

Ahead of the elections, all 12 candidates agreed to answer the following two questions:

A What do you see as UEFA's top priority in the immediate future?

B If you are elected (or re-elected), what personal contribution do you think you can make to achieving that objective?



Sándor Csányi (Hungary)

Born on 20 March 1953, he has been president of the Hungarian Football

Federation (MLSZ) since July 2010 and is currently first vice-chairman of the UEFA National Associations Committee. He has sat on UEFA committees since October 2010.

A It is a positive tendency that football involves more countries in the world, but we have to secure the position of European football so that the spirit of the game and the traditions are correctly represented.

I believe in solidarity in football. UEFA has a key role in guaranteeing the balance between the different parties.

The strengthening of financial fair play is important, and I fully support this progression. We must create a legal environment within the EU that focuses on the specificities of sport. Given that the current European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport comes from a Hungarian government that considers sport as a strategic target, UEFA should be able to move forward in this matter.

Coming from a country that has a great football heritage and as chairman of one of the largest banks in central and eastern Europe, I am sure that the biggest challenge is to maintain the balance between sport values and money. Football has learnt a lot recently from the financial world, but we have to keep the game as it was.

B The synchronisation of different motives and sectors is crucial when you think about the success of a project. I have been involved in football since the second part of the 1980s. I was a committee member within the Hungarian Football Federation and I have also had different roles in clubs. Thanks to my background and over 30 years of experience, I have had the opportunity to understand the mechanism of a sports association as much as that of a government or company, while I also understood the workflows of the EU. I can mediate between all of these different stakeholders for the sake of European football.

Football has always improved when new sectors of society have joined the game. We have to attract more people to play and support our game. The improvement of men's football cannot happen without involving women. It is time to consider women's football as equally as important as men's. I would support the countries where women's football is not so strong, to improve their activities in this field.

It would be a privilege to bring a lifetime's worth of football experience to the UEFA Executive Committee. ●



Peter Gilliéron (Switzerland)

Born on 5 May 1953, he has been president of the Swiss Football

Association since 2009, having previously served as its general secretary from 1994 to 2009. Elected to the UEFA Executive Committee in 2011, he has sat on UEFA committees since 1998 and is currently chairman of the UEFA Fair Play and Social Responsibility Committee and deputy chairman of the UEFA Club Licensing Committee.

A It is important for the health of European football that all stakeholders (national associations, clubs, players, officials and referees) are involved in decision-making, so that we all work together to tackle the major problems that football faces (match-fixing, violence on the pitch and in the stands, racism and discrimination) and highlight the political and social significance of our

sport for society as a whole. UEFA will need to work with the national associations, who also have an important and decisive role to play in this regard.

B The UEFA Executive Committee is a team, and as in every team, the group is more important than the individual. However, in the event of my re-election, I personally could make use of my strong ties with all areas of the game. As the president and former general secretary of a national association, I have made a lot of important contacts over the years. If we in European football want to present a united front, we also need to build bridges, and I am convinced that I would be able to contribute to that. In addition, in my role as chairman of the Fair Play and Social Responsibility Committee, I have worked very hard to tackle racism and discrimination. The national associations could play a much bigger role in this, with help from UEFA. ●



Fernando Gomes (Portugal)

Born on 21 February 1952, he has been president of the Portuguese Football Federation (FPF)

since December 2011. He is special advisor to the UEFA Executive Committee in charge of relations with all confederations, a member of the UEFA EURO 2016 steering group and second vice-chairman of the UEFA National Associations Committee. He has sat on UEFA committees since 2004.

A To support policies for associations with smaller investment capabilities, both in terms of funding infrastructures and grassroots work. We need to help less-developed countries to grow stronger in order to keep European football the most competitive in the world. Solidarity, among countries and towards people, should also be a key word for UEFA in the next years.

Every aspect concerning training, youth development, development of

women's football and futsal should continue to be among UEFA's top priorities.

Sports integrity and fair play are absolutely essential to the future of football in Europe. We need to keep enforcing zero tolerance against any sort of match-fixing. I also believe that an organisation such as UEFA cannot grow stronger without firm policies against violence, racism and xenophobia.

B All my life I've been involved in sports, in various areas, such as managing companies and clubs, and working on development projects for stadiums and training centres. I think that those skills, along with my experience of leading our national league and, now, our football federation, can help UEFA to achieve its objectives in the next years.

