





FIRST EUROVISION PERFORMANCE

• The first contest took place on 24 May 1956, where seven nations participated. As the Contest progressed, the rules grew increasingly complex and participation levels rose to pass forty nations at the end of the 20th century.



FREEDOM OF LANGUAGE

• In the beginning, it was obvious for the participants that they should sing in their country's national language.

However, as the Swedish entry in 1965, "Absent Friend" was sung in English, the EBU set very strict rules on the language in which the songs could be performed.

Those "freedom of language" rules would be soon reversed in 1977.





