

# UEFA EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE - 2021/22 SEASON

## MATCH PRESS KITS



**FK Partizan**

**Stadion FK Partizan - Belgrade**

Thursday 21 October 2021

21.00CET (21.00 local time)

Group B - Matchday 3



**KAA Gent**

Last updated 19/10/2021 23:34CET



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## Match background

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With two wins and two clean sheets apiece, Partizan and Gent are both flying high in Group B as the two survivors from the UEFA Europa Conference League second qualifying round go head to head for the first time in UEFA competition.

- Partizan kicked off their group campaign with a 2-0 win against Anorthosis in Cyprus before two Lazar Marković goals brought them a second victory by that scoreline at home to Flora Tallinn on Matchday 2. Gent, meanwhile, won 1-0 at Flora before a 2-0 success in Belgium against Anorthosis.

### Previous meetings

- Partizan have won none of their previous eight UEFA matches against Belgian opposition, losing the first two and drawing the next two of the four fixtures in Belgrade. However, they did beat Anderlecht on penalties after two 2-2 draws in a 2010/11 UEFA Champions League play-off, when current head coach Aleksandar Stanojević was also in charge.

- The Belgrade club's 2020/21 European campaign was ended by Charleroi, who beat them 2-1 after extra time in a one-off tie in Belgium in the UEFA Europa League third qualifying round.

- Gent's one previous pairing with Serbian opponents also came last season in the UEFA Europa League, where they lost both matches to Crvena zvezda (1-2 a, 0-2 h) en route to a group stage whitewash.

### Form guide

#### Partizan

- Runners-up to city rivals Crvena zvezda in both domestic competitions last season, finishing 13 points adrift in the Serbian SuperLiga and losing on penalties after a goalless draw in the cup final, Partizan nevertheless booked a qualifying spot in the inaugural UEFA Europa Conference League.

- The club's 26th successive European campaign kicked off in the second qualifying round of the new competition, where they defeated Dunajská Streda (1-0 h, 2-0 a) before prevailing 4-2 on penalties against Sochi (1-1 a, 2-2 h) and coming from behind to beat Santa Clara of Portugal in the play-offs (1-2 a, 2-0 h).

- Partizan have won 13 of their last 18 European matches in Belgrade, losing just one, against Manchester United on Matchday 3 of the 2019/20 UEFA Europa League – the club's last group stage involvement before this season.

#### Gent

- Gent finished fifth in Belgium's First Division A last season to qualify for the second qualifying round of the UEFA Europa Conference League. They defeated Vålerenga of Norway in their opening tie (4-0 h, 0-2 a), then RFS of Latvia (2-2 h, 1-0 a) and, in the play-offs, Polish Cup winners Raków Częstochowa (0-1 a, 3-0 h).

- Gent lost all six matches – to Slovan Liberec and Hoffenheim as well as Crvena zvezda – in last season's UEFA Europa League group stage, where they were appearing for the second season in a row, having reached the round of 32 as section winners in 2019/20.

- The Matchday 1 win at Flora was just the third for Gent in their last 16 European away matches (D4 L9), the Belgian side having failed to score in six of the previous nine.

### Links and trivia

- Partizan boss Stanojević (2010/11) and his Gent counterpart Hein Vanhaezebrouck (2015/16) both led their respective clubs into the UEFA Champions League group stage during the first of their two spells in charge. Vanhaezebrouck's Gent remain the only Belgian side to have reached the competition's knockout phase.

- This is the 16th successive season in which Partizan's Israeli midfielder Bibras Natcho has appeared in UEFA club competition. With Hapoel Tel-Aviv, Rubin Kazan, CSKA Moskva, Olympiacos and Partizan he has amassed 126 European appearances, scoring 20 goals, one of which was a penalty for Rubin against Belgian club Zulte Waregem in a 2-0 away win in the 2013/14 UEFA Europa League group stage.

- Gent striker Darko Lemajić, who scored the winner at Flora, is a Serbian who played in his homeland for Indijija and Napredak Kruševac from 2009 to 2017. He made only 19 SuperLiga appearances, however, scoring two goals.

# Legend

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## Competitions

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