

SI LOS NÚMEROS CANTARAN...

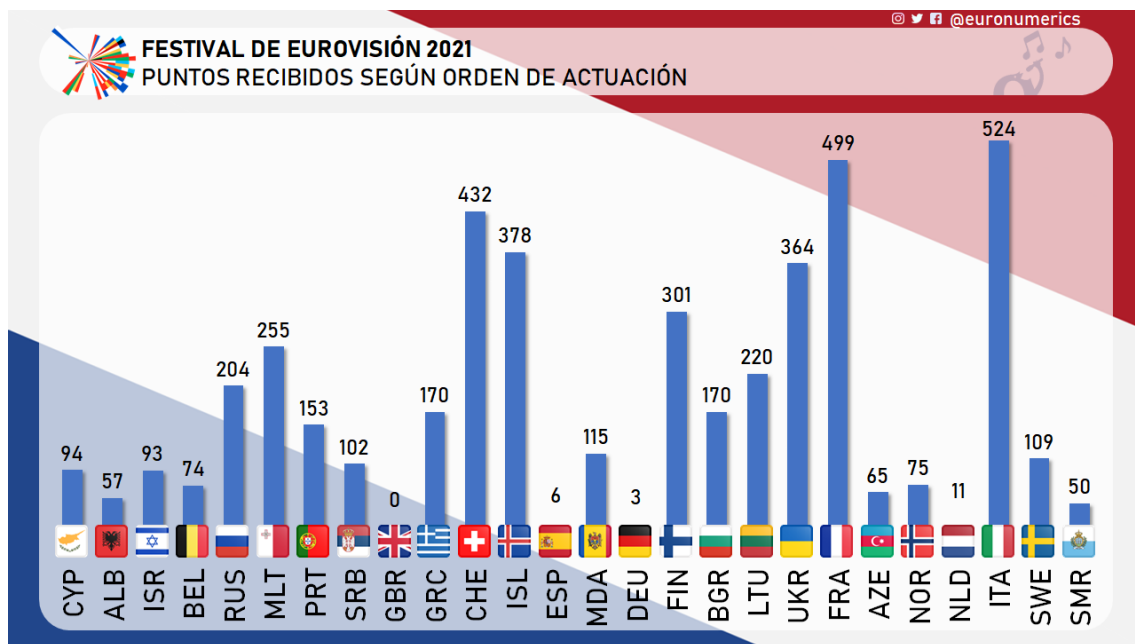
Zitti e zero punti

By Jesús Manuel Rodrigo Céspedes (@Euronumerics)

We review the numerical keys in this third Italian victory. In the Battle Royale for Rotterdam 2021 there could only be one left, and that high competition leaves us 4 + 1 zeros. They have probably been the most exciting votings in a long time and all this has responded to a series of factors that we describe here.

ONCE UPON A TIME, AN ORDER TO PERFORM

Since its publication, the voting order has been, as never before, on everyone's lips. An order that did not satisfy almost anyone and that in this blog we already demonstrated how it affected in the case of televoting. A quick glance at the points received by acting position reveals 3 islands of high voting.



The most extensive of them goes from Finland to France. All of them added more than 170 points and were top10 (Bulgaria tied on points with Greece). In these five positions were the two winners of the televoting in the semifinals (Ukraine and Finland) and the best valued by the jury in the semifinals that had fallen in the second semifinal, Bulgaria; in addition to France, one of the favourites among the bets. Since 2013 and the implementation of the order by the organizers, only once were five songs in a row that ended up entering the top 10, in 2013 itself (Azerbaijan, Greece, Ukraine, Italy and Norway). None of them was the winner.

After them, a group of three songs, including Azerbaijan and Norway, who had done enough to qualify. Then Italy, who had no competition whatsoever with her before and after songs, which

may have helped her stand out in some way. It also started from the symbolic 24 position, the one with the best averages since 2013.

The organization even brought together Switzerland and Iceland in 11th and 12th places, when both obtained quite similar positions in televoting and jury in their respective semifinals.

