordic countries, Iceland has the fewest participations and is the only one that has yet to win. Iceland's 2009 second place finish garnered the most points of any Icelandic entry.

**Song Title:** *10 Years*  
**Performing Artist:** Daði og Gagnamagnið  
**Composer(s):** Daði Freyr  
**Lyricist(s):** Daði Freyr

**About the Performing Artist:** The band comprises six members: Daði Freyr, Árný Fjóla, Sigrún Birna, Hulda Kristín, Stefán Hannesson, and Jóhann Sigurður. Freyr, the lead singer and songwriter, first rose to fame via his covers-based YouTube channel. His wife Árný plays keys and his sisters Sigrún and Hulda provide backing vocals. The song is about and dedicated to Daði and Árný's relationship.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 08**

**Grand Final Running Order 12**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Spain**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Televisión Española (TVE)

**Debut:** 1961 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1968, 1969)

**Number of Entries:** 60 **Worst Finish:** Last (1962, 1965, 1983, 1999)

**A Brief History:** Spain debuted while Franco still ruled the country to try to gain acceptance in Europe. It wasn't until its contentious victory of 1968 that it came into its own, scoring 22 Top Ten finishes (including a second victory) since.

**Song Title:** *Voy a Quedarme* [I'm Going to Stay]

**Performing Artist:** Blas Cantó [Blas Cantó Moreno]

**Composer(s):** Blas Cantó, Leroy Sánchez, Daniel Ortega, Dan Hammond

**Lyricist(s):** Blas Cantó, Leroy Sánchez, Daniel Ortega, Dan Hammond

**About the Performing Artist:** Cantó first reached fame as part of the boy band Aury, which released four albums - two went gold, two went platinum - and had six top ten charting hits. The band split in 2016 and Cantó began a solo career, which started when he won the celebrity singing competition *Tu Cara Me Suena*. Both the original and rerelease of his debut album, *Complicado*, reached #1.

**Votes in Semi-Final 2**

**Grand Final Running Order 13**



### **Moldova**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Teleradio-Moldova (TRM)

**Debut:** 2005 **Best Finish:** 3rd place (2017)

**Number of Entries:** 16 **Worst Finish:** 22nd place (2010)

**A Brief History:** Moldova has qualified for the Final more often than not as well as achieving the Top Ten in consecutive years, 2017 and 2018. Moldova may be most famous for the Epic Sax Guy meme, made from Sunstroke Project's 2010 performance.

**Song Title:** *Sugar*

**Performing Artist:** Natalia Gordienko

**Composer(s):** Dimitris Kontopoulos, Phillipp Kirkorov

**Lyricist(s):** Mikhail Gutseriev, Sharon Vaughn

**About the Performing Artist:** Gordienko returns to the Eurovision stage after being half of Moldova's 2006 representative. However, she has had success winning music competitions across Europe as well as winning the World Championship of Performing Arts in 2008.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 07**

**Grand Final Running Order 14**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Germany**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR)

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1982, 2010)

**Number of Entries:** 65 **Worst Finish:** Last (64, 65, 74, 95, 05, 15, 16)

**A Brief History:** Germany is the only country to take part in every single Contest; however, it has only won twice. Though, it has three second-places, five third-places, and 16 other Top Ten finishes. Germany's missing of the final in 1996 inspired the adoption of the Big Four (now Big Five) rule giving the countries with the five largest tv audiences and EBU contributions automatic qualification.

**Song Title:** *I Don't Feel Hate*

**Performing Artist:** Jendrik [Jendrik Sigwart]

**Composer(s):** Jendrik Sigwart, Christoph Oswald

**Lyricist(s):** Jendrik Sigwart, Christoph Oswald

**About the Performing Artist:** Sigwart has been a ukulele player and enthusiast since childhood, studying the instrument at the Institute of Music at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences. In addition to singing, he also acts in musicals. He lives in his native Hamburg with his boyfriend.

**Votes in Semi-Final 1**

**Grand Final Running Order 15**



### **Finland**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Yleisradio/Rundradion (YLE)

**Debut:** 1961 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2006)

**Number of Entries:** 54 **Worst Finish:** Last (1963, 1965, 1968, 1980, 1982, 1990, 1992, 1996, 2009)

**A Brief History:** Finland's participation in the ESC has not been a very successful endeavor; there have been only a few moments of brightness, including a surprise landslide victory in 2006 with hard rock band Lordi.