As an economist and a leader, I strongly believe that sports organisations should be led with vision, imagination, detail, transparency, passion, courage, loyalty, dedication and a respect for history and tradition. UEFA, as the leading body of European football, should always strive for credibility and excellence. ●



Yngve Hallén (Norway)

Born on 14 March 1968, he became president of the Football

Association of Norway (NFF) in March 2010 and is currently a member of the UEFA National Team Competitions Committee.

A Our top priority in UEFA for the coming years is to strengthen our position, while continuing to develop the game at all levels – grassroots, women's and elite competitions. Building closer ties to all of football's governing bodies and stakeholders will be vital in achieving this aim. A proper balance between the leagues, clubs and associations has to be found and maintained. We must emphasise our impact in the area of social responsibility, where football has a direct

effect on promoting values of respect and understanding to our players and fans in all of the national associations.

B My bid for election is founded on decades of experience as a football leader and administrator at all levels of Norwegian football, including top-level club management. The highlight of my football life so far is being president of the NFF and having the privilege of working with UEFA and all its member associations.

I promise to work tirelessly in building closer and stronger ties to all of football's governing bodies. As a member of the Executive Committee, I would seek UEFA's advice, be attentive to its views and value its opinions. My goal is simple: to bring my experience from a lifetime in football, together with the Norwegian culture of peace and diplomacy, into the great team that is the Executive Committee. Together, we can make UEFA a stronger unifying force in our own continent and throughout the world. ●



Borislav Mihaylov (Bulgaria)

Born on 12 February 1963,

he has been president of the Bulgarian Football Union (BFU) since 2005, having served as vice-president from 2001 to 2005. A former international footballer, he played 102 matches for the Bulgarian national team. A member of the UEFA Executive Committee since 2011, he has sat on UEFA committees since 2006, and is currently chairman of the UEFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee and deputy chairman of the UEFA Football Committee.

A One of UEFA's top priorities would be to make football even more popular among children. Through the efforts of UEFA, the grassroots movement has developed really fast, but by elaborating a fine-tuned model of solidarity payments, more focused on the needs of the smaller European associations, it could gain additional impetus. Those national associations could be helped to make the game attractive and admired by schoolboys and schoolgirls.

Another important immediate goal for UEFA in the coming years is to protect the integrity of the game. To reinforce the principle of fair play – on the pitch and in finance – is of utmost importance for the even brighter future of football.

B One of the pillars of the BFU's strategic plan for 2014–18 is the integration of football into school education programmes from the earliest age. As president of the BFU, I'm well experienced in optimising the communication flows between the association and the government, as well as in the best practices of institutional interaction. It is essential for the smaller and medium-sized national associations to get ever more possibilities to organise UEFA youth and amateur tournaments, which is currently the trend, because it remains the best way to stimulate government and local authority support for turning football's development into a national strategic goal. Bearing in mind the complexity of the modern football infrastructure construction problem all over Europe, to host a UEFA tournament is one of the most appropriate approaches for inclusiveness in the European football family, as well as for further boosting the expansion of the game. ●



Trefor Lloyd Hughes (Wales)

Born on 11 December 1947,

and president of the Football Association of Wales (FAW) since August 2012, he has sat on UEFA committees since 2011 and is currently second vice-chairman of the UEFA Stadium and Security Committee.

A Football first. First today, first tomorrow. The top priority for UEFA is to ensure that we have a thriving tomorrow. More players, better players!

Football's future is dependent upon stronger grassroots that offer a safe and secure environment, where football is played with respect and integrity. Excellent facilities, great coaching and a safe environment to allow the next generation to prosper.

Remembering the basics, some kit, a ball to play, a place to play and a coach to help, are key items that sometimes we lose sight of. We must work together as

a team to be stronger from the grassroots to the top of the game.

B I have been involved in football for over 50 years, from being a player and club founder to becoming an administrator and president of my national association. I have worked across all aspects of football administration, from volunteer to club level, to the league and the association and through to the work that I have done at both UEFA and FIFA levels. But in all that time, I have never lost sight of my focus on youth development.

Professionally I am a (retired) trained ambulance paramedic, having served for 34 years in my local community and at football matches. I was a county councillor at the age of 19 and have over 30 years' experience. I was also mayor of my local town. I am a person who cares, a person who brings a sense of perspective to the decisions that need to be made, which have often, as a professional ambulance paramedic, been lifesaving decisions.

