

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Turkey

**Senol Gunes Spor Kompleksi Yeni
Stadyum - Trabzon**

Friday 7 September 2018
20.45CET (21.45 local time)
Group B2 - Matchday 1



Russia

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Previous meetings	2
Squad list	3
Head coach	5
Match officials	6
Competition facts	7
Match-by-match lineups	10
Legend	11

Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
15/11/1989	QR (GS)	USSR - Turkey	2-0	Simferopol	Protasov 68, Keskín 79 (og)
10/05/1989	QR (GS)	Turkey - USSR	0-1	Istanbul	Mykhailychenko 41

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
07/10/1981	QR (GS)	Turkey - USSR	0-3	Izmir	Shengelia 16, Blokhin 36, 53
23/09/1981	QR (GS)	USSR - Turkey	4-0	Moscow	Chivadze 4, Demianenko 20, Blokhin 26, Shengelia 49

1976 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
23/11/1975	PR (GS)	Turkey - USSR	1-0	Izmir	Turan 22
02/04/1975	PR (GS)	USSR - Turkey	3-0	Kyiv	Kolotov 25 (P), 56 (P), Blokhin 75

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
16/11/1969	QR (GS)	Turkey - USSR	1-3	Istanbul	Konca 23; Asatiani 3, 53, Khmelnitskiy 32
15/10/1969	QR (GS)	USSR - Turkey	3-0	Kyiv	Muntyan 43, 78, Nodia 63

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
12/11/1961	QR (GS)	Turkey - USSR	1-2	Istanbul	Oktay 40; Gusarov 12, Mamykin 18
18/06/1961	QR (GS)	USSR - Turkey	1-0	Moscow	Voronin 20

	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																		
Turkey	5	1	0	4	5	0	0	5	-	-	-	-	18	2	2	14	7	32
Russia	5	5	0	0	5	4	0	1	-	-	-	-	18	14	2	2	32	7

Squad list

Turkey

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
1	Sinan Bolat	03/09/1998	20	Royal Antwerp	-			0	0		
12	Serkan Kırıntılı	15/02/1985	33	Konyaspor	-			0	0		
23	Gökhan Akkan	01/01/1995	23	Rizespor	-			0	0		
Defenders											
2	Şener Özbayraklı	23/01/1990	28	Fenerbahçe	-			0	0		
3	Hasan Ali Kaldırım	09/12/1989	28	Fenerbahçe	-			0	0		
4	Serdar Aziz	23/10/1990	27	Galatasaray	-			0	0		
6	Çağlar Söyüncü	23/05/1996	22	Leicester	-			0	0		
13	Zeki Çelik	17/02/1997	21	LOSC	-			0	0		
21	Ertuğrul Ersoy	13/02/1997	21	Bursaspor	-			0	0		
Midfielders											
5	Okay Yokuşlu	09/03/1994	24	Celta	-			0	0		
8	Oğuzhan Özyakup	23/09/1992	25	Beşiktaş	-			0	0		
10	Hakan Çalhanoğlu	08/02/1994	24	Milan	-			0	0		
11	Yusuf Yazıcı	29/01/1997	21	Trabzonspor	-			0	0		
14	Mahmut Tekdemir	20/01/1988	30	İstanbul Başakşehir	-			0	0		
15	Mehmet Topal	03/03/1986	32	Fenerbahçe	-			0	0		
17	Cengiz Ünder	14/07/1997	21	Roma	-			0	0		
18	Tarkan Serbest	02/05/1994	24	Kasımpaşa	-			0	0		
19	Yunus Mallı	24/02/1992	26	Wolfsburg	-			0	0		
20	Emre Akbaba	04/10/1992	25	Galatasaray	-			0	0		
22	Kaan Ayhan	10/11/1994	23	Düsseldorf	-			0	0		
Forwards											
7	Serdar Gürler	14/09/1991	26	Huesca	-			0	0		
9	Cenk Tosun	07/06/1991	27	Everton	-			0	0		
16	Enes Ünal	10/05/1997	21	Valladolid	-			0	0		
Coach											
-	Mircea Lucescu	29/07/1945	73		-			0	0		

Russia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase				
						Pld	Gls			
Goalkeepers										
1	Guilherme	12/12/1985	32	Lokomotiv Moskva	-		0	0		
12	Andrei Lunev	13/11/1991	26	Zenit	-		0	0		
16	Anton Shunin	27/01/1987	31	Dinamo Moskva	-		0	0		
Defenders										
2	Mario Fernandes	19/09/1990	27	CSKA Moskva	-		0	0		
3	Roman Neustädter	18/02/1988	30	Fenerbahçe	-		0	0		
4	Egor Sorokin	04/11/1995	22	Rubin	-		0	0		
5	Andrei Semenov	24/03/1989	29	Akhmat	-		0	0		
13	Fedor Kudryashov	05/04/1987	31	Rubin	-		0	0		
14	Georgi Dzhikiya	21/11/1992	25	Spartak Moskva	-		0	0		
19	Igor Smolnikov	08/08/1988	30	Zenit	-		0	0		
23	Konstantin Rausch	15/03/1990	28	Dinamo Moskva	-		0	0		
Midfielders										
6	Denis Cheryshev	26/12/1990	27	Valencia	-		0	0		
7	Daler Kuzyaev	15/01/1993	25	Zenit	-		0	0		
8	Yuri Gazinski	20/07/1989	29	Krasnodar	-		0	0		
10	Ruslan Kambolov	01/01/1990	28	Rubin	-		0	0		
11	Roman Zobnin	11/02/1994	24	Spartak Moskva	-		0	0		
15	Dmitri Stotski	01/12/1989	28	Krasnodar	-		0	0		
18	Pavel Mogilevets	25/01/1993	25	Rubin	-		0	0		
20	Aleksei Ionov	18/02/1989	29	Rostov	-		0	0		
21	Aleksandr Erokhin	13/10/1989	28	Zenit	-		0	0		
Forwards										
9	Anton Zabolotny	13/06/1991	27	Zenit	-		0	0		
17	Dmitri Poloz	12/07/1991	27	Rubin	-		0	0		
22	Artem Dzyuba	22/08/1988	30	Zenit	-		0	0		
Coach										
-	Stanislav Cherchesov	02/09/1963	55		-		0	0		

