

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Greece

OACA Spyros Louis - Athens

Friday 12 October 2018
20.45CET (21.45 local time)
Group C2 - Matchday 3



Hungary

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Previous meetings

Head to Head

UEFA Nations League

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
11/09/2018	GS-FT	Hungary - Greece	2-1	Budapest	Sallai 15, Kleinheisler 42; Manolas 18

2016 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
11/10/2015	QR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	4-3	Piraeus	Stafylidis 5, Tachtsidis 57, Mitroglou 79, Kone 86; Lovrencsics 26, Németh 55, 75
29/03/2015	QR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	0-0	Budapest	

UEFA EURO 2008

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
21/11/2007	QR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	1-2	Budapest	Buzsáky 7; Vanczák 22 (og), Basinas 59 (P)
02/06/2007	QR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	2-0	Heraklion	Gekas 16, Seitaridis 29

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
31/03/1993	QR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	0-1	Budapest	Apostolakis 70 (P)
11/11/1992	QR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	0-0	Salonika	

1988 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
14/10/1987	PR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	3-0	Budapest	Détári 4, Bognar 11, Meszaros 15
12/11/1986	PR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	2-1	Athens	Mitropoulos 38, Anastopoulos 65; Boda 73

1984 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
03/12/1983	PR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	2-2	Thessalonica	Anastopoulos 9, 55; Kardos 12, Bodonyi 40
15/05/1983	PR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	2-3	Budapest	Nyilasi 24, Hajszan 88; Anastopoulos 15, Kostikos 32, Mihos 56

1980 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
02/05/1979	PR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	0-0	Budapest	
29/10/1978	PR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	4-1	Thessalonica	Galakos 58, 67, Ardizoglou 71, Mavros 89; Várady 90

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
28/05/1977	QR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	3-0	Budapest	Pusztai 13, Nyilasi 15, Fazekas 88
09/10/1976	QR (GS)	Greece - Hungary	1-1	Piraeus	Papaioannou 68; Kereki 84

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
25/03/1938	QR (GS)	Hungary - Greece	11-1	Budapest	Zsengeller 14, 23, 24, 81, 83, Titkos 17, 65, Vincze 26, József 36, 40, 51; Makris 89

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Total																		
Greece	7	4	3	0	8	3	2	3	1	0	0	1	20	9	6	5	31	35
Hungary	8	3	2	3	7	0	3	4	1	1	0	0	20	5	6	9	35	31

Squad list

Greece

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers									
1	Orestis Karnezis	11/07/1985	33	Napoli	-			0	0
12	Alexandros Paschalakis	28/07/1989	29	PAOK	-			0	0
13	Vassilis Barkas	30/05/1994	24	AEK	-			2	0
Defenders									
2	Michalis Bakakis	18/03/1991	27	AEK	-			0	0
3	Giorgos Tzavellas	26/11/1987	30	Alanyaspor	*			1	0
4	Kostas Manolas	14/06/1991	27	Roma	-			2	1
15	Vasilis Lampropoulos	31/03/1990	28	AEK	-			0	0
19	Sokratis Papastathopoulos	09/06/1988	30	Arsenal	-			2	0
20	Dimitris Kolovetsios	16/10/1991	26	Panathinaikos	-			0	0
21	Dimitris Giannoulis	17/10/1995	22	Atromitos	-			0	0
23	Kostas Tsimikas	12/05/1996	22	Olympiacos	-			0	0
Midfielders									
5	Andreas Bouchalakis	05/04/1993	25	Olympiacos	-			2	0
6	Alexandros Tziolis	13/02/1985	33	Al-Fayha FC	-			1	0
7	Lazaros Christodoulopoulos	19/12/1986	31	Olympiacos	-			1	0
8	Carlos Zeca	31/08/1988	30	København	-			0	0
10	Kostas Fortounis	16/10/1992	25	Olympiacos	-			2	1
16	Dimitris Kourbelis	02/11/1993	24	Panathinaikos	-			2	0
18	Dimitris Pelkas	26/10/1993	24	PAOK	-			2	0
22	Giannis Fetfatzidis	21/12/1990	27	Olympiacos	-			0	0
Forwards									
9	Efthymis Koulouris	06/03/1996	22	Atromitos	-			1	0
11	Kostas Mitroglou	12/03/1988	30	Marseille	-			2	0
14	Tasos Bakasetas	28/06/1993	25	AEK	-			1	0
17	Nikos Karelis	24/02/1992	26	PAOK	-			0	0
Coach									
-	Michael Skibbe	04/08/1965	53		-			2	0

