

## Award of M. Garcia MT, Alba Julia, July 2025

**Theme** (for Studies and Moremovers): in direct play, the checkmate is given **with at least one black pinned piece**.

18 studies and 4 moremovers received from 18 composers. I am honored with the participation of: M.Hlinka and Luboš Kekely (Slovakia), Volker Hergert (Germany), Ralf Krätschmer (Germany), Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine), Michael Pisman (Israel), Beat Neuenschwander (Switzerland), M. Gromov & O. Pervakov (Russia), V. Kalashnikov & S. Osintsev (Russia), Pavel Arestov (Russia), Oto Mihalčo (Slovakia), José Garzon (Spain), St. Harnagea (Romania), D. Hlebec and B. Djurasevic (Serbia), A. Jasik (Poland). The level of the tournament was high and I congratulate all the participants for their contribution.

### Studies

12 studies out of 18 were classified. My ranking is here from Commendations to Prizes

#### P. Arestov

Comm, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



4+3 BTM win

#### V. Hergert

Sp. Comm, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



7+7 win

#### V. Kalashnikov

4HM, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



4+5 win

#### Comm – P. Arestov:

Here, the pinned unit is the black Rook in two variants.

- 1...Rg2+** 1...Sxe7 2.Bd4+ Kb1 3.Bxg7;  
 1...Rg8 2.Kd2! Ka2 3.Ra4+ Kb3 4.Rb4+ Ka2 5.Kc1! Rh8 6.Rb2+ Ka1 7.Rh2! Rc8 8.Rc2 Rh8 9.Bg1  
**2.Kd1!** 2.Kf3? Rg8 =; 2.Kd3? Sxe7 =  
**2...Sxe7** 2...Rg8 3.Kc2 Rg2+ 4.Kc1 **3.Kc1!** with 2 lines:  
 A) 3...Sf5 4.Ra4+ Ra2 5.Ba3! ~ **6.Bb2#**  
 B) 3...Ka2 4.Rc3! Ka1 5.Ra3+ Ra2 **6.Bd4#**

#### Sp. Comm – V. Hergert: **1.c4!** 1.cxd3? Rxe1 2.Rf5+ Be5 **1...Rxc4 2.Qa5+ Rc5**

- (2... Bc5 3.Rd2) **3.Qa2+** (3.Rf5+ Be5 4.Qa2+ Rec4 5.Rd2 Re7+ 6.Ke8 Rc8+ =)  
**3... Qc4** (3... Rc4 4.Rf5+ Re5 5.Bg2+) **4.Rf5+ Be5** (4... Rf5 5.Bg2+ Se4 6.Bxe4+ Kxe4 7.Sd2+)  
**5.Rd2+ Rd4 6.Bg2+ Sf3 7.Bxf3#**  
 (if 6... Se4 7.Se3#) The four pins don't matter in checkmate position

#### 4<sup>th</sup> HM – V. Kalashnikov: **1.Bc7+** (1.Rxh5? g1Q 2.Rxh4+ Kg3=) **1...e5!**

- (1...Kh1 2.Rxh5) **2.Bxe5+ Kh1 3.Bd4 Bf3+** 4.Kd6 g1Q 5.Bxg1 Kxg1 6.Ke5 h3 7.Kf4 h2 **8.Kg3!** Bg2  
 9.Rc1+ Bf1 10.Nc3 h1Q **11.Ne2#** ideal mate  
 A Meredith with clear solution.

**S. Osintsev**  
3HM, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025

6+7 BTM win

**Beat Neuenschwander**  
2HM, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025

9+9 win

**2<sup>nd</sup> HM – Beat Neuenschwander:**  
**1. S5d6+!** (1. Rxc5? Re3+ 2. Kf2 Rxe2+ 3. Kf3 Re3+ =)  
**1. . . exd6 2. Rf7+ Ke6 3. Sd8+ Kd5 4. c4+! dxc3 e.p. 5. Rd1+ Qd4** ( or, 2nd main line, 5. . . Rd4 6. Kf2+ (6. Kg4+? f3+) 6. . . Qe4 7. Rf5#) **6. Rf5+ Re5 7. e4+!** (7. Kg4+? f3+) **7. . . fxe3 e.p. 8. Ke2#** Two en-passant captures prelude mate with two pinned pieces.

