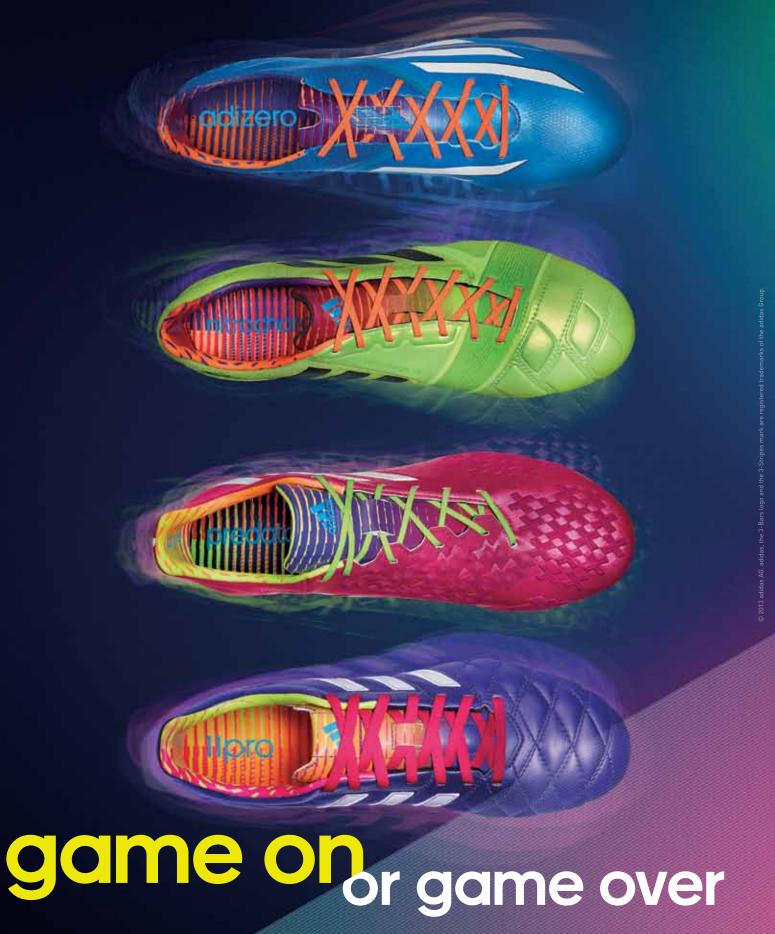


Le Rendez-Vous Official magazine #1



1960 USSR 1964 Spain 1968 Italy 1972 Germany 1976 Czechoslovakia 1980 Germany 1984 France 1988 Netherlands 1992 Denmark 1996 Germany 2000 France 2004 Greece 2008 Spain 2012 Spain





all in or nothing



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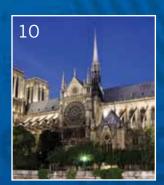
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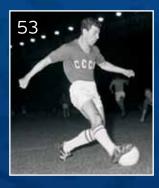
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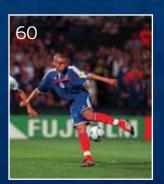










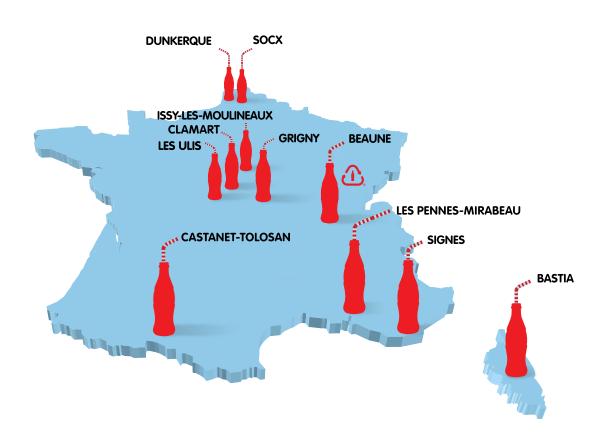






At Coca-Cola, over 90% of our drinks consumed in France are manufactured locally.

The story of Coca-Cola in France began in 1919 in Bordeaux. Now, almost 100 years later, our French love story has also created a narrative of economics and industry: €400 million invested since 2007, more than 3,000 employees, 7 production sites, two technical centres and an exclusive partnership with a recycling plant near Beaune. More than 90% of our products consumed in France are manufactured in the country using French products. We are proud that Coca-Cola is playing its part in the French economy.











"A RENDEZ-VOUS WITH HISTORY"

France, hosts of the inaugural European Nations' Cup final tournament in 1960, will have the great honour in 2016 of hosting Europe's premier national team competition for a third time.

In 1960, it was the venerable Parc des Princes of the time, complete with velodrome, which hosted the final between the USSR and Yugoslavia. In 1984, it was at a

"CONDITIONS ARE RIPE FOR UEFA EURO 2016 TO BE THE GREAT VINTAGE WE EXPECT IT TO BE" new and improved Parc des Princes, on home soil, that the French side I obviously hold so dear lifted their first international trophy.

We have come a long way and seen a lot of changes over the last 60 years. The final tournament in 1960 comprised four teams, three of which represented countries that no longer even exist. There were eight teams in 1984, and we will have 24 in 2016: fitting progress that reflects the geopolitical changes of the times and the extraordinary rise of the game.

France, the world's number one tourist destination, will play host to supporters from all over Europe and far beyond, who will be coming to enjoy the sparkling historic, culinary and sporting heritage of the ten host cities and their new or entirely renovated stadiums.

A EURO is an important moment in time. It offers us a unique opportunity, once every four years, to take stock of what the European game and Europe itself has to offer its millions of football fans.

The qualifying draw in the magnificent city of Nice kicks off a great celebration of football. The UEFA European Football Championship is a hard school but for the last 60 years, all the teams from this continent that have shone on the world stage have started out here. I really believe the conditions are now ripe for UEFA EURO 2016 to be the great vintage we all expect it to be. A rendez-vous with history not to be missed!

Michel Platini **UEFA President**









MORE TEAMS, MORE DRAMA

UEFA EURO 2016 will be the first to involve 24 sides, with a record 53 nations taking part in the qualifying competition

new dimension will be added to European football's premier national team competition at UEFA EURO 2016 when for the first time 24 sides will contest the Henri Delaunay Cup in France.

For many of UEFA's member associations, that has opened up the real possibility of a debut outing in a major tournament, or a return to the forefront of the game after a number of years on the sidelines – further justifying the competition's inclusive slogan, 'Le Rendez-Vous'.

The EURO final tournament field has risen as the profile of the championship has grown since the inaugural finals took place in 1960. From four to eight, to 16 and now 24, with almost half of UEFA's 54 national

associations set to play for the European crown between 10 June and 10 July 2016.

For the UEFA President, Michel Platini, the merits of a 24-team tournament are clear. "When the associations take part in a tournament, they are proud to do so – it is good for promoting football, for developing the national team and for developing young players in that country," he said. "There will be a lot more joy in many more countries with 24 teams."

From the fans' perspective, the prospect of 24 sides competing in a record 51 matches in France should ensure a football festival like no other EURO before.

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS

MATCH DATES

GROUP STAGE

MD1 7/8/9 September 2014

MD2 9/10/11 October 2014

MD3 12/13/14 October 2014

MD4 14/15/16 November 2014

MD5 27/28/29 March 2015

MD6 12/13/14 June 2015

MD7 3/4/5 September 2015

MD8 6/7/8 September 2015

MD9 8/9/10 October 2015

MD10 11/12/13 October 2015

PLAY-OFFS

First legs

12/13/14 November 2015

Second legs

15/16/17 November 2015

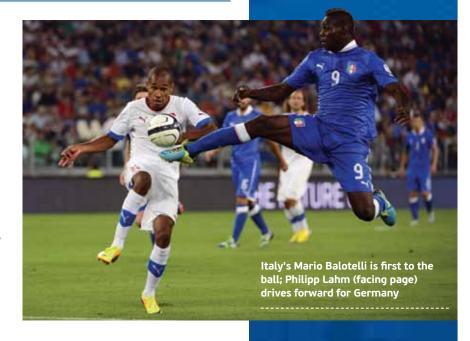
COMPETITION FORMAT

Qualifying

As hosts, France qualify automatically, leaving a record field of 53 nations divided into nine groups: eight of six teams and one of five. The nine group winners, the nine group runners-up and the best third-placed side will qualify directly for the final tournament. The eight remaining third-placed teams will participate in the play-offs to decide the last four qualifiers for the finals. Ticketing for all UEFA European Championship qualifying matches is organised directly by the national associations, not by UEFA.

Final tournament

The final tournament will undergo a change of format to accommodate the extra eight teams. There will now be six groups of four, with the six group winners, six runners-up and four best third-placed sides advancing to the knockout stage.



WELCOME TO FRANCE

UEFA EURO 2016 is the perfect opportunity to explore the rich heritage of a country passionate about football

round 1.5 million people descended on the Champs-Élysées to celebrate Les Bleus winning the FIFA World Cup on 12 July 1998, but France's passion for football has always burned bright, with more than 2 million registered players in L'Hexagone and 17,000 clubs.

Teams with roots deep in their communities have engendered a great following for the game at local and regional levels, as well as some compelling rivalries – none more so than that between Paris Saint-Germain and Olympique de Marseille. A different side (Olympique Lyonnais, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, Marseille, LOSC Lille, Montpellier Hérault SC and Paris) has won Ligue 1 each season since 2007/08, making it perhaps the most open and competitive top league in Europe.

A French influence has long been felt at the forefront of the international game: Frenchmen helped establish the FIFA World Cup, UEFA European Football Championship and European Champion Clubs' Cup, and there has been no shortage of visionary French thinking on the pitch either. Raymond Kopa inspired the France team that reached the 1958 World Cup semi-finals; Michel Platini led the thrilling generation that finally ended Les Bleus' trophy drought in 1984; and Zinédine Zidane helped deliver the World Cup in 1998, then the Henri Delaunay Cup two years later. At club level, French sides have triumphed in both the men's and women's **UEFA** Champions Leagues.

If those successes mark the standout chapters in any French football history

book, the sport's strength also derives from its popularity. One million official football matches are played every year in France, while nine of the ten most-watched programmes ever on French television have been football matches.

Of course, France owes its global reputation to much more than just football. The brilliance of French ideas has echoed through the ages, in the writings of Voltaire, Victor Hugo and Émile Zola; the art of Paul Cézanne and Claude Monet and the music of Hector Berlioz and Maurice Ravel; the voice of Édith Piaf and the films of François Truffaut. Its food and wine are famous across the world.

However, football represents a meeting place for high and low culture. Tellingly, one of France's greatest thinkers,

Nobel Prize winner Albert Camus, was a goalkeeper as well as a masterful writer, with football having helped to anchor his world view. "All I know most surely about morality and obligations, I owe to football," he said in the 1950s.

Whether France's current footballing crop can find a similar philosophical clarity at UEFA EURO 2016 remains to be seen, but what is certain is that an eminent stage awaits them in two years' time. UEFA EURO 2016 in France will be the meeting place for Europe's top 24 teams – 'Le Rendez-Vous' – and also the perfect opportunity for fans across Europe to share in the French passion for football and to discover its regions and rich heritage.

















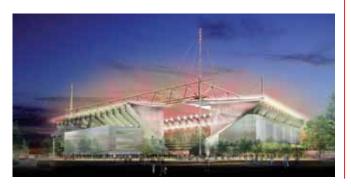
Located 28km from Lille, the former coal-mining stronghold of Lens is once again striving to adapt to change. Part of the Spanish Netherlands between 1526 and 1659, and heavily affected by the last century's world wars, Lens has been forging a new identity since the last colliery closed in 1990. The importance of the mining industry to the town since coal was discovered in 1849 has made coping with the transition a challenge, but the opening of the Louvre-Lens art museum (above) in 2012 has brought fresh hope. Built on a former colliery at an estimated cost of €150m, France's newest cultural treasure recently helped earn the region UNESCO World Heritage status.

STADE BOLLAERT-DELELIS

Capacity 35,000 Club RC Lens

Planned completion November 2015

One of France's footballing landmarks, the stadium is named after the former commercial director of the Lens Mining Company (Félix Bollaert) and a former mayor of the city and lifelong fan (André Delelis). Constructed by unemployed miners, the venue was originally oval-shaped, gradually taking on a rectangular form after the first of four new stands was unveiled in 1976. Renovated ahead of EURO '84 and the 1998 FIFA World Cup, the ground's latest rebuilding programme will last until late 2015.







Lille is a cosmopolitan city with strong Flemish roots and stands at the crossroads between France, the Low Countries and – since the arrival of the Eurostar in 1994 – England. No town in France has suffered more sieges, but Lille wears its influences on its sleeve, and the picturesque Grand'Place is reminiscent of Brussels or Amsterdam. Known as Rijsel in Flemish, Lille has coped well with the decline of local industry since the 1960s. It is famed for its 'estaminets' (bars and bistros) and has a thriving cultural scene. Lille hosts the biggest flea market in Europe, attracting around two million visitors a year on the first weekend of September.

STADE PIERRE MAUROY

Capacity 50,000 Club LOSC Lille Opened August 2012

Located in the suburb of Villeneuve d'Ascq, 6km southeast of the city centre, this is the first French stadium with a retractable roof, which can be opened or closed in 30 minutes, while half of the pitch can be raised above the other half so the stadium can be used for concerts or other sporting events. Constructed by the company behind the Millau Viaduct in Aveyron, the ground's capacity is more than double that of LOSC's previous homes, Stade Grimonprez-Jooris and Stadium Lille Métropole.



Did you know?

While the Lens agglomeration has a population of 250,000, and the broader metropolitan area numbers 400,000, the Stadium Bollaert-Delelis could accommodate almost all of the 36,000 inhabitants of the city of Lens itself.

Did you know?

AS Nancy-Lorraine's Djamel Bakar scored the stadium's first goal on 17 August 2012, before Salomon Kalou earned LOSC a point.





There can be few cities on the planet that can claim to have been at the centre of history as Paris has. Roman, English, Prussian and German armies have all laid siege, while kings, queens and emperors have reigned and been toppled as history was played out within its walls. A centre of progressive thinking, Paris is celebrated for its architectural beauty, Baron Haussmann having famously carved 12 grand avenues into the city soil, radiating from the Arc de Triomphe, during the 1860s. Known as 'la Ville-Lumière' (the City of Light), Paris still sets the global agenda for culture, cuisine and fashion, as well as boasting an unmatched artistic heritage.



Capacity 45,000 Club Paris Saint-Germain Planned completion End of 2015

The current stadium is the third to have been built on the site, the first opening its doors in 1897 and the second in 1932; the latest renovation is due for completion by mid-2015. The Parc des Princes has hosted six European club finals, including the first European Champion Clubs' Cup showpiece in 1956. In addition to staging games at the 1938 and 1998 FIFA World Cups, the stadium was the venue for the 1960 and 1984 UEFA European Championship finals.







Located 10km north of Paris's city centre, Saint-Denis was originally a village – Catolacus – before it adopted the name of a Christian martyr buried there after his beheading on nearby Montmartre. A chapel built over his tomb was used until around 630AD, when King Dagobert I turned it into a royal monastery. Some 75 kings and queens, from Dagobert I to Louis XVIII, are buried in the Cathedral Basilica of Saint-Denis. With the area hard hit by the decline of heavy industry in the 1970s, the construction of the Stade de France and arrival of the metro has brought fresh impetus to the place.

STADE DE FRANCE

Capacity 80,000

Constructed ahead of the 1998 FIFA World Cup, the Stade de France hosts major football, rugby, athletics and motorsport events. The venue boasts movable seating, which can be retracted to uncover part of the athletics track, while the elliptical roof was designed to protect spectators while leaving the pitch uncovered. The arena has staged two UEFA Champions League finals – in 2000 and 2006.



Did you know?

The Parc des Princes owes its name to its location on land used as a royal hunting ground in the 1700s.

Did you know?

The Stade de France has the unique distinction of having held World Cup finals for football (1998) and rugby (2007).









A metropolitan hub of 400,000 inhabitants, Saint-Etienne still has something of a village atmosphere. Nowhere are the eastern city's cultural and sporting attributes more apparent than in the Musée d'Art Moderne – considered France's second collection after the Pompidou Centre – and in AS Saint-Étienne's famous football stadium. Saint-Etienne, located some 500m above sea level, is close to some fabulous countryside too: both the Pilat regional nature park and the Loire gorges are on its doorstep. The creativity once evident in its manufacturing past now drives its efforts in the design sector – Saint-Etienne is the only place in France to have been made a UNESCO City of Design.

STADE GEOFFROY-GUICHARD

Capacity 42,000 Club AS Saint-Étienne Planned completion End of 2014

Affectionately called 'le Chaudron' (the Cauldron), the ground is named after the founder of the Casino retail chain under whose auspices St-Étienne were formed. It originally incorporated an athletics track, though this was removed in 1956 as rebuilding work moved supporters closer to the action. The venue hosted matches at EURO '84, the 1998 FIFA World Cup and the 2007 Rugby World Cup and – as occurred before those tournaments – it is undergoing renovation work due for completion ahead of the 2014/15 season.







Founded by the Romans in around 43BC, Lyon has played a major role in political and religious development in Europe. Initially called Lugdunum, its archbishop was known as Primate of the Gauls, while several popes were crowned in the city. Lyon's street layout, typified by 'traboules' (narrow passageways), has earned it UNESCO World Heritage status. France's third-largest city was also home to cinema pioneer brothers Auguste and Louis Lumière, widely considered the world's first film-makers, for whom it provided splendid backdrops, with its panoramic location at the confluence of the Rhone and Saone rivers. Its spectacular buildings include the Basilique de Fourvière, which attracts 1.5 million visitors each year.

STADE DE LYON

Capacity 58,000 Club Olympique Lyonnais Due to open December 2015/January 2016

Situated in Decines-Charpieu, 10km east of central Lyon, the stadium will form part of a 50 hectare complex featuring a training ground for Olympique Lyonnais as well as hotels and office buildings. It will replace the Stade de Gerland, Lyon's home since 1950 and a venue for EURO '84 and the 1998 FIFA World Cup. "A dream will come true for all the people of Lyon," said mayor Gérard Collomb as the €405m stadium's foundation stone was laid in November 2013.



Did you know?

Stade Geoffroy-Guichard was sited next to a steel mill from which, when it first opened, fumes would drift across the pitch.

Did you know?

The Stade de Gerland's record attendance is 48,552 set in 1980 for a league game between Lyon and rivals AS Saint-Étienne.





The capital of the Aquitaine region, Bordeaux is synonymous worldwide with wine. The Romans introduced the first vineyards over 2,000 years ago and Bordeaux has boomed as a wine-producing region ever since. It now produces around 800m bottles a year thanks to a maritime climate and calcium-rich soil. Bordeaux is also renowned for its architecture, its appearance largely unaltered in 200 years. It boasts more protected buildings than any French city other than Paris, though it remains a vibrant town in which commerce still plays an important role. Bordeaux's location on the Garonne river has always been key to its trading tradition and the guays have recently undergone considerable renovation.



Capacity 42,000 Club FC Girondins de Bordeaux Due to open April 2015

The construction of the €184m Stade de Bordeaux began at the start of 2013 and will finish mid 2015. It features a 'floating' roof supported by a number of thin poles. Located between a lake and the Garonne river in north Bordeaux, it will replace Stade Chaban-Delmas – a venue for matches at the 1938 and 1998 FIFA World Cups.







