

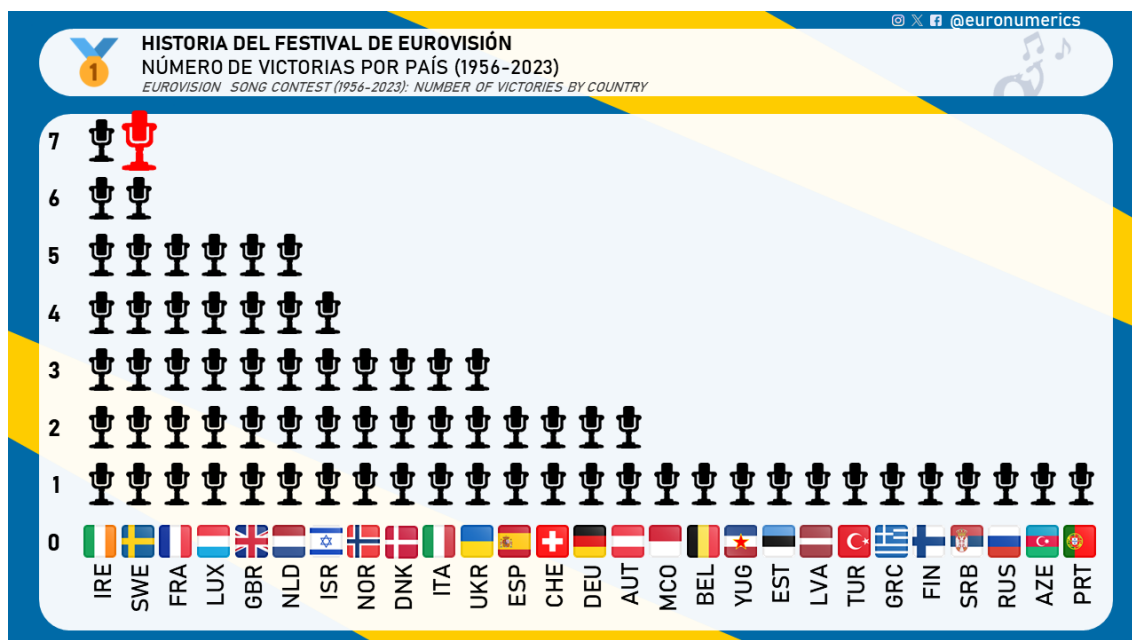
Malmö 2024: Numbers *de postal*

Written by Jesús Manuel Rodrigo Céspedes (@Euronumerics) 26/04/2024

Eurovision 2024 is going to be a reality very soon. We do our classic previous analysis with our numerical focus: an edition full of songs with a lot of energy and a lot of polarity that will surely condition the result. What will be the surprises this year?

STREAK IN DANGER OF RIM TIM TAGI DIM

Let's start by reviewing the history of victories by country. Neither Ireland nor Sweden seem *a priori* favorites to take the eighth victory, however, it seems that the Netherlands or France could win their sixth trophy and get closer to the big winners. Spain is tied on 2 wins with the three major Germanic countries, although Switzerland could go up a notch this year by lifting the trophy.



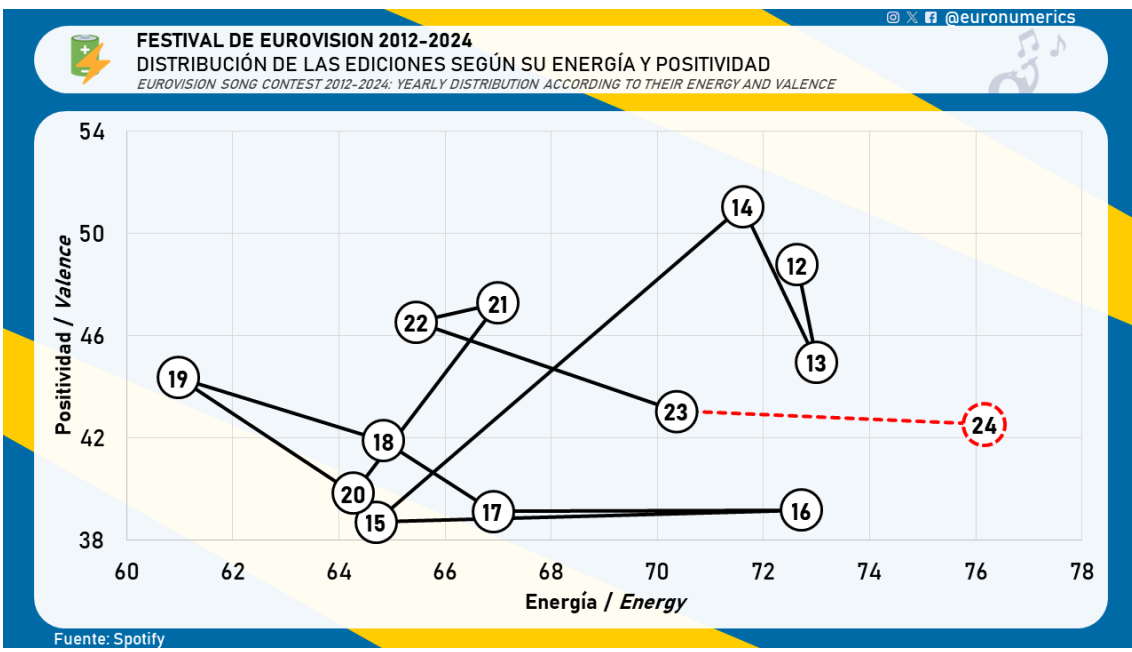
In this edition the vast majority of favorites are countries that already know what it is to win at the Festival. Only Croatia seems to have the chance to make a debut, although it already won as part of Yugoslavia in 1989. How have the first victories evolved? We see it in the following graph, which represents the history of winners. Each country's first victories have been highlighted and replays turned off.