My focus on the grassroots of the game and on youth development complements those of my fellow Executive Committee candidates, and, working together as a team, we can be stronger. ●

Scottish FA



Campbell Ogilvie (Scotland)

Born on 1 May 1950, he became president

of the Scottish Football Association in June 2011. He has sat on UEFA committees since 2004 and is currently a member of the UEFA National Team Competitions Committee.

A UEFA's commitment to financial fair play provides a catalyst for future discussions on achieving a fairer competitive balance, helping to bridge the gap for clubs in smaller territories. I believe if we get the football decisions right, finance will follow.

The ever-changing European landscape will also allow us to debate future opportunities to expand the game's reach and attractiveness. Equally important to the identity of member clubs and national associations is a more focused approach to home-grown talent identification and development. New initiatives will maximise the development opportunities for our young professional players.

UEFA will also continue to be a model of great governance amid growing international challenges in the areas of match-fixing, anti-doping, racism and all other forms of discriminatory or unacceptable behaviour.

B I have been involved in some of football's most significant developments domestically, across Europe and internationally during my 45 years in the game, and in that time have worked for the national league body, two of its major clubs and, of course, the national association.

As president of the Scottish FA, I have chaired our board of directors through an unprecedented programme of modernisation on the field and off it. I believe I am a forward-thinker, as demonstrated with my involvement in the creation and ultimate execution of the original UEFA Champions League format.

I pride myself on attention to detail and forward planning, and believe I have the qualities and skills to contribute across the spectrum of issues that influence and affect the game.

It would be a privilege to bring a lifetime's worth of football experience to the UEFA Executive Committee. ●



HNS

Davor Šuker (Croatia)

Born on 1 January 1968, he is a former Croatian

international footballer, has been president of the Croatian Football Federation (HNS) since 2012 and is currently a member of the UEFA Football Committee.

A UEFA's top priority is protecting the game of football. It is, on the face of it, a simple goal but it involves dealing with many different challenges. The financial crisis is threatening our game and we must keep applying and further improving the financial fair play rules. Proper care and education of youth players is another key objective for UEFA, and we must encourage the local training of young players. Protecting the game also means dealing with match-fixing issues, tackling fan violence and racism in the stadiums and protecting sports intellectual property rights. Football attracts large sums of money, and our goal should be to distribute a significant part of that to player development, coach education, infrastructure improvements,

women's football and grassroots programmes.

B As a former player and a current football executive, I believe I have the necessary experience, knowledge and passion to work successfully on achieving these goals. I would be a good ambassador for the sport at European level, promoting positive football values and pointing out negative trends. I can also bring fresh ideas in safeguarding and improving our game. I have dedicated my life to football and it is my personal goal to protect the game that is so important to everybody involved, from the players and coaches to the officials, supporters and community in general. I have learned how important teamwork is in football, and I would cooperate intensely with the UEFA President, the other members of the UEFA Executive Committee, the national associations, clubs, players' associations, sponsors, broadcasters and all other UEFA stakeholders on improving and developing our game. I would personally support all worthy, positive and feasible projects, and would share constructive ideas on how to safeguard football by keeping it simple, attractive, understandable and playable by everyone at all levels with the same rules. ●



UEFA via Getty Images

Grigoriy Surkis (Ukraine)

Born on 4 September 1949, he

was president of the Football Federation of Ukraine from 2000 to 2012 and is now the federation's honorary president. Having been a co-opted member of the UEFA Executive Committee from 2004 to 2007, he was elected as a full member in 2007 and as vice-president in 2013. He is currently chairman of the UEFA Stadium and Security Committee and deputy chairman of the UEFA Marketing Advisory Committee.

have proved the timeliness and effectiveness of those UEFA reforms. Now the national team competitions are on the agenda. The increase in the number of EURO participants, the geographic expansion of the host countries, and the creation of the UEFA Nations League represent new challenges and also show that UEFA keeps in step with the times.

B I am determined to use the experience I have gained over more than two decades in football to make every effort to meet the expectations of all UEFA members, and to work together with my colleagues for the benefit of the noble mission of our organisation by developing the sporting aspects of its activities, expanding its geographical reach and promoting its great humanitarian mission.

I have said many times that UEFA EURO 2012 in Poland and Ukraine was my lifework. However, following this great event, I acutely felt the unique social, cultural and integrative role of football for hundreds of millions of people. From my current position as UEFA vice-president, I appreciate the honour of 'Creating History Together', a concept which acquires special significance for the whole of Europe in the current turbulent times. ●

A Europe is at the forefront of world football and leads the way for the development of the game. UEFA promotes the continuous evolution and modernisation of football, both at club and national team levels. Having replaced the European Champion Clubs' Cup and the UEFA Cup, the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Europa League



Geir Thorsteinsson (Iceland)

Born on
9 September

1964 and president of the Football Association of Iceland (KSÍ) since 2007, he has sat on UEFA committees since 1998 and is currently second vice-chairman of the UEFA National Team Competitions Committee.

