EUROPEAN ATHLETICS UNDER 18 CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European Athletics U18 Championships (renamed the European Youth Athletics Championships in 2016) are a biennial athletics competition for European athletes under the age of eighteen (youth category).

The competition was established at the 2013 European Athletics Congress. The event was created to promote sport among young people in Europe. Each nation can send a maximum of two athletes per event. The European U18 Championships are the third category championship organized by the European Athletics Association, following the European Athletics U20 Championships (first held in 1970) and the European Athletics U23 Championships (first held in 1997).

The first edition of the championships was held in 2016 in Tbilisi, and the program included race walking events for both boys and girls, competitions that have been held in all four editions so far.
In the first three editions, boys competed in the 10,000m track walk, while in the last edition in 2024, the race was shortened to the 5,000m track. Girls have always competed in the 5,000m track walk.

The event with the largest number of starters in boys was held in the first edition in Tbilisi in 2016. Twenty-four boys from 17 countries participated. The largest number of girls took place in Jerusalem in 2022. There were 27 girls representing 19 countries at the starting line.

The best performances recorded among the boys were:
- Fredrik Weigel (Ger), who won the 10,000 m race in Jerusalem with a time of 44:01:60.
- In the 5,000m race, the best time belongs to Spain's Gabriel Gonzalez, who won the Rieti edition with a time of 20:33.76

Among the girls, the event record is held by:
- Serena Di Fabio (Italy), winner in Banská Bystrica in 2024 with a time of 21:50.80.

In the national medal table, Italy leads the boys with 2 golds, 3 silvers, and 1 bronze. Spain follows in second place with 1 gold and 1 bronze. Poland and Germany are tied in third place with 1 gold.
Among the girls, Italy also leads the way with 2 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronzes, followed by Spain with 1 gold, 1 silver, and 1 bronze. Turkey is in third place with 1 gold, 2 silvers, and 1 bronze