

WTA Website: [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wta  
Tournament Website: <https://internazionaliibnlditalia.com/en/home>  
WTA Communications: Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com))

## DOUBLES FINAL – SUNDAY, MAY 17

**[7] CRISTINA BUCSA (ESP #17) / NICOLE MELICHAR-MARTINEZ (USA #16)**  
**vs.**  
**MIRRA ANDREEVA (#23) / DIANA SHNAIDER (#21)**

*First meeting between the two pairs*

### **Bucsa/Melichar-Martinez Quick Hits**

**Team W-L in doubles: 18-8**

- Bucsa and Melichar-Martinez are into their second WTA Tour-level final as a pairing; in their previous final, they won the 2025 Monterrey title (d. Guo/Panova in F)
- Contesting in just their second clay court event as a pair after R16 run at 2026 Madrid (l. Tjen/Sutjiadi)
- Competing in their 7<sup>th</sup> tournament of the season as a pair; prior to 2026 Rome, their best result together so far this season was SF finish at Indian Wells (l. Danilina/Krunic)
- Bucsa and Melichar-Martinez paired up for the first time on Tour at 2025 Washington DC (fell in the opening round to Townsend/Zhang)
- Registered their first win on tour as a team at 2025 Monterrey with a win over Bouzas Maneiro/Cocciaretto; they went on to win the title on just their second tournament appearance as a pair

### ***Bucsa:***

- Currently ranked No.17 in doubles; reached career-high doubles ranking of No.16 in March 2026
- This is her 13th career Tour-level doubles final (8-4 record in doubles finals) – most recent was title run at Merida (w/Jiang); also winning the singles title that week
- Contesting her 10th doubles event of 2026; as well as title run at Merida (w/Jiang), she reached the final at Brisbane (w/Perez, l. Hsieh/Ostapenko). Also made Indian Wells semifinals (w/Melichar-Martinez) and quarterfinals at Doha (w/Melichar-Martinez) and Abu Dhabi (w/Zhang)
- Owns 8 WTA career doubles titles, four of those coming on clay at 2025 Bogota (w/Sorribes Tormo), 2024 Strasbourg (w/Niculsecu), 2024 Madrid (w/Sorribes Tormo) and 2024 Bogota (w/Rakhimova)
- Won her first career WTA singles title earlier this season at Merida (d. Frech in F)

### ***Melichar-Martinez:***

- Currently ranked No.16 in doubles; reached career-high doubles ranking of No.6 in July 2023
- This is her 47th career Tour-level doubles final (19-27 record in doubles finals) – most recent was title run at 2026 Stuttgart (w/Samsonova)
- Contesting her 10th doubles event of 2026; as well as title run at Stuttgart (w/Samsonova), she reached the semifinals at Indian Wells (w/Bucsa), and quarterfinals at Charleston (w/Panova) and Doha (w/Bucsa)
- Owns 19 WTA career doubles titles, including one this year on clay at Stuttgart (w/Samsonova)
- Owns one Grand Slam mixed doubles title at 2018 Wimbledon (w/Peya)

### **Andreeva/Shnaider Quick Hits**

#### **Team W-L in doubles: 39-17**

- Andreeva and Shnaider are into their third WTA 1000 final; including back-to-back WTA 1000 finals after a Runner-Up finish at Madrid earlier this month (l. Siniakova/Townsend in F). They also won the 2025 Miami title (d. Bucsa/Kato in F)
- They are 2-2 as a team in WTA Tour doubles finals; along with 2025 Miami, they also teamed up to win 2025 Brisbane (d. Hon/Kalinskaya in F)
- Prior to 2026 Madrid, their only team loss in a Tour-level doubles final was to Errani/Paolini in the 2024 Paris Olympics gold-medal final – they finished that event as Olympic silver medalists in women's doubles
- Andreeva and Shnaider paired up for the first time on Tour at 2024 Beijing (reached QF, l. Kenin/Mattek-Sands)
- They reached two Grand Slam doubles SFs in 2025 at Australian Open (l. eventual champions and today's opponents Siniakova/Townsend) and Roland Garros (l. eventual champions Errani/Paolini)
- 2026 Madrid was their first doubles event as a duo since they went winless in group-stage play at the 2025 WTA Finals