**Song Title:** *Dark Side*

**Performing Artist:** Blind Channel [Joel Hokka, Niko Vilhelm, Joonas Porko, Olli Matela, Tommi Lalli, Alekski Kaunisvesi]

**Composer(s):** Alekski Kaunisvesi, Joonas Porko, Joel Hokka, Niko Moilanen, Olli Matela

**Lyricist(s):** Alekski Kaunisvesi, Joonas Porko, Joel Hokka, Niko Moilanen, Olli Matela

**About the Performing Artist:** Formed in Oulu in 2013, Blind Channel has become a major force in Finland's underground rock scene. They've become known for their covers of Top 40 songs from the likes of Macklemore & Ryan Lewis and Anastacia.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 14**

**Grand Final Running Order 16**



## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Bulgaria**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Bulgarian National Television (BNT)

**Debut:** 2005 **Best Finish:** 2nd Place (2017)

**Number of Entries:** 13 **Worst Finish:** 14th Place (2018)

**A Brief History:** Bulgaria was scheduled to return to the Contest this year after taking 2019 off. After initial struggles, it came into its own, qualifying for the Final from 2016-2018, including two consecutive Top Ten finishes.

**Song Title:** *growing up is getting old*

**Performing Artist:** VICTORIA [Victoria Georgieva]

**Composer(s):** Victoria Georgieva, Maya Nalani, Oliver Björkqvall, Helena Larsson

**Lyricist(s):** Victoria Georgieva, Maya Nalani, Oliver Björkqvall, Helena Larsson

**About the Performing Artist:** Georgieva finally made it onto *X-Factor Bulgaria* seasons five in 2015 after three failed attempts. She went on to finish sixth. This past year, Georgieva served as a *European Ambassador of Earth Hour* and was named to *Forbes Bulgaria*'s "30 Under 30" list.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 13**

**Grand Final Running Order 17**



### **Lithuania**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Lietuvos Nacionalinis Radijas ir Televizija (LRT)

**Debut:** 1994 **Best Finish:** 6th place (2006)

**Number of Entries:** 21 **Worst Finish:** Last (1994, 2005)

**A Brief History:** After Estonia won in 2001 and Latvia in 2002, eyes turned to LIT to continue the Baltic's streak in 2003, but the luck had run out. LIT has only placed in the Top Ten twice: 2006 and 2016.

**Song Title:** *Discoteque*

**Performing Artist:** The Roop [Vaidotas Valiukevičius, Robertas Baranauskas, Mantas Banišauskas]

**Composer(s):** Vaidotas Valiukevičius, Mantas Banišauskas, Robertas Baranauskas, Laisvūnas Černovas, Ilkka Wirtanen

**Lyricist(s):** Vaidotas Valiukevičius, Mantas Banišauskas, Kalle Lindroth

**About the Performing Artist:** The Roop was initially formed in 2014 with their debut album coming the following year. Their career went international after coming third in LIT's 2018 national final. All three members are active across the music industry in various capacities as well.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 01**

**Grand Final Running Order 18**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Ukraine**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Suspilne (UA:PBC)

**Debut:** 2003 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2004, 2016)

**Number of Entries:** 16 **Worst Finish:** Second Last (2017)

**A Brief History:** Despite its relatively few entries, Ukraine has proven itself a force to be reckoned with; collecting two wins, two second-places, another five Top Ten places, and a 100% qualification record.

**Song Title:** *SHUM* [Noise]

**Performing Artist:** Go\_A [Kateryna Pavlenko, Ihor Didenchuk, Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Hryhoriak]

**Composer(s):** Taras Shevchenko, Kateryna Pavlenko

**Lyricist(s):** Kateryna Pavlenko

**About the Performing Artist:** Producer Shevchenko and singer Pavlenko met in 2012 and formed Go\_A as a call to move towards alpha - the beginning - intertwining traditional folk sounds and techniques with modern beats and presentation. All four members are avid folklorists. In 2016, the band won *The Best Track in Ukraine* with *Vesnianka*, this began an international career of performing in festivals around Europe and the Mediterranean.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 15**

**Grand Final Running Order 19**



### **France**

**Competing Broadcaster:** France 2

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (58, 60, 62, 69, 77)

**Number of Entries:** 63 **Worst Finish:** Last (2014)

**A Brief History:** France has only missed two Contests to date. France is at the center of both ties that have occurred in ESC, both of which would have resulted in a lone French victory under current rules (1969 was a four-way tie; in 1991 Sweden was awarded the win under the old tie-break rules). Despite its long history, it has finished last only once.