**1<sup>st</sup> HM – L.Kekely & M.Hlinka:**  
**1. Rh5+!** (1. Be7? Rxf3=)  
**1... gxf5 2. Be7+ Rg5 3. Kh2 Qc2 4. c7 f6 5. Bxf6!**  
 (5. c8=Q? Qxc8 6. Bxf6 Qc2)  
**5... h6** (5 ... Qf2 6. Bxg5+ Kxg5 7. c8=Q)  
**6. c8=R!** (6. c8=Q? Qxg2+ 7. Bxg2=, 6. c8=S? Qf2=)  
**6... Qxc8 7. g3#**  
 The authors introduced an attractive artistic element, stalemate avoidance.  
 [Solution of 3HM (Osintsev), see p.9]

**L.Kekely & M.Hlinka**  
1HM, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025

8+6 win

**Prizes**

**P. Arestov**  
5Prize, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025

5+5 win

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize – P. Arestov:**  
**1. Qd4! Sxd2+ 1...g1Q 2. Qa1+ Kb7 3. Qa7+ Kc6 4. Qc7#.**  
**2. Ka4! Kb7! 3. Bd5+ Ka6**  
 3...Kb8 4. Qh8+ ; 3...Kc8 4. b7+  
**4. b7 Qd8!**  
 4...g1=Q 5. b8=S#  
**5. Bc4+** switchback  
 5. Qd3+? Ka7  
**5...Sxc4 5...Kxb7 6. Qxd8 g1=Q 7. Bd5+ Ka7 8. Qc7+**  
**6. Qxd8 g1=Q Phenix 7. Qa8+!** 7. b8Q? Nb6+ =  
**7...Qa7 8. Kb4!** 8. b8Q? Sb6+! 9. Qxb6 Kxb6 =  
**8... Sb6 9. b8=S#**  
 Checkmate with Knight promotion in a rather long solution is always pleasant.

**V. Tarasiuk**

Sp.Pr, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



7+7

win

**Sp. Prize – V. Tarasiuk:**

- 1.f7! Rd5+  
(1... Sxf7 2.Rc4+ Kf3 3.Bc6+)  
2.Ke2 Bd3+ 3.Kf2 Sxf7  
4.Re6+  
a) 4... Be5 5. Sg3#  
b) 4... Se5 5. Bg6#  
c) 4... Re5 5. Bc6#

The study has three final checkmates with pinned knight, bishop and rook.

**P. Arestov**

4Pr, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



6+5

win

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize – P. Arestov:**

- 1.Ra2! [1.Kc5? Qg5+ 2.d5 Qe7+ 3.Kc6 Qxa3 4.Ra8+ Kb4 5.Rb8+ Ka5]  
1...Qxd3+ 2.Kd5! [Try: 2.Kc5? Qxd4+! 3.Kxd4 d1Q+ 4.Kc5 Qh5+ 5.Kd4 Qd1+ 6.Ke5 Qh5+  
2...Qxd4+! [2...d1=Q? 3.Sc4#] 3.Ke6! [the point; 3.Kxd4? d1=Q+ see try; 3.Kc6? Qf6+=]  
3...Qd5+! [3...Qb6+ 4.Rxb6 Kxb6 5.Nc4+ Kc5 6.Nxd2]  
4. Kxd5 d1=Q+ [Phenix]  
5. Ke6! [5.Kc5? Qh5+ 6.Kd4 Qd1+=; 5.Ke6? Qg4+=]  
5...Qa4+ [5...f1Q 6.Nc4#]  
6.Ke5! [6.Kd5? Qd7+=]  
6...f1=Q [6...Ka6 7.Rb6+ Ka7 8.Nb5+] 7.Ra8+ Qa6 8.Sc4#  
checkmate with pinned Qa4 and Qa6.

**V. Hergert**

3Pr, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



7+4

win

**M. Pisman**

2Pr, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



8+6

BTM

win

**M. Gromov &  
O. Pervakov**

1Pr, Garcia MT  
Alba Julia 2025



10+10

win

Solutions see p.9 and p.10

Solution:

**1....Rd7+! 2.Kc8!**

2.Kxd7? Qf5+ 3.Kc7 Ne6+

**2...Rc7+! 3.Kxc7 Qh7+**

3...Rh7+ 4.Ne7+ hxc2 5.Rxc2 Nd5+ 6.Kc8 Nxe7+ 7.Qxe7

Rxe7 8.Ra2+ Ra7 9.Nb6#

non-thematic mate.

**4.Ne7+ hxc2 5.Nb6+ Rxb6!**

5...Ka7 6.Nbc8+ Ka6/a8 7.Qxf4+-

**6.Qxh7 Nd5+! 7.Nxd5!** 7.Kd8? Rb8+=

**7...Rb7+ 8.Kc8! Rxh7** 8...Rb8+ 9.Kd7+-

**9.Rc4!**

Bishop's sacrifices on three squares: b2, c3, d4!

