

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2020/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



SK Slavia Praha

Eden Arena - Prague
Thursday 29 October 2020
21.00CET (21.00 local time)
Group C - Matchday 2



Bayer 04 Leverkusen

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Match background

Slavia Praha take on a buoyant Bayer Leverkusen in the Czech capital as they look to register their first points in UEFA Europa League Group C.

- Two late goals conceded to Hapoel Beer-Sheva in Israel on Matchday 1 left Slavia licking the wounds of an opening 3-1 defeat, but it was all smiles for Leverkusen as they hit Nice for six at the BayArena. The 6-2 win for last season's quarter-finalists, which featured a Karim Bellarabi double, equalled the record for the most goals scored in a UEFA Europa League group fixture.

Previous meetings

- Slavia have never previously faced Leverkusen in UEFA competition but this is their 15th match against a German club. Their overall record in the previous 14 is W3 D3 L8, with defeats in all of the last five including two in last season's UEFA Champions League group stage against Borussia Dortmund (0-2 h, 1-2 a). Slavia have managed just six goals in those 14 games and have failed to score in their last three home matches against German visitors.
- Leverkusen's one defeat in their seven encounters with Czech clubs came on their last visit to the country – a 2-1 loss at Baník Ostrava in the second leg of the 2004/05 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round that was of little consequence given their 5-0 first-leg win in Germany. The Werkself's record in the Czech Republic is W1 D1 L1.

Form guide

Slavia

- Champions of the Czech Republic for the third time in four years last season, Slavia missed out on a second successive UEFA Champions League group stage adventure this term when they were defeated by Midtjylland in the play-offs (0-0 h, 1-4 a).
- Fourth in their UEFA Champions League section last season, behind Barcelona, Borussia Dortmund and Inter, Slavia are competing in the UEFA Europa League group stage for the fourth time. They failed to make further progress in 2009/10 and 2017/18 but went all the way to the quarter-finals on their last appearance, in 2018/19, despite scoring just four goals in the group stage. A dramatic 4-3 extra-time home win against competition specialists Sevilla in the round of 16, after a 2-2 first-leg draw in Spain, provided an unforgettable highlight.
- Slavia have lost four of their last six European home games, winning only one. They did not concede a goal in Prague during the 2018/19 group stage but their overall home record in the competition proper is W4 D4 L4.

Leverkusen

- Fifth place in the 2019/20 Bundesliga earned Leverkusen a return to the UEFA Europa League, where they reached the quarter-finals last season after finishing third in their UEFA Champions League group. They won both legs against Porto in the round of 32 (2-1 h, 3-1 a) and Rangers in the round of 16 (3-1 a, 1-0 h) before losing their quarter-final in nearby Düsseldorf 2-1 to Internazionale. They also reached the final of last season's DFB-Pokal, losing 4-2 to Bayern München.
- This is Leverkusen's sixth appearance in the UEFA Europa League proper and fourth in the group stage. They have never failed to progress to the knockout phase, topping the group in their most recent participation two seasons ago ahead of Ludogorets, Zürich and AEK Larnaca.
- The Werkself were undefeated in nine UEFA Europa League matches (W6 D3) until last season's quarter-final defeat by Inter. They have lost only three of their last 13 European away fixtures (W6 D4), winning the last three, all by two-goal margins.

Links and trivia

- Leverkusen's Prague-born forward Patrik Schick has scored nine goals in 22 appearances for the Czech Republic and is a national team-mate of several Slavia players. He began his career with Slavia's main rivals Sparta Praha and also spent 2015/16 on loan with Bohemians 1905, playing in two league draws against Slavia (2-2 a, 0-0 h).
- Leverkusen's fourth appearance in the UEFA Europa League group stage is a record for a German club. They are also now the highest-scoring Bundesliga club in the competition, on 64 goals, overtaking Eintracht Frankfurt with the fifth of their six against Nice.
- The Rhineland club are one of six former UEFA Cup winners in this season's UEFA Europa League group stage – along with PSV Eindhoven (Group E), Napoli (F), Tottenham (J), CSKA Moskva and Feyenoord (both K).

Legend

Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup
UEL: UEFA Europa League
UCUP: UEFA Cup
UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup
SCUP: UEFA Super Cup
UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup
ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship
WC: FIFA World Cup
CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup
FRIE: Friendly internationals
U21FRIE: Under-21 friendly internationals
U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship
U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship
U16: UEFA European Under-16 Championship
U19: UEFA Under-19 Championship
U18: UEFA European Under-18 Championship
WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup
WEURO: UEFA European Women's Championship

Competition stages

F: Final	GS: Group stage
GS1: First group stage	GS2: Second group stage
3QR: Third qualifying round	R1: First round
R2: Second round	R3: Third round
R4: Fourth round	PR: Preliminary round
SF: Semi-finals	QF: Quarter-finals
R16: round of 16	QR: Qualifying round
R32: Round of 32	1QR: First qualifying round
1st: first leg	2QR: Second qualifying round
2nd: second leg	FT: Final tournament
PO: Play-off	ELITE: Elite round
Rep: Replay	3rdPO: Third-place play-off
PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament	GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time	pens: Penalties
No.: Number	og: Own goal
ag: Match decided on away goals	P: Penalty
Pld: Matches played	agg: Aggregate
Pos.: Position	AP: Appearances
Pts: Points	Comp.: Competition
R: Sent off (straight red card)	D: Drawn
Res.: Result	DoB: Date of birth
sg: Match decided by silver goal	ET: Extra Time
GF: Goals for	GA: Goals against
gg: Match decided by golden goal	t: Match decided by toss of a coin
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)	W: Won
f: Match forfeited	Y: Booked
	L: Lost
	Nat.: Nationality
	N/A: Not applicable

Statistics

-: Denotes player substituted
*****: Denotes player sent off

+: Denotes player introduced
+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

Squad list

D: Disciplinary

*****: Misses next match if booked

S: Suspended

QUAL: All UEFA qualifiers

UEL: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday

UEL: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final only

UEFA: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

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