### ***Andreeva:***

- Currently ranked No.23 in doubles; reached career-high doubles ranking of No.12 in September 2025
- This is her 5th career Tour-level doubles final (2-2 record in doubles finals) – all of them have come alongside Shnaider
- Contesting her 5th doubles event of 2026; as well as 2026 Madrid, she also played at Brisbane (QF w/Alexandrova; l. Danilina/Krunic), Indian Wells (QF w/Mboko; l. eventual R-Up Danilina/Krunic) and Miami (R16 w/Mboko; l. Hunter/Pegula)
- Reached the quarterfinals in singles this week (l. Gauff)
- Currently ranked No.7 in singles; she has won 5 WTA singles titles including two this year (Adelaide and Linz)



# MATCH NOTES

## Internazionali BNL d'Italia ROME, ITALY



MAY 5-17, 2026 | WTA 1000 | €7,228,080

---


### ***Shnaider:***

- Currently ranked No.21 in doubles; reached career-high doubles ranking of No.8 in June 2025
- This is her 6th career Tour-level doubles final (2-3 record in doubles finals); along with her 2 titles and 2 R-Up runs paired with Andreeva, she was also 2025 London/Queen's Club R-Up w/Danilina (I. Muhammad/Schuurs in F)
- Contesting her 7th doubles event of 2026; prior Madrid and Rome, her best doubles results this year were R16 at Doha and Dubai (both w/Panova)
- Currently ranked No.20 in singles; she has won 5 career WTA singles titles and reached a career-high singles ranking of No.11 in May 2025

**[7] CRISTINA BUCSA (ESP) / NICOLE MELICHAR-MARTINEZ (USA)**

CRISTINA  
BUCSA

☆ FAVORITE



🔊 🇪🇸 ESP · 28 yrs · 5' 9" (1.76m)

🔍 👤

YTD 2026
CAREER

Current Doubles Rank  
17

Doubles Titles  
1

Won / Lost  
16 / 8

Prize Money  
\$629,734

**Career:**

Highest Doubles Rank  
16  
16 Mar 26

Doubles Titles  
8

Won / Lost  
238 / 159

Prize Money  
\$4,735,047

**BIOGRAPHY**

- Currently coached by Ion Bucsa (father)
- Trains and lives in Cantabria, Spain
- Hobbies include reading books and enjoying walks through nature
- Idolizes Serena Williams and Kim Clijsters
- Favorite surface is grass

PLAYS	CAREER HIGH	HEIGHT
<b>Right-Handed</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5' 9" (1.76m)</b>
BIRTHDAY	BIRTHPLACE	
<b>January 1, 1998</b>	<b>Chisinau, Moldova</b>	

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### SINGLES

Winner (1): 2026 - Merida  
 Finalist (1): 2025 - Hong Kong

### DOUBLES

Winner (8): 2026 - Merida (w/Jiang)  
 2025 - Monterrey (w/Melichar-Martinez), Bogota (w/Sorribes Tormo)  
 2024 - Madrid (w/Sorribes Tormo), Cleveland (w/Xu), Strasbourg (w/Niculescu),  
 Bogota (w/Rakhimova)  
 2023 - Lyon (w/Schoofs)

Finalist (4): 2026 - Brisbane (w/Perez)  
 2025 - Miami (w/Kato) 2024 - Osaka (w/Niculescu)  
 2022 - Portoroz (w/Mihalikova)

NICOLE  
MELICHAR-MARTINEZ

☆ FAVORITE

🇺🇸
USA · 32 yrs · 5' 11" (1.81m)

YTD 2026
CAREER

Current Doubles Rank

16

Doubles Titles

1

Won / Lost

14 / 8

Prize Money

\$171,271

### Career:

Highest Doubles Rank

6

03 Jul 23

Doubles Titles

19

Won / Lost

473 / 365

Prize Money

\$3,755,908

## BIOGRAPHY

- Coached by husband Carlos Martinez
- Parents are Milan and Helena who work in real estate and her sister, Jane, is a nurse practitioner in pediatrics
- Was always around tennis from a young age, inspired to start playing by her sister who was five years older
- All of her family members play tennis recreationally but not a higher level
- Describes her playing style as aggressive with strengths in her serve and forehand
- Growing up, tennis idol was Kim Clijsters
- Favorite surface is grass and favorite tournament is Wimbledon

