

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



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 15:54CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Previous meetings	2
Squad list	3
Head coach	5
Match officials	6
Match-by-match lineups	7
Legend	9

Previous meetings

Head to Head

2020 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
10/06/2019	QR (GS)	Malta - Romania	0-4	Ta' Qali	Puşcaş 7, 29, Chipciu 34, Man 90+1

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
EURO																		
Romania	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	4	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	1	0	4
FIFA*																		
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Friendlies																		
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total																		
Romania	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	4	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	1	0	4

* FIFA World Cup/FIFA Confederations Cup

Squad list

Romania

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Ciprian Tătărușanu	09/02/1986	33	Lyon	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Florin Niță	03/07/1987	32	Sparta Praha	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Ionuț Radu	28/05/1997	22	Genoa	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Alexandru Chipciu	18/05/1989	30	Sparta Praha	-	4	1	0	0		
-	Romario Benzar	26/03/1992	27	Lecce	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Alin Toșca	14/03/1992	27	Gazişehir Gaziantep	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Vlad Chiricheș	14/11/1989	29	Sassuolo	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Ionuț Nedelcearu	25/04/1996	23	Ufa	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Florin-Bogdan Ștefan	09/05/1996	23	Sepsi Sfantu Gheorghe	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Adrian Rus	18/03/1996	23	Fehérvár	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Ciprian Deac	16/02/1986	33	CFR Cluj	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Paul Anton	10/05/1991	28	Krylya Sovetov	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Nicolae Stanciu	07/05/1993	26	Slavia Praha	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Alexandru Maxim	08/07/1990	29	Mainz	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Răzvan Marin	23/05/1996	23	Ajax	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Alexandru Cicâldău	08/07/1997	22	Universitatea Craiova	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Ianis Hagi	22/10/1998	20	Genk	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Mihai Bordeianu	18/11/1991	27	CFR Cluj	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Claudiu Keșerü	02/12/1986	32	Ludogorets	-	5	5	0	0		
-	Gheorghe Grozav	29/09/1990	28	Varda	-	1	0	0	0		
-	George Pușcaș	08/04/1996	23	Reading	-	5	3	0	0		
-	Constantin Păun	01/04/1995	24	CFR Cluj	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Florin Andone	11/04/1993	26	Galatasaray	-	1	1	0	0		
Coach											
-	Cosmin Contra	15/12/1975	43		-	5	0	0	0		

Malta

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Justin Haber	09/06/1981	38	Gżira	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Andrew Hogg	02/03/1985	34	Birkirkara	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Henry Bonello	13/10/1988	30	Valletta	-	5	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Andrei Agius	12/08/1986	33	Hibernians	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Steve Borg	15/05/1988	31	Valletta	*	5	1	0	0		
-	Joseph Zerafa	31/05/1988	31	Valletta	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Jurgen Pisani	03/09/1992	27	Floriana	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Ferdinando Apap	29/07/1992	27	Hibernians	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Karl Micallef	08/09/1996	23	Hamrun	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Dunstan Vella	27/04/1996	23	Hibernians	-	1	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Paul Fenech	20/12/1986	32	Balzan	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Rowen Muscat	05/06/1991	28	Valletta	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Tristan Caruana	15/09/1991	27	Hamrun	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Zach Muscat	22/08/1993	26	Olhanense	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Jake Grech	18/11/1997	21	Hibernians	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Luke Gambin	16/03/1993	26	Colchester	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Nikolai Muscat	13/07/1996	23	Gżira	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dexter Xuereb	21/09/1997	21	Mosta	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Jean Paul Farrugia	21/03/1992	27	Sliema	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Alfred Effiong	29/11/1984	34	Balzan	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Juan Corbolan	03/01/1997	22	Gżira	-	5	0	0	0		
-	Kyrian Nwoko	04/07/1997	22	Valletta	*	4	1	0	0		
-	Joseph Mbong	15/07/1997	22	Hibernians	-	5	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Raymond Farrugia	01/10/1955	63		-	5	0	0	0		

Head coach

Cosmin Contra

Date of birth: 15 December 1975

Nationality: Romanian

Playing career: Politehnica Timișoara (three times), Dinamo București, Alavés, AC Milan, Atlético Madrid, West Brom (loan), Getafe

Coaching career: Politehnica Timișoara, Fuenlabrada, Petrolul Ploiești, Getafe, Guangzhou, Alcorcón, Dinamo București, Romania

- Started and ended his playing career with his home-town club Politehnica Timișoara, heading to Spain in 1999 after a spell in the Romanian capital with Dinamo București.
- 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 Timișoara, 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 București 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, Marxsaxlokk, 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.