Nicknamed the Pink City on account of the terracotta bricks used in many of its buildings, Toulouse is France's fourth-largest urban area. The site of a human settlement since at least as early as the eighth century BC, Toulouse has more recently embraced the technological age as the capital of the European aeronautics industry, with the continent's biggest space centre. Yet it remains steeped in history and has often been voted France's most desirable place to live. Highlights include the medieval old town, the elegant Capitole building and the Canal du Midi, which links the Garonne river to the Mediterranean Sea.

STADIUM DE TOULOUSE

Capacity 33,000 Club Toulouse FC Planned completion End of 2015

Constructed for the 1938 FIFA World Cup, the region's biggest ground was refitted in 1949 and then 1997 – before the 1998 World Cup. Upgrading work, which is being done with the team in situ, is due for completion by the end of 2015. The stadium has witnessed many of Toulouse FC's finest moments, including a UEFA Cup victory against Diego Maradona's SSC Napoli in 1986. It also regularly stages rugby matches, having been a 2007 Rugby World Cup venue.



Did you know?

The Stade de Bordeaux's architects also designed Fußball Arena München, home of the 2013 UEFA Champions League winners, FC Bayern München.

Did you know?

On an island in central Toulouse, the stadium was nicknamed 'mini-Wembley' because of its resemblance to the iconic London arena.







With 100m tonnes of freight passing through the Mediterranean port each year, Marseille has always been a bustling melting pot of cultures and can be traced back to Greek sailors colonising the area in 600BC. There is now plenty to enjoy that marks the passage of time since then, from museums to churches, the beautiful Vieux Port area and the imposing Palais Longchamp. Marseille, which epitomises the diversity of France, was a European Capital of Culture in 2013. The city attracted over 10 million visitors to some 900 cultural events organised to mark the occasion, including the inauguration of the 44,000m2 Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations (MuCEM).

STADE VÉLODROME

Capacity 67,000 **Club** Olympique de Marseille Planned completion End of 2014

Famously open to the elements in the past, the stadium's facelift will be completed in 2014; the finished venue will feature a roof, and the renovation work is being done with the team in situ. As its name suggests, the stadium possessed a cycling track when first opened in 1937, and it has hosted sports as varied as athletics, rugby, boxing, tennis, hockey and even motorsport, though its days as an all-purpose arena ended when the cycling track was removed in 1985.





Nice



France's second most popular tourist destination after Paris, Nice is recognised for its climate and spectacular setting on the Mediterranean coast, with the mountains to the north and the Italian border to the east. Nice changed hands several times until it was annexed by France in 1860, though it retains a strong Italian architectural legacy. A popular destination for foreign – especially British – visitors since the late 1700s, Nice has inspired many world-renowned painters, including Henri Matisse and Marc Chagall, both of whom have museums dedicated to their work there. A commitment to the arts remains a priority: Nice also boasts an opera house, a national theatre and a celebrated conservatoire.

STADE DE NICE

Capacity 35,000 Club OGC Nice **Opened** September 2013

The Stade de Nice threw open its doors for OGC Nice's 4-0 Lique 1 win against Valenciennes FC on 22 September 2013, with the four stands being officially inaugurated during a spectacular pyrotechnic display. The sixth-largest football stadium in France, it is perhaps the most environmentally friendly – drawing over three times its own required energy from more than 4,000 solar panels, running its own geothermal installation for heating, and using rain water channels from the stadium roof to water the pitch.



Did vou know?

Stade Vélodrome held matches at the 1938 and 1998 FIFA World Cups, and the 1960 and 1984 UEFA European Championships.

Did you know?

The Stade de Nice will house France's national sport museum when it moves to the Cote d'Azur from Paris in 2014.



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Every team needs a star player. Please welcome our latest signing the New Generation i10. An impressive addition to any squad. Hyundai proud Partner of EUFA EURO 2016™. **Find out more at Hyundai.com**





WEEK OF FOTBALL



A new schedule will allow supporters to watch more qualifiers for UEFA EURO 2016 ans will have the chance to watch more live matches than ever before on the road to UEFA EURO 2016 thanks to the new Week of Football concept, which spreads qualifying action during international weeks over six days – from Thursday to Tuesday.

According to the UEFA General Secretary, Gianni Infantino, amending the qualifying schedule to put fewer matches on more days will help reinvigorate national team football. "As part of UEFA's drive to improve the quality and appeal of national team football, the Week of Football will see a fresh new approach to international football, starting with the UEFA EURO 2016 qualifiers and continuing with subsequent European qualifiers," he said.

Each day of the Week of Football will provide eight to ten matches as opposed to





The Week of Football will also enable fans to watch national team football at the weekend. For UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, only 26 matches (out of 245) were held on Saturdays and Sundays: with the Week of Football, at least 33% of fixtures will be played on weekends, giving fans more opportunity to follow the action.

Mr Infantino added: "Supporters will get the chance to attend and watch more national team matches than ever before. Broadcasters will get more games and more appointments to view. National associations will get a consistent schedule and stable revenue. And national team football will get greater exposure than before. This is great news for football fans and for football."

the five-team group at the qualifying draw. France remain assured of their

place in the final tournament, but for the first time the EURO hosts will be

involved in the qualifying competition,

teams drawn together in Group I. There

playing friendly matches against the

By previously having matches on the same night and concurrent kick-off times, supporters could only watch one live game per night. Now, with multiple kick-off times and a spread of matches across the Week of Football, broadcasters will be offering at least four times as many live opportunities, allowing fans to see matches from around Europe.

In the interest of fairness, sides will play a similar number of games on each day of each Week of Football; and in the interests of the fans, the matches of top teams will be spread over the Week of Football so supporters can watch – for example – Italy on Thursday, Germany on Friday and Spain on Saturday.

FRENCH FIRST France will also play a prominent role will be no points awarded for matches in the Week of Football, following the involving France so they will have no decision to partner the 2016 hosts with effect on the Group I table.

> According to Jacques Lambert, president of EURO 2016 SAS: "The advantages [of this] are rather simple. If, as is the case with France, a team is obliged just to play friendly matches, while other teams play qualifying matches, the major difficulty is to find opponents.

> "Now the international calendar is organised in a uniform way throughout the world. Consequently, nearly all the teams in the world - whether it be in Europe, Africa or South America – play on the same days. In putting France automatically in a group where there will be teams who do not play on each matchday, this will give them the chance to play friendly matches against readymade opposition."

20–30. Kick-off times will be set largely at 18.00CET and 20.45CET on Saturdays and Sundays and at 20.45CET for Thursdays, Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays. In double matchweeks, teams will play on Thursday and Sunday, Friday and Monday or Saturday and Tuesday.



Making children's dreams come true for over 10 years









HOME ADVANTAGE

Hosts France will aim to emulate the successes of 1984 and 1998

France have been ever-present in the UEFA European Championship finals since missing out in 1988, an early end to the defence of the trophy they had lifted for the first time on home turf four years earlier. That 1984 triumph in Paris was inspired by nine goals from captain Michel Platini – a tournament record that still stands – including two hattricks, and was secured with a 2-0 victory against Spain in the final.

France's second win came at UEFA EURO 2000, Roger Lemerre's side becoming only the second team after West Germany (1972, 1974) to hold the world and European titles at the same time, having lifted the FIFA World Cup trophy in the French capital two years earlier. Their European triumph in Rotterdam was a close-run thing. Zinédine Zidane's extratime penalty settled a tense semi-final against Portugal before Sylvain Wiltord saved them from a showpiece loss to Italy with a last-gasp equaliser, setting the scene for David Trezeguet's golden-goal winner.

Aside from winning the competition twice, Les Bleus have only reached the last four on one other occasion, when they succumbed to the Czech Republic in a penalty shoot-out at EURO '96. They have, however, made it to the quarter-finals another four times, most recently losing 2-0 to eventual winners Spain at UEFA EURO 2012, Xabi Alonso scoring both goals on his 100th international appearance. Automatic qualifiers as hosts, France will attempt to join La Roja on three EURO titles in 2016 – and they will draw hope from their previous achievements when playing the role of hosts.

Leading scorers

All-time: Thierry Henry 51 Current: Karim Benzema 18

Most appearances

All-time: Lilian Thuram 142 Current: Franck Ribéry 80

EURO tournaments 8 EURO best winners 1984, 2000 Qualifying record P102 W59 D26 L17

Coach Didier Deschamps **Date of birth** 15 October 1968 **Nationality** French



Deschamps captained Olympique de Marseille to UEFA Champions League glory

in 1993. He also won Europe's premier club competition with Juventus in 1996 and skippered France to victory at the 1998 FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2000. Deschamps started his coaching career in 2001 with AS Monaco FC and took them to the UEFA Champions League final three years later. He joined Juve, then in Serie B, in 2006 and secured promotion in his first season. He then returned to Marseille in May 2009 and ended OM's 18-year wait for the Lique 1 title in his first term. He succeeded Laurent Blanc after UEFA EURO 2012.



54 nations 24 teams





A founder member of UEFA, Albania have never qualified for a major tournament, although results have improved in recent years and the Shqiponjat have not ended bottom of a qualifying group in their last six campaigns. Indeed, but for a poor finish to 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifying, they might have reached the play-offs. In UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying, Albania collected 11 points, and they have always had a knack of putting on a performance if not sustaining it. They earned a famous victory over Denmark in their first tie in the competition, in 1964 qualifying, though the Danes had already done the damage with a 4-0 first-leg victory. Four years later Albania held 1966 FIFA World Cup runnersup West Germany 0-0 to deny them a finals place for the only time in their history.

Leading scorer

All-time: Erjon Bogdani **18** Current: Erjon Bogdani **18**

Most appearances

All-time: Altin Lala **79** Current: Erjon Bogdani **73**



EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P85 W14 D20 L51

Coach Gianni De Biasi Date of birth 16 June 1956 Nationality Italian



A man with a reputation for triumphing over adversity, De Biasi made his name overseeing

back-to-back promotions at Modena FC, guiding them from the third division to Serie A and ending a 38-year absence from the top flight.

Albania scored a solitary goal in each of their five home games in UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, enough for eight points as only France condemned them to defeat.

ANDORRA



Andorra, the tiny landlocked nation in the Pyrenees, is one of the smallest countries in the UEFA family. They did not play a senior international until 1996 but have since been a permanent fixture in FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championship qualifying. They have lost every single match in every campaign bar one – the 2006 World Cup, when they plundered five points. The 2014 World Cup brought a new low as Andorra failed to score in a qualifying competition for the first time. In EURO qualifying they have amassed 40 encounters without a point, scoring seven goals and conceding 113 along the way. Their UEFA EURO

2012 campaign brought ten defeats and just one goal but Russia, Slovakia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in particular could attest to them being no pushovers.

Leading scorer

All-time: Ildefons Lima **7** Current: Ildefons Lima **7**

Most appearances

All-time: Óscar Sonejee **95** Current: Óscar Sonejee **95** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P40 W0 D0 L40

Coach Koldo Alvarez de Eulate **Date of birth** 4 September 1970 **Nationality** Andorran



A goalkeeper who started out at Club Atlético de Madrid, Álvarez is regarded as one of

Andorra's greatest players. He took over as coach of the national team in February 2010.

Andorra were set for their first ever point in EURO qualifying in 2007 as they went into added time 1-1 with nine-man Estonia – only for Indrek Zelinski to earn the hosts victory in the 92nd minute.

ARMENIA

Armenia have competed as an independent nation since 1992 and, though they finished bottom of their EURO '96 qualifying group, their debut campaign was notable for the team's first competitive victory, 2-1



away to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The former Soviet republic ended the next three campaigns one off the foot of their section, but things improved markedly on the road to UEFA EURO 2012. Coach Vardan Minasyan put his faith in youth and, after a slow start, momentum soon gathered. A 3-1 defeat of Slovakia and goalless draw at home to Russia, either side of a 4-0 triumph over Andorra, revived hopes. Three successive wins, including a remarkable 4-0 success in Slovakia, set up a decider against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin, where they had goalkeeper Roman Berezovski dismissed and ultimately lost 2-1 to finish third. The team will have a new coach for UEFA EURO 2016 qualifying, however, former midfielder Minasyan ending his four-year tenure in November 2013.

Leading scorer

All-time: Henrikh Mkhitaryan 12 Current: Henrikh Mkhitaryan 12

Most appearances

All-time: Sargis Hovsepyan **132** Current: Roman Berezovski **83** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P50 W12 D10 L28

Coach Vacant

17 Armenia achieved their best points haul, 17, during UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, a campaign notable for their double over Slovakia and a goalless home draw with Russia

AUSTRIA



Austria have made seven FIFA World Cup appearances, finishing third in 1954, but have never qualified for the latter stages of the UEFA European Championship. UEFA EURO 2008, when they were co-hosts with Switzerland, remains their only tilt at the tournament and it did not last long, as Josef Hickersberger's young team paid for inexperience despite some spirited performances. Austria have never quite been able to get across the line in qualifying for the EUROs, their 2012 campaign all too familiar when after a bright start they slipped

to fourth. They have come close, however. They were a point short of an automatic berth for the 1980 finals and twice defeats in the UK – 1-0 by Wales (1976) and 5-3 in Northern Ireland (1996) – ended their interest.

Leading scorers

All-time: Toni Polster 44 Current: Marc Janko 16

Most appearances

All-time: Andreas Herzog **103**Current: Andreas Ivanschitz **66**

EURO tournaments 1 EURO best group stage 2008 Qualifying record P90 W36 D16 L38

Coach Marcel Koller **Date of birth** 11 November 1960 **Nationality** Swiss



Capped 55 times by Switzerland, Koller made two appearances at EURO '96 and began coaching in his homeland

and Germany before succeeding Dietmar Constantini as Austria boss in October 2011.

38 At 38 years and 257 days, Ivica Vastic became the oldest player to score in a UEFA European Championship when he converted a late penalty to earn a 1-1 draw with Poland in 2008.





AZERBAIJAN

Azerbaijan came of age when they held Poland to a goalless draw during EURO '96 qualification, although they lost nine of ten fixtures in their first campaign as an independent nation. In each of the next three campaigns the team recorded one win, the most famous a 2-1 home success against Serbia in June 2003. However, in UEFA EURO 2012. Azerbaijan accumulated a record-high seven points from ten games, the highlight a stunning 1-0 victory over Turkey achieved thanks to a 38th-minute goal from captain Rashad F Sadygov. Berti Vogts' side also claimed a 1-1 draw with Belgium and flexed their goalscoring muscles in a 3-2 defeat of Kazakhstan, though they failed to pick up a point on their travels.

Leading scorers

All-time: Gurban Gurbanov **14** Current: Vagif Javadov **9**

Most appearances

All-time: Rashad F Sadygov **87** Current: Rashad F Sadygov **87**



EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P50 W5 D6 L39

Coach Berti Vogts Date of birth 30 December 1946 Nationality German



Azerbaijan are the fifth national team Vogts has coached, having previously taken charge of Germany

 whom he guided to victory at EURO '96 in England – Kuwait, Scotland and Nigeria.

A Number of goals Azerbaijan scored when registering their biggest EURO win, against Liechtenstein in June 1999.

AE PP

BELARUS



Belarus lost 1-0 to Norway on their UEFA European Championship qualifying debut in September 1994. They would finish the campaign fourth in their group, but had laid down a marker with a famous 1-0 win against a star-studded Netherlands side in Minsk. Two draws with Italy were rare highlights in UEFA EURO 2000 qualifying, and while Belarus have yet to reach a major tournament, they have continued to upset Europe's heavyweights. The Dutch came unstuck once again in November 2007, and there was a 1-0 win in France three years later as Bernd Stange's

team enjoyed a terrific start to UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying. That was the start of a fourgame run in which Stange's charges conceded no goals and garnered eight points, though they ultimately fell short of qualification.

Leading scorers

All-time: Maksim Romaschenko **20** Current: Sergei Kornilenko **14**

Most appearances

All-time: Aleksandr Kulchiy **102** Current: Aleksandr Hleb **64** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P48 W11 D10 L27

Coach Georgi Kondratiev **Date of birth** 7 January 1960 **Nationality** Belarusian



A renowned striker as a player, Kondratiev steered Belarus to the semifinals of the

2011 UEFA European Under-21 Championship, taking charge of the senior side after UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying.

13 In 2013, Belarus played a total of 13 matches – more than in any other single calendar year. They won four, drew four and lost five of those fixtures.

BELGIUM



Belgium are back among the elite after qualifying for the 2014 FIFA World Cup, but it is now three decades since they last qualified for the UEFA European Championship. It was not always this way for a side that were final tournament regulars during the 1970s and early 80s. They finished third on home soil in 1972 and eight years later went one step closer to lifting the trophy, losing the final 2-1 to a late West Germany goal. Since then the Red Devils have only managed two more group stage appearances, in 1984 and in 2000, when they were the tournament co-hosts, but failed to progress on both occasions. UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying came too early for Belgium's new wave, as they finished two points shy of a play-off spot.

Leading scorers

All-time: Bernard Voorhoof, Paul Van Himst **30**

Current: Daniel Van Buyten 10

Most appearances

All-time: Jan Ceulemans **96** Current: Timmy Simons **93** EURO tournaments 4 EURO best runners-up 1980 Qualifying record P94 W42 D24 L28

Coach Marc Wilmots Date of birth 22 February 1969 Nationality Belgian



Wilmots, scorer of 28 goals in 70 outings for Belgium, led his country to the 2014 World Cup in his first

qualifying campaign – their first finals in 12 years. He turns 45 on the eve of the draw.

Belgium were the only qualifiers for the 1984 UEFA European Championship to win their qualifying group by more than one point.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Bosnia and Herzegovina made their UEFA European Championship debut with a 1-0 win against the Faroe Islands in August 1998, and have twice been in sight of a finals place. Victory over Denmark in Saraievo in their final qualifier would have sent Blaž Slišković's team to UEFA EURO 2004; a 1-1 draw meant they finished fourth. They again came close in UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, Safet Sušić's side drawing against France when victory would have taken them through. They finished as runners-up – the 20-point haul their best yet in the competition - but in the play-offs were no match for Portugal, the side that denied them at the same stage in 2010

FIFA World Cup qualifying. Before gaining independence in 1992, the country supplied Yugoslavia with several top players, Sušić among them.

Leading scorer

All-time: Edin Džeko 33 Current: Edin Džeko 33

Most appearances

All-time: Zvjezdan Misimović **80** Current: Zvjezdan Misimović **80** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P42 W17 D7 L18

Coach Safet Sušić **Date of birth** 13 April 1955 **Nationality** Bosnian



Perhaps Bosnia and Herzegovina's greatest player, Sušić guided the nation to their first major

tournament as his side sealed top spot in their 2014 World Cup qualifying group.

12 Sušić's men were 12 minutes from victory in Paris in their final UEFA EURO 2012 group game before Samir Nasri's penalty made it 1-1 and consigned Bosnia and Herzegovina to the play-offs.



