

2020/21 UEFA Nations League – league phase draw procedure

Date and time:	Tuesday, 3 March 2020, 18:00 CET
Place:	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Duration:	approx. 40 minutes for technical part
Regulations:	Art. 12-13 of the competition regulations of the 2020/21 UEFA Nations League (“UNL competition regulations”)
Participants:	55 teams, divided into the four leagues A, B, C and D
Objective:	The draw will decide on the group composition within each league (see Art. 13.02 of the UNL competition regulations)
Seeding:	The teams in each league are seeded based on the 2020/21 UEFA Nations League Access List (Annex C of the UNL competition regulations)

A. League allocation

All 55 UEFA member associations participate in the 2020/21 UEFA Nations League and are divided into the four leagues based on the 2020/21 UEFA Nations League Access List (Annex C of the UNL competition regulations):

Nations League A		Nations League B		Nations League C		Nations League D	
1	Portugal	17	Russia	33	Greece	49	Gibraltar
2	Netherlands	18	Austria	34	Albania	50	Faroe Islands
3	England	19	Wales	35	Montenegro	51	Latvia
4	Switzerland	20	Czech Republic	36	Georgia	52	Liechtenstein
5	Belgium	21	Scotland	37	North Macedonia	53	Andorra
6	France	22	Norway	38	Kosovo	54	Malta
7	Spain	23	Serbia	39	Belarus	55	San Marino
8	Italy	24	Finland	40	Cyprus		
9	Bosnia-Herzegov.	25	Slovakia	41	Estonia		
10	Ukraine	26	Turkey	42	Slovenia		
11	Denmark	27	Rep. of Ireland	43	Lithuania		
12	Sweden	28	Northern Ireland	44	Luxembourg		
13	Croatia	29	Bulgaria	45	Armenia		
14	Poland	30	Israel	46	Azerbaijan		
15	Germany	31	Hungary	47	Kazakhstan		
16	Iceland	32	Romania	48	Moldova		

The 2020/21 UEFA Nations League Access List has been compiled based on the teams’ results in the 2018/19 UEFA Nations League, including promotion and relegation between the leagues and the results of the Finals, in application of articles 18.04 and 18.05 of the regulations of the 2018/19 UEFA Nations League.

B. Pot allocation

Nations League A

The 16 teams allocated to League A are divided into four draw pots as follows:

- Pot 1 will contain the four best-ranked teams, i.e. the teams ranked 1st to 4th;
- Pot 2 will contain the four teams ranked 5th to 8th;
- Pot 3 will contain the four teams ranked 9th to 12th;
- Pot 4 will contain the four teams ranked 13th to 16th.

#	Pot 1
1	Portugal
2	Netherlands
3	England
4	Switzerland

#	Pot 2
5	Belgium
6	France
7	Spain
8	Italy

#	Pot 3
9	Bosnia-Herzegovina
10	Ukraine
11	Denmark
12	Sweden

#	Pot 4
13	Croatia
14	Poland
15	Germany
16	Iceland

Nations League B

The 16 teams allocated to League B are divided into four draw pots as follows:

- Pot 1 will contain the four teams ranked 17th to 20th;
- Pot 2 will contain the four teams ranked 21st to 24th;
- Pot 3 will contain the four teams ranked 25th to 28th;
- Pot 4 will contain the four teams ranked 29th to 32nd.

#	Pot 1
17	Russia
18	Austria
19	Wales
20	Czech Republic

#	Pot 2
21	Scotland
22	Norway
23	Serbia
24	Finland

#	Pot 3
25	Slovakia
26	Turkey
27	Republic of Ireland
28	Northern Ireland

#	Pot 4
29	Bulgaria
30	Israel
31	Hungary
32	Romania

Nations League C

The 16 teams allocated to League C are divided into four draw pots as follows:

- Pot 1 will contain the four teams ranked 33th to 36th;
- Pot 2 will contain the four teams ranked 37th to 40th;
- Pot 3 will contain the four teams ranked 41st to 44th;
- Pot 4 will contain the four teams ranked 45th to 48th.

#	Pot 1
33	Greece
34	Albania
35	Montenegro
36	Georgia

#	Pot 2
37	North Macedonia
38	Kosovo
39	Belarus
40	Cyprus

#	Pot 3
41	Estonia
42	Slovenia
43	Lithuania
44	Luxembourg

#	Pot 4
45	Armenia
46	Azerbaijan
47	Kazakhstan
48	Moldova

Nations League D

The 7 teams allocated to League D are divided into two draw pots as follows:

- Pot 1 will contain the four teams ranked 49th to 52nd;
- Pot 2 will contain the three teams ranked 53rd to 55th.

#	Pot 1
49	Gibraltar
50	Faroe Islands
51	Latvia
52	Liechtenstein

#	Pot 2
53	Andorra
54	Malta
55	San Marino

C. Draw conditions

Draw conditions may apply for “prohibited team clashes”, “winter venue restrictions” and “excessive travel restrictions”. When such a situation occurs or is anticipated to occur, the computer used to assist with the draw will indicate the next available group for the drawn team.

It must be noted that the number of options available to a team depends not only on the team’s own attributes (for example, “winter venue”) and those of the teams already drawn, but also on the attributes of the other teams still to be drawn. This is due to the computer calculations needed to anticipate all possible scenarios and to prevent any deadlock situation.