Match officials

Referee	Duje Strukan (CRO)
Assistant referees	Goran Perica (CRO) , Vedran Đurak (CRO)
Fourth official	Ivan Bebek (CRO)
UEFA Delegate	Edy Kindle (LIE)
UEFA Referee observer	Kaj Østergaard (DEN)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEFA EURO matches	UEFA matches
Duje Strukan	16/05/1984	0	14

UEFA European Championship matches featuring the two countries involved in this match

No such matches refereed

Other matches involving teams from either of the two countries involved in this match

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
14/11/2018	U19	QR	France	Malta	1-0	Ta' Qali
17/11/2018	U19	QR	Belgium	Malta	1-1	Ta' Qali

Match-by-match lineups

Romania

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group F

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Spain	6	6	0	0	17	3	18
Sweden	6	3	2	1	13	8	11
Romania	6	3	1	2	13	7	10
Norway	6	2	3	1	11	8	9
Malta	6	1	0	5	2	13	3
Faroe Islands	6	0	0	6	3	20	0

Matchday 1 (23/03/2019)

Sweden 2-1 Romania

Goals: 1-0 Quaison 33, 2-0 Claesson 40, 2-1 Keşerü 58

Romania: Tătăruşanu, Băluţă (78 Ivan), Manea, Chipciu, Puşcaş (64 Hagi), Stanciu, Bancu, Marin, Mitriţă (46 Keşerü), Grigore, Săpunaru

Matchday 2 (26/03/2019)

Romania 4-1 Faroe Islands

Goals: 1-0 Deac 26, 2-0 Keşerü 29, 3-0 Keşerü 33, 3-1 V. Davidsen 40 (P) , 4-1 Puşcaş 63

Romania: Tătăruşanu, Benzar (46 Hagi), Moţi, Chipciu, Puşcaş, Stanciu (78 Man), Bancu, Keşerü (69 Cicăldău), Deac, Marin, Grigore

Matchday 3 (07/06/2019)

Norway 2-2 Romania

Goals: 1-0 T. Elyounoussi 56, 2-0 Ødegaard 70, 2-1 Keşerü 77, 2-2 Keşerü 90+2

Romania: Tătăruşanu, Toşca, Chipciu, Puşcaş (60 Ţucudean), Grozav (60 Hagi), Keşerü, Anton, Deac, Grigore, Săpunaru, Stanciu (71 Maxim)

Matchday 4 (10/06/2019)

Malta 0-4 Romania

Goals: 0-1 Puşcaş 7, 0-2 Puşcaş 29, 0-3 Chipciu 34, 0-4 Man 90+1

Romania: Tătăruşanu, Cristea, Nedelcearu (35 Săpunaru), Băluţă, Chipciu, Hagi, Puşcaş, Bancu, Keşerü (65 Man), Marin, Maxim (74 Rotariu)

Matchday 5 (05/09/2019)

Romania 1-2 Spain

Goals: 0-1 Ramos 29 (P) , 0-2 Paco Alcácer 47, 1-2 Andone 59

Romania: Tătăruşanu, Benzar, Toşca, Nedelcearu, Chiricheş, Stanciu (63 Hagi), Puşcaş, Keşerü (56 Andone), Deac (71 Maxim), Marin, Grigore

Matchday 6 (08/09/2019)

Romania-Malta

Matchday 7 (12/10/2019)

Faroe Islands-Romania

Matchday 8 (15/10/2019)

Romania-Norway

Matchday 9 (15/11/2019)

Romania-Sweden

Matchday 10 (18/11/2019)

Spain-Romania

Malta

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group F

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Spain	6	6	0	0	17	3	18
Sweden	6	3	2	1	13	8	11
Romania	6	3	1	2	13	7	10
Norway	6	2	3	1	11	8	9
Malta	6	1	0	5	2	13	3
Faroe Islands	6	0	0	6	3	20	0

Matchday 1 (23/03/2019)

Malta 2-1 Faroe Islands

Goals: 1-0 Nwoko 13, 2-0 S. Borg 77 (P) , 2-1 J. Thomsen 90+8

Malta: Bonello, Caruana, S. Borg, Agius, Guillaumier, Mbong, P. Fenech, Mifsud (71 J. Zerafa), Nwoko, R. Muscat (84 Mintoff), Corbolan (63 Z. Muscat)

Matchday 2 (26/03/2019)

Malta 0-2 Spain

Goals: 0-1 Morata 31, 0-2 Morata 73

Malta: Bonello, Caruana (85 Micallef), S. Borg, Guillaumier, Mbong (65 R. Muscat), P. Fenech, Nwoko, Corbolan, Mintoff (69 Mifsud), J. Zerafa, Z. Muscat

Matchday 3 (07/06/2019)

Sweden 3-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Quaison 2, 2-0 Claesson 50, 3-0 Isak 81

Malta: Bonello, S. Borg (80 Apap), Agius, J. Grech (64 P. Fenech), Mbong, Montebello (71 Nwoko), R. Muscat, Corbolan, Effiong, Gambin, Z. Muscat

Matchday 4 (10/06/2019)

Malta 0-4 Romania

Goals: 0-1 Puşcaş 7, 0-2 Puşcaş 29, 0-3 Chipciu 34, 0-4 Man 90+1

Malta: Bonello, S. Borg, Agius, Mbong, P. Fenech (59 J. Grech), R. Muscat, Corbolan (84 Montebello), Effiong, J. Zerafa, Gambin (67 Mifsud), Z. Muscat

Matchday 5 (05/09/2019)

Norway 2-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Berge 34, 2-0 King 45+1 (P)

Malta: Bonello, S. Borg, Agius, J. Grech (77 Effiong), Mbong, P. Fenech (64 J.P. Farrugia), Nwoko, R. Muscat, Vella, Corbolan, Z. Muscat (20 Apap)

Matchday 6 (08/09/2019)

Romania-Malta

Matchday 7 (12/10/2019)

Malta-Sweden

Matchday 8 (15/10/2019)

Faroe Islands-Malta

Matchday 9 (15/11/2019)

Spain-Malta

Matchday 10 (18/11/2019)

Malta-Norway

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

Disclaimer: Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.

pens: Penalties

og: Own goal

P: Penalty

Pld: 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