BULGARIA

Bulgaria have twice reached the group stage of a UEFA European Championship, in 1996 and 2004, although in 1968, when the finals consisted of only four nations, they went as far as the last eight. Those two final tournament appearances yielded just one win, 1-0 against Romania at EURO '96. Eight years later, Bulgaria suffered three defeats, including an opening 5-0 reverse in Lisbon against Sweden. Bulgaria were beaten just once in 12 matches during UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying, but their record was not good enough to achieve a top-two finish. The route to UEFA EURO 2012 started with Stanimir Stoilov being dismissed after two successive losses. Lothar Matthäus came in but lasted just a year. Wales' victory in Sofia against a side led by stand-in coach Mihail Madanski provided a suitably glum finale.

Leading scorers

All-time: Dimitar Berbatov **48** Current: Ivelin Popov **10**

Most appearances

All-time: Stiliyan Petrov **106** Current: Ivelin Popov **47**



EURO tournaments 2 EURO best group stage 1996, 2004 Qualifying record P103 W46 D24 L33

Coach Luboslav Penev Date of birth 31 August 1966 Nationality Bulgarian



Penev began his playing career at PFC CSKA Sofia in 1985, making his debut under his uncle and future national

team coach Dimitar Penev.

Bulgaria won their first six games of the EURO '96 qualifying campaign, a sequence that included a 3-2 home victory against eventual champions Germany.

***** CROATIA



UEFA EURO 2012 was Croatia's fourth European final tournament in five attempts since the break-up of Yugoslavia, their only failure coming in 2000. Inspired by Davor Šuker, Miroslav Blažević's 1996 vintage reached the last eight in their maiden finals appearance, and the semi-finals beckoned in 2008 before Turkey's last-gasp equaliser and then a penalty shoot-out defeat. There was more disappointment last time round as Slaven Bilić's side were narrowly edged out of a tough group by Spain and Italy, the eventual finalists. Croatia, of course, also contributed players to the Yugoslavia team that twice finished runners-up at the

UEFA European Championship. They lost the inaugural showpiece 2-1 in extra time against the Soviet Union in 1960 and went down 2-0 to hosts Italy in a final replay eight years later.

Leading scorers All-time: Davor Šuker **45** Current: Eduardo **29**

Most appearances All-time: Darijo Srna **110** Current: Darijo Srna **110** EURO tournaments 4 EURO best quarter-finals 1996, 2008 Qualifying record P52 W34 D11 L7

Coach Niko Kovač Date of birth 15 October 1971 Nationality Croatian



Berlin-born Kovač, capped 83 times, was named caretaker coach on 16 October 2013,

but signed a two-year deal the next day and oversaw a 2-0 aggregate victory against Iceland in the FIFA World Cup play-offs.

Croatia were drawn with 2008 nemeses Turkey in the UEFA EURO 2012 play-offs. Three away goals inside 50 minutes of the first leg in Istanbul quickly removed any doubt about who would win this time.





Cyprus have produced several notable results, with 1-1 draws at home against FIFA World Cup holders Italy (1983) and European champions Denmark (1995). The real breakthrough was their UEFA EURO 2000 campaign, when home wins against Spain and Israel meant they travelled to Austria for their final match knowing victory could ensure second place. They lost 3-1 but their 12-point haul was one short of a play-off slot. They broke that record tally in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying (14). Cyprus opened UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying with a 4-4 draw against Portugal, but in their last seven games scored

just three goals and picked up only one more point. Greek coach Nikos Nioplias replaced compatriot Angelos Anastasiadis midway through the campaign, but could not stop his new side finishing bottom and stepped down.

Leading scorers

All-time: Michalis Konstantinou **32** Current: Constantinos Charalambides, Efstathios Aloneftis **11**

Most appearances

All-time: Ioannis Okkas 106

Current: Constantinos Charalambides 74

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P95 W12 D14 L69

Coach Charalampos Christodoulou Date of birth 17 October 1967 Nationality Cypriot



Started coaching aged 39 and steered Doxa Katokopia FC into the top flight. Later led AEL Limassol

FC to their first Cypriot title in 44 years and was appointed Cyprus coach in January 2014.

Number of goals conceded by Cyprus in their heaviest ever EURO qualifying defeats, away to the Netherlands in October 1987 and Spain in September 1999.



CZECH REPUBLIC



The Czech Republic reached the quarter-finals at UEFA EURO 2012, their fifth EURO final tournament since the 1993 dissolution of Czechoslovakia. They lost the EURO '96 final to Germany, Oliver Bierhoff's golden goal inflicting a 2-1 defeat, and suffered more extra-time disappointment in the last four against Greece eight years later. En route to UEFA EURO 2000 they became only the second side to negotiate qualifying with a 100% record, only to exit in the group stage, as they would do in 2008. Not so in 1976, when Prague-born Antonín Panenka's

memorable spot kick earned Czechoslovakia the European title with a 5-3 shoot-out victory against West Germany following a 2-2 draw in Belgrade. The Czechs came third in their championship defence four years later.

Leading scorers

All-time: Jan Koller **55** Current: Tomáš Rosický **21**

Most appearances

All-time: Karel Poborský **118** Current: Petr Čech **106** EURO tournaments 8 EURO best winners 1976 (as Czechoslovakia) Qualifying record P106 W69 D20 L17

Coach Pavel Vrba Date of birth 6 December 1963 Nationality Czech



Vrba, a defender, was part of the Czechoslovakia side that reached the final of the 1982 UEFA

Under-18 Championship and coached FC Viktoria Plzeň to the Czech title in 2011 and 2013.

The Czech Republic won their group at UEFA EURO 2012 despite opening the finals with a 4-1 loss to Russia, beating Greece (2-1) and Poland (1-0) to progress.



DENMARK

Denmark's finest hour came at EURO '92 after the suspension of Yugoslavia handed them a second chance they grasped with both hands. Having had just ten days to prepare, they eliminated England and France in the group stage, then the Netherlands in a semi-final shoot-out. Goals from John Jensen and Kim Vilfort saw off Germany in the showpiece. Denmark were no strangers to the latter stages of the competition, though, having reached the last four in 1964 and 1984. Morten Olsen's charges again overcame the initial hurdle in 2004, but three Czech Republic goals early in the second half ended their interest in the quarter-finals. Having failed to qualify for the 2008 edition. Denmark returned in 2012 but fell at the group stage despite upsetting the Netherlands in their opener.

Leading scorers

All-time: Poul Nielsen,

Jon Dahl Tomasson **52** Current: Nicklas Bendtner **24**

Most appearances

All-time: Peter Schmeichel **129** Current: Dennis Rommedahl **126**



EURO tournaments 8 EURO best winners 1992 Qualifying record P105 W50 D23 L32

Coach Morten Olsen Date of birth 14 August 1949 Nationality Danish



Olsen became the first Danish international to collect 100 caps and has been in charge of the national team

since 2000, signing a new twovear contract in December 2013.

14 Denmark have appeared in all 14 UEFA European Championship qualifying competitions, playing their first game – a 2-2 draw with Czechoslovakia in Copenhagen – in September 1959.



ENGLAND

England are the only one of Europe's FIFA World Cup-winning nations never to have triumphed in the UEFA European Championship. Indeed, they are yet to reach the final, coming closest in 1996 when as hosts they lost to Germany on penalties in the semi-finals. They also reached the last four - as world champions - in 1968, but otherwise the competition has brought few happy memories. In the four eight-team final tournaments staged from 1980 to 1992, England did not reach the knockout phase, and failed to qualify altogether in 1984. EURO '96 apart, they have also struggled in the 16-team finals, going out at the group stage in 2000 and not reaching the 2008 tournament. On the other two occasions, in 2004 and 2012, they lost on penalties in the quarter-finals.

Leading scorers

All-time: Bobby Charlton 49 Current: Wayne Rooney 38

Most appearances

All-time: Peter Shilton **125** Current: Steven Gerrard **108**



EURO tournaments 8 EURO best semi-finals 1968, 1996 Qualifying record P90 W56 D24 L10

Coach Roy Hodgson **Date of birth** 9 August 1947 **Nationality** English



Hodgson has coached in eight countries and with four different national sides, taking the

England helm prior to UEFA EURO 2012 and leading them to the 2014 World Cup final tournament.

England have been eliminated in a penalty shoot-out six times in major competitions – in three UEFA European Championships (1996, 2004 and 2012) and three World Cups (1990, 1998, 2006).

ESTONIA



After regaining independence, Estonia found life at the top level of international football tough going. Their first qualifying campaign for a major tournament resulted in ten straight defeats for EURO '96. While creditable results had been achieved in FIFA World Cup qualifying it was UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying that provided the brightest moment to date as Tarmo Rüütli's side reached the play-offs. Estonia started the campaign with a late victory against the Faroe Islands and, more notably, a 3-1 triumph in Serbia. Momentum was lost with defeats in Italy and the Faroe

Islands, but three straight wins, in Slovenia, then home and away against Northern Ireland, secured a play-off spot. There the Republic of Ireland proved too strong, their 4-0 first-leg success leading to a 5-1 aggregate victory.

Leading scorers

All-time: Andres Oper 38 Current: Konstantin Vassiljev 17

Most appearances

All-time: Martin Reim 157 Current: Raio Piiroja 113

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record **P**52 **W**12 **D**7 **L**33

Coach Magnus Pehrsson Date of birth 25 May 1976 **Nationality** Swedish



Pehrsson succeeded Rüütli in December 2013 after spells at Djurgårdens IF - with whom he won the

Allsvenskan as a player in 2002 and Aalborg BK in Denmark.

5 Goalkeeper Mart Poom has made the most UEFA European Championship appearances for Estonia with 35, while six-goal Konstantin Vassiljev is their all-time leading scorer in the competition.



😭 FAROE ISLANDS



A member of UEFA since 1990, the Faroe Islands recorded their most famous result in their very first competitive match, defeating Austria 1-0 in a EURO '92 qualifier played in the Swedish town of Landskrona. That win could not prevent them finishing bottom of their section, however, as they have in five of their six campaigns. The exception came in EURO '96 qualifying, where home and away wins against San Marino left them fifth in the six-team section. It was 38 games before they managed another victory in the competition, beating Estonia 2-0 in 2011 under Irish coach

Brian Kerr as UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying yielded four points. They drew at home against Northern Ireland and pushed Italy all the way - twice hitting the woodwork - before the Azzurri escaped Torshavn with a 1-0 win.

Leading scorers

All-time: Rógvi Jacobsen 10 Current: Fródi Benjaminsen 6

Most appearances

All-time: Óli Johannesen 83 Current: Fródi Benjaminsen 79 **EURO tournaments** 0 **EURO best** never qualified Qualifying record P58 W4 D6 L48

Coach Lars Olsen Date of birth 2 February 1961 **Nationality** Danish



A UEFA European Championship winner with Denmark in 1992, Olsen was appointed coach in November

2011 after successful spells with Odense BK and Randers FC, whom he took to Danish Cup glory in

Jákup Mikkelsen has made the most UEFA European Championship appearances for the Faroe Islands with 33, while Rógvi Jacobsen is their all-time leading goal scorer in the competition with six.



FINLAND

It took Finland 19 UEFA European Championship qualifiers to record their first win, beating Greece 3-0 and following that with a 2-1 triumph over Hungary at the start of their 1980 campaign. Home and away draws with the Soviet Union underlined their potential but an 8-1 defeat by Greece in Athens fatally undermined it – Finland missed out on a finals place by a point. That inconsistency has been a feature of Finland's campaigns. Under Roy Hodgson they made a flying start to 2008 qualifying, but back-to-back defeats by Azerbaijan and Serbia proved costly. They needed to win in Portugal in the final game; instead, a goalless draw left them fourth in the eight-team section. Finland went into the 2012 campaign with optimism, but went through three coaches and ended fourth.

Leading scorers

All-time: Jari Litmanen 32 Current: Mikael Forssell 29

Most appearances

All-time: Jari Litmanen 137 Current: Mikael Forssell 87



EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P94 W24 D21 L49

Coach Mixu Paatelainen Date of birth 3 February 1967 Nationality Finnish



Having played most his career in England and Scotland, Paatelainen managed Cowdenbeath

FC, TPS Turku, former club Hibernian FC and Kilmarnock FC before being appointed Finland coach in March 2011.

Finland's record UEFA
European Championship
qualifying win is 8-0 against
San Marino during the 2012
campaign; their biggest loss was
the 8-1 defeat in Greece that
undid their 1980 hopes.

GEORGIA



Yet to qualify for a UEFA European Championship final tournament since independence, Georgia came closest at their first attempt in the EURO '96 preliminaries. A momentous 2-1 win against a Bulgaria side who 15 months earlier had reached the FIFA World Cup semi-finals helped them to a third-placed finish. Georgia propped up the standings in their next two EURO qualifying campaigns but results have picked up. Ahead of 2008 they claimed a home victory against Scotland and UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying brought draws in Greece and Latvia and, perhaps most impressively of all, a win against

Croatia. Temur Ketsbaia took control of the team in November 2009 and Georgia went on a ten-match unbeaten streak, encompassing the first half of their tilt at 2012 qualifying Group F, but they still came fifth.

Leading scorers

All-time: Shota Arveladze **26** Current: Vladimer Dvalishvili, Jaba Kankava **4**

Most appearances

All-time: Levan Kobiashvili **100** Current: Zurab Khizanishvili **91**

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P50 W13 D8 L29

Coach Temur Ketsbaia Date of birth 18 March 1968 Nationality Georgian



Part of the strong postindependence national team, Ketsbaia made his name in management

as Anorthosis Famagusta FC player-coach from 2002 to 2009 before briefly leading Olympiacos FC and then Georgia.

100 Georgia's fourth UEFA EURO 2016 qualifier will be their 100th competitive senior international since independence; so far they have won 29 and lost 55 of their 96 fixtures.

GERMANY



Three-time winners, in 1972, 1980 and 1996, and runners-up in 1976, 1992 and 2008, Germany have won 23 of their 43 finals matches - all are records, though Spain also have three European titles to their name. UEFA EURO 2012 was Germany's 11th successive final tournament – a UEFA European Championship record. Though in ominously good form in Poland and Ukraine – having won all ten of their qualifiers, scoring an average of 3.4 goals per game - they lost 2-1 to eventual runners-up Italy in the semi-finals. Germany have advanced to the knockout stages in every one of their FIFA World Cup appearances but in the UEFA European Championship they have suffered group stage exits three times, finishing third in their section in 1984 and 2004, and bottom in 2000.

Leading scorers

All-time: Gerd Müller, Miroslav Klose 68 Current: Miroslav Klose 68

Most appearances

All-time: Lothar Matthäus 150 Current: Miroslav Klose 130

EURO tournaments 11 EURO best winners 1972, 1980 (as West Germany), 1996 Qualifying record P88 W62 D19 L7

Coach Joachim Löw Date of birth 3 February 1960 Nationality German



Löw was a player-coach in Switzerland before taking over at VfB Stuttgart. He was Jürgen

Klinsmann's assistant with Germany at the 2006 World Cup and landed the top job after those

Number of years Germany went without winning a UEFA European Championship finals match, between their triumph in the EURO '96 final and their UEFA EURO 2008 group stage victory against Poland.

GIBRALTA



The newest of LIFFA's 54 member associations, UEFA EURO 2016 marks Gibraltar's maiden qualifying campaign. The country has had a senior representative side since 1923, though their competitive experience is mainly drawn from the Island Games, in which they have participated since 1993 – despite Gibraltar not being an island. They lost all their matches on their debut but were runners-up in 1995 and triumphed in 2007. Four years later, in March 2011, they beat the Faroe Islands 3-0 in a friendly. Without a suitable stadium, Gibraltar will play their home qualifiers in southern Portugal. That was where they staged their very first international, on 19 November 2013, and things got off to an encouraging start as Allen Bula's side held Slovakia to a goalless draw at Estádio Algarve.

Leading scorers

All-time: none Current: none

Most appearances

All-time: no more than one Current: no more than one

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never entered Qualifying record PO WO DO LO

Coach Allen Bula Date of birth 4 January 1965 Nationality Gibraltarian



Gibraltar coach since 2010, Bula took up coaching in England, then ran 1. FC Košice's youth academy, with Chelsea's

Nemania Matić and Manchester City FC youngster Albert Rusnák among his protégés.

30,000 With around

30,000

citizens, Gibraltar is the least populous of the UEFA member nations; the second smallest, San Marino, has a population of around 33,000.





Having made their finals debut in 1980, collecting one point from their three games, Greece waited 24 years for their next appearance but it proved sensationally worthwhile as Otto Rehhagel's men confounded expectations to lift the trophy in Portugal in 2004. The German coach masterminded a highly effective game plan, his side catching the hosts cold in the opening game with a 2-1 victory. France and the Czech Republic both succumbed 1-0 in the knockout rounds, before a second defeat of Portugal provided a fairy-tale ending to one of football's true surprise stories. As holders they lost all three group games in Austria and Switzerland in 2008 and were eliminated by Germany at the quarter-final stage of UEFA EURO 2012, but nothing will take the shine off their momentous achievement of 2004.

Leading scorers

All-time: Nikos Anastopoulos **29** Current: Fanis Gekas **24**

Most appearances

All-time: Giorgos Karagounis **131** Current: Giorgos Karagounis **131**



EURO tournaments 4 EURO best winners 2004 Qualifying record P102 W51 D20 L31

Coach Fernando Santos **Date of birth** 10 October 1954 **Nationality** Portuguese



After qualifying as an engineer, Santos started coaching in 1987. He enjoyed particular

success with GD Estoril-Praia, FC Porto and AEK Athens FC and took the Greece job in summer 2010.

17 Greece's longest ever undefeated streak came under Santos; they did not lose in 17 matches, from August 2010 to November 2011, during which time they qualified for UEFA EURO 2012.

HUNGARY



Once giants of European and world football, finishing runners-up in the FIFA World Cups of 1938 and 1954 and claiming three Olympic titles, Hungary have failed to qualify for a major tournament since the 1986 World Cup. They finished third and fourth respectively in the UEFA European Championships of 1964 and 1972 but have not featured since. In 1964 they lost 2-1 against Spain after extra time in the semi-final, beating Denmark in the third-place play-off three days later. In 1972, Sándor Zámbó's late penalty miss confirmed their last-four defeat to the USSR. They finished a

creditable third behind the Netherlands and Sweden in their UEFA EURO 2012 section, notably beating the Swedes 2-1 – their first competitive win against a team above them in the FIFA world rankings this century.

Leading scorers

All-time: Ferenc Puskás **84** Current: Zoltán Gera **23**

Most appearances

All-time: József Bozsik **101** Current: Gábor Király **90** EURO tournaments 2 EURO best third place 1964 Qualifying record P109 W46 D22 L41

Coach Attila Pintér Date of birth 7 May 1966 Nationality Hungarian



Won 20 caps for Hungary and led old side Ferencvárosi TC to the 2004 title in his first coaching

job, taking charge of Hungary in December 2013 after winning another crown at Győri ETO FC.

10 Hungary have failed to make it through the last ten EURO qualifying campaigns since reaching the last four for the second time in 1972.





