

# UEFA EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE - 2021/22 SEASON

## MATCH PRESS KITS



**PFC CSKA-Sofia**

**Natsionalen Stadion Vasil Levski -  
Sofia**

Thursday 21 October 2021  
21.00CET (22.00 local time)  
Group C - Matchday 3



**FC Zorya Luhansk**

Last updated 19/10/2021 23:34CET



Match background

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Legend

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## Match background

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CSKA-Sofia and Zorya Luhansk both have ground to make up in UEFA Europa Conference League Group C as they meet in the Bulgarian capital on Matchday 3.

- While CSKA have one point on the board, courtesy of a 0-0 draw at home to Bodø/Glimt that followed an opening 5-1 defeat at Roma, Zorya are yet to get off the mark, losing 1-3 in Norway and 0-3 at home to the Italian side.

### Previous meetings

- The clubs first met two seasons ago in the UEFA Europa League third qualifying round, Zorya taking the tie 2-1 on aggregate (1-1 a, 1-0 h).
- Those are the only previous UEFA encounters for both CSKA-Sofia with Ukrainian opponents and Zorya with a team from Bulgaria.

### Form guide

#### CSKA

- Bulgarian Cup winners last season thanks to a 1-0 final win against Arda Kardzhali, CSKA also took third place in the league as well as reaching the group stage of the UEFA Europa League.
- The only one of three Bulgarian clubs to have come through this summer's UEFA Europa Conference League qualifying phase, Stoycho Mladenov's side needed penalties to knock out Latvia's Liepāja after two goalless draws in the second qualifying round before beating Osijek (4-2 h, 1-1 a) and then, thanks to a dramatic late extra-time winner, Viktoria Plzeň in the play-offs (0-2 a, 3-0 h).
- Although CSKA lost their opening two group games in Sofia last season, they have been defeated in just three of their 16 European home matches, ten of them ending in victory, and are unbeaten in the last five.

#### Zorya

- Third in the Ukrainian Premier League for the second season in a row, Zorya are featuring in European competition for an eighth successive year, all of those previous campaigns having been in the UEFA Europa League, including three group stage appearances. They have yet to experience European football in the spring.
- Viktor Skrypnyk's side missed out on another UEFA Europa League group campaign this season when they lost their play-off to Rapid Wien (0-3 a, 2-3 h) – a result that makes them the first team from Ukraine to compete in the UEFA Europa Conference League group stage.
- Zorya's 3-0 win at AEK Athens on Matchday 4 last term was one of only two victories in their last 12 European away games (D2 L8) and also just the second on their travels in European group stage football, the other eight having all ended in defeat.

### Links and trivia

- Zorya coach Skrypnyk was in charge of the Riga side that lost 5-3 on penalties to CSKA-Sofia in the 2018/19 UEFA Europa League first qualifying round after two 1-0 home wins. He did, however, lead Zorya to that victory over the Bulgarian side in the following season's third qualifying round.

## Legend

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## Competitions

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