Hungary

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
1	Péter Gulácsi	06/05/1990	28	Leipzig	-			2	0		
12	Dénes Dibusz	16/11/1990	27	Ferencváros	-			0	0		
22	Dávid Gróf	17/04/1989	29	Honvéd	-			0	0		
Defenders											
2	Ádám Lang	17/01/1993	25	CFR Cluj	-			2	0		
3	Paulo Vinícius	21/02/1990	28	Vidi	-			0	0		
4	Tamás Kádár	14/03/1990	28	Dynamo Kyiv	*			2	0		
5	Attila Fiola	17/02/1990	28	Vidi	*			2	0		
6	Willi Orban	03/11/1992	25	Leipzig	-			0	0		
21	Barnabás Bese	06/05/1994	24	Le Havre	-			1	0		
23	Botond Baráth	21/04/1992	26	Honvéd	-			0	0		
Midfielders											
7	Ádám Gyurcsó	06/03/1991	27	Hajduk Split	-			0	0		
8	Ádám Nagy	17/06/1995	23	Bologna	-			1	0		
10	István Kovács	27/03/1992	26	Vidi	-			2	0		
13	Zsolt Kalmár	09/06/1995	23	Dunajská Streda	-			1	0		
14	Gergő Lovrencsics	01/09/1988	30	Ferencváros	*			2	0		
15	László Kleinheisler	08/04/1994	24	Astana	-			2	1		
16	Máté Pátkai	06/03/1988	30	Vidi	-			2	0		
18	Dominik Nagy	08/05/1995	23	Legia	-			0	0		
Forwards											
9	Ádám Szalai	09/12/1987	30	Hoffenheim	*			2	0		
11	Krisztián Németh	05/01/1989	29	Sporting Kansas City	-			0	0		
17	Roland Varga	23/01/1990	28	Ferencváros	-			2	0		
19	Márton Eppel	20/11/1991	26	Kairat	-			2	0		
20	Roland Sallai	22/05/1997	21	Freiburg	*			2	1		
Coach											
-	Marco Rossi	09/09/1964	54		-			2	0		

Head coach

Michael Skibbe

Date of birth: 4 August 1965

Nationality: German

Playing career: Schalke

Coaching career: Borussia Dortmund, Germany (assistant), Bayer Leverkusen, Galatasaray, Eintracht Frankfurt, Eskişehirspor (twice), Hertha Berlin, Karabükspor, Grasshoppers, Greece

- Michael Skibbe started out as a midfielder at home-town club Schalke; however, the former youth international made just 15 first-team appearances before a series of cruciate injuries forced him to abandon his playing career in his early 20s.
- Impressing as a youth coach at Schalke and Dortmund, Skibbe became the youngest boss in Bundesliga history when he was given the senior job at Dortmund aged 32 in July 1998.
- Worked in tandem with Rudi Völler during the latter's time as Germany coach, reaching the 2002 FIFA World Cup final, but the pair resigned after the national team's early exit from UEFA EURO 2004. Skibbe returned to club football, coaching Leverkusen from 2005–08.
- First ventured abroad to coach Galatasaray from 2008–09. Went back to Turkey three more times, twice leading Eskişehirspor and briefly taking charge of Karabükspor. Had a longer stint in Switzerland with Grasshoppers.
- Hired as Greece coach in late October 2015, tasked with directing their 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying attempt after failure to reach UEFA EURO 2016; took them to the play-offs, where they were beaten by eventual runners-up Croatia.