FRANCE'S FRIENDLIES

MATCHDAY	DATE	K.O. CET	номе	AWAY
1	07/09/2014	20:45	SERBIA	FRANCE
2	11/09/2014	20:45	FRANCE	PORTUGAL
3	14/10/2014	18:00	ARMENIA	
4	14/11/2014	20:45	FRANCE	ALBANIA
5	29/03/2015	20:45	FRANCE	
6	13/06/2015	20:45	ALBANIA	FRANCE
7	04/09/2015	20:45	PORTUGAL	FRANCE
8	07/09/2015	20:45	FRANCE	SERBIA
9	08/10/2015	20:45	FRANCE	ARMENIA
10	11/10/2015	20:45	DENMARK	FRANCE

MATCHDAY 1

DATE KO CCT CROUD HOME					
DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	HOME	AWAY	
07/09/2014	18:00		GEORGIA	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	
07/09/2014	20:45	D	GERMANY	SCOTLAND	
07/09/2014	20:45	D	GIBRALTAR	POLAND	
07/09/2014	18:00	F	HUNGARY	NORTHERN IRELAND	
07/09/2014	20:45	F	FAROE ISLANDS	FINLAND	
07/09/2014	20:45		GREECE	ROMANIA	
07/09/2014	18:00		DENMARK	ARMENIA	
07/09/2014	20:45				
08/09/2014	20:45		LUXEMBOURG	BELARUS	
08/09/2014	20:45		SPAIN	FYR MACEDONIA	
08/09/2014	20:45		UKRAINE	SLOVAKIA	
08/09/2014	20:45	E	ESTONIA	SLOVENIA	
08/09/2014	20:45	Е	SAN MARINO	LITHUANIA	
08/09/2014	20:45	Е	SWITZERLAND	ENGLAND	
		G	RUSSIA	LIECHTENSTEIN	
08/09/2014	20:45	G	AUSTRIA	SWEDEN	
08/09/2014	20:45	G	MONTENEGRO	MOLDOVA	
09/09/2014	18:00	Α	KAZAKHSTAN	LATVIA	
09/09/2014	20:45	Α	CZECH REPUBLIC	NETHERLANDS	
09/09/2014	20:45	Α	ICELAND	TURKEY	
09/09/2014	20:45	В	ANDORRA	WALES	
09/09/2014	20:45	В	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	CYPRUS	
09/09/2014	20:45	В	ISRAEL	BELGIUM	
09/09/2014	18:00	н	AZERBAIJAN	BULGARIA	
09/09/2014	20:45	Н	CROATIA	MALTA	
09/09/2014	20:45	н	NORWAY	ITALY	

GROUP A

NETHERLANDS
CZECH REPUBLIC
TURKEY
LATVIA
ICELAND
KAZAKHCTAN

GROUP B

BOSNIA - HERZEGOVINA
BELGIUM
ISRAEL
WALES
CYPRUS
ANDORRA

GROUP C

SPAIN
SLOVAKIA
BELARUS
FYR MACEDONIA
LUXEMBOURG

MATCHDAY 2

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	номе	AWAY
09/10/2014	20:45	C	BELARUS	UKRAINE
09/10/2014	20:45		FYR MACEDONIA	LUXEMBOURG
09/10/2014	20:45		SLOVAKIA	SPAIN
09/10/2014	20:45	E	ENGLAND	SAN MARINO
09/10/2014	20:45		LITHUANIA	ESTONIA
09/10/2014	20:45	E	SLOVENIA	SWITZERLAND
09/10/2014	20:45	G	LIECHTENSTEIN	MONTENEGRO
09/10/2014	20:45	G	MOLDOVA	AUSTRIA
09/10/2014	20:45	G	SWEDEN	RUSSIA
10/10/2014	20:45	Α	LATVIA	ICELAND
10/10/2014	20:45	Α	NETHERLANDS	KAZAKHSTAN
10/10/2014	20:45	Α	TURKEY	CZECH REPUBLIC
10/10/2014	20:45	В	BELGIUM	ANDORRA
10/10/2014	20:45	В	CYPRUS	ISRAEL
10/10/2014	20:45	В	WALES	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
10/10/2014	20:45	Н	BULGARIA	CROATIA
10/10/2014	20:45	Н	ITALY	AZERBAIJAN
10/10/2014	20:45	Н	MALTA	NORWAY
11/10/2014	18:00	D	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	GIBRALTAR
11/10/2014	18:00	D	SCOTLAND	GEORGIA
11/10/2014	20:45		POLAND	GERMANY
11/10/2014	18:00	F	ROMANIA	HUNGARY
11/10/2014	20:45	F	FINLAND	GREECE
11/10/2014	20:45	F	NORTHERN IRELAND	FAROE ISLANDS
11/10/2014	18:00		ARMENIA	SERBIA
11/10/2014	20:45	1	ALBANIA	DENMARK

MATCHDAY 3

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	номе	AWAY
12/10/2014	18:00		UKRAINE	FYR MACEDONIA
12/10/2014	20:45		BELARUS	SLOVAKIA
12/10/2014	20:45		LUXEMBOURG	SPAIN
12/10/2014	18:00	E	ESTONIA	ENGLAND
12/10/2014	20:45		LITHUANIA	SLOVENIA
12/10/2014	18:00	G	AUSTRIA	MONTENEGRO
12/10/2014	18:00	G	RUSSIA	MOLDOVA
12/10/2014	20:45	G	SWEDEN	LIECHTENSTEIN
13/10/2014	18:00	Α	KAZAKHSTAN	CZECH REPUBLIC
13/10/2014	20:45	Α	ICELAND	NETHERLANDS
13/10/2014	20:45	Α	LATVIA	TURKEY
13/10/2014	20:45	В	ANDORRA	ISRAEL
13/10/2014	20:45	В	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BELGIUM
13/10/2014	20:45	В	WALES	CYPRUS
13/10/2014	20:45	Н	CROATIA	AZERBAIJAN
13/10/2014	20:45	Н	MALTA	ITALY
13/10/2014	20:45	Н	NORWAY	BULGARIA
14/10/2014	20:45	D	GERMANY	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
14/10/2014	20:45	D	GIBRALTAR	GEORGIA
14/10/2014	20:45	D	POLAND	SCOTLAND
14/10/2014	20:45	E	SAN MARINO	SWITZERLAND
14/10/2014	20:45	F	FAROE ISLANDS	HUNGARY
14/10/2014	20:45	F	FINLAND	ROMANIA
14/10/2014	20:45	F	GREECE	NORTHERN IRELAND
14/10/2014	20:45		DENMARK	PORTUGAL
14/10/2014	20:45	1	SERBIA	ALBANIA

MATCHDAY 4

DATE	DATE K.O. CET GROUP HOME AWAY					
14/11/2014	18:00	D	GEORGIA	POLAND		
			GERMANY	GIBRALTAR		
14/11/2014	20:45					
14/11/2014	20:45		SCOTLAND	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND		
14/11/2014	20:45		GREECE	FAROE ISLANDS		
14/11/2014	20:45	F	HUNGARY	FINLAND		
14/11/2014	20:45	F	ROMANIA	NORTHERN IRELAND		
14/11/2014	20:45		PORTUGAL	ARMENIA		
14/11/2014	20:45	1	SERBIA	DENMARK		
15/11/2014	18:00		LUXEMBOURG	UKRAINE		
15/11/2014	20:45	C	FYR MACEDONIA	SLOVAKIA		
15/11/2014	20:45		SPAIN	BELARUS		
15/11/2014		E	ENGLAND	SLOVENIA		
15/11/2014	18:00	E	SAN MARINO	ESTONIA		
15/11/2014	20:45	E	SWITZERLAND	LITHUANIA		
15/11/2014		G	AUSTRIA	RUSSIA		
15/11/2014		G	MOLDOVA	LIECHTENSTEIN		
15/11/2014	20:45	G	MONTENEGRO	SWEDEN		
16/11/2014	18:00	Α	NETHERLANDS	LATVIA		
16/11/2014	20:45	Α	CZECH REPUBLIC	ICELAND		
16/11/2014	20:45	Α	TURKEY	KAZAKHSTAN		
16/11/2014	18:00	В	BELGIUM	WALES		
16/11/2014	18:00	В	CYPRUS	ANDORRA		
16/11/2014	20:45	В	ISRAEL	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA		
16/11/2014	18:00	Н	AZERBAIJAN	NORWAY		
16/11/2014	20:45	Н	BULGARIA	MALTA		
16/11/2014	20:45	н	ITALY	CROATIA		

GROUP D

GERMANY
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
POLAND
SCOTLAND
GEORGIA
CIRDALTAD

GROUP E
ENGLAND
SWITZERLAND
SLOVENIA
ESTONIA
LITHUANIA
SAN MARINO

ditodi i				
GREECE				
HUNGARY				
ROMANIA				
FINLAND				
NORTHERN IRELAND				
FAROE ISLANDS				

RUSSIA	
SWEDEN	
AUSTRIA	
MONTENEGRO	
MOLDOVA	
LIECHTENSTEIN	

GROUP H

ITALY	
CROATIA	
NORWAY	
BULGARIA	
AZERBAIJAN	
MALTA	

GROUP I

PORTUGAL
SERBIA
ARMENIA
ALBANIA

MATCHDAY 5

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	HOME	AWAY
27/03/2015	20:45	С	FYR MACEDONIA	BELARUS
27/03/2015	20:45	С	SLOVAKIA	LUXEMBOURG
27/03/2015	20:45	С	SPAIN	UKRAINE
27/03/2015	20:45	Ε	ENGLAND	LITHUANIA
27/03/2015	20:45	Ε	SLOVENIA	SAN MARINO
27/03/2015	20:45	Ε	SWITZERLAND	ESTONIA
27/03/2015	20:45	G	LIECHTENSTEIN	AUSTRIA
27/03/2015	20:45	G	MOLDOVA	SWEDEN
27/03/2015	20:45	G	MONTENEGRO	RUSSIA
28/03/2015	16:00	Α	KAZAKHSTAN	ICELAND
28/03/2015	18:00	Α	CZECH REPUBLIC	LATVIA
28/03/2015	20:45	Α	NETHERLANDS	TURKEY
28/03/2015	20:45	В	ANDORRA	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
28/03/2015	20:45	В	BELGIUM	CYPRUS
28/03/2015	20:45	В	ISRAEL	WALES
28/03/2015	18:00	Н	AZERBAIJAN	MALTA
28/03/2015	18:00	Н	CROATIA	NORWAY
28/03/2015		Н	BULGARIA	ITALY
29/03/2015	18:00	D	GEORGIA	GERMANY
29/03/2015	18:00	D	SCOTLAND	GIBRALTAR
29/03/2015	20:45	D	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	POLAND
29/03/2015	18:00	F	NORTHERN IRELAND	FINLAND
29/03/2015	18:00	F	ROMANIA	FAROE ISLANDS
29/03/2015	20:45	F	HUNGARY	GREECE
29/03/2015	18:00	1	ALBANIA	ARMENIA
29/03/2015	20:45	1	PORTUGAL	SERBIA

MATCHDAY 6

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	HOME	AWAY
12/06/2015	18:00	А	KAZAKHSTAN	TURKEY
12/06/2015	20:45	Α	ICELAND	CZECH REPUBLIC
12/06/2015	20:45	Α	LATVIA	NETHERLANDS
12/06/2015	20:45	В	ANDORRA	CYPRUS
12/06/2015	20:45	В	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	ISRAEL
12/06/2015	20:45	В	WALES	BELGIUM
12/06/2015	20:45	Н	CROATIA	ITALY
12/06/2015	20:45	Н	MALTA	BULGARIA
12/06/2015	20:45	Н	NORWAY	AZERBAIJAN
13/06/2015	18:00	D	POLAND	GEORGIA
13/06/2015	18:00	D	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	SCOTLAND
13/06/2015	20:45	D	GIBRALTAR	GERMANY
13/06/2015	18:00	F	FINLAND	HUNGARY
13/06/2015	20:45	F	FAROE ISLANDS	GREECE
13/06/2015	20:45	F	NORTHERN IRELAND	ROMANIA
13/06/2015	18:00	1	ARMENIA	PORTUGAL
13/06/2015	20:45	1	DENMARK	SERBIA
14/06/2015	18:00	C	UKRAINE	LUXEMBOURG
14/06/2015	20:45	C	BELARUS	SPAIN
14/06/2015	20:45	C	SLOVAKIA	FYR MACEDONIA
14/06/2015	18:00	Ε	ESTONIA	SAN MARINO
14/06/2015	18:00	E	SLOVENIA	ENGLAND
14/06/2015	20:45	E	LITHUANIA	SWITZERLAND
14/06/2015	18:00	G	LIECHTENSTEIN	MOLDOVA
14/06/2015	18:00	6	RUSSIA	AUSTRIA
14/06/2015	20:45	6	SWEDEN	MONTENEGRO

MATCHDAY 7

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	HOME	AWAY
03/09/2015	20:45	А	CZECH REPUBLIC	KAZAKHSTAN
03/09/2015	20:45	Α	NETHERLANDS	ICELAND
03/09/2015	20:45	Α	TURKEY	LATVIA
03/09/2015	20:45	В	BELGIUM	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA
03/09/2015	20:45	В	CYPRUS	WALES
03/09/2015	20:45	В	ISRAEL	ANDORRA
03/09/2015	18:00	н	AZERBAIJAN	CROATIA
03/09/2015	20:45	Н	BULGARIA	NORWAY
03/09/2015	20:45	Н	ITALY	MALTA
04/09/2015		D	GEORGIA	SCOTLAND
04/09/2015	20:45	D	GERMANY	POLAND
04/09/2015	20:45	D	GIBRALTAR	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
04/09/2015	20:45	F	FAROE ISLANDS	NORTHERN IRELAND
04/09/2015	20:45	F	GREECE	FINLAND
04/09/2015	20:45	F	HUNGARY	ROMANIA
04/09/2015	20:45	1.0	DENMARK	ALBANIA
04/09/2015	20:45	1	SERBIA	ARMENIA
05/09/2015	18:00	С	LUXEMBOURG	FYR MACEDONIA
05/09/2015	18:00	С	UKRAINE	BELARUS
05/09/2015	20:45	C	SPAIN	SLOVAKIA
05/09/2015	18:00	E	ESTONIA	LITHUANIA
05/09/2015	18:00	Е	SAN MARINO	ENGLAND
05/09/2015	20:45	Е	SWITZERLAND	SLOVENIA
05/09/2015	18:00	G	RUSSIA	SWEDEN
05/09/2015	20:45	G	AUSTRIA	MOLDOVA
05/09/2015	20:45	G	MONTENEGRO	LIECHTENSTEIN

MATCHDAY 8

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	НОМЕ	AWAY
06/09/2015	18:00	Α	LATVIA	CZECH REPUBLIC
06/09/2015	18:00	A	TURKEY	NETHERLANDS
06/09/2015	20:45	Α	ICELAND	KAZAKHSTAN
06/09/2015	18:00	В	WALES	ISRAEL
06/09/2015	20:45	В	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	ANDORRA
06/09/2015	20:45	В	CYPRUS	BELGIUM
06/09/2015	18:00	Н	MALTA	AZERBAIJAN
06/09/2015	18:00		NORWAY	CROATIA
06/09/2015	20:45	Н	ITALY	BULGARIA
07/09/2015	20:45	D	POLAND	GIBRALTAR
07/09/2015	20:45	D	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	GEORGIA
07/09/2015	20:45	D	SCOTLAND	GERMANY
07/09/2015	20:45	F	FINLAND	FAROE ISLANDS
07/09/2015	20:45	F	NORTHERN IRELAND	HUNGARY
07/09/2015	20:45	F	ROMANIA	GREECE
07/09/2015	18:00		ARMENIA	DENMARK
07/09/2015	20:45		ALBANIA	PORTUGAL
08/09/2015	20:45	C	BELARUS	LUXEMBOURG
08/09/2015	20:45	C	FYR MACEDONIA	SPAIN
08/09/2015	20:45	C	SLOVAKIA	UKRAINE
08/09/2015	20:45		ENGLAND	SWITZERLAND
08/09/2015	20:45	E	LITHUANIA	SAN MARINO
08/09/2015	20:45	E	SLOVENIA	ESTONIA
08/09/2015	20:45	G	LIECHTENSTEIN	RUSSIA
08/09/2015	20:45	G	MOLDOVA	MONTENEGRO
08/09/2015	20:45	G	SWEDEN	AUSTRIA

MATCHDAY 9

DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	HOME	AWAY
08/10/2015	18:00	D	GEORGIA	GIBRALTAR
08/10/2015	20:45	D	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	GERMANY
08/10/2015	20:45	D	SCOTLAND	POLAND
08/10/2015	20:45	F	HUNGARY	FAROE ISLANDS
08/10/2015	20:45		NORTHERN IRELAND	GREECE
08/10/2015	20:45	F	ROMANIA	FINLAND
08/10/2015	20:45		ALBANIA	SERBIA
08/10/2015	20:45		PORTUGAL	DENMARK
09/10/2015			FYR MACEDONIA	UKRAINE
09/10/2015	20:45		SLOVAKIA	BELARUS
09/10/2015	20:45		SPAIN	LUXEMBOURG
09/10/2015			ENGLAND	ESTONIA
09/10/2015	20:45	Е	SLOVENIA	LITHUANIA
09/10/2015	20:45	E	SWITZERLAND	SAN MARINO
09/10/2015	20:45	G	LIECHTENSTEIN	SWEDEN
09/10/2015	20:45	G	MOLDOVA	RUSSIA
09/10/2015	20:45	G	MONTENEGRO	AUSTRIA
10/10/2015	18:00	Α	ICELAND	LATVIA
10/10/2015	18:00	Α	KAZAKHSTAN	NETHERLANDS
10/10/2015	20:45	Α	CZECH REPUBLIC	TURKEY
10/10/2015	20:45	В	ANDORRA	BELGIUM
10/10/2015	20:45	В	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	WALES
10/10/2015	20:45	В	ISRAEL	CYPRUS
10/10/2015	18:00	Н	AZERBAIJAN	ITALY
10/10/2015	18:00	Н	NORWAY	MALTA
10/10/2015	20:45	Н	CROATIA	BULGARIA

MATCHDAY 10

	NATCHDAT 10				
DATE	K.O. CET	GROUP	НОМЕ	AWAY	
11/10/2015	20:45	D	GERMANY	GEORGIA	
11/10/2015	20:45	D	GIBRALTAR	SCOTLAND	
11/10/2015	20:45	D	POLAND	REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	
11/10/2015	18:00	F	FAROE ISLANDS	ROMANIA	
11/10/2015	18:00		FINLAND	NORTHERN IRELAND	
11/10/2015	18:00	F	GREECE	HUNGARY	
11/10/2015	18:00		ARMENIA	ALBANIA	
11/10/2015	18:00		SERBIA	PORTUGAL	
12/10/2015	20:45		BELARUS	FYR MACEDONIA	
12/10/2015	20:45	С	LUXEMBOURG	SLOVAKIA	
12/10/2015	20:45		UKRAINE	SPAIN	
12/10/2015	20:45	E	ESTONIA	SWITZERLAND	
12/10/2015	20:45	E	LITHUANIA	ENGLAND	
12/10/2015	20:45	E	SAN MARINO	SLOVENIA	
12/10/2015	18:00	G	AUSTRIA	LIECHTENSTEIN	
12/10/2015	18:00	G	RUSSIA	MONTENEGRO	
12/10/2015		G	SWEDEN	MOLDOVA	
13/10/2015	20:45	A	LATVIA	KAZAKHSTAN	
13/10/2015	20:45	A	NETHERLANDS	CZECH REPUBLIC	
13/10/2015	20:45	А	TURKEY	ICELAND	
13/10/2015	20:45	В	BELGIUM	ISRAEL	
13/10/2015	20:45	В	CYPRUS	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	
13/10/2015	20:45	В	WALES	ANDORRA	
13/10/2015	20:45	Н	BULGARIA	AZERBAIJAN	
13/10/2015	20:45	Н	ITALY	NORWAY	
13/10/2015	20:45	Н	MALTA	CROATIA	

RICELAND



Entering the preliminaries for the first time for the 1964 competition, Iceland were slow to make an impression in UEFA European Championship qualifying, though a shock 2-1 defeat of East Germany in Reykjavik in 1975 hinted at their potential. Ahead of UEFA EURO 2000 they recorded four wins as they amassed 15 points to run France. Ukraine and Russia close. Four years later they were even closer, missing out on the play-offs by a solitary point after winning half their eight fixtures. Iceland finished second bottom of their UEFA EURO 2008 and 2012 qualifying groups, but raised their game to reach the 2014 FIFA World Cup play-offs with a team constructed on the foundations of the talented squad that qualified for the 2011 UEFA European Under-21 Championship in Denmark.