**9.Rc2? Bb2! 10.Rxb2 Rh8+ =;**

**9.Rc5? Bc3! 10.Rxc3 Rh8+ =;**

**9.Rc6? Ka7! 10.Nb4 Ka8! 11.Nd5 Ka7 positional draw**

**9...Bd4 10.Ra4+ 10.Rxd4? Rh8+ 11.Kc7 Rh7+ 12.Kc8 Rh8+=**

**10...Ba7 11.Nb6#! Model mate with pin of Bishop.**

**10...Ra7 11.Nc7#! Model mate with pin of Rook**

**9...g1Q 10.Ra4+ Qa7 11.Nb6#! Model mate with pin of Queen.**

**S. Osintsey**

3HM, Garcia MT

Alba Julia 2025



6+7

BTM

win

**V. Hergert**

3Pr, Garcia MT

Alba Julia 2025



7+4

win

Solution:

**1.Kb8!**

1.Rd2+? Ke7; 1.Rb7? Sb6+ 2.Rxb6 Qxg2+ 3.Kb8

Qxg3=; 1.Rf8+? Re8 2.Bf6+ Kd7! 3.Rb7+ Kc6 4.Rxe8

Sd6! 5.Re6 Qxg2 6.Kb8 Qd5 7.Rc7+ Kb6 8.Bd8 Kb5

9.Re1 Ka4! 10.Ra1+ (10.Rb1 Sb5=) 10... Kb3 11.Rb1+

Ka2 12.Rb6 Sb5 13.Rc8 (13.Rc2+ Kb3!) 13... Qd3!

14.Bc7 Qd7! 15.Ra6+ Kb3 16.Bf4 Qxg4=

**1...Qxg3** (2... Re8 3.Rd2+ Ke7 4.Kc7) **2.Sf4 Qxg4**

(2...Re8 3.Rb7)

**3.Rf8+ Re8 4.Bf6+** (4.Rd2+? Sd6) **4... Sf7 5.Rd2+**

**Qd7 6.Se6#**

Solution:

- 1... Se5+ 2.Kg2**  
 2.Ke2? Sg3+  
**2... Qg7+ 3.Qg4 Sxg4 4.Bd3+ Kh6**  
 4... Kg8 5.Ra8+  
**5.Ra6+ Sgf6+**  
 5... Shf6 6.Bxb5  
**6.Sg6+ Rg5+**  
 6... Kh7 7.Rxb5  
**7.Sg4+ Sxg4 8.Se5+ Shf6**  
 8... Sgf6+ 9.Sg4#  
**9.Rh1+ Bh5 10.Sxg4#**  
 Model mate with 3 selfpins and one selfblock

**M. Pasma**  
 2Pr, Garcia MT  
 Alba Julia 2025



8+6 BTM win

**M. Gromov &  
 O. Pervakov**  
 1Pr, Garcia MT  
 Alba Julia 2025



10+10 win

Solution:

- 1.Qb8+**  
 1.0-0? g5 2.Nxe6+ Qxe6 3.Qxa2 g4 4.Ba3 Qxd7=  
**1...Nd8 2.Bb2!**  
 Logical try-1: 2.Qxd8+? Bxd8 3.Ba3+ Qe7+! 4.Ne6+ Bxe6 5.0-0+ Bf7 6.Ng5 Bb6+ 7.d4 Bxd4+ 8.Rf2 Bxf2= [8.Kh2 Rh8+ 9.Kg3 Qxa3+! with check]  
**2...c3**  
 2...Qd6 3.Ng6+ Bxg6 4.Rf1+! Bf7 5.Ng5 Rh8 (5...Qxd7 6.Rxf7+ Ke8 7.Ba3! Bxa3 8.Rxd7 Kxd7 9.Qb5+) 6.Rxf7+ Kg8 7.Rxg7+ Kf8 8.Qxd6 Bxd6 9.Bf6 Nb4 10.Nh7+ Rxh7 11.Rxh7; 2...Bd6 3.Bxf6 Bxb8 4.Bxd8

**3.Qxd8+ Bxd8 4.Ba3+ Nb4**

4...Qe7+ 5.Ne6+ Bxe6 6.0-0+! Bf7 7.Ng5! (7.Nf4? Bb6+=) 7...Bb6+ 8.d4 Bxd4+ (8...Qxa3 9.Rxf7#) 9.Kh2 Rh8+ 10.Kg3 Be5+ 11.Kg4 Kg8 12.Bxe7 Bh5+ 13.Kf5+-.

**5.Bxb4+ Qe7+ 6.Ne6+**

6.Bxe7+? Kxe7 7.dxc3 Kxd7=.

**6...Bxe6 7.0-0+! Bf7 8.Nf4!**

Logical try-2: 8.Ng5? Bb6+! 9.d4 Bxd4+ 10.Kh2 Rh8+ 11.Kg3 Be5+ 12.Kg4 Qxb4+!+- with check.

**8...Bb6+ 9.d4 g5**

Main 9...Qxb4 10.Ng6#! Model mate with one pin; 9...Bxd4+ 10.Kh2 Rh8+ 11.Kg3 Kg8 12.Bxe7 Bb6 13.dxc3

**10.Ne6#** Model mate with two pins. Change solution and try — Nf4/Ng5