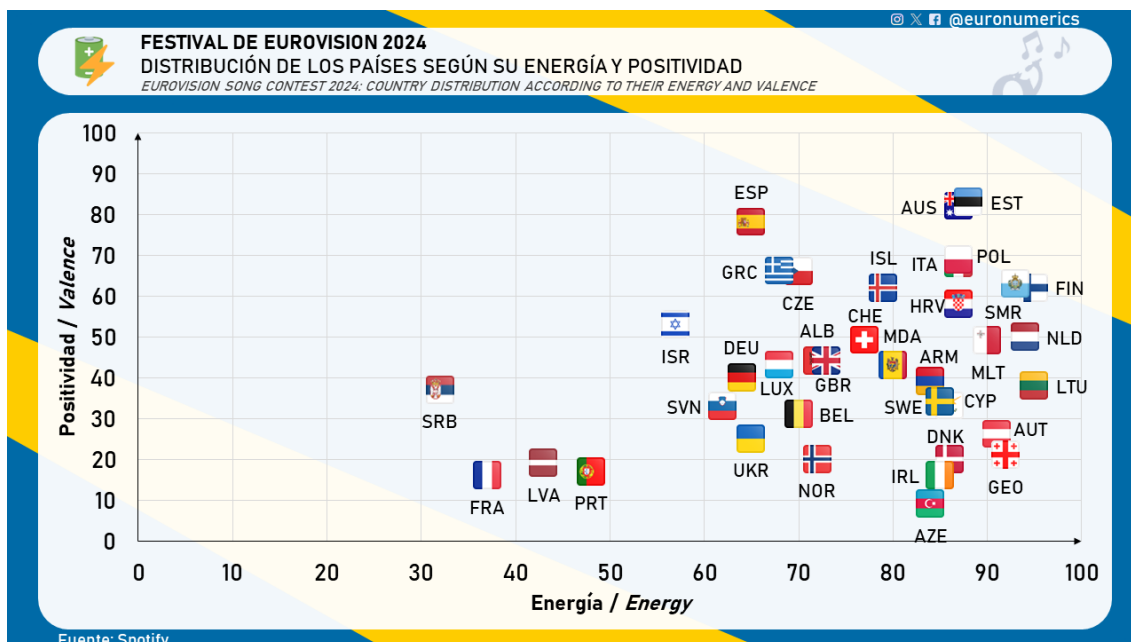
It highlights that in the 90s everything was victories for repeating countries. However, it was the beginning of the 21st century and with it a streak of 8 consecutive victories by countries that won for the first time (2001-2008). After that, only two more countries have been released, Azerbaijan and Portugal. We currently have 5 years of repeat winners, the same as in the last period from 2012 to 2016. If a new country does not win this year it will be the second longest streak in history after that of the 90s. Will the streak be broken in Malmö?

CHE NOIA? FULL OF ENERGY!

We have been announcing it on social networks, this year we are facing the most energetic edition in recent times. In the following image we can see the evolution of the energy and positivity of the songs from each recent edition of the festival (data from Spotify).



It is the edition with the most energy and maintains the trend of last year. In terms of positivity, it remains at a medium level although it has been declining for three years. That is to say, we have much more powerful songs but not necessarily more optimistic. And how can this impact the festival? Below you have the distribution of this year's countries. Energy is represented on the horizontal axis and valence on the vertical axis.



In the blog The juries prefer slow ones we pointed out that all the winners of the televoting have had more than 70% energy. This year 26 countries overcome this barrier. In fact, only 5 countries have an energy lower than 60. Regarding positivity, this variable is more distributed and ranges from 83 in Estonia to 9 in Azerbaijan. Spain, for its part, stands out among the most positives.