In the next scoreboard you can see the average positions in order. Italy was awarded the position with the best average. Discounting the circumstantial positions to Spain and the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland and Iceland received the following with the best history. In this sense, the organization nailed the top4.

@eurovisionnumerics

EUROVISION 2021 : FINAL (Average rank by running order 2013-2019)

#24		Italy	8,00	#21		Azerbaijan	13,57
#13		Spain	9,29	#15		Germany	13,86
#20		France	9,57	#5		Russia	14,29
#11		Switzerland	9,71	#3		Israel	14,71
#9		U. Kingdom	10,00	#10		Greece	15,14
#12		Iceland	10,71	#26		San Marino	15,14
#25		Sweden	11,14	#1		Cyprus	15,29
#22		Norway	12,14	#19		Ukraine	15,71
#6		Malta	12,43	#4		Belgium	16,57
#18		Lithuania	12,43	#14		Moldova	17,71
#23		Netherlands	12,43	#16		Finland	18,43
#8		Serbia	12,86	#17		Bulgaria	18,57
#7		Portugal	13,29	#2		Albania	21,43

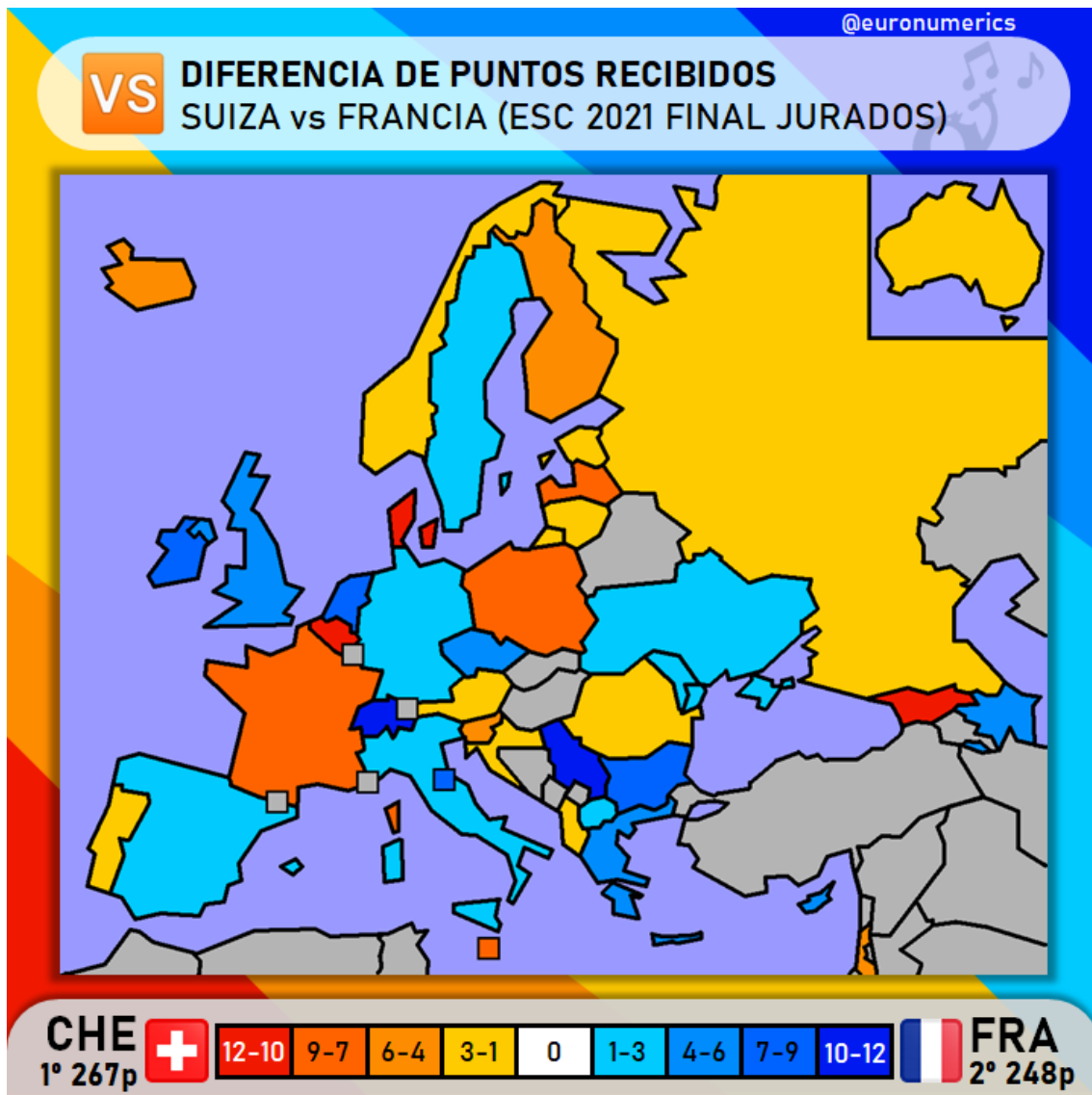
EUROVISION BATTLE ROYAL

The jury's votes started fairly evenly, and the voting order gave us an intense fight between France and Switzerland, which the latter managed to win. There were no big surprises with the jury this year like Austria in 2018 or North Macedonia in 2019. The highlight would be the seventh place from Portugal.

Eclipsed by this Francophone battle, we did not realize that Malta and Italy had also added another 200 points. In our last blog about musical genres (prepared together with Juanfra @Emursiya) we already anticipated that you found very similar to France and Switzerland. It was also the same with Italy and Finland, but the Alpine country did know how to mark distances with the Nordic one.

Here in Spain it is very reminiscent of the general elections. When a political trend splits, it can result in none of its political parties winning, although they can do so if they agree. However, in Eurovision it is not possible to agree (and that nobody gives them ideas). France and Switzerland could have experienced something similar. If only one of them had been presented, surely his score would have been higher. Of course, the same could have happened between Italy and Finland. Without Finland involved, the Italian victory could have been stratospheric.

In short, the final difference between Italy and France, 25 points, gives a lot to think about. If the jury had opted more for France than for Switzerland, would it have been enough? Observing the points on maps, it seems that the key was in the countries of the North, more specifically the Baltic area. In them France did not manage to take as many as Switzerland did, who won the game in all except Sweden and by the minimum (see the following graph, where the colour of each country represents the difference in points they gave to France and Switzerland).