Leading scorers

All-time: Eidur Gudjohnsen **24** Current: Kolbeinn Sigthórsson **13**

Most appearances

All-time: Rúnar Kristinsson **104** Current: Aron Gunnarsson **41** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P86 W18 D15 L53

Coaches Lars Lagerbäck (16 July 1948, Swedish) and Heimir Hallgrímsson (10 June 1967, Icelandic) Lagerbäck led Sweden to the 2000 and 2004 finals (with Tommy Söderberg) and sole to EURO 2008 before taking reins of Nigeria. Hallgrímsson, formerly Lagerbäck's assistant, was promoted to the joint coaching role following the 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign. Hallgrímsson, who coached ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar between 2006 and 2011, will take sole charge after the UEFA EURO 2016 qualifiers.

A tearful Eidur Gudjohnsen called time on his international career at 35 after Iceland's World Cup play-off defeat; he came on as a substitute for his father Arnór when making his debut at 17.





Israel's performances in EURO qualifying have been mixed. After finishing second bottom of their group in the EURO '96 edition, they were runners-up to Spain in the 2000 campaign, 5-0 and 8-0 home victories against Austria and San Marino respectively among the highlights. Third is the best the team has managed since, although under Frenchman Luis Fernandez there was hope they could edge ahead of either Greece or Croatia and take a UEFA EURO 2012 play-off place. However, defeats against both within the first four games put Israel up against it. Optimism was restored

by three successive wins, but failure to take anything from the return matches with the top two resulted in another third-place finish.

Leading scorers

All-time: Mordechai Spiegler **33** Current: Yossi Benayoun **24**

Most appearances

All-time: Arik Benado **94** Current: Yossi Benayoun **93** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P50 W21 D10 L19

Coach Eli Gutman Date of birth 24 February 1958 Nationality Israeli



Gutman has completed a sports science degree, is a qualified teacher and was a naval officer during

his national service; he was re-appointed on a new two-year contract in January 2014.

5 Israel were unbeaten in their first five UEFA European Championship qualifiers, finally losing 4-3 to Poland on 25 April 1995.





Europe's most successful nation in the FIFA World Cup with four victories, Italy's sole **UEFA** European Championship success came in Rome in 1968. Under coach Ferruccio Valcareggi and with Dino Zoff in goal, Yugoslavia were beaten 2-0 in a final replay two days after a 1-1 draw. The Azzurri came close to adding a second European title in 2000, Sylvain Wiltord's last-gasp equaliser for France denying them before David Trezeguet ended their dreams with an extra-time golden goal. There was more disappointment in 2012, but a 4-0 loss to Spain was hardly close - indeed, that marks the most onesided EURO final to date. Semi-finalists in 1980 and 1988, Italy have reached every tournament since 1992, when they were edged out by the Commonwealth of Independent States in qualifying.

Leading scorers

All-time: Luigi Riva **35** Current: Alberto Gilardino **19**

Most appearances

All-time: Gianluigi Buffon **138** Current: Gianluigi Buffon **138**



EURO tournaments 8 EURO best winners 1968 Qualifying record P98 W57 D27 L14

Coach Cesare Prandelli Date of birth 19 August 1957 Nationality Italian



Former
Juventus
midfielder
Prandelli took
charge of Italy
in 2010 after a
successful spell

at ACF Fiorentina, having worked his way up the coaching ranks with the likes of Atalanta BC, Parma FC and AS Roma.

Italy hosted the first eightteam final tournament in 1980 but had to settle for finishing fourth after losing a third-place play-off to Czechoslovakia on penalties.

KAZAKHSTAN



A former Soviet republic, Kazakhstan joined the Asian Football Confederation after independence in 1992 but were accepted as a UEFA member a decade later. Their first taste of UEFA European Championship action came in the 2008 campaign, which began promisingly as Arno Pijpers' side drew their opening fixture 0-0 in Belgium. They went on to beat Serbia 2-1 in Almaty, a 1-0 victory in Armenia and 2-2 draw with Belgium taking them to a respectable ten points from 14 games. There was less to celebrate four years later in a campaign Kazakhstan started under the guidance of Bernd Storck, finishing with

Miroslav Beránek in charge. Drawn in a section containing Germany, Belgium, Turkey, Austria and Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan finished bottom with just four points, their only triumph a 2-1 home win against Azerbaijan.

Leading scorers

All-time: Ruslan Baltiev **13** Current: Nurbol Zhumaskaliyev, Sergei Ostapenko **6**

Most appearances

All-time: Ruslan Baltiev **73** Current: Nurbol Zhumaskaliyev **57** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P24 W3 D5 L16

Coach: Yuri Krasnozhan Date of birth: 07 June 1963 Nationality: Russian



Krasnozhan made his name by leading his old club PFC Spartak Nalchik into the Russian top flight in 2010/11 on a modest

budget. He took charge of Kazakhstan in February 2014.

6,000 When Kazakhstan flew to Coimbra to take on Portugal in November 2006, it was the furthest a team had travelled to play a EURO qualifier – a journey of just over 6,000km.

Le Rendez-Vous

LATVIA



Latvia's qualification for UEFA EURO 2004 was one of the major upsets of the UEFA European Championship's modern era. They defeated Turkey in the play-offs, winning 1-0 at home before recovering from 2-0 down to draw the second leg 2-2 in Istanbul, after finishing group runners-up to Sweden. A draw with Germany in the finals in Portugal added to the team's lustre, but that remains an isolated success. Aleksandrs Starkovs' team were unable to reach those heights in qualification for UEFA EURO 2008, losing eight of their 12 games as they ended fifth in their seven-team section. Indeed, Latvia have finished fourth or fifth in every campaign bar UEFA EURO 2004. Last time round it was fourth after a strong conclusion that brought seven points from their last four fixtures.

Leading scorers

All-time: Māris Verpakovskis **29** Current: Juris Laizāns **15**

Most appearances

All-time: Vitālijs Astafjevs **167** Current: Juris Laizāns **113** EURO tournaments 1 EURO best group stage 2004 Qualifying record P52 W20 D8 L24

Coach Marians Pahars Date of birth 5 August 1976 Nationality Latvian



A diminutive forward known as the 'Latvian Owen' who earned reverential status at Skonto

FC and Southampton FC, Pahars coached the national U21 side for one match before being promoted following Starkovs' departure.

167 Current Latvia assistant coach Vitālijs Astafjevs won a European record 167 caps in an 18-year career running from 1992 to 2010. At 36 he was named Latvian player of the year for the third time.

P LIECHTENSTEIN



Liechtenstein have been involved in major competitions since 1994 but in ten qualifying campaigns have only once succeeded in avoiding bottom place in their group, in the 2006 FIFA World Cup campaign when they accumulated eight points – their best haul to date. Liechtenstein have found it tough going in UEFA European Championship qualifying, scoring only 17 goals while conceding 150, but delivered their best performance in UEFA EURO 2008, when they amassed seven points thanks to a 3-0 home win and 1-1 away draw against Iceland and a 1-0 defeat of Latvia. The

Alpine side's haul of four points in a UEFA EURO 2012 section also containing Spain, the Czech Republic and Scotland was earned in their meetings with Lithuania, who they defeated 2-0 at home before drawing 0-0 in the return.

Leading scorer

All-time: Mario Frick **16** Current: Mario Frick **16**

Most appearances

All-time: Mario Frick, Martin Stocklasa 112 Current: Mario Frick, Martin Stocklasa 112 EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P48 W4 D5 L39

Coach Rene Pauritsch Date of birth 4 February 1964 Nationality Austrian



Pauritsch guided Liechtenstein to 1-1 home draws against Latvia and Slovakia in his first two competitive

fixtures at the helm having taken charge at the start of 2013.

16 The age of long-serving goalkeeper Peter Jehle when he made his international debut in a EURO qualifier against Azerbaijan on 14 October 1998.



6 LITHUANIA

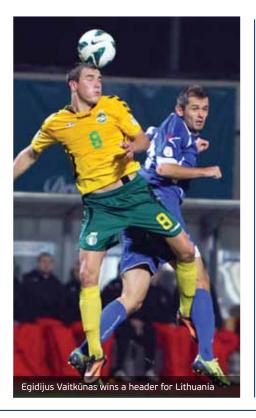
Formerly part of the Soviet Union, Lithuania made their competition debut as an independent nation in qualifying for EURO '96. Impressive starts have been common ever since they began their first campaign with wins in Ukraine (2-0) and Slovenia (2-1), but Lithuania have never finished higher than third in a qualifying section. The Baltic nation were four points away from a play-off berth for UEFA EURO 2004 and four years later drew 1-1 with newly crowned world champions Italy. Following another positive start, Lithuania faded in UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, suffering five defeats in six matches including a 2-0 loss to Liechtenstein. They finished just ahead of those opponents on five points, the first time in five attempts they had failed to reach double figures, leading to coach Raimondas Žutautas's resignation.

Leading scorers

All-time: Tomas Danilevičius **19** Current: Darvydas Šernas, Marius Stankevičius, Edgaras Česnauskis **5**

Most appearances

All-time: Andrius Skerla **84** Current: Žydrūnas Karčemarskas **66**



EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P48 W17 D7 L24

Coach Igoris Pankratjevas **Date of birth** 9 August 1964 **Nationality** Lithuanian



Pankratjevas took over the Lithuania Under-21s in 2007 and five years later was appointed assistant to

senior coach Csaba László. Named caretaker boss in September 2013, he signed a permanent deal three months later.

Lithuania have been drawn alongside Scotland for four successive EURO qualifying campaigns; they have lost five of their fixtures, drawn two and won one.

LUXEMBOURG



Luxembourg made an audacious start to the UEFA European Championship when they stunned the Netherlands in their first ever tie in the competition in 1963. A side spearheaded by perhaps the country's finest ever player, Louis Pilot, came close to reaching the following year's final tournament, drawing home and away against Denmark in the quarter-finals before being edged out 1-0 in a replay. That is, by a distance, as close as Luxembourg have come. It was another 50 games before they next managed a qualifying victory, winning 1-0 in Malta in the EURO '96 preliminaries. They triumphed in the reverse fixture too, also

securing a famous victory against eventual group winners the Czech Republic; Luxembourg finished with ten points, still only enough for fifth in the six-team section. They have ended bottom ever since.

Leading scorers

All-time: Léon Mart **16** Current: Aurélien Joachim **6**

Most appearances

All-time: Jeff Strasser **98** Current: Eric Hoffmann **87** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P99 W6 D9 L84

Coach Luc Holtz Date of birth 14 June 1969 Nationality Luxembourger



Holtz took over FC Etzella Ettelbruck as player-coach in 1999. He was appointed Luxembourg

Under-21s coach in 2008 and assumed the senior helm following the resignation of Guy Hellers in August 2010.

P5 Fons Leweck's 95thminute strike earned Luxembourg a 1-0 win against Belarus in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying in October 2007, their first competitive victory in 12 years.





The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's first participation in a competitive tournament as an independent state came with their qualifying bid for EURO '96, starting out with a commendable 1-1 draw against 1992 champions Denmark in Skopje. They have consistently proved tough to beat, earning draws with Croatia and the Republic of Ireland during UEFA EURO 2000 qualifying. and in England and Slovakia four years later. England were held once again in qualifying for UEFA EURO 2008, a campaign which included a 2-0 home victory against eventual quarterfinalists Croatia. UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying started positively, with four points collected in their opening three games, but a run of four straight defeats signalled the end of any qualification chances. FYROM finished fifth in the six-team Group B, their only wins coming against Andorra.

Leading scorers

All-time: Goran Pandev **26** Current: Nikolce Noveski, Agim Ibraimi **5**

Most appearances

All-time: Goce Sedloski **100** Current: Nikolce Noveski **64** EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P48 W10 D13 L25

Coach Boshko Djurovski Date of birth 28 December 1961 Nationality Macedonian



As a midfielder Djurovski won league titles at FK Crvena zvezda and Servette FC, represented

Yugoslavia and FYROM at international level, and took over as coach in November 2013 after a spell in Japan.

Since making their debut in the competition, FYROM have beaten only three sides away from home in EURO qualifiers: Malta, Estonia and Andorra (twice).





Malta's first competitive international was a UEFA European Championship qualifier away to Denmark in June 1962. They lost 6-1 on that occasion and have never won away. The 2-0 victory against Greece in 1975 remains one of the nation's undoubted football highlights and the goalless draw against eventual champions West Germany, no less, in 1979 also ranks as one of Malta's finest achievements. Other notable results include 2-1 wins against Iceland in 1982 and Hungary in 2006 and the 1987 2-2 draw in Portugal. In the 2012 campaign, Malta mustered a solitary point in Group F

courtesy of a 1-1 home draw with Georgia but were unfortunate not to have more to show for their efforts, conceding the only goal in the 92nd minute against Greece.

Leading scorer

All-time: Michael Mifsud **39** Current: Michael Mifsud **39**

Most appearances

All-time: David Carabott **122** Current: Michael Mifsud **102**

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P92 W3 D12 L77

Coach Pietro Ghedin Date of birth 21 November 1952 Nationality Italian



The former SS Lazio defender has, over 27 years, been Italy Under-18, women's and assistant men's

coach as well as leading Malta between 1992 and 1995 before returning in 2012.

In his two spells in charge Ghedin has overseen eight wins as Malta coach – three more than anyone else. Four of those victories have come in the ten matches since he returned.



MOLDOVA

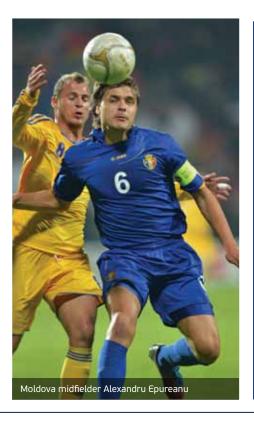
The qualifying campaign for UEFA EURO 2016 will be Moldova's sixth in the UEFA European Championship. Their best haul to date came in preliminaries for UEFA EURO 2008, when Igor Dobrovolski's side took 12 points from 12 qualifiers, finishing fifth in the seven-team Group C. Moldova's 48 UEFA European Championship qualifiers going into the UEFA EURO 2016 competition have included 30 defeats. Yet 11 victories – two against Georgia and San Marino plus others versus Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Malta, Wales and Finland – give the small nation hope for the future. The 4-0 victory against San Marino in their final 2012 qualifier was their biggest ever competitive victory. Moldova had opened their campaign with a 2-0 defeat of Finland but there were no more points other than against San Marino.

Leading scorers

All-time: Serghei Cleșcenco **11** Current: Viorel Frunză **7**

Most appearances

All-time: Radu Rebeja **74** Current: Alexandru Epureanu **58**



EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P48 W11 D7 L30

Coach Ion Caras Date of birth 11 September 1950 Nationality Moldovan



The former FC Zimbru Chisinau defender was Moldova's first coach between 1991 and 1997, and returned 15

years later after managing several of the country's leading clubs, winning two Moldovan Cups.

In 1997, British comedian Tony Hawks bet he could beat at tennis all 11 Moldovan players that had lost a World Cup qualifier to England; his attempt to do so became a book and then a film.

FS CG

MONTENEGRO



Granted full membership of UEFA in January 2007, Montenegro have only competed in one UEFA European Championship campaign. It was a debut to remember, with the nation of just over 600,000 battling their way to the play-offs, where they lost out to the Czech Republic – 2-0 in Prague and 1-0 in Podgorica. They were unbeaten in their first five games, wins against Wales, Bulgaria and Switzerland preceding a creditable goalless draw with England at Wembley. Things faded after that, with a 1-1 draw at home to Bulgaria and a first defeat, 2-1 in Wales. Zlatko Kranjčar was then replaced by

his assistant, Branko Brnović, and Montenegro rallied, a thrilling 2-2 draw against England in Podgorica, secured by Andrija Delibašić's late equaliser, earning the runners-up spot. That put them in the play-offs, but they went no further.

Leading scorer

All-time: Mirko Vučinić **15** Current: Mirko Vučinić **15**

Most appearances

All-time: Elsad Zverotić **44** Current: Elsad Zverotić **44**

EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P10 W3 D3 L4

Coach Branko Brnović **Date of birth** 8 August 1967 **Nationality** Montenegrin



A talented midfielder as a player, Brnović has been a member of Montenegro's coaching staff

since February 2007. He was assistant to Zoran Filipović and Kranjčar before landing the top job in September 2011.

Delibašić's 91st-minute header earned Montenegro a 2-2 draw against England in October 2011 – they had been 2-0 down – and ensured them a place in the play-offs in their first EURO qualifying campaign.

NETHERLANDS



At the 1988 UEFA European Championship in West Germany, the Netherlands finally seized their moment on the international stage. Rinus Michels' talented team included classy forwards Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten, and it was an unforgettable Van Basten volley in the final that completed a 2-0 victory against the Soviet Union and secured the Oranie their first major trophy. They have been ever-present in the final tournament since, reaching the last four in 1992, 2000 and 2004. A side captained by Johan Cruyff finished third on their debut in 1976, eliminated in extra time by Czechoslovakia in the semi-finals. In 1992 and 2000 they lasted the additional 30 minutes before succumbing on penalties. Those disappointments came amid a run of four shoot-out exits in five major tournaments, the EURO '96 quarter-final defeat included.

Leading scorer

All-time: Robin van Persie **41** Current: Robin van Persie **41**

Most appearances

All-time: Edwin van der Sar **130** Current: Rafael van der Vaart **109** EURO tournaments 9 EURO best winners 1988 Qualifying record P100 W68 D14 L18

Coach Louis van Gaal Date of birth 8 August 1951 Nationality Dutch

Oranje coach for a second time, Van Gaal led AFC Ajax to 1992 UEFA Cup and 1995 UEFA Champions League glory



and also won domestic titles with FC Barcelona, FC Bayern München and AZ Alkmaar.

12 Klaas-Jan Huntelaar top scored in qualifying for UEFA EURO 2012 with 12 goals, one shy of the 13-goal record set by Northern Ireland's David Healy four years previously.