Given the high number of busy songs, we may see surprising results this year. The televote will qualify a good part of these songs for the final and all of them will concentrate the televote in the final. It could be a very complicated year for the Big5, with the memory of the 4 zeros of the televoting in Rotterdam 2021 very present. There are going to be a battle royal for the televoting points. The small number of ballads can bring us very different results from those of televoting, but if the audience is dispersed among so many favorites, the jury can decide the winner again like last year.

In short, I think they may be unprecedented results and we will have to pay attention to how the televoting reacts to so much energy on the Malmö stage.

NOTE

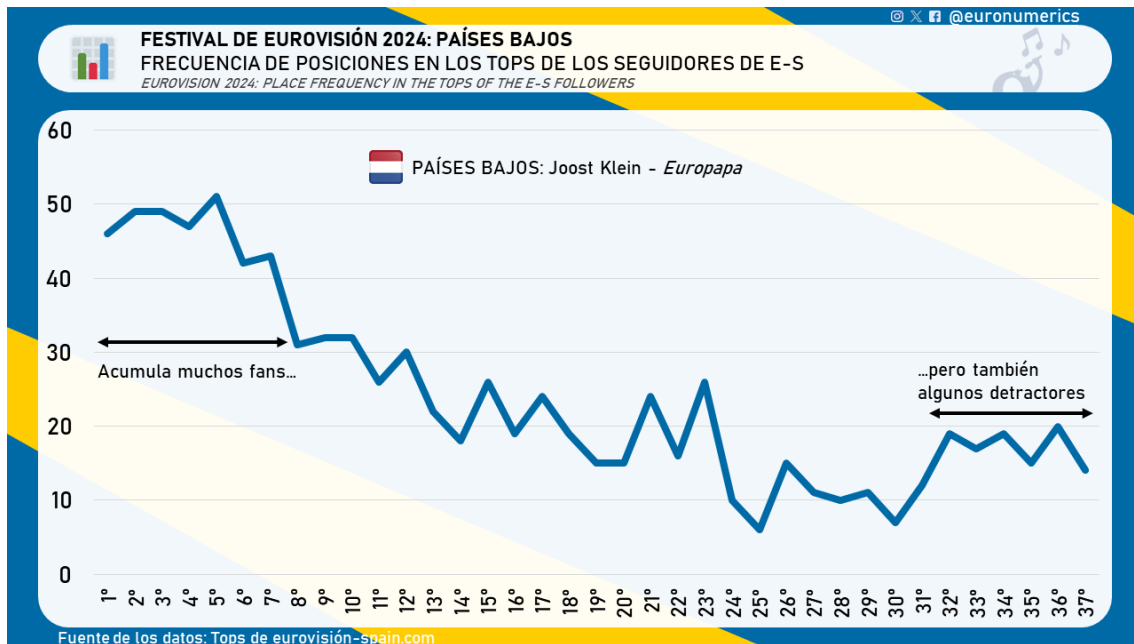
As long as AI allows it, it will be impossible to predict the results of Eurovision. I think we are facing a very particular year, with a very different musicality that could bring us a very close televote and leave everything in the hands of the jury.

That said, in 2022 Ukraine swept televoting with 439 points, 95% of the available points. In the juries she placed 4th and received 192 points. In reality, only 27 points from the experts would have been enough for him to win the contest (without taking into account how those points would have been distributed in the other countries). That year, finishing with 27 points meant being 20th in the juries. What I'm saying is that the result of the juries can be totally irrelevant if the televoting is carried out by one country.

YOUR TOPS TALK: THE CODE IS SO BROKEN

We turn to your classifications made on the web to learn more about your opinions. How have you classified the countries in this edition?

After filtering your tops, we have located 4 countries that have not been top1 for anyone: Australia, Moldova, Iceland and Denmark. Of them, Moldova has not been top4 for any of us. On the other hand, all countries have occupied the last position in at least one top. All except Italy.



Of these data there is one that is the standard deviation and that helps us to see which countries are more polarized. Comparing to 2023, there is a big jump in polarization: the most polarized song of 2023 would only be the seventh in Malmö. The countries that polarize us the most, removing the obvious, are Ireland, Estonia, Greece, Norway and, the most, the Netherlands (see graph above). This is not usually a bad indicator of dark horses. Will any of them ring the bell in the votes?

We have also compiled your top 3 to see which are the most frequent, we see it in the following table. The top3 combinations and the number of times they have been repeated are indicated.