Marco Rossi

Date of birth: 9 September 1964

Nationality: Italian

Playing career: Torino, Campania, Campania Puteolana, Catanzaro, Brescia, Sampdoria, Club América, Eintracht Frankfurt, Piacenza, Ospitaletto, Salò

Coaching career: Lumezzane, Pro Patria, Spezia, Scafatese, Cavese, Honvéd (twice), DAC Dunajská Streda, Hungary

- Rossi launched his playing career as a defender with Torino and made his Serie A debut in March 1984. Later played for Campania, Catanzaro and – briefly – Brescia before joining Sampdoria in 1993. Won the Coppa Italia with Samp in 1994 before moving abroad to play in Mexico for Club América and in Germany with Eintracht Frankfurt. His last professional club was Piacenza, finishing his career with lower-division outfits Ospitaletto and Salò.
- In 2004, he started coaching Lumezzane, subsequently taking charge of lower-league Italian clubs Pro Patria, Spezia, Scafatese and Cavese. He considered retiring before being appointed head coach of Honvéd in August 2012.
- In his first season in Budapest, the club made famous by Ferenc Puskás and Co in the 1950s finished third in the Hungarian top flight, but Rossi left in April 2014 – only to return, by popular demand, the following February. In 2016/17 the Italian defied the odds by steering Honvéd to a sensational Hungarian title triumph – the club's first league success for 24 years – but subsequently stepped down, pursuing his career instead across the border in Slovakia.
- He spent 2017/18 as head coach of DAC Dunajská Streda, a club with sizeable Hungarian support, leading them to third place in the Slovakian league and into a UEFA Europa League qualification spot.
- On 19 June 2018, Rossi returned to the country where he had made his name, becoming head coach of the Hungarian national team as the replacement for Belgian Georges Leekens.

Match officials

Referee	Tobias Stieler (GER)
Assistant referees	Rafael Foltyn (GER) , Marco Achmüller (GER)
Additional assistant referees	Christian Dingert (GER) , Patrick Ittrich (GER)
Fourth official	Christian Gittelmann (GER)
UEFA Delegate	Danilo Filacchione (ITA)
UEFA Referee observer	Bo Karlsson (SWE)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Tobias Stieler	02/07/1981	0	24

Tobias Stieler

Referee since: 1995
First division: 2012
FIFA badge: 2014

Tournaments: 2017 UEFA European Under-21 Championship

Finals
N/A

UEFA Nations League matches between the two teams

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
17/07/2014	UEL	2QR	HNK Rijeka	Ferencvárosi TC	1-0	Rijeka
20/10/2016	UEL	GS	Olympiacos FC	FC Astana	4-1	Piraeus
27/09/2017	UCL	GS	Juventus	Olympiacos FC	2-0	Turin

Competition facts

What is the background to the UEFA Nations League?

The rejuvenation of national team football – and the UEFA Nations League – stems from the desire of UEFA and its 55 member associations to improve the quality and standing of national team football. UEFA and its associations wanted more sporting meaning in national team football, with associations, coaches, players and supporters increasingly of the opinion that friendly matches are not providing adequate competition for national teams.

Extensive consultation and discussions started as far back as the 2011 UEFA Strategy Meeting in Cyprus and continued at a series of Top Executive Programme (TEP) meetings over the following three years. The UEFA Nations League was unanimously adopted at the XXXVIII Ordinary UEFA Congress in Astana on 27 March 2014.

What is the basic format?

The format of the UEFA Nations League features promotion and relegation. The 55 European national teams have been divided into four leagues in accordance with UEFA's national association coefficient rankings on 11 October 2017.

League A includes the top-ranked sides and League D includes the lowest:

League A

Group A1: Germany, France, Netherlands

Group A2: Belgium, Switzerland, Iceland

Group A3: Portugal, Italy, Poland

Group A4: Spain, England, Croatia

Teams have been split into four groups of three, with the group winners then contesting the UEFA Nations League Finals (semi-finals, third-place match and final) in June 2019 to become the UEFA Nations League winners. One host country will be appointed in December 2018 from among the finalist teams.

The four teams that finish bottom of their groups will be relegated to League B for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one final place on offer.

League B

Group B1: Slovakia, Ukraine, Czech Republic

Group B2: Russia, Sweden, Turkey

Group B3: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland

Group B4: Wales, Republic of Ireland, Denmark

Teams have been split into four groups of three.

The four group winners are promoted to League A, with the four sides that finish bottom relegated to League C for the next competition to be played in 2020.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one final place on offer.