1. Prohibited team clashes

None of the currently known prohibited team clashes (as decided by the UEFA Executive Committees) can occur.

a. the teams in question will play in different leagues:

- Spain (League A) / Gibraltar (League D)
- Ukraine (League A) / Russia (League B)
- Serbia (League B) / Kosovo (League C)
- Russia (League B) / Kosovo (League C)
- Bosnia-Herzegovina (League A) / Kosovo (League C)

b. the teams have been allocated to the same draw pot, and can thus not be drawn into the same group:

- Armenia (League C, pot 4) / Azerbaijan (League C, pot 4).

The UEFA Executive Committee may decide on further prohibited pairs closer to the draw.

2. Winter venue restrictions

The following countries are taken into consideration as venues with high or medium risk of severe winter conditions.

- Belarus (League C, medium risk)
- Estonia (League C, medium risk)
- Faroe Islands (League D, high risk)
- Finland (League B, high risk)
- Iceland (League A, high risk)
- Latvia (League D, medium risk)
- Lithuania (League C, medium risk)
- Norway (League B, medium risk)
- Russia (League B, medium risk)
- Ukraine (League A, medium risk)

Note that the difference between high or medium risk is not relevant for the draw itself, but is taken into consideration for the elaboration of the fixture list.

A group may include a maximum of two winter venues. Given the allocation of these teams to the leagues and draw pots, this restriction will not apply:

Nations League A

Ukraine and Iceland are the only two teams with winter venue restrictions in League A.

Nations League B

The following pairings are possible:

- Russia / Norway
- Russia / Finland

The pair Norway / Finland cannot be drawn into the same group, as both teams have been allocated to Pot 2.

Nations League C

The following pairings are possible:

- Belarus / Estonia
- Belarus / Lithuania

The pair Estonia / Lithuania cannot be drawn into the same group, as both teams have been allocated to Pot 3.

Nations League D

Faroe Islands and Latvia are the only two teams with winter venue restrictions in League D.

3. Excessive travel restrictions

None of the 20 pairs of excessive travel distances identified (applicable both ways, 8 hours or above, based on direct flight times plus 90 minutes ground operations) apply for the 2020/21 UNL, as the teams in question happen to play in different leagues.

From/To	To/From
Kazakhstan (Astana, League C)	1 Andorra (Barcelona ESP, League D)
	2 England (London, League A)
	3 France (Paris, League A)
	4 Faroe Islands (Torshavn, League D)
	5 Gibraltar (Gibraltar, League D)
	6 Iceland (Reykjavik, League A)
	7 Malta (Valletta, League D)
	8 Northern Ireland (Belfast, League B)
	9 Portugal (Lisbon, League A)
	10 Republic of Ireland (Dublin, League B)
	11 Scotland (Edinburgh, League B)
	12 Spain (Madrid, League A)
	13 Wales (Cardiff, League B)

From/To	To/From
Azerbaijan (Baku, League C)	14 Gibraltar (Gibraltar, League D)
	15 Iceland (Reykjavik, League A)
	16 Portugal (Lisbon, League A)

From/To	To/From
Iceland (Reykjavik, League A)	17 Armenia (Yerevan, League C)
	18 Cyprus (Larnaca, League C)
	19 Georgia (Tbilisi, League C)
	20 Israel (Tel Aviv, League B)

D. Draw procedure

Nations League D

The draw starts with League D and Pot 2 which contains three balls. The drawn teams are assigned to the groups in ascending order from D1 to D2, save in case of a draw condition applying.

- A first ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D1;
- A second ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D2;
- The third ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D1, after which Pot 2 has been emptied and group D1 contains two Pot 2 teams, and group D2 one Pot 2 team.

The draw continues with Pot 1.

- A first ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D1;
- A second ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D2;
- A third ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D1;
- The fourth ball is drawn and the team assigned to group D2, after which Pot 1 has been emptied and group D1 and D2 both contain two Pot 1 teams.

When both pots have been emptied, group D1 must contain four teams, and group D2 three teams:

Group D1	Group D2
Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team
Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team
Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team
Pot 2 team	

Nations League C

The draw continues with League C and Pot 4 which contains four balls. The drawn teams are assigned to the groups in ascending order from C1 to C4, save in case of a draw condition applying.

- A first ball is drawn and the team assigned to group C1;
- A second ball is drawn and the team assigned to group C2;
- A third ball is drawn and the team assigned to group C3;
- The fourth ball is drawn and the team assigned to group C4, after which Pot 4 has been emptied and groups C1 to C4 all contain one Pot 4 team.

The draw continues with Pot 3 and follows the same rules as described above for Pot 4. The same procedure is then applied to Pot 2 and finally to Pot 1.

When all pots have been emptied, each of the four groups of League C must contain four teams, one from each pot:

Group C1	Group C2	Group C3	Group C4
Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team
Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team
Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team
Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team

Nations League B

The draw for League B follows the same procedure as for League C. When all pots have been emptied, the four groups of League B are composed as follows:

Group B1	Group B2	Group B3	Group B4
Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team
Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team
Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team
Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team

Nations League A

The draw for League A follows the same procedure as for Leagues C and B. When all pots have been emptied, the four groups of League A are composed as follows:

Group A1	Group A2	Group A3	Group A4
Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team	Pot 1 team
Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team	Pot 2 team
Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team	Pot 3 team
Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team	Pot 4 team