@eurovision @eurovision @eurovision

FESTIVAL DE EUROVISIÓN 2024
COMBINACIONES DE TOP3 MÁS FRECUENTES, SEGÚN LOS SEGUIDORES DE E-S
EUROVISION 2024: MOST FREQUENT TOP3 COMBINATIONS, ACCORDING TO THE E-S FOLLOWERS

FRECUENCIA	PRIMERO	SEGUNDO	TERCERO
9 veces	Suiza	Croacia	Italia
8 veces	Suiza	Italia	Países Bajos
6 veces	Suiza	Italia	Francia
5 veces	Grecia	Italia	Suiza
	Grecia	Italia	España

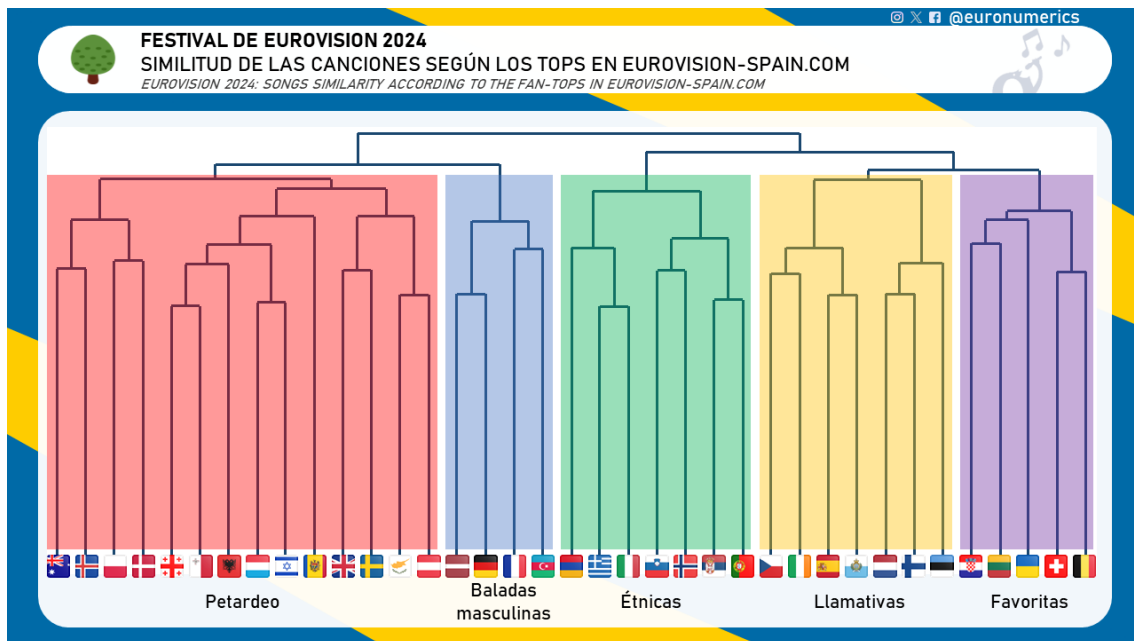
Fuente de los datos: [Tops de eurovisión-spain.com](https://www.tops-de-eurovision-spain.com)

Switzerland-Croatia-Italy, in that order, are the most common top. Switzerland heads the first 3 options, while the next two are led by Greece (curiously without appearing in the first). Italy is the only country that appears in all the most popular combinations, which reinforces the idea of a consensus candidate (something we already attributed to Nebulossa at the last BenidormFest). Croatia, one of the big favorites, only appears in one combination.

In total, in these 5 most frequent combinations we find up to 7 different countries. These combinations add up to just 33 repetitions, which does not reach 4% of the total (in 2021 they were 6%). That is to say, there is no clear top3 and everything is very distributed.

RAVERS-FIGHTERS-LOOPERS, FORMATION

Allow me one last analysis: the classification by similarities of the songs using a dendrogram. This graph allows us to know how we group the songs according to how similar they seem to us, in an orderly and hierarchical way, following the lines of the graph. Furthermore, on this occasion we have distinguished the groups of songs by color to highlight the groups.



The first group of songs, on the left in red, contains the most pop-dancing songs of the edition: Malta, Georgia, Austria... For this level it is the largest conglomerate, around a third of the Festival, which shows the increase in energy of this edition. Then we have the contrast in blue: a group of male ballads with France or Latvia.

Then we have another large block that is divided into the next three. The green that houses a group of songs, let's say, ethnic/folklore or that include their national language (Greece, Portugal, Slovenia...). Next, in yellow are very striking songs, whether due to their music, artists or genre (Estonia, Ireland or San Marino). Finally, a group of very favorite songs, most of them male.

Note that the first songs to join are Greece with Italy and Georgia with Malta, while the last to join a group are Moldova and Ukraine (and also in groups with which they do not make much sense, which speaks of their differentiated style). Spain, for its part, joins San Marino first #keepCalmandspeakSpanish.

Well, here are the numbers for this year 2024, although we will continue publishing data and analysis through social networks. Don't forget to leave us your comments! May we have the happiest and fairest Eurovision we can. Peace and a lot of zorrismo.