A UEFA should help the member associations to prosper in today's society and to run challenging football activities – on their own terms. UEFA's projects should aim to assist the associations to perform to the highest level, so that the clubs, administrators, players, educators, coaches and referees continue to improve for the good of football. UEFA should encourage projects that endorse training sessions under the instruction of qualified coaches at grassroots level already, to benefit both the youngest footballers and the game of tomorrow. UEFA must be both an inno-

vator and a solution-provider for the game, by exchanging know-how inspiring new ideas, and providing sufficient financial support to create better facilities and a long-lasting legacy.

B During my career of more than 30 years in football, I have been a youth coach, referee, club secretary, association general secretary and now president of the Football Association of Iceland. I have contributed at international level by serving on various UEFA and FIFA committees, as well as a delegate, since 1998. I have worked at all levels of the game, providing ideas and solutions, dealing with different stakeholders, in all kinds of areas, ranging from technical, administrative and financial to strategic matters.

Closest to my heart are the associations and working with everyone involved, professional or amateur. Using my experience and knowledge, I am eager to contribute to the development of football in Europe. I am ready to serve as a competent representative on the UEFA Executive Committee, and to face future challenges with confidence, solidarity and active participation.

Together, we can achieve UEFA's priorities. ●



Ángel María Villar Llona (Spain)

Born on 21 January
1950, Ángel María

Villar Llona played for Athletic Club de Bilbao and the Spanish national team before turning to football administration. He has been president of the Spanish Football Federation since 1988 and was elected to the UEFA Executive Committee in 1992, becoming a vice-president in 2000. He is currently also chairman of the UEFA Referees Committee and deputy chairman of the UEFA Players' Status, Transfer and Agents and Match Agents Committee. He has been a member of the FIFA Executive Committee since 1998 and a vice-president since 2002.

A Several problems come to mind which could jeopardise the future of football:

Firstly, violence on the pitch. Secondly, the issue of racism and xenophobia.

And thirdly, the problem of integrity.

B I think my extensive experience in European football as a player, as president of a national association, as a member of a wide range of international committees, and through the many contacts I have made over the years with stakeholders at all levels of European and world football, will enable me to continue to hold meaningful and constructive exchanges with people from all spheres of activity, to forge agreements and to work in cooperation with other parties to see that those agreements are implemented. I sincerely believe that this experience will help me to make a valid and a major contribution towards resolving the problems I mentioned earlier. ●



Servet Yardımcı (Turkey)

Born on
26 December 1957,

he is first vice-president of the Turkish Football Federation (TFF) and has been a member of the UEFA HatTrick Committee since 2013.

A At national level, the continued development of national team football and delivering a successful EURO 2016 in France is a priority. Beyond this, EURO 2020 will be a challenge but provide a huge boost for European football, spreading the game to new host countries and cities across the continent. Successful sales of the centralised rights to European qualifying matches for the EURO and the World Cup are also vital for the finances of UEFA's 54 member associations.

At club level, the top priority remains club licensing and financial fair play, in order to protect clubs while continuing to develop all UEFA's club competitions.

In terms of development, we must continue training referees and promoting all areas of the game, including women's football, youth football and futsal, to build a healthy future.

A final top priority must remain the protection of the game against match-fixing, racism and violence through a strict policy of zero tolerance.

B My love and involvement in football began back at the beginning of this century when, as a founding member of Çaykur Rizespor Football Club as a company, I was involved in stabilising the club economically and turning it into a successful business model.

As a successful businessman and chairman of the Yardımcı Corporation, I understand the complex world of business, finance and football. I would put this experience to good use as a member of UEFA's Executive Committee, to ensure that the financial interests and future well-being of all UEFA's 54 member associations are protected.

Since I have served as a member of UEFA's HatTrick Committee, I know the importance of the central funding of projects across member associations and the need for full transparency and accountability.

Since 2008, in my role as first vice-president of the Turkish Football Federation, I have undertaken important projects for the game, such as the recent opening of our new headquarters and state-of-the-art training facilities. I believe my strong international relationships, deep football experience and business acumen can make a contribution to the UEFA Executive Committee, and for the service of European football. ●