League C

Group C1: Scotland, Albania, Israel

Group C2: Hungary, Greece, Finland, Estonia

Group C3: Slovenia, Norway, Bulgaria, Cyprus

Group C4: Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Lithuania

Teams have been split into one group of three (containing teams from Pots 1, 2 and 3 only) and three groups of four. Due to winter venue restrictions, a group could contain a maximum of two of these teams: Norway, Finland, Estonia, Lithuania.

The four group winners are promoted to League B, with the four sides that finish bottom relegated to League D for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one final place on offer.

League D

Group D1: Georgia, Latvia, Kazakhstan, Andorra

Group D2: Belarus, Luxembourg, Moldova, San Marino

Group D3: Azerbaijan, Faroe Islands, Malta, Kosovo

Group D4: FYR Macedonia, Armenia, Liechtenstein, Gibraltar

Teams have been split into four groups of four.

Due to excessive travel restrictions, any group could not contain a maximum of one of these pairs: Andorra & Kazakhstan, Faroe Islands & Kazakhstan, Gibraltar & Kazakhstan, Gibraltar & Azerbaijan

The four group winners are promoted to League C for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one final place on offer.

Leagues A and B consist of four groups of three teams

League C comprises one group of three teams and three groups of four sides

League D is formed by four groups of four teams

The League Phase Draw for the UEFA Nations League took place at the SwissTech Convention Centre in Lausanne on 24 January 2018.

In each league, four group winners are promoted (or play in the Finals, see below) and four teams are relegated for the next competition to be played in 2020.

The overall UEFA Nations League rankings will determine the composition of the draw pots for the subsequent European Qualifiers.

In addition, the UEFA Nations League will provide teams with another chance to qualify for the UEFA EURO final tournament, with four sides qualifying through play-off matches which take place in March 2020 (see below).

When will the UEFA Nations League take place?

The UEFA Nations League will take place as follows:

See the full fixture list.

The UEFA Nations League group games are being held over six matchdays, during the 'double-headers' in September, October and November 2018. The UEFA Nations League Finals competition for the teams that win the four groups within the top division is scheduled for June 2019.

For the UEFA Nations League Finals, the group winners of UEFA Nations League A will play in a knockout format (semi-finals, third-place match and final) in June 2019 to become the UEFA Nations League winners. One host country will be formally appointed by the UEFA Executive Committee in December 2018 from one of the nations competing in the final four. Italy, Poland and Portugal (all in Group A3) have expressed interest.

The play-off matches will be staged in March 2020 (see below).

Will qualifying for the UEFA EURO change?

The changes to UEFA EURO qualifying will make it more streamlined. The equation is now simple: ten groups with the top two teams in each group qualifying automatically, and the other four places being awarded to European Qualifiers play-off winners, in which the 16 group winners of the UEFA Nations League will be in contention.

The UEFA EURO 2020 qualifying draw will be made after the completion of the UEFA Nations League and allow for the four UEFA Nations League Finals participants to be drawn into groups of five teams.

But the key principle of the qualifiers remains: that every team can play every team.

The European Qualifiers for UEFA EURO 2020 commence in March 2019. There will be two matchdays in each of March, June, September, October and November 2019. In total, there will be five groups of five teams and five groups of six teams (ten groups in all) playing over ten matchdays (the same number as now). The winner and runner-up in each of the ten groups will qualify automatically for the UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament (June 2020).

The last four EURO places will be won through the European Qualifiers play-offs, which will take place in March 2020 and which will be contested by the 16 UEFA Nations League group winners.

If a group winner has already qualified via the European Qualifiers, then their spot will go to the next best-ranked team in their league. If a league does not have four teams to compete, the remaining slots are allocated to teams from another league, according to the overall UEFA Nations League ranking.

Each league will have a path of its own and each path will feature two single-leg semi-finals and one single-leg final. The winner of each path will win a ticket to UEFA EURO 2020.

How are the overall UEFA Nations League rankings calculated?

Within each league (A, B, C and D), the overall ranking will be calculated based on position in the group then points, goal difference, goals scored, away goals scored, wins, away wins, disciplinary points, coefficient ranking.

