An overview of the competition structure and draw procedure for the qualifying round of the 2015/16 UEFA European Women’s Under-17 Championship is given below.

**COMPETITION SYSTEM**
Forty-seven member associations will take part in the competition. Forty-four teams will start in the qualifying round and the two top-seeded teams, Germany and France will join in the elite round. The host association of the final tournament – Belarus – qualifies automatically for the final tournament.

**COEFFICIENT RANKING LIST**
A coefficient ranking list has been established for the qualifying round draw according to the following principles:

- **Seasons taken into account:** 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14.
  - All qualifying round matches (qualifying and elite rounds) have been taken into consideration to calculate the coefficients.

- **Win = 3 points; draw = 1 point; defeat = 0 points.**

- **For the association which hosted the final tournament in the 2013/14 season (England) and, consequently, qualified directly for the final tournament, the coefficient from the qualifying rounds for the 2010/11 season has been taken into account.**

- **The following bonus points have been awarded: (maximum 9 bonus points)**
  - automatic qualification for the elite round = 3 points
  - qualification from the qualifying to the elite round = 3 points
  - qualification from the elite round to the final tournament = 3 points
  - competition winner = 3 points
    - 2011/12 = Germany
    - 2012/13 = Poland
    - 2013/14 = Germany
  - competition runner up = 2 points
    - 2011/12 = France
    - 2012/13 = Sweden
    - 2013/14 = Spain
- competition semi-finalists (as of the season 2013/14) = 1 point
  - 2013/14 = England and Italy
- For the 2013/14 host, England, bonus points for reaching the last phase of the final tournament (see above: semi-finalists, runners-up, winners) will be awarded in the season it hosted and added to the points earned in the qualifying rounds of the season 2010/11.

- The coefficient for each season has been calculated by taking the number of points obtained (including bonus points) and dividing it by the number of matches.
- The three annual coefficients have then been added together to produce the overall coefficient used for the ranking list.
- Associations with the same overall coefficient have been separated according to the following criteria:
  1) Higher number of matches.
  2) Higher coefficient from the most recent season, i.e. 2013/14 season.
  3) Higher coefficient from the next most recent season, i.e. 2012/13 season.
  4) Higher coefficient from the next most recent season, i.e. 2011/12 season.
  5) Superior goal difference from the most recent season, i.e. 2013/14 season.

**DRAW PROCEDURE**

The 44 participating associations will be split into the following 3 pots:

**Pot A (yellow balls)**
Associations ranked from 3 to 13 (11 teams)

**Pot B (red balls)**
Associations ranked from 14 to 24 (11 teams)

**Pot C (green balls)**
Associations ranked from 25 to 46 (22 teams)

The 44 associations will be drawn into 11 groups of 4 teams according to the following procedure:

The draw starts with Pot C and ends with Pot A in order to ensure that the strongest teams are drawn last. Each pot is entirely emptied before proceeding to the next pot.

- The first ball will be drawn from Pot C into Group 1. The team drawn will be placed into the fourth position of the group.
- The second ball will be drawn from Pot C into Group 2. The team drawn will be placed into the fourth position of the group. The same procedure is repeated until the fourth position of Group 11 is filled.
- The 12th ball will be drawn from Pot C into Group 1. The team drawn will be placed into the third position of the group.
- The next ball will be drawn from Pot C into Group 2. The team drawn will be placed into the third position of the group. The same procedure is repeated until the third position of Group 11 is filled.
- The first ball from Pot B will be drawn into Group 1. The team drawn will be placed into the second position of the group.
- The second ball will be drawn from Pot B into Group 2. The team drawn will be placed into the second position of the group. The same procedure is repeated until the second position of Group 11 is filled.
• The first ball from Pot A will be drawn into Group 1. The team drawn will be placed into the *first* position of the group.

• The second ball will be drawn from Pot A into Group 2. The team drawn will be placed into the *first* position of the group. The same procedure is repeated until the first position of Group 11 is filled.

Twenty-two teams will qualify from the qualifying round to the elite round, i.e. the eleven group winners and the eleven group runners-up.

**GROUP FORMATION FOR THE ELITE ROUND**

A draw will take place to form the six groups of four teams. The definitive draw procedure will be communicated to the associations concerned on completion of the qualifying round.

The six group winners and the best runner-up of the elite round will qualify for the final tournament.

**DATES**

Matches in the qualifying round must be played between 1st August and 31 October 2015.

Matches in the elite round must be played by end of March 2016

The final tournament will be staged in Belarus from 4th to 16th May 2016 (TBC).

**SPECIAL CASES**

Based on previous decisions of the UEFA Executive Committee and the UEFA Emergency Panel, Armenia and Azerbaijan cannot be drawn into the same group. The same applies to Russia and Ukraine.