NORTHERN IRELAND



Northern Ireland have never reached the finals, coming closest in the 1984 qualifying series when they beat holders West Germany home and away only to lose out on goal difference. They first entered the UEFA European Championship ahead of the 1964 finals, beating Poland 4-0 on aggregate before losing out in the quarter-finals to eventual winners Spain. Fans also got a run for their money during the UEFA EURO 2008 campaign when David Healy's prolific strike rate helped earn memorable home wins against eventual champions Spain (3-2), Sweden (2-1) and Denmark (2-1), but

ultimately Northern Ireland finished third in their pool. A bright start to UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying included a draw with Italy, but a draw in the Faroe Islands and defeat by Estonia meant the campaign ended in disappointment.

Leading scorers

All-time: David Healy **36** Current: Kyle Lafferty **9**

Most appearances

All-time: Pat Jennings 119 Current: Aaron Hughes 88 EURO tournaments 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record P100 W34 D22 L44

Coach Michael O'Neill Date of birth 05 July 1969 Nationality Northern Irish



Made history while in charge of Shamrock Rovers FC as they became the first Irish side to qualify for the group

stage of a European competition. He took charge of Northern Ireland on 1 February 2012.

Healy's tally of 13 goals in 2008 qualifying was a UEFA European Championship record and included a hat-trick against Spain and both in the home defeat of Sweden.



NORWAY

Norway did not begin life in the UEFA European Championship particularly well, losing both their matches against Austria in qualification for the 1960 tournament. Since then they have come close to qualifying several times but managed to do so only once – in 2000, when the highlight was a 1-0 win against Spain in Rotterdam. However, two late Spain goals in the last group game against Yugoslavia denied Nils Johan Semb's team a quarter-final place. Norway reached the play-offs for UEFA EURO 2004, where Spain proved too strong, while a home defeat at the hands of Turkey ended their quest for a place at the 2008 finals. Eqil 'Drillo' Olsen returned as coach but UEFA EURO 2012 was another near miss, defeat in Portugal and one point from two meetings with Denmark proving their downfall.

Leading scorers

All-time: Jørgen Juve 33

Current: Morten Gamst Pedersen 16

Most appearances

All-time: John Arne Riise **110** Current: Brede Hangeland **89**



EURO tournaments 1 EURO best group stage 2000 Qualifying record P102 W37 D19 L46

Coach Per-Mathias Høgmo Date of birth 1 December 1959 Nationality Norwegian



Named Norway coach in 2013 following a spell in Sweden with Djurgårdens IF, the former Tromsø IL and

Rosenborg BK coach has also had a stint in charge of Norway's Under-21s, and led the women's team to Olympic glory in 2000.

Norway failed to win their first seven EURO qualifiers – two draws and five defeats – before finally breaking their duck with a 3-1 defeat of Sweden in September 1967.

POLAND POLAND



Poland eventually qualified for a UEFA European Championship at the 13th time of asking after topping a 2008 group featuring Portugal, Serbia and Belgium. Leo Beenhakker's side made a limited impression in Austria and Switzerland, managing a goal – from Roger Guerreiro – and a point as they finished bottom of their section. Poland doubled both tallies as co-hosts at UEFA EURO 2012 but, once again, ended propping up the group despite a promising start to their opener against Greece. Before 2008 the closest the Biało-czerwoni had come to qualifying was in 1976 and 1980. In

1976 they missed out on goal difference to a Netherlands side that barred their path again four years later, when they recovered from 2-0 down to beat East Germany and pip Poland by a point.

Leading scorers

All-time: Włodzimierz Lubański **48** Current: Robert Lewandowski **18**

Most appearances

All-time: Michał Żewłakow **102** Current: Jakub Błaszczykowski **68** EURO tournaments 2 EURO best group stage 2008, 2012 Qualifying record P90 W38 D24 L28

Coach Adam Nawałka Date of birth 23 October 1957 Nationality Polish

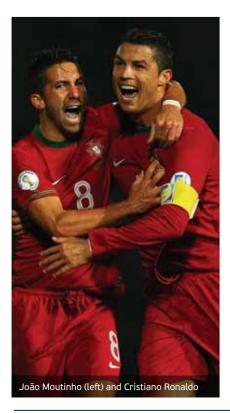


Part of the 1978 FIFA World Cup squad, experienced coach Nawałka left league

leaders Górnik Zabrze in October to take the Poland helm having briefly assisted Leo Beenhakker in 2007.

By the time Poland finally qualified for a UEFA European Championship in 2008 they had been to seven World Cups, most notably finishing third in 1974 and 1982.

PORTUGAL



Portugal made their UEFA European Championship finals debut in 1984 and came within six minutes of the Paris showpiece, leading hosts France deep into extra time until Jean-François Domergue and Michel Platini struck to turn the tie. They next qualified for the tournament in 1996 and are one of seven nations to take part in the last five EUROs, along with Spain, Germany, Italy, France, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic. Portugal have never failed to advance beyond the group stage, losing semi-finals to eventual winners France in 1984 and 2000, and Spain in 2012, when they were beaten on penalties. They went one better on home soil at UEFA EURO 2004 before going down 1-0 to Greece, complete outsiders at the start of the tournament, in the Lisbon final.

Leading scorers

All-time: Pauleta, Cristiano Ronaldo **47** Current: Cristiano Ronaldo **47**

Most appearances

All-time: Luís Figo **127** Current: Cristiano Ronaldo **109** EURO tournaments 6 EURO best runners-up 2004 Qualifying record P99 W54 D24 L21

Coach Paulo Bento Date of birth 20 June 1969 Nationality Portuguese



Hired by Portugal in 2010, the former international midfielder established

himself as a coach at Sporting Clube de Portugal, and led his country to the semi-finals of UEFA EURO 2012.

Portugal are the only team to lose a UEFA European Championship final on home turf, having been beaten by Greece in the first and last games of UEFA EURO 2004.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



The Republic of Ireland qualified for their first major tournament in the 1988 UEFA European Championship, opening their campaign with a famous 1-0 win against England thanks to Ray Houghton's early header. They then held the Soviet Union 1-1 but Jack Charlton's side were edged out for a semi-final place in West Germany, albeit only by an 82nd-minute goal for eventual champions the Netherlands. After losing 1996 and 2000 play-offs, they made the 2012 finals after victory against Estonia over two legs. Ireland had performed consistently throughout, at one point going eight matches (friendlies included) without

conceding, a new national record. Giovanni Trapattoni's side arrived in Poland and Ukraine 14 games unbeaten, but their aura of impregnability was soon punctured as they lost 3-1 to Croatia, 4-0 to Spain and 2-0 to Italy.

Leading scorer

All-time: Robbie Keane **62** Current: Robbie Keane **62**

Most appearances

All-time: Robbie Keane **131** Current: Robbie Keane **131** EURO tournaments 2 EURO best group stage 1988, 2012 Qualifying record P109 W44 D32 L33

Coach Martin O'Neill Date of birth 1 March 1952 Nationality Northern Irish



A two-time European Cup-winner as a Nottingham Forest FC player, O'Neill's management

successes have included leading Celtic FC to the 2003 UEFA Cup final. He became Ireland coach in autumn 2013.

1964 Ireland made the two-legged 1964 quarter-finals but were beaten 7-1 on aggregate by Spain, who were to host and win the four-team finals.



ROMANIA

Having often encountered tough draws when they have reached the finals, Romania's EURO success has been limited, although Emeric Ienei guided his team through a group containing Germany, Portugal and England to reach the last eight of UEFA EURO 2000. It was a feat that Victor Piturcă had a chance of matching eight years later after impressive draws against 2006 World Cup finalists France and Italy – Adrian Mutu missing a penalty in the latter match - but beating the Netherlands in the final group game proved a step too far. A slow start cost Romania the chance to make it to UEFA EURO 2012, draws against Albania and Belarus preceding a 2-0 loss in France. Three draws and a victory in the last four matches both earned third spot and provided hope for the future.

Leading scorers

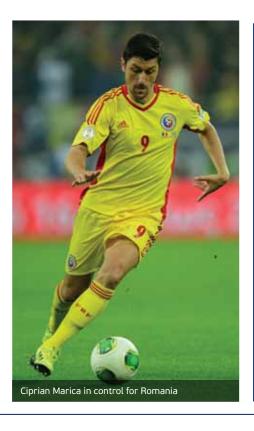
All-time: Gheorghe Hagi, Adrian Mutu **35**

Current: Adrian Mutu 35

Most appearances

All-time: Dorinel Munteanu 134

Current: Răzvan Raț **94**



EURO tournaments 4 EURO best quarter-finals 2000 Qualifying record P105 W54 D30 L21

Coach Victor Piţurcă Date of birth 8 May 1956 Nationality Romanian



Currently in his third spell with Romania, Piţurcă won the 1986 European Champion Clubs' Cup as a player

with FC Steaua Bucureşti, the team he coached to the domestic league title in 2000/01.

lonel Ganea scored a penalty in the 89th minute to secure a 3-2 win against England at UEFA EURO 2000 and put Romania into the quarter-finals for the first time.

RUSSIA



The Soviet Union won the inaugural competition in 1960 as a side containing Lev Yashin and Igor Netto beat Yugoslavia 2-1 in the final; striker Viktor Ponedelnik scored the extra-time winner. The USSR were runners-up to Spain in 1964, lost the 1972 final to West Germany and the 1988 showpiece to the Netherlands. Playing under the banner of the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) at EURO '92 was their last hurrah before dissolution. Post-Soviet Russia earned one win in six finals games in 1996 and 2004, failing to qualify in 2000, but made the 2008 semi-finals. UEFA EURO 2012 brought

another group stage exit, despite opening with a 4-1 defeat of the Czech Republic and a 1-1 draw with co-hosts Poland. Needing just another draw, they lost 1-0 to Greece.

Leading scorers

All-time: Oleh Blokhin **42** (for USSR) Current: Aleksandr Kerzhakov **24**

Most appearances

All-time: Viktor Onopko **113** (including 4 for CIS) Current: Sergei Ignashevich **93** EURO tournaments 10 (including 5 as USSR and 1 as CIS) EURO best winners 1960 (as USSR) Qualifying record P110 W67 D27 L16

Coach Fabio Capello **Date of birth** 18 June 1946 **Nationality** Italian



Successful with Juventus, AC Milan and AS Roma – as player and coach – Capello also led Real Madrid CF

to two league titles. After coaching England, he took the Russia job in 2012 and recently signed a new contract until after the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

Vladimir Beschastnykh's 26-goal tally is the highest for the Russian national team since the end of the Soviet Union. Aleksandr Kerzhakov is only two away from matching that total.

SAN MARINO



Damage limitation is usually the name of the game for San Marino. By the end of 2013 they had only won one match – a friendly against Liechtenstein in 2004 - and lost 57 in a row. The tiny land-locked nation has participated in six UEFA European Championship qualifying campaigns and made their UEFA European Championship debut in qualifying for EURO '92, ending with eight defeats in eight outings, conceding 33 and scoring once. It has become a familiar outcome, with San Marino still awaiting their first point in EURO qualifying having registered six goals in their 56 qualifying matches. Giampaolo Mazza's side leaked 19 goals in their first three Group E outings ahead of the 2012 edition, against the Netherlands, Sweden and Hungary. San Marino did, however, go close to earning their first point when they lost 1-0 at home to Finland, their best result in a campaign which also included an 11-0 reverse in the Netherlands.

Leading scorer

All-time: Andy Selva 8 Current: Andy Selva 8

Most appearances

All-time: Damiano Vannucci 69 Current: Damiano Vannucci 69 **EURO tournaments** 0 EURO best never qualified Qualifying record **P**56 **W**0 **D**0 **L**56

Coach Pierangelo Manzaroli Date of birth 25 March 1969 **Nationality** Sammarinese



Capped 38 times by San Marino, Manzaroli took charge of the Under-21s in 2010 and was named successor to long-

standing senior coach Giampaolo Mazza in February 2014.

The number of goals conceded by San Marino in their 56 UEFA European Championship qualifying games to date, including a record 13 in one game against Germany in September 2006.

SCOTLAND



It took Scotland seven attempts to reach a final tournament and on debut at EURO '92 Andy Roxburgh's team lost to the Netherlands (1-0) and Germany (2-0) before signing off with a 3-0 victory over the Commonwealth of Independent States. Craig Brown was at the helm for EURO '96, where a 0-0 draw against the Netherlands preceded a 2-0 defeat by hosts England, Scotland bowing out despite beating Switzerland 1-0 as a late Patrick Kluivert strike against England took the Dutch through on goals scored. Scotland lost out in the play-offs in 2000 and 2004 and missed

out because of a final-day defeat by Italy in 2008 despite beating France home and away. Pitted against Spain in UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying they finished third behind the defending and eventual champions and the Czech Republic.

Leading scorers

All-time: Denis Law, Kenny Dalglish 30

Current: Kris Boyd 7

Most appearances

All-time: Kenny Dalglish 102 Current: Gary Caldwell **55**

EURO tournaments 2 EURO best group stage 1992, 1996 Qualifying record P100 W48 D23 L29

Coach Gordon Strachan Date of birth 9 February 1957 **Nationality** Scottish



Capped 50 times, Strachan managed Celtic FC to three Scottish titles and earned home and away wins

against Croatia in 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifying after taking the Scotland reins in January 2013.

1872 Scotland competed in the first official international match against England in 1872. The game in Partick ended scoreless, with all of Scotland's players provided by Queen's Park FC.





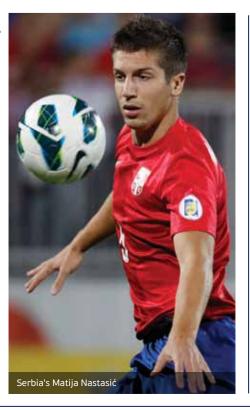
Serbia have failed to make an impact in the UEFA European Championship since starting to compete independently in 2006 but they have a rich EURO tradition as part of Yugoslavia. They won the very first finals match in 1960, 5-4 against hosts France, and took the Soviet Union to extra time in the inaugural final before going down 2-1. Yugoslavia were also ten minutes from lifting the trophy eight years later when Italy equalised to force a replay they then won 2-0. Semi-finalists in 1976, they battled to the last eight in 2000 before losing 6-1 to the Netherlands. Serbia have endured slim pickings since, finishing third in their last three EURO qualifying campaigns (the first as Serbia and Montenegro). Their UEFA EURO 2012 bid, under Vladimir Petrović, never got going, a 3-1 home loss to Estonia ultimately their undoing. The Eagles still had every chance going into their last game but defeat in Slovenia meant they failed to overhaul Estonia in the play-off spot behind runaway winners Italy.

Leading scorers

All-time: Stjepan Bobek **38** Current: Zoran Tošić **8**

Most appearances

All-time: Dejan Stanković **103** Current: Branislav Ivanović **67**



EURO tournaments 5*
EURO best runners-up 1960, 1968 (as Yugoslavia)
Qualifying record
P96 W53 D24 L19
*Yugoslavia also qualified for EURO '92 but were unable to compete

Coach Vacant

21 Serbia have lost just one of their last 21 home games in UEFA European Championship qualifying, a run dating back to May 1991, as Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro and, since 2006, as Serbia alone.

SLOVAKIA



Eight of the 11 Czechoslovakian players who started the 1976 UEFA European Championship final against West Germany – and triumphed on penalties after a 2-2 draw – hailed from Slovakia, but since the country began competing as an independent state there has been little for their fans to cheer. Five qualifying campaigns have produced three third-place finishes – in their first three attempts – followed by two in fourth. A trend of losing on their own turf continued in the UEFA EURO 2008 series when the Czech Republic (0-3), Germany (1-4) and Wales (2-5) inflicted heavy reverses, while four

years later, failure to score more than once in each of their ten matches, coupled with a 4-0 defeat at home to Armenia, put the brakes on an ultimately disappointing campaign after a promising start.

Leading scorer

All-time: Róbert Vittek 23 Current: Róbert Vittek 23

Most appearances

All-time: Miroslav Karhan **107** Current: Róbert Vittek **80** EURO tournaments 3 (as Czechoslovakia) EURO best winners 1976 (as Czechoslovakia) Qualifying record P106 W52 D22 L32

Coach Ján Kozák Date of birth 17 April 1954 Nationality Slovak



Kozák led 1. FC Košice into the 1997/98 UEFA Champions League where, as Slovakia's first group

stage representatives, they competed in a section containing Feyenoord, Juventus and Manchester United FC.

Slovakia were three goals to the good by half-time in their first EURO qualifying win, against Azerbaijan at home in March 1995.

SLOVENIA



A UEFA member since 1992, UEFA EURO 2000 was without doubt the best of Slovenia's five UEFA European Championship qualifying campaigns to date, the nation making it to the finals following a 3-2 aggregate win against Ukraine in the play-offs. Srečko Katanec's side acquitted themselves well in Belgium and the Netherlands, drawing against Yugoslavia and Norway either side of a 2-1 loss to Spain. That success was almost repeated at the next time of asking when Slovenia finished second in their UEFA EURO 2004 qualifying section, but Croatia proved too strong for Bojan Prašnikar's team in the play-offs, winning 2-1 on aggregate. After those campaigns, UEFA EURO 2008 and UEFA EURO 2012 were comparatively disappointing, Slovenia finishing sixth and fourth in their respective qualifying sections.

Leading scorers

All-time: Zlatko Zahovič **35** Current: Milivoje Novakovič **25**

Most appearances

All-time: Zlatko Zahovič **80** Current: Boštjan Cesar **73** EURO tournaments 1 EURO best group stage 2000 Qualifying record P54 W20 D12 L22

Coach Srečko Katanec Date of birth 16 July 1963 Nationality Slovenian



Katanec started his coaching career with Slovenia's Under-21s in 1996. He reached UEFA

EURO 2000 and the 2002 FIFA World Cup during his first spell with the senior side and returned in January 2013.

31 Katanec earned 31 caps for Yugoslavia as a player, scoring five goals, before going on to represent Slovenia on a further five occasions, finding the net once.





Spain's long wait for silverware came to an end in Vienna in 2008 as Luis Aragonés's side defeated Germany 1-0 to win a competition they had taken by storm. Fernando Torres provided the decisive blow and four years later he became the first player to score in two EURO finals as Spain, now under Vicente del Bosque, successfully defended their title – also a first, beating Italy by a record 4-0 in the Kyiv final. Prior to 2008, Spain had only once even reached the semi-finals – finishing runners-up in 1984 – since claiming their first major prize on home soil in Madrid in 1964.

They won that year's final 2-1 against the Soviet Union, Marcelino Martínez heading a memorable late winner after Galimzian Khusainov had quickly cancelled out Jesús María Pereda's sixth-minute opener.

Leading scorer

All-time: David Villa **56** Current: David Villa **56**

Most appearances

All-time: Iker Casillas **152** Current: Iker Casillas **152** EURO tournaments 9 EURO best winners 1964, 2008, 2012 Qualifying record P105 W72 D16 L17

Coach Vicente del Bosque Date of birth 23 December 1950 Nationality Spanish



A successful Real Madrid CF player, Del Bosque also won two UEFA Champions Leagues with them as a coach. With

Spain he has won the 2010 FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2012.

No nation from any continent has won three major men's tournaments in a row as Spain did at UEFA EURO 2008, the 2010 World Cup and UEFA EURO 2012.