**Song Title:** *Voilà*

**Performing Artist:** Barbara Pravi

**Composer(s):** Barbara Pravi, Igit

**Lyricist(s):** Barbara Pravi, Lili Poe

**About the Performing Artist:** Pravi first entered the music industry in 2014 and had her stage debut performing in the musical *Un été 44*. Pravi has continued acting and shifted to *chanson* in 2018. She has become a prolific songwriter, including the reigning Junior ESC champion *J'Imagine*.

**Votes in Semi-Final 2**

**Grand Final Running Order 20**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **Azerbaijan**

**Competing Broadcaster:** İctimai Televiziya (İTV)

**Debut:** 2008 **Best Finish:** 1st place (2011)  
**Number of Entries:** 13 **Worst Finish:** 17th place (2014, 2016)  
**A Brief History:** Azerbaijan took home the victory in 2011 and has seven Top Ten finishes; however, the "Land of Fire" had a falling from grace, failing to finish in the Top Ten from 2014-2018.

**Song Title:** *Mata Hari*

**Performing Artist:** Efendi [Samira Azer gizi Efendiyeva]

**Composer(s):** Amy van der Wel, Luuk van Beers, Josh Earl, Tony Cornelisse

**Lyricist(s):** Amy van der Wel, Luuk van Beers, Josh Earl, Tony Cornelisse

**About the Performing Artist:** Efendi has competed on various Azerbaijani televised talent shows, coming in third on two of them. She also finished third in the international competition *Silk Way Star* in 2017. Prior to Eurovision, she represented Azerbaijan at the *Voice of Nur-Sultan*.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 14**

**Grand Final Running Order 21**



### **Norway**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Norsk Rikskringkasting (NRK)

**Debut:** 1960 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1985, 1995, 2009)  
**Number of Entries:** 59 **Worst Finish:** Last (63, 69, 74, 76, 78, 81, 90, 97, 01, 04, 12)

**A Brief History:** While Norway has three of the Contest's most popular winners, it also holds the records for most last place finishes (11) as well as for most "nul points" (4) - the latter a distinction shared with Austria.

**Song Title:** *Fallen Angel*

**Performing Artist:** TIX [Andreas Andresen Haukeland]

**Composer(s):** Andreas Haukeland

**Lyricist(s):** Andreas Haukeland, Emelie Hollow, Mathias Haukeland

**About the Performing Artist:** Haukeland's stage name TIX is a tribute to his Tourette Syndrome. He first rose to fame in 2015 when his song *Sjeiken 2015* became a summer hit. He has had a continuous string of hits, dominating Spotify charts. He's also a successful producer and songwriter, including *Sweet but Psycho* by Ava Max.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 09**

**Grand Final Running Order 22**

## *Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles*



### **The Netherlands**

**Competing Broadcaster:** AVROTROS

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1957, 1959, 1975, 2019)

**Number of Entries:** 61 **Worst Finish:** Last (1958, 1962, 1963, 1968)

**A Brief History:** The Dutch broke their curse in 2013, qualifying for the Final for the first time since 2004 and finishing in the Top Ten for the first time since 1998 with Anouk's *Birds*. They followed this with a second place in 2014. And in 2019, finally returned to the winner's circle, its first time there since winning in 1975.

**Song Title:** *Birth of a New Age*

**Performing Artist:** Jeangu Macrooy

**Composer(s):** J. A. U. Macrooy, P. L. Perquin

**Lyricist(s):** J. A. U. Macrooy

**About the Performing Artist:** Macrooy first entered the music industry with his twin brother as Between Towers in 2011. Macrooy moved to NET from his native Suriname in 2014 and began his solo career. He's become a fixture on Dutch tv - frequenting the talk show *De Wereld Draair Door* and starring as Judas in a national production of *The Passion*.