However, this is already going a bit into hypotheses and speculations. We have had a stage of maximum competition and Italy has managed to create a unique performance that has been able to serve to make the difference that a victory in Eurovision gives you.

THE 4 + 1 ZEROES OF 2021

The televoting thing is something that I never would have thought could happen. We already pointed out in the last blog that the points that Spain could receive from the televoting would be worth their weight in gold. But from there to four countries receiving zero, it is something that did not fit in the head.

In Eurovision we know that there are certain points that are already given, as some nations remind us every year. However, this edition had a peculiarity: countries that tend to sink with us were going to give the note like never before, including France and Switzerland, which were also joined by Finland and Portugal.

That is, to the normal competition that already existed, it has been added or another one and that has prevented those crumbs that until now freed us from zero points, have not been able to fall on us. Portugal, for example, is not a regular voter of Switzerland or Finland, but their quality this year has led them to be ahead of Spain and, consequently, they have left us out of our best asset (not counting the effect that the level of Spanish performance had in itself).

The best example that these alms have not appeared this year has been Belgium. Where did your three televote points come from? Well, they were neither from the Netherlands, nor from France, nor from Germany, nor from any nearby country: from Lithuania and Ukraine. That is to say, this year, to score, you had to do it like never before and conquer further.

As long as we do not have the solidity of countries, like for example, Serbia, which made a full of twelve in its ex-Yugoslav neighbours and the Alpine duo, our televoting will not have mercy on us.

ITALY, THIS YEAR YES

Before this Battle Royal, Italy knew how to make their place, finishing the job with an impeccable performance, focused on them and their rock. They did not need anything accessory to conquer more than 300 televoting points and be at least top9 in all countries (the organizer, the Netherlands, was their lowest contributor with 2 points).