What are the advantages for national associations and teams?

National associations and coaches, in consultations with UEFA, revealed that they feel that friendly internationals are not providing adequate sporting competition. The UEFA Nations League creates more meaningful and competitive matches for teams and a dedicated calendar and structure for national team football.

Top teams can also aspire to take part in the UEFA Nations League Finals, a new top-level event.

For middle-ranking and smaller nations, the UEFA Nations League will offer an extra way to qualify for UEFA EURO final tournaments. Lower-tier countries – the bottom 16 in the rankings – are now guaranteed one of the 24 qualifying slots for UEFA EURO.

Lower-ranking teams who have struggled against sides ranked considerably higher than them will now get the chance to take part in balanced matches. Teams do not learn and progress by repeatedly losing; now some sides will start winning.

While the UEFA Nations League will replace most friendly internationals, there will still be space in the calendar for friendlies, especially for top teams who may want to face opposition from outside Europe as they will be in groups of three teams.

Associations and teams benefit from clarity of the fixture calendar, and there is now a clear buffer between the end of the UEFA EURO and FIFA World Cup, and vice versa, as well as stability of income.

What are the advantages for supporters?

Supporters more than most realise that most friendlies fail to deliver competitive and meaningful football. Now they will have the opportunity to see their teams play in more competitive matches, take part in a new competition and get a second chance to qualify for the major tournaments.

In every even year there are World Cup or UEFA EURO champions; now in every odd year there will be a UEFA Nations League winners. Football is about competition and now, just like in club football, there will be a national team champion at the close of every season.

Will this mean more demands on players and clubs?

No: the UEFA Nations League and European Qualifiers will adhere to the existing agreed international match calendar. UEFA is always keen to preserve the balance between club and international football. The new competition should, in fact, reduce demands on players and clubs with less travel envisaged for friendly games while national teams will be playing more consistently at their own level. With double-header matchweeks, players will even go back to their clubs earlier than is currently the case.

Is this just about generating more revenue?

No, finances are not a driver for the new competition. However, the competition will have the same centralised media rights as have recently been introduced for all European Qualifiers so associations will have even more stability in their income.

Will there be no more friendly internationals?

There will certainly be fewer friendly internationals and undoubtedly fewer meaningless friendlies. However, there will still be space in the calendar for friendly internationals – particularly warm-up matches for final tournaments. UEFA is also keen that European teams will still have the chance to play opponents from other confederations.

Match-by-match lineups

Greece

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Group C2

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Finland	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Hungary	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Greece	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Estonia	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

Estonia 0-1 Greece

Goals: 0-1 Fortounis 14

Greece: Barkas, Manolas, Bouchalakis (78 Tziolis), Fortounis, Mitroglou (50 Bakasetas), Torosidis, Kourbelis, Pelkas (92 Koulouris), Papastathopoulos, Mantalos, Lykogiannis

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Hungary 2-1 Greece

Goals: 1-0 Sallai 15, 1-1 Manolas 18, 2-1 Kleinheisler 42

Greece: Barkas, Tzavellas (46 Lykogiannis), Manolas (52 Oikonomou), Bouchalakis, Christodoulopoulos, Fortounis, Torosidis, Kourbelis, Donis (46 Mitroglou), Pelkas, Papastathopoulos

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Greece-Hungary

Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

Finland-Greece

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Greece-Finland

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Greece-Estonia

Hungary

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

Finland 1-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Pukki 7

Hungary: Gulácsi, Lang, Kádár, Fiola, Szalai, Kovács (61 Kalmár), Sallai (72 Eppel), Lovrencsics, Kleinheisler, Pátkai, Stieber (54 R. Varga)

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Hungary 2-1 Greece

Goals: 1-0 Sallai 15, 1-1 Manolas 18, 2-1 Kleinheisler 42

Hungary: Gulácsi, Lang, Kádár, Fiola, A. Nagy, Szalai (69 Eppel), Kovács (81 Pátkai), Sallai, Kleinheisler, R. Varga (62 Lovrencsics), Bese

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Greece-Hungary

Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

Estonia-Hungary

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Hungary-Estonia

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Hungary-Finland

Legend

Competitions

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