**Votes in Semi-Final One**

**Grand Final Running Order 23**



### **Italy**

**Competing Broadcaster:** Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI)

**Debut:** 1956 **Best Finish:** 1st place (1964, 1990)

**Number of Entries:** 46 **Worst Finish:** Last (1966)

**A Brief History:** After a 13 year gap, Italy returned to the Contest in 2011 and brought home second place. Despite its absence, Italy remains one of the most successful ESC countries, with 30 Top Ten finishes.

**Song Title:** *ZITTI E BUONI* [Shut Up and Behave]

**Performing Artist:** Måneskin [Damiano David, Victoria De Angelis, Thomas Raggi, Ethan Torchio]

**Composer(s):** Måneskin

**Lyricist(s):** Måneskin

**About the Performing Artist:** The name Måneskin, Danish for "moonshine," comes from bassist De Angelis, who is half-Danish. The band is made up of childhood friends and formed in 2016 to compete in a local contest. They gained national attention after being runner-up on *X-Factor*.

**Votes in Semi-Final 1**

**Grand Final Running Order 24**

## Eurovision Obsession Presents: ESC 2021 Country Profiles



### Sweden

**Competing Broadcaster:** Sveriges Television (STV)

**Debut:**

**1958 Best Finish:**

1st place (1974, 1983, 1991, 1999, 2012, 2015)

**Number of Entries:**

**60 Worst Finish:** Last (1963, 1977)

**A Brief History:** Sweden is known for many things, not the least of which being ABBA (1974); *Waterloo* remains one of the most popular ESC songs ever. Sweden is the only country to win after a tie (1991) and has the highest rated national selection: *Melodifestivalen*. It has missed only two Finals, 1976 (sat out in fear of winning and having to host) and 2010. Sweden sits second overall with six wins.

**Song Title:** *Voices*

**Performing Artist:** Tusse [Tousin Michael Chiza]

**Composer(s):** Joy Deb, Linnea Deb, Jimmy "Joker" Thörnfeldt, Anderz Wrethov

**Lyricist(s):** Joy Deb, Linnea Deb, Jimmy "Joker" Thörnfeldt, Anderz Wrethov

**About the Performing Artist:** Chiza began his career in 2018, at the age of 16, when he was a semi-finalist on *Talang 2018* (Sweden's *Got Talent*) and cemented his rising star the following year by winning *Swedish Idol*. Chiza is of Congolese descent and talks openly about the racism he has faced.

**Semi-Final 1, Running Order 04**

**Grand Final Running Order 25**



### San Marino

**Competing Broadcaster:** Radiotelevisione della Repubblica di San Marino (SMRTV)

**Debut:**

**2008 Best Finish:** 19th place (2019)

**Number of Entries:**

**11 Worst Finish:** 24th place (2014)

**A Brief History:** San Marino has qualified for the Final twice, on Valentina Monetta's third (consecutive) attempt in 2014 and on Serhat's return in 2019 with *Say Na Na Na*, which climbed to tenth in the televote.

**Song Title:** *Adrenalina* [Adrenaline]

**Performing Artist:** Senhit [Senhit Zadik Zadik] feat. Flo Rida [Tramar Dillard]

**Composer(s):** Thomas Stengaard, Joy Deb, Linnea Deb, Jimmy Thörnfeldt, Kenny Silverdique, Suzi Pancenkov, Malou Linn Eloise Ruotsalainen, Chanel Tukia, Senhit Zadik Zadik, Tramar Dillard

**Lyricist(s):** Thomas Stengaard, Joy Deb, Linnea Deb, Jimmy Thörnfeldt, Kenny Silverdique, Suzi Pancenkov, Malou Linn Eloise Ruotsalainen, Chanel Tukia, Senhit Zadik Zadik, Tramar Dillard

**About the Performing Artist:** Senhit was SM's second-ever performer back in 2011. She started as a musical theatre actress before moving to dance and edm genres after competing in ESC. Flo Rida is one of the biggest rappers from the early 2010s, having earned four Grammy nominations in as many years, and continues to write and perform on hits to this day.

**Semi-Final 2, Running Order 01**

**Grand Final Running Order 26**