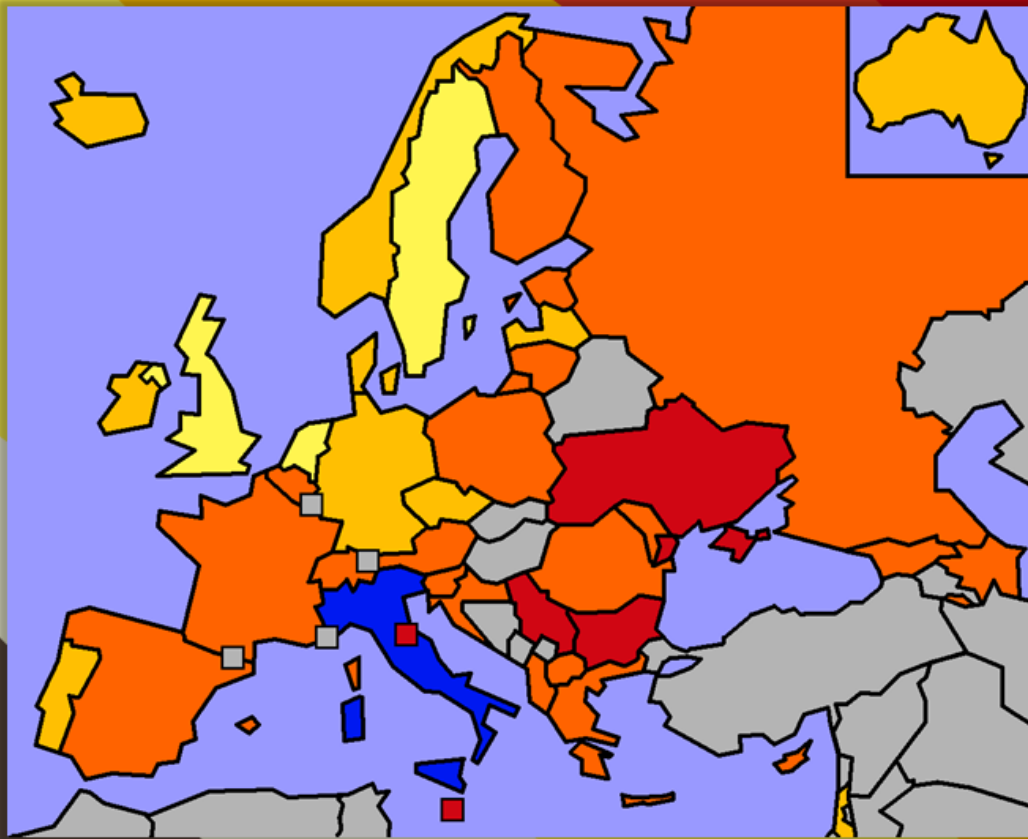
The scheme of this victory is very reminiscent of that of 2018 with Netta. A jury divided between a couple of songs that allow the favourite of the televoting, who always concentrates more points, make a difference.

They add their third victory and in the end they get that triumph that they have been pursuing so much since their return: two silver in 2011 and 2019, a bronze in 2015 and the doubt of what would have happened to Diodato.

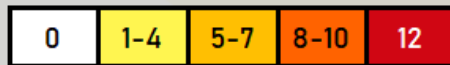
In the following map you can see the devastation of Italy in the televoting, which suffered in the north western quadrant. As for the juries, the support was more distributed, and it was the westernmost area that did not score the rock group.



MAPA DE CALOR DE ITALIA 2021 (TELEVOTO) MÅNESKIN "ZITTI E BUONI"