Sweden reached the semi-finals on home turf in 1992, beating eventual champions Denmark and England after an opening-day draw with France, but then losing 3-2 to Germany. It was not until 2000 that they successfully negotiated qualifying to reach the final tournament, yet the Blågult have been finals ever-presents since. Sweden exited UEFA EURO 2004 unbeaten, losing 5-4 on penalties to the Netherlands in the quarter-finals after a goalless draw, while their last two campaigns ended at the first hurdle, a win and two defeats not enough each time. In 2012 they lost to Ukraine and England despite having led both matches in the second halves, and were already out before their last game when a brilliant acrobatic goal by Zlatan Ibrahimović set up a 2-0 win against France.



Striker Zlatan Ibrahimović

EURO tournaments 5 EURO best semi-finals 1992 Qualifying record P92 W48 D20 L24

Coach Erik Hamrén Date of birth 27 June 1957 Nationality Swedish



As a club coach Hamrén won the Swedish Cup three times, plus league titles in Denmark with Aalborg BK and

Norway with Rosenborg BK, before taking Sweden to UEFA EURO 2012.

A Sweden have successfully negotiated the last four UEFA EURO qualifying competitions. Prior to that they had not managed to reach the finals in eight attempts, other than as 1992 hosts.

Leading scorers

All-time: Sven Rydell **49** Current: Zlatan Ibrahimović **48**

Most appearances

All-time: Anders Svensson 149
Current: Andreas Isaksson 112

SWITZERLAND



For years Switzerland were subject to a stream of slender defeats, until the appointment of Roy Hodgson signalled a change in fortunes. The Englishman led his team to EURO '96 and they kicked off their finals by drawing 1-1 with hosts England, before consecutive defeats against the Netherlands and Scotland ended their campaign. Switzerland qualified again in 2004 under Jakob 'Köbi' Kuhn but garnered only one point, although Johan Vonlanthen did become the EURO's youngest goalscorer in a 3-1 loss to France. They co-hosted the tournament with Austria in 2008 but failed to

make home advantage count, losing against the Czech Republic and Turkey before overcoming Portugal 2-0. Taking just two away points in their quest to qualify for UEFA EURO 2012, Switzerland finished third in Group B behind England and Montenegro.

Leading scorers

All-time: Alexander Frei **42** Current: Tranquillo Barnetta **10**

Most appearances

All-time: Heinz Hermann 118 Current: Tranquillo Barnetta 72 EURO tournaments 3 EURO best group stage 1996, 2004, 2008 Qualifying record P82 W32 D22 L28

Coach Ottmar Hitzfeld (Vladimir Petković from 1 July 2014) Date of birth 12 January 1949 (Petković: 15 August 1963) Nationality German (Petković: Swiss)



A UEFA Champions League winning coach with both Borussia Dortmund and FC Bayern

München Hitzfeld took Switzerland to the 2010 FIFA World Cup, beating eventual champions Spain in the group stage. (Petković: Coached BSC Young

Retrovic: Coached BSC Young
Boys and FC Sion in Switzerland
before leading SS Lazio to the
Coppa Italia in 2013. Named as the
man to replace Ottmar Hitzfeld
after the 2014 FIFA World Cup.)

At UEFA EURO 2008
Switzerland became only the second host nation after Belgium in 2000 to exit after the group stage. They were soon joined by a third in co-hosts Austria.



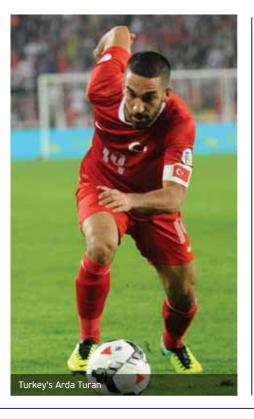
Having not managed a win in their previous two qualifying campaigns, Turkey reached a first finals at the tenth attempt as they made it to EURO '96, but Fatih Terim's men could not muster a point in England. They bettered that in 2000, battling through the group stage before a 2-0 quarter-final loss to Portugal. After missing UEFA EURO 2004 Terim was back at the helm at UEFA EURO 2008 where last-gasp victories over Switzerland, the Czech Republic and Croatia took Turkey through to the semi-finals where they met their match in Germany. Despite a bright start in qualifying for UEFA EURO 2012, losses in Germany and Azerbaijan put Guus Hiddink's side on the back foot. Turkey recovered to finish second ahead of Belgium but Croatia were too strong in the play-offs.

Leading scorers

All-time: Hakan Şükür **51** Current: Arda Turan **14**

Most appearances

All-time: Rüştü Reçber **120** Current: Emre Belözoğlu **91**



EURO tournaments 3 EURO best semi-finals 2008 Qualifying record P100 W39 D24 L37

Coach Fatih Terim Date of birth 4 September 1953 Nationality Turkish



Having taken Turkey to a first finals in 1996 and to the semifinals in 2008, the man who led Galatasaray AŞ

to the 1999/2000 UEFA Cup is in his third spell in charge.

122 Turkey prevailed after Semih Şentürk's 122nd-minute equaliser took their UEFA EURO 2008 quarter-final to spot kicks, cancelling out Ivan Klasnić's 119th-minute opener for Croatia.

UKRAINE



Ukraine was a prolific resource for the Soviet Union team that won the inaugural UEFA European Championship in 1960 and finished runners-up three times: losing finals to Spain (1964), West Germany (1972) and the Netherlands (1988). Ukraine have never qualified as an independent nation, but came within 12 minutes of reaching UEFA EURO 2000; they were heading through on away goals in the play-offs before Miran Pavlin gave Slovenia a 3-2 aggregate win. That first appearance did not come until 2012, qualifying as co-hosts with Poland. Oleh Blokhin's side enjoyed a dream finals debut, Andriy Shevchenko rolling back the years with two predatory headers as

Ukraine came from behind to beat Sweden. It was as good as it got as they went down 2-0 against France and 1-0 to England to bow out.

Leading scorers

All-time: Andriy Shevchenko **48** Current: Andriy Yarmolenko **14**

Most appearances

All-time: Anatoliy Tymoshchuk 131 Current: Anatoliy Tymoshchuk 131 EURO tournaments 1 EURO best group stage 2012 Qualifying record P42 W16 D13 L13

Coach Mykhailo Fomenko Date of birth 19 September 1948 Nationality Ukrainian



A vital part of the outstanding FC Dynamo Kyiv and USSR sides of the 1970s, Fomenko coached his old club to the

Ukrainian title in 1993, taking the national role in December 2012.

12 Ukrainian players made up 12 of Valeriy Lobanovskiy's 20-strong Soviet Union party, built upon the coach's own FC Dynamo Kyiv selection, who lost the 1988 final to the Netherlands.





Yugoslavia were always Wales' bogey team in the UEFA European Championship, denying them a place in the four-team 1976 final tournament and then stopping the Dragons in their tracks in qualifying for the 1984 final tournament. Victory in the final home game would have taken Wales through, but Mehmed Baždarević's 81st-minute leveller enabled the visitors to claim the qualifying berth. Not until UEFA EURO 2004 did Wales come as close again. Facing Russia in the play-offs, hopes soared after a 0-0 draw in Moscow, only for a 1-0 home defeat to deny them once more. UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying proved to be a more troubled campaign than most, with promising results on the pitch overshadowed by the death of manager Gary Speed in November 2011.

Leading scorers

All-time: Ian Rush 28 Current: Gareth Bale 11

Most appearances

All-time: Neville Southall 92

Current: Chris Gunter, Sam Ricketts 51



EURO tournaments 0 **EURO best** never qualified **Oualifying record P**94 **W**35 **D**18 **L**41

Coach Chris Coleman Date of birth 10 June 1970 **Nationality** Welsh



A defender capped 32 times by Wales, the former Fulham FC and Real Sociedad de Fútbol coach

took charge of the national team in 2012 and signed a new twoyear deal at the end of 2013.

Wales became only the third team to play an official international match when they lost 4-0 to Scotland in a friendly in Partick on 25 March 1876.

UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP STATISTICS

LEADING SCORERS

OVERALL

- 22 Jon Dahl Tomasson (Denmark) Hakan Sükür (Turkey)
- 21 Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)
- 21 Jan Koller (Czech Republic)
- 19 Miroslav Klose (Germany)
- 19 Raúl González (Spain)

FINAL TOURNAMENTS

- 9 Michel Platini (France)
- **7** Alan Shearer (England)
- **6** Zlatan Ibrahimović (Sweden)
- **6** Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)
- 20 Davor Šuker (Yugoslavia/Croatia) 6 Thierry Henry (France)
 - 6 Patrick Kluivert (Netherlands)
 - **6** Nuno Gomes (Portugal)
 - 6 Ruud van Nistelrooy (Netherlands)

APPEARANCES

OVERALL

- **47** Sargis Hovsepyan (Armenia) Lilian Thuram (France)
- **45** Gianluigi Buffon (Italy)
- 43 Vitālijs Astafjevs (Latvia)
- 42 Mario Frick (Liechtenstein)
- 41 Iker Casillas (Spain)
- 39 Peter Schmeichel (Denmark)

FINAL TOURNAMENTS

- 16 Lilian Thuram (France) Edwin van der Sar (Netherlands)
- 14 Iker Casillas (Spain)
- 14 Philipp Lahm (Germany)
- 14 Luís Figo (Portugal)
- 14 Nuno Gomes (Portugal)
- 14 Karel Poborský (Czech Republic) 14 Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)
- 14 Zinédine Zidane (France)

FINALS

1960 USSR 2-1 Yugoslavia

aet (Metreveli 49, Ponedelnik 113; Galić 43) – Paris

1968 Italy 1-1 Yugoslavia

Replay Italy 2-0 Yugoslavia

1972 West Germany 3-0 USSR (G Müller 27, 58, Wimmer 52) - Brussels

1980 Belgium 1-2 West Germany

1984 France 2-0 Spain

(Platini 57, Bellone 90) – Paris

1992 Denmark 2-0 Germany

(Jensen 18, Vilfort 78) - Gothenburg

1996 Czech Republic 1-2 Germany

aet golden goal (Berger 59p; Bierhoff 73, 95)

2004 Portugal 0-1 Greece

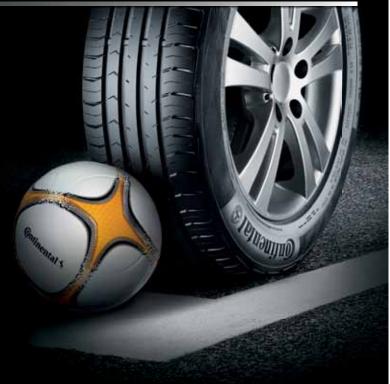
2008 Germany 0-1 Spain

(Torres 33) - Vienna

51

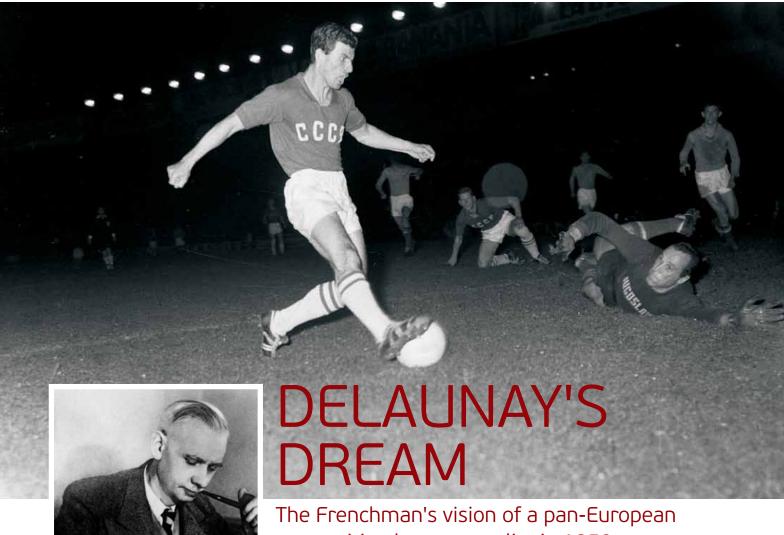


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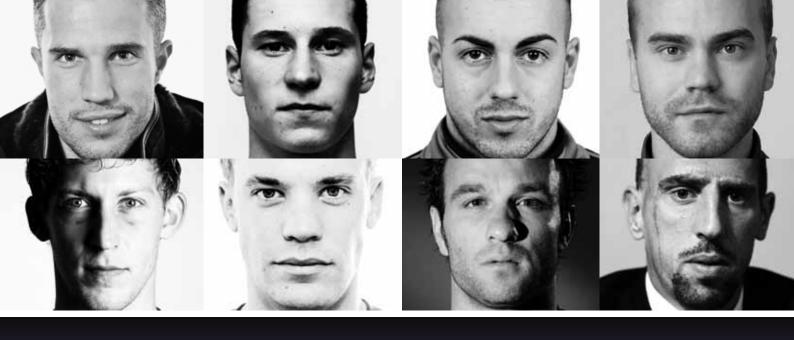
competition became reality in 1958

Henri Delaunay (above) was the driving force behind the UEFA European Championship. Slava Metreveli (top) shoots past Yugoslavia goalkeeper Blagoje Vidinić to score the Soviet Union's equalising goal in the first final As with the FIFA World Cup, the European Champion Clubs' Cup and the modern Olympics, the first major European national competition was the brainchild of a Frenchman: Henri Delaunay, general secretary of the French Football Federation at its foundation. He initially mooted his vision in 1927, but it took the advent of UEFA in 1954 to truly get the project off the ground. Even then, some of Europe's member associations remained reticent, and Delaunay sadly passed away two years before the green light was finally shown at the third Ordinary UEFA Congress in Copenhagen in 1957. Far from forgotten, however, he was a natural choice when it came to naming the trophy.

Built around a format of knockout homeand-away games until the semi-final stage, the competition finally became reality when the first match was played at Moscow's Tsentralni Lenin Stadium on 29 September 1958. On that historic day, 100,572 people turned out to watch Anatoli Ilyin become the first scorer after just four minutes, as the USSR defeated Hungary 3-1 before

advancing 4-1 on aggregate. Seventeen sides competed in that inaugural competition, with Delaunay's native France selected to host a final tournament involving the four semi-finalists, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia also advancing. The hosts were eliminated in a thrilling 5-4 loss to Yugoslavia, who faced the Soviet Union - 3-0 winners against Czechoslovakia - in the final in Paris on 10 July 1960.

Milan Galić's deflected goal was all the Yugoslavs had to show for 90 minutes of domination following a brilliant performance by the legendary USSR goalkeeper Lev Yashin. Slava Metreveli's equaliser took the game into extra time and, as Yugoslavia began fading, Viktor Ponedelnik headed in to claim the Soviet Union's first and only trophy. "There are matches and goals which are really special, sort of a climax of a player's sporting life," Ponedelnik said later. "That was the star moment of my life." For the tournament itself, there would be many more to come.



NO TO RACISM





Although a ball has yet to be kicked in the UEFA EURO 2016 qualifying competition, the organising team is already counting down the days.

The qualifying draw represents an important milestone on the road to a festival of football in France in two years' time, but behind the scenes, that journey started in earnest as soon as the French Football Federation (FFF) was selected to host UEFA EURO 2016 on 28 May 2010.

Having hosted the FIFA World Cup as recently as 1998, the FFF can draw on a wealth of experience in staging such a major footballing spectacle. Former FFF general secretary Jacques Lambert has been appointed president of EURO 2016 SAS, the company created to deliver the event, and he is delighted with progress so far. "We are just over 800 days from the opening match," he said. "The organisation team is taking shape, and the work with our major event partners is intensifying. The main deadlines in stadium construction or renovation timetables are being met."

Stade Pierre Mauroy – Lille (above) is one of the ten UEFA EURO 2016 venues

Four stadiums will be built from scratch, with five more undergoing renovation, as the final tournament expands to a record 24 teams and 51 matches.

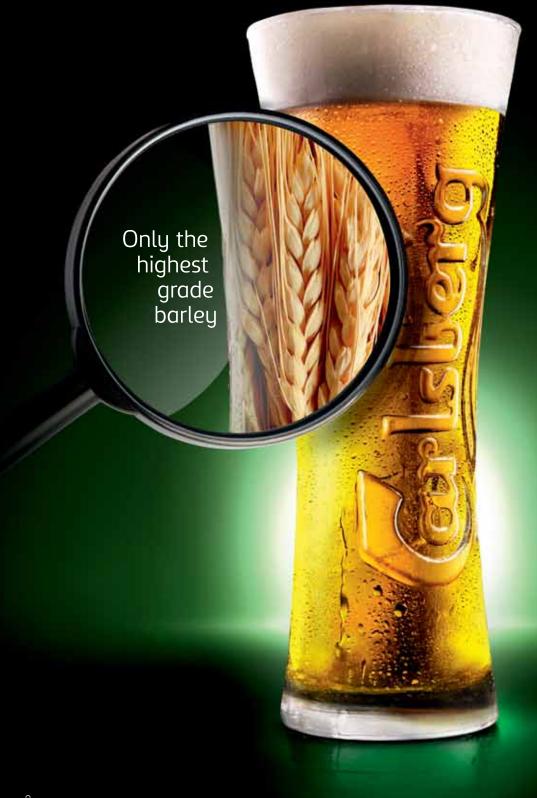
EURO 2016 SAS was created as a joint venture by UEFA and the FFF to meet this challenge, and will be responsible for all operational aspects of UEFA EURO 2016. It was founded in January 2011 and is owned by UEFA (95%) and the FFF (5%). The new company will take care of the implementation of the tournament and its associated events and promote the competition. All other competition matters, as well as media, marketing and other commercial rights remain under UEFA's control, while the French government and local authorities will provide infrastructure, public services, transport and more.

"Our task is to work together with UEFA to deliver the best possible event," Lambert said. "With more teams, more matches and more spectators [an

estimated 2.5 million], UEFA EURO 2016 will offer more football, more intensity and more of a spectacle. But our greatest challenge is to organise a major public event – a peaceful gathering of supporters and nationalities. For this major rendez-vous, it is our ambition in 2016 to bring together the best of football, of Europe and of France."



It's what's inside that counts







UEFA EURO 2016 HOSPITALITY PROGRAMME READY FOR LAUNCH

Hospitality packages for UEFA EURO 2016 go on sale in spring 2014. These will offer an exceptional combination of French gastronomy and the best of European football

The launch of the sales process for UEFA EURO 2016 hospitality packages in spring 2014 will be one of the major milestones in the build-up to the tournament. In just a few months' time, companies in France and around the world will be able to reserve tables in lounges and private boxes. "We decided to start selling packages this year in order to give people the time they need to gather the necessary information and respect their companies' decision-making processes," Jacques Lambert explains. "However, a number of people are ready to sign up already and will secure their places as soon as sales begin."

The president of EURO 2016 SAS remains guarded when it comes to the details, but he promises "the most accessible hospitality programme possible, with an flexible range of prices suiting companies of all sizes. Moreover, so that they also feel part of the tournament, companies that already have boxes and business seats in the ten stadiums that are being used, particularly those with

season tickets for clubs in France's Ligue 1, will be given preferential treatment."

The offices of EURO 2016 SAS on Avenue Kléber in Paris house a commercial team providing explanations and advice to companies that are interested in UEFA EURO 2016 – a team of professionals who know all there is to know about the fixture list and venues. "The emotion of a tournament such as this is a unique opportunity to strengthen ties with clients, shareholders and even colleagues," a member of the team explains.

Another indication of the excitement that surrounds this project is the fact that more than 80 agencies around the world have applied to UEFA for the right to sell hospitality packages in more than 100 different markets outside France.

