Romania
Stadionul Ilie Oană - Ploiesti
Sunday 8 September 2019
18.00CET (19.00 local time)
Group F - Matchday 6

Malta

Last updated 09/09/2019 14:16CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS

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Head coach

Cosmin Contra

**Date of birth:** 15 December 1975  
**Nationality:** Romanian  
**Playing career:** Politehnica Timişoara (three times), Dinamo Bucureşti, Alavés, AC Milan, Atlético Madrid, West Brom (loan), Getafe  
**Coaching career:** Politehnica Timişoara, Fuenlabrada, Petrolul Ploieşti, Getafe, Guangzhou, Alcorcón, Dinamo Bucureşti, Romania

- Started and ended his playing career with his home-town club Politehnica Timişoara, heading to Spain in 1999 after a spell in the Romanian capital with Dinamo Bucureşti.
- A major hit with Alavés, the attacking right-back helped the little-known club to reach the 2000/01 UEFA Cup final in their first season in European competition, scoring three goals and putting in a fine performance in the final – a 5-4 loss to Liverpool after extra time in Dortmund.
- Played for Milan, Atlético and West Brom then, after a spell back at Politehnica, helped Getafe make it to the 2007/08 UEFA Cup quarter-finals. Played in his second UEFA European Championship in summer 2008, and won the last of his 73 Romania caps in 2010, more than 14 years after his international debut.
- Moved from pitch to bench at Timişoara, working briefly as player-coach. After a spell in Spain, led Petrolul to 2012/13 Romanian Cup success, then returned to save Getafe from relegation in 2014 before trying his luck in China.
- Having won the 2016/17 Romanian League Cup with Dinamo Bucureşti he was hired as Romania coach in September 2017, promptly winning six of his first eight matches in charge.

Ray Farrugia

**Date of birth:** 1 October, 1955  
**Nationality:** Maltese  
**Playing career:** Floriana, Melita Eagles, Naxxar Lions  
**Coaching career:** Naxxar Lions, Malta Under-21 (twice), Pietà Hotspurs, Marsaxlokk, Sliema Wanderers, Malta (assistant), Malta

- A combative midfielder, ‘Zazu’ made his debut for the senior team of local club Floriana at 16 and remained there for four seasons, winning two league titles and the FA Trophy and also claiming the first of four senior caps for Malta.
- He left for Australia aged just 21, joining top-flight outfit Melita Eagles, where he would spend the next 12 years, winning four State League championships and three Grand Finals and scoring 123 goals in 318 matches. He returned to his homeland in 1990, joining Naxxar Lions, and eventually hung up his boots at the age of 42.
- Started coaching while still playing at Naxxar before moving on to take charge of the Malta Under-21 side from 1998 to 2002. He later returned to club football on the island, serving Pietà Hotspurs, Marsaxlokk and Sliema Wanderers as head coach.
- In 2011 Farrugia was re-appointed as Malta U-21 head coach, remaining in charge until 2014, when he was promoted to the senior side as assistant to Pietro Ghedin.
- On 2 May 2018 he was appointed as Malta’s head coach, replacing Tom Saintfiet who had been dismissed after just six months at the helm.
Legend

:: Previous meetings
Goals for/against: Goal totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (e.g. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw

:: Squad list

Qual.: Total European Qualifiers appearances/goals for UEFA EURO 2020 only.
FT: Total UEFA EURO 2020 appearances/goals in final tournament only.
Overall: Total international appearances/goals.
DoB: Date of birth
Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated
D: Disciplinary (*: misses next match if booked, S: suspended)

:: Team facts

EURO finals: The UEFA European Championship was a four-team event in 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1976 (when the preliminary round and quarter-finals were considered part of qualifying).

From 1980 it was expanded to an eight-team finals and remained in that format in 1984, 1988 and 1992 until 1996, when the 16-team format was adopted. UEFA EURO 2016 was the first tournament to be played as a 24-team finals.

Records of inactive countries
A number of UEFA associations have been affected by dissolution or splits of member associations. For statistical purposes, the records of these inactive countries have been allocated elsewhere: therefore, all Soviet Union matches are awarded to Russia; all West Germany – but not East Germany – matches are awarded to Germany; all Yugoslavia and Serbia & Montenegro matches are awarded to Serbia; all Czechoslovakia matches are allocated to both the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Abandoned/forfeited matches
For statistical purposes, when a match has been started and then abandoned but later forfeited, the result on the pitch at the time of abandonment is counted. Matches that never started and were either cancelled or forfeited are not included in the overall statistics.

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time
No.: Number
ag: Match decided on away goals
agg: Aggregate
AP: Appearances
Comp.: Competition
D: Drawn
DoB: Date of birth
ET: Extra Time
GA: Goals against
GF: Goals for
gg: Match decided by golden goal
L: Lost
Nat.: Nationality

pens: Penalties
og: Own goal
P: Penalty
Pl: Matches played
Pos.: Position
Pts: Points
R: Sent off (straight red card)
Res.: Result
sg: Match decided by silver goal
t: Match decided by toss of a coin
W: Won
Y: Booked
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)
N/A: Not applicable

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