PLAYS	CAREER HIGH	HEIGHT
<b>Right-Handed</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>5' 11" (1.81m)</b>
BIRTHDAY	BIRTHPLACE	
<b>July 29, 1993</b>	<b>Brno, Czech Republic</b>	



**Carlos Martinez**

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### DOUBLES

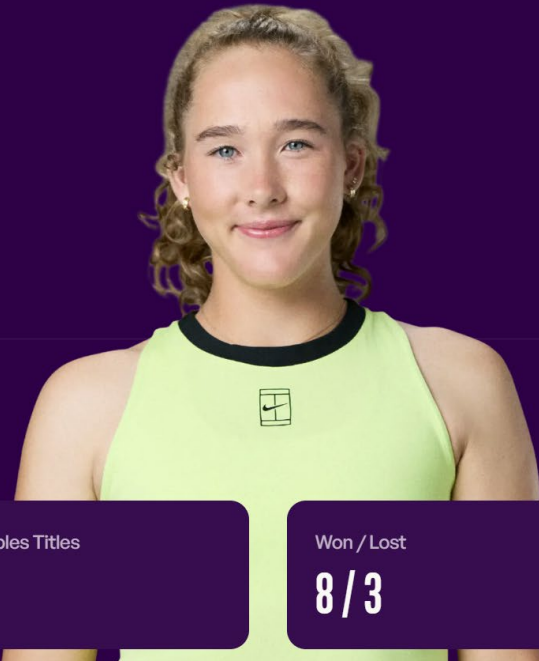
Winner (19): 2026 - Stuttgart (w/Samsonova)  
 2025 - Ningbo (w/Samsonova), Guadalajara 500 (w/Khromacheva), Monterrey (w/Bucsa)  
 2024 - Bad Homburg, San Diego (both w/Perez), Seoul (w/Samsonova)  
 2022 - Strasbourg (w/Saville), Cleveland (w/Perez)  
 2021 - Doha, Charleston (both w/Schuurs)  
 2020 - Adelaide (w/Y. Xu), Strasbourg (w/Schuurs)  
 2019 - Brisbane, San Jose, Zhengzhou (all w/Peschke)  
 2018 - Prague, Tianjin (both w/Peschke)  
 2017 - Nurnberg (w/A. Smith)

Finalist (27): 2025 - 's-Hertogenbosch (w/Samsonova), Strasbourg (w/H. Guo)  
 2024 - Ningbo, Linz, Dubai (all w/Perez)  
 2023 - WTA Finals, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Eastbourne, Austin (all w/Perez), Stuttgart (w/Olmos)  
 2022 - Toronto, Cincinnati, Tokyo (all w/Perez), Tallinn (w/Siegemund)  
 2021 - Berlin, Eastbourne (both w/Schuurs)  
 2020 - New York [Western & Southern Open], US Open (both w/Y. Xu)  
 2019 - Prague (w/Peschke), Nurnberg (w/Fichman)  
 2018 - Wimbledon, Stuttgart (both w/Peschke)  
 2017 - Istanbul (w/Mertens), Kuala Lumpur (w/Ninomiya), Moscow (w/A. Smith)  
 2015 - Tianjin (w/Jurak)

MIRRA ANDREEVA / DIANA SHNAIDER

MIRRA  
ANDREEVA

☆ FAVORITE



YTD 2026
CAREER

🔍
🗨️

Current Doubles Rank  
23

Doubles Titles  
0

Won / Lost  
8 / 3

Prize Money  
\$1,782,849

Career:

Highest Doubles Rank  
12  
15 Sep 25

Doubles Titles  
2 


Won / Lost  
53 / 34

Prize Money  
\$9,327,981

BIOGRAPHY

- Coached by Conchita Martinez
- Sister Erika is also a professional player
- Originally from Krasnoyarsk and began playing aged six, but moved to Sochi and then Cannes, France, with sister to set up training base with coaches Jean-Rene Lisnard and Jean-Christophe Faurel
- Favorite surface is clay
- Represented by IMG

PLAYS	CAREER HIGH	HEIGHT
<b>Right-Handed</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5' 9" (1.75m)</b>
BIRTHDAY	BIRTHPLACE	
<b>April 29, 2007</b>	<b>Krasnoyarsk, Siberia</b>	



**Conchita Martínez**



# MATCH NOTES

Internazionali BNL d'Italia  
ROME, ITALY  
MAY 5-17, 2026 | WTA 1000 | €7,228,080



## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### SINGLES

Winner (5): 2026 - Linz, Adelaide  
2025 - Indian Wells, Dubai  
2024 - Iasi

Finalist (2): 2026 - Madrid  
2024 - Ningbo

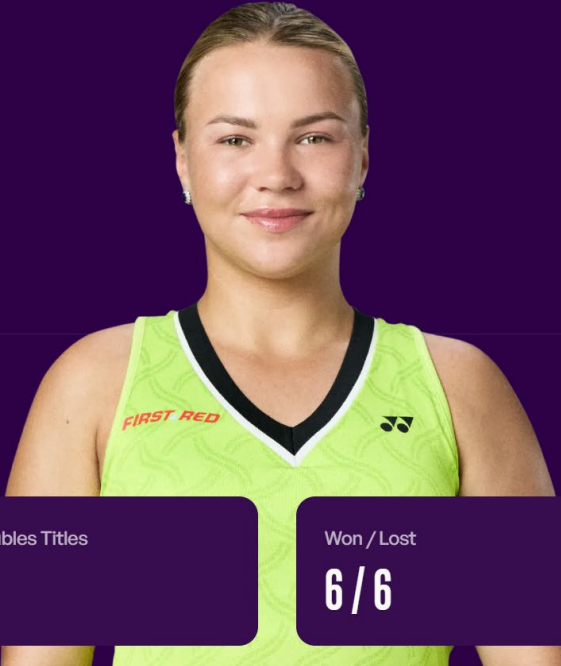
### DOUBLES

Winner (2): 2025 - Miami, Brisbane (both w/Shnaider)

Finalist (2): 2026 - Madrid (w/Shnaider)  
2024 - Olympics (w/Shnaider)

DIANA  
SHNAIDER

☆ FAVORITE



YTD 2026

CAREER

🔍 👤

Current Doubles Rank  
21

Doubles Titles  
0

Won / Lost  
6 / 6

Prize Money  
\$715,197

**Career:**

Highest Doubles Rank  
8  
16 Jun 25


Doubles Titles  
2 🏆

Won / Lost  
88 / 57

Prize Money  
\$4,937,349

**BIOGRAPHY**

- Coached by Sascha Bajin
- Started playing tennis in Tolyatti, 40 kilometers from her home and parents in Zhigulevsk
- Studied at North Carolina State where she played college tennis during the 2022-23 season before pursuing her professional tennis career
- Favorite movie is Never Back Down and favorite food is Asian

PLAYS <b>Left-Handed</b>	CAREER HIGH <b>11</b>	HEIGHT <b>5' 6" (1.70m)</b>
BIRTHDAY <b>April 2, 2004</b>	BIRTHPLACE <b>Zhigulevsk, Russia</b>	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p><b>Sascha Bajin</b></p> </div> </div>		



# MATCH NOTES

Internazionali BNL d'Italia  
ROME, ITALY  
MAY 5-17, 2026 | WTA 1000 | €7,228,080



## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### SINGLES

Winner (5): 2025 - Monterrey

2024 - Hong Kong, Budapest, Bad Homburg, Hua Hin

Finalist (1): 2023 - Ningbo

### DOUBLES

Winner (2): 2025 - Miami, Brisbane (both w/M. Andreeva)

Finalist (3): 2026 - Madrid (w/M.Andreeva)

2025 - Queen's, London (w/Danilina)

2024 - Olympics (w/M.Andreeva)