The details of the programme are still under wraps, but certain key principles have already been disclosed: as with previous EUROs, packages will be available for all tournament

matches, and the same high-quality experience will be on offer at all stadiums, from Lille to Toulouse and from Nice to Bordeaux. With 51 matches, UEFA EURO 2016 will be a new challenge for UEFA's hospitality team, which intends to more than live up to the reputation that it has acquired during the last three tournaments. An invitation to tender has been issued (details of which are available on UEFA.com) in order to select the hospitality specialist(s) that will be tasked with taking care of the 100,000 or so guests – a small part of the overall tournament's ticket allocation. The objective here is clear: to offer the very best of France's famous gastronomy to the lucky guests of the companies involved in the programme.

For more information, please write to hospitality@euro2016.fr









FRENCH FOOTBALL COMES OF AGE



Luis Fernandez recalls how a dazzling triumph on home soil changed Les Bleus forever in 1984

Former France midfielder Luis Fernandez knows what Les Bleus can expect when they line up for the opening game of UEFA EURO 2016. The then 24-year-old experienced his first major tournament at the 1984 UEFA European Championship and recalls vividly the emotions running high as Les Bleus prepared to kick off on home soil.

"When you're holding a European championship there is such excitement, such enthusiasm," he remembers. "You could feel that the French team were

expected to do well, that football lovers all over France were behind the national team, that French football couldn't wait for it to start. You could feel the will, the pressure, the huge desire to see that French team win."

that during a tournament that would change the mindset of the French game. Michel Hidalgo's side put on a show that would delight more than just the home



CARRÉ MAGIQUE

"One of Michel Hidalgo's great achievements was finding a way to fit several No10s into his midfield."

Michel Platini once reminisced. Here's what happened to the 'Carré Magique' (magic square) – the midfield quartet who propelled France to glory.

Michel Platini

Admitted to France's Légion d'Honneur in the wake of his finals performance, Platini hung up his boots in 1987 having lifted the European Cup Winners' Cup and then the European Champion Clubs' Cup with Juventus. He later coached France to the finals of the 1992 UEFA European Championship before becoming one of the game's top administrators, helping organise the 1998 World Cup and becoming UEFA President in 2007.

Jean Tigana

"I'm quite a shy person but I took the trophy and ran with it alone," anchorman Tigana recalled of France's EURO celebrations. "A crazy moment." Maliborn Tigana (below) had come further than most to succeed, having worked as a postman and at a spaghetti factory before being discovered. He won a shelf-full of trophies with FC Girondins de Bordeaux before a coaching career that has taken in spells in England, Turkey and China.



Alain Giresse

One of the oldest members of the class of '84, Giresse felt wisdom was a crucial factor in the success, with his colleagues learning hard lessons from their 1982 World Cup exit. "We were a better side than in 1982," said Giresse, now coaching Senegal after spells in Morocco, Georgia, Gabon and Mali. "We had more experience and confidence, and new players like goalkeeper Joël Bats and Luis Fernandez made us a better team."

Luis Fernandez

"Before that EURO, France were seen as the country that could not win," remembered France's ball-winner par excellence. "In 1984 we showed we had the players to win it." Born in Spain but moulded in France, Fernandez collected trophies as a player and coach with Paris Saint-Germain, notably the 1995/96 Cup Winners' Cup. Back in Paris again, he counts Athletic Club, RCD Espanyol and the Israel national team among his former employers.

support. France bristled with talent, from new goalkeeper Joël Bats, to Fernandez, Alain Giresse and Jean Tigana, with captain Michel Platini the touchstone.

Platini had seven goals by the end of the group stage, scoring the decider against Denmark on the opening day, then hitting hat-tricks in a 5-0 victory over Belgium and a 3-2 success against Yugoslavia. He subsequently struck the winner in the penultimate minute of extra time as France were taken the distance by Portugal in the semi-final in Marseille, then broke the deadlock in the 2-0 final triumph against Spain. His nine goals still stand as a finals record today.

"There is always someone who pulls the team up and that leader was Michel Platini," Fernandez says. "He did something extraordinary during that European championship." Now 54, Fernandez also thinks coach Hidalgo "gave French football a new impetus", explaining: "Inside the group we felt good, we were happy, we were very relaxed. He knew how to put his squad

France celebrate their final victory at the Parc des Princes (main picture); Luis Fernandez on the ball at EURO '84 (left)

WHEN YOU'RE HOLDING A EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP THERE IS SUCH EXCITEMENT, SUCH ENTHUSIASM. YOU COULD FEEL FRANCE WERE EXPECTED TO DO WELL"

in the best possible frame of mind to play and work well together."

Under Hidalgo, France had been within touching distance of the 1982 FIFA World Cup final, their campaign ending in a 5-4 semi-final shoot-out defeat in the tournament's first penalties denouement after a 3-3 draw with West Germany. Having come so close, however, France's belief had grown. "In '84 things were going much better," Fernandez says. "French football had had a good World Cup in Spain in '82 and a good World Cup in '78. Things were beginning to improve and French football was beginning to gain confidence.

"Before that, people used to say that what mattered was taking part, whatever the sport." That approach had changed by 1984. "Then people were behind the French team not only because they were taking part – they didn't just want to take part, they wanted to win that European title. We were beginning to change mindsets, moods. We were becoming competitors, we wanted to be champions, we wanted to win trophies."

The mentality and belief of that France team set the example future generations would follow. "It was important because there comes a time when you become role models and we were going to be role models for the next generations. It's later that it sinks in. It's always later that you realise you were a generation who brought something into football, who managed to put the national team on the right track so that others could follow."

TREZEGUET'S GOLDEN MOMENT

How three inspired substitutions turned the tide for France in 2000

ime was ebbing away agonisingly for France. Marco Delvecchio had opened the scoring for Italy in the UEFA EURO 2000 final, stabbing in Gianluca Pessotto's cross from the right ten minutes after the interval, and as the clock wound down the Azzurri could sense their moment had come.

Victory, however, was snatched away at the death by Sylvain Wiltord. The forward squeezed a low drive past Alessandro Nesta and under goalkeeper Francesco Toldo, allowing France to breathe again. The distraught expressions on the Italy bench told their own story. Thirteen minutes into extra time it was all over, Robert Pirès cutting the ball back to substitute David Trezeguet, whose emphatic half-volley completed an astonishing turnaround.

"Roger Lemerre's instruction was to go out and give it absolutely everything to try and bring something back for the team," said France's match winner, who had replaced Youri Djorkaeff in the 76th minute. "Italy had a moment of fatigue while Pirès's run in terms of speed and quality was superb. He broke down the left and I was well placed in the centre. Without even thinking about it I flashed a left-footed shot past Toldo and into the net. It was a great goal to score and it gave us the victory."

For Pirès, Les Bleus' dramatic success at the UEFA European Championship in the

Low Countries "was a relief – because it is such a difficult and complicated [thing to do]. There is a lot of pressure from the fans, from journalists, so when David scored it was incredible. I wouldn't have liked to be in the Italians' shoes – it must have been a very difficult and painful moment for them. It was one of the most magical moments of my career."

Zinédine Zidane had been the driving force for France en route to the final. Scorer of two goals in their FIFA World Cup triumph two years earlier, he had proven the difference in successive 2-1 wins against Spain and Portugal to send Les Bleus to the Rotterdam showpiece. But at Stadion Feyenoord, France's inspiration came from the substitutes' bench as Wiltord, Pirès and Trezeguet were introduced in turn, coach Roger Lemerre seeking a way back into the game. Lemerre, who had taken the baton from Aimé Jacquet after France's 1998 World Cup coronation on home soil, pulled off not one but three masterstrokes to capture the trophy.

"We were chasing the game, even in the dying seconds when it looked like it was all over," said Lemerre. "There had been a positive change in that we had Pirès on the left and Wiltord on the right who were beginning to cause problems down the flanks for the Italian defenders. I wouldn't agree that they were inspired changes. I think they were sensible changes given the situation and the qualities of Pirès and Wiltord."

FC Girondins de Bordeaux attacker Wiltord quickly repaid Lemerre's faith. "Wiltord's goal gave us hope and we have to see it as a result of a tactical change, as we had switched to three central defenders, five in midfield and two up front," said the coach. "At the end of normal time I had the chance to explain why I had made the changes and we had the good fortune to score the golden goal. I felt Wiltord's goal was just reward for the efforts of the whole team."

Pirès came on for Bixente Lizarazu, and if at first he was surprised to be substituting a left-back, he was soon praising Lemerre's foresight. "The situation was complicated because we were 1-0 down against Italy. It was weird because Roger Lemerre called me and said: 'Go on and replace Bixente

David Trezeguet fires in France's winner (top), then celebrates with the trophy



ROGER LEMERRE'S INSTRUCTION WAS TO GO OUT AND GIVE IT ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING TO TRY AND BRING SOMETHING BACK FOR THE TEAM"







Lizarazu, you will play at left-back.' I thought it was a weird substitution, and on top of that it was the 86th minute. I felt I wouldn't make a difference, but in the end the coach was right because a few minutes later I made that run to cross for David Trezeguet who scored the golden goal for us to become European champions. Football sometimes hinges on tiny things."

"It was an exceptional goal which revealed the intrinsic qualities of the player," said Lemerre. "From a technical point of view, Trezeguet's strike should be shown in all football schools. But that shouldn't allow us to overlook the move by Pirès, who got to the byline with a remarkable piece of skill."

For Trezeguet the tournament had been building towards that climactic strike. "We had won the world title in 1998 and were

very driven to win EURO 2000. All the way to the final we demonstrated that we were the strongest team. We were on a roll and overall I feel we deserved to get to the final and win."

For 'Trezegol', it was a dream introduction to Italian football. The then 22-year-old joined Juventus that summer and spent the best years of his career in Turin. With France, though, nothing could compare to his golden moment in Rotterdam. "It was the first time in history that a team had won the European Championship after winning the World Cup," said Trezeguet. "The final was tough, it was emotional, and it was an amazing experience for an entire country."

"A MARVELLOUS ERA FOR SPAIN"

Andrés Iniesta knows the European champions remain the team to beat as they target a historic third straight title

fter Spain became the first country to successfully defend the European crown at UEFA EURO 2012, Andrés Iniesta warned that he and his team-mates would never tire of winning - a daunting prospect for the sides that cross their path as they bid to make it three in a row at UEFA EURO 2016.

"This is a marvellous era for Spanish football and we should feel pride in our achievements," the FC Barcelona midfielder said. "For so many years we fought, trying to force our way in among the big boys. It took a huge collective effort to achieve it."

Even though Iniesta took the individual player award at UEFA EURO 2012 for his "creative, incisive running with and without the ball" - and, according to the UEFA jury, "epitomised the elements which won the title for his team" - the 29-year-old

highlights collective effort as key to Spain's most recent continental success.

"I don't play football to win individual awards. I play football because it makes me happy and I love the sport," he explained. "Football is my life. My life would mean nothing without it. I've enjoyed it since I was a small boy. If people value my work, then great. Maybe it helps me believe in myself more. I never imagined we would win two EUROs - and the victory in 2012 was magic, something special, a moment to savour. I left those finals feeling happier than I had ever felt."

After the handsome 4-0 final victory over Italy in Kyiv, coach Vicente del Bosque and his squad were feted all over Spain and heaped with accolades; nonetheless, Iniesta maintains the hunger is still there. "The final against Italy was our most complete performance of the

tournament," he recalled. "But we know we are the team everyone wants to beat – and that all teams go through hard times.

"Spain are no exception. We would love to win every game 3-0 but we have learned that we have to battle at times. Success comes from enduring the difficult moments and overcoming them. We have fought to change our history. And the team we have had during this period has been fantastic. It seems impossible to have achieved what nobody else had managed to achieve until now."

When the ball starts rolling at UEFA EURO 2016, Iniesta will have just turned 32. It could be his last UEFA European Championship, and he will be eager to bow out on another incredible high.



SPAIN'S 2012 TRIUMPH IN NUMBERS

- Vicente del Bosque became the first coach to win the UEFA European Championship, FIFA World Cup and European Cup with victory in Poland and Ukraine.
- Spain became the first team to win three major tournaments in a row and to retain the Henri Delaunay Cup, completing an unprecedented EURO-World Cup-EURO hat-trick.
- Spain's 4-0 triumph over Italy in 2012 is the largest margin of victory in a EURO final.
- Eight players appeared in both of Spain's final victories, in 2008 and 2012: Iker Casillas, Sergio Ramos, Andrés Iniesta, Xavi Hernández, Cesc Fàbregas, Xabi Alonso, David Silva and Fernando Torres.



- 29 Spain are unbeaten in the UEFA European Championship since losing 2-0 away to Sweden in qualifying on 7 October 2006 - a total of 29 matches.
- 990 minutes since Spain last conceded a goal in the knockout stage of a UEFA European Championship or World Cup.



IN THEIR WORDS

Fourteen UEFA European Championship winners recall their moments of triumph

1960 **USSR**

"After the match we had champagne. We couldn't eat or sleep so we wandered through the Parisian night. After the deafening stadium and all that had happened this sudden silence seemed even more thunderous."

Viktor Ponedelnik, who headed the Soviet Union's extra-time winner against Yugoslavia



1964 SPAIN

"Spain had excellent players, but the squad was not the strong point. We didn't feel the pressure in the final – we loved those kinds of matches."

Marcelino Martínez, who scored for Spain in the final

1972 WEST GERMANY

"At the time we were the best – a dream team. Becoming European champions is a unique feeling. Football is like any other job: you have to achieve things to really become one of the greats."

Germany goalkeeper Sepp Maier

1976 CZECHOSLOVAKIA

"I scored an unusual penalty and it has followed me for my whole life. It was the most beautiful moment and the most successful year in my football career."

Antonín Panenka, scorer of Czechoslovakia's spot-kick winner against Germany



1968 ITALY

"To be honest, we didn't deserve to draw. But we finished level, so the final had to be replayed two days later. In the replay we produced a perfect performance ... We definitely deserved to win that game."

Dino Zoff on Italy's replay success

1980 WEST GERMANY

"When we lifted the European Championship trophy in Rome, a dream came true. It was the biggest success of my Germany career. Winning the title was so special, because we had such a young team."

Germany striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge





1984 FRANCE

"We had an exceptional squad. They were a class apart and they had the highest ambitions. They made sacrifices and they aimed high from a team point of view. I felt extremely fortunate to be among them."

France coach Michel Hidalgo



1988 NETHERLANDS

"It was so strange – like starring in a film. You see everything happening, but it feels unreal. You feel the trophy, you lift it in the air, and you wonder: 'Is this all really happening?'"

Netherlands captain Ruud Gullit

1992 DENMARK

"It really sank in when we were in Copenhagen in the town hall for the celebrations with the rest of Denmark. That was unbelievable, truly unbelievable. At this point you're thinking: 'We actually did this, it's not a dream.'"

Denmark goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel

2000 FRANCE

"All my strength went into that shot – it had been a difficult championship for me because I had hoped to play a bigger part. It gave me enormous satisfaction at the time and it's a satisfaction I still feel."

David Trezeguet, scorer of France's golden goal winner



1996 GERMANY

"To this day, I don't know what I was thinking in the moments after I scored the golden goal. It was the only game of my career when I took my shirt off."

Germany match winner Oliver Bierhoff



2004 GREECE

"When the referee ended the match, it was as if the lights went out ... another blank spot in my memory ... the constant smile of an idiot on my face for I don't know how many minutes."

Greece captain Theodoros Zagorakis

2008 **Spain**

"It is a great feeling – we cannot believe what we achieved. You watch these European competitions on TV, you want to be a part of it, and we were."

Fernando Torres, scorer of Spain's winner in the final

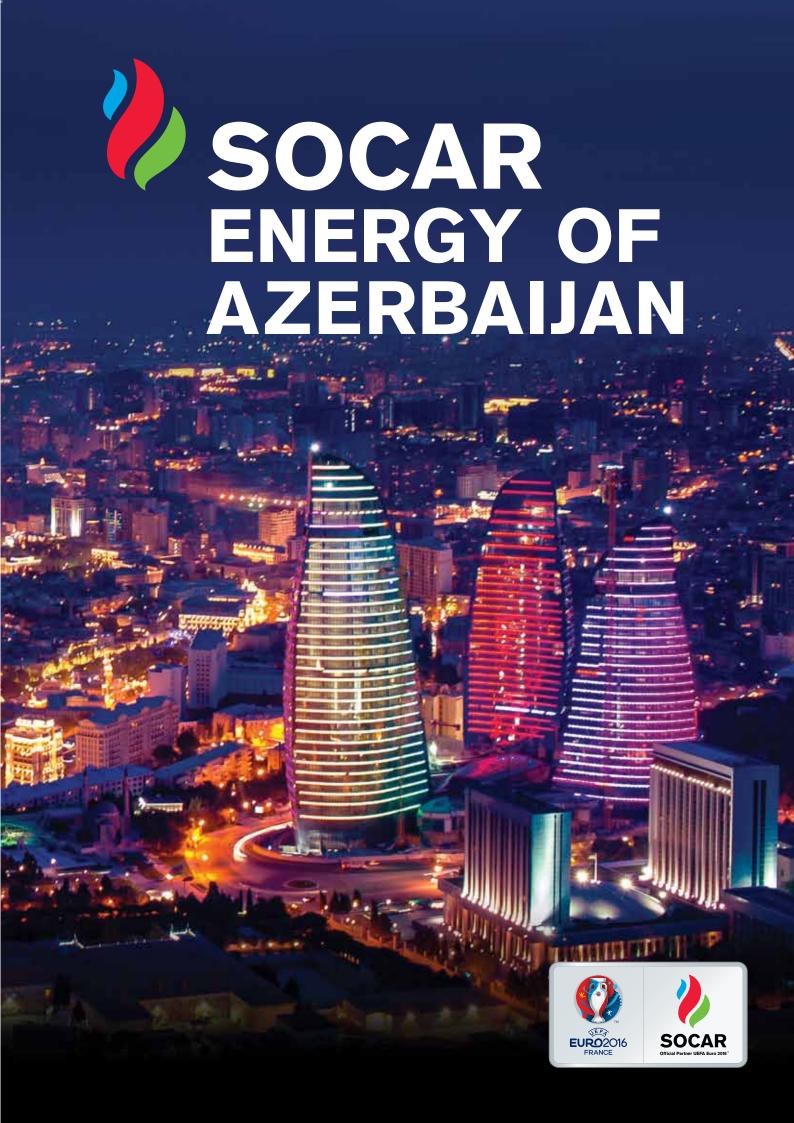
2012 Spain

"It makes me feel proud. We've achieved something that nobody has achieved before, and that shows how difficult it is." Spain defender Álvaro Arbeloa



UEFA EURO 2016 Key dates

26/06/2013	
	Competition logo unveiled at Espace Cambon Capucines in Paris
17/10/2013	'Le Rendez-Vous' slogan unveiled at Marseille's city hall
23/02/2014	Qualifying draw at the Palais des Congrès Acropolis in Nice
Spring 2014	Hospitality sales start
07/09/2014-13/10/2015	UEFA EURO 2016 qualifiers
Spring 2015	Ticket sales start
15/10/2015	Play-off draw
12/11 - 17/11/2015	Play-off matches
12/12/2015	Final draw at the Palais des Congrès in Paris
10/06 - 10/07/2016	UEFA EURO 2016 France



















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