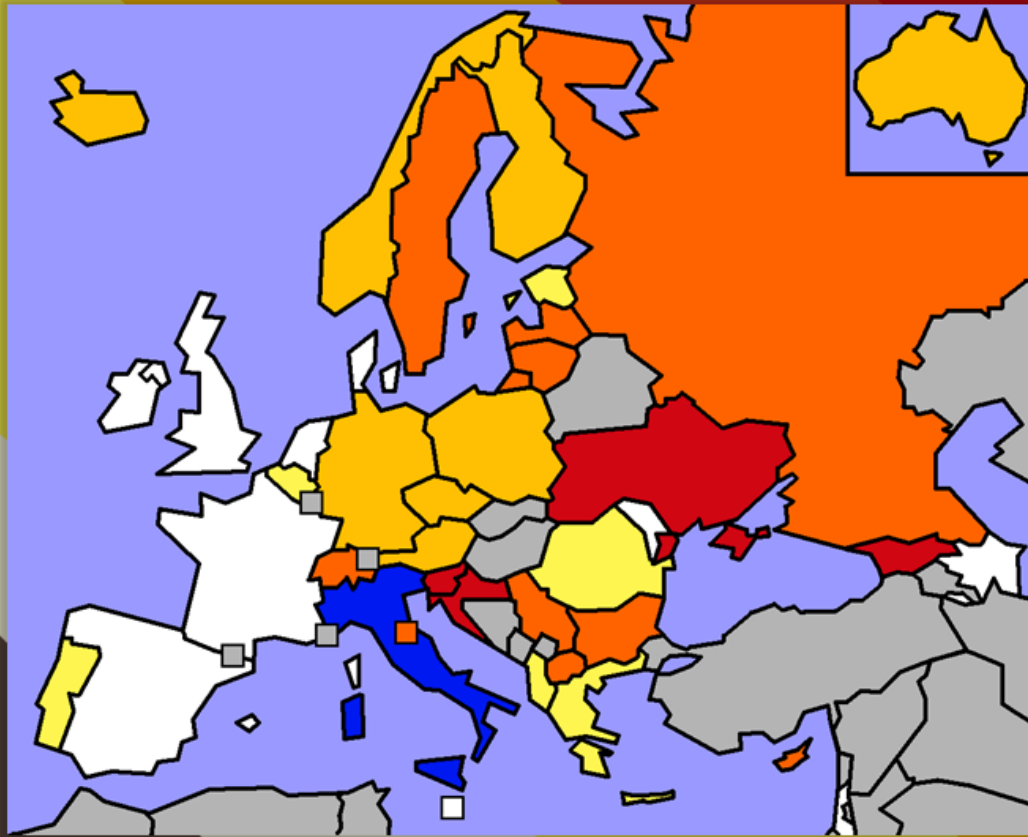


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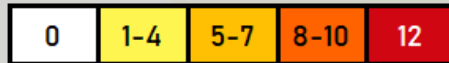




MAPA DE CALOR DE ITALIA 2021 (JURADO) MÅNESKIN "ZITTI E BUONI"



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SPAIN, EXCUSES DO NOT SERVE

The United Kingdom will go down in history for its double zero, but neither Spain nor Germany can be exempt from this record. The points they received are explained more by the number of countries that participated (the more countries, the more likely that you will like one of them) than because they made their own merits.

In addition, the blow for Spain is double or even triple, and if you hurry me, quadruple. To these 6 points we have to add the success achieved by two countries that have also had their very bad times, France and Switzerland. In addition, the Swiss country is already coming from another fourth place and this year it shows that it can win such a competitive jury. France, which had the worst televoting records of the entire final, was third in the televoting and second in the jury. In other words, all the countries around us have managed to smash their glass ceilings. It costs, it is difficult, it depends on the competition, but it is achieved. And if it is not this year, the next; but whoever follows it gets it and it is the best lesson these countries are leaving.

The other suit that Spain takes is that of Portugal. It seemed that Portugal could not go to a final and stay a bit in the middle of the table. Well, this year the jury and the televoting have shown that Portugal can also aspire to middle positions with a particular personal stamp. That is to say, lacking flagrant support from our neighbouring countries is not an excuse for Spain not to be able to make a worthy middle position without having to present the definitive song.

Spain has run out of excuses. It can look good, it can be devastated and it can be in the middle of the table. But perhaps this is what you want to avoid.

So far this numerical chronicle of Eurovision 2021. Throughout the next season we will continue to analyze the numbers that this festival leaves us with our particular analyzes and infographics that you can also follow on our social networks. Congratulations Italy!

PD: Do you see how you had to gamble with *Memoria*? : P