Head coach

Mircea Lucescu

Date of birth: 29 July 1945

Nationality: Romanian

Playing career: Dinamo Bucureşti (twice), Sportul Studentesc Bucureşti (loan), Corvinul Hunedoara

Coaching career: Corvinul Hunedoara, Romania, Dinamo Bucureşti, Pisa, Brescia, Reggiana, Rapid Bucureşti (twice), Internazionale Milano, Galatasaray, Beşiktaş, Shakhtar Donetsk, Zenit, Turkey

- A useful striker for Dinamo in the 1960s and 1970s, winning six league titles and 70 caps for Romania as well as captaining his country at the 1970 FIFA World Cup, Lucescu became Corvinul player-coach in his early 30s and, after five years as Romania national team coach, went on to win the 1989/90 Romanian league and cup double with Dinamo.
- Fluent in six foreign languages and regarded as a workaholic, he cemented his reputation at Pisa, Brescia and Reggiana before returning home to coach Rapid, winning the cup in 1997/98 and the league in 1998/99 either side of a short spell back in Italy with Inter.
- After joining Galatasaray in 2000 he lifted the UEFA Super Cup in his first game as coach and took them to the Turkish title in 2001/02 – a feat he repeated with Beşiktaş in 2002/03, their centenary season.
- Left Beşiktaş in 2004 and promptly joined Shakhtar, leading the Donetsk club to titles in 2005, 2006 and 2008, when his side also won the Ukrainian Cup. In May 2009, Lucescu's Shakhtar became the first Ukrainian club to win the UEFA Cup. He suffered a heart attack that summer but swiftly returned to work, guiding the club to another league title at the end of the season and winning the domestic double in 2010/11, when Shakhtar also reached the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals.
- More success followed, Lucescu's team completing a hat-trick of domestic doubles in 2012/13 and making it five league titles in a row the following year. Lucescu stepped down in 2016 after 12 years in charge having won a sixth Ukrainian Cup to go with his eight league titles and, after a year at Zenit, succeeded Fatih Terim as Turkey coach in August 2017.

Stanislav Cherchesov

Date of birth: 2 September 1963

Nationality: Russian

Playing career: Spartak Ordzhonikidze, Spartak Moskva (four times), Lokomotiv Moskva, Dynamo Dresden, Tirol Innsbruck

Coaching career: Kufstein, Wacker Tirol, Spartak Moskva, Zhemchuzhina Sochi, Terek Grozny, Amkar Perm, Dinamo Moskva, Legia Warszawa, Russia

- Born in North Ossetia, goalkeeper Cherchesov captained Russia in their first international after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, against Mexico in 1992, and was selected for the 1994 and 2002 FIFA World Cups as well as EURO '96. At club level, Cherchesov was ever-present as Spartak finished the 1995/96 UEFA Champions League group stage with maximum points.
- After a spell in Austria, where he started his coaching career, Cherchesov rejoined Spartak in the summer of 2006 as sporting director. He replaced Vladimir Fedotov as coach in June 2007 and led the team to a second-place finish that season. Cherchesov parted company with Spartak after an 8-2 aggregate defeat against Dynamo Kyiv in the 2008/09 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round.
- After a brief stint at second-tier Zhemchuzhina Sochi, Cherchesov coached Terek from 2011 to 2013, guiding them to eighth in the Russian Premier-Liga in the latter season – the highest finish in their history. He took charge of Amkar Perm in June 2013 but left the following April for Dinamo Moskva.
- Under Cherchesov, Dinamo won all six of their group matches in the 2014/15 UEFA Europa League group stage, losing to Napoli in the round of 16. The capital outfit finished fourth in the Premier-Liga that campaign and Cherchesov was soon dismissed.
- Cherchesov was appointed by Legia less than three months later, his sole season at the helm yielding the domestic double for the Warsaw club in their centenary year. On 11 August 2016, Cherchesov was announced as Russia coach and unexpectedly led the team to the 2018 World Cup quarter-finals on home soil, the highlight a shoot-out defeat of Spain in the round of 16.

Match officials

Referee	Artur Dias (POR)
Assistant referees	Rui Tavares (POR) , Paulo Soares (POR)
Additional assistant referees	Tiago Martins (POR) , João Pinheiro (POR)
Fourth official	Bruno Rodrigues (POR)
UEFA Delegate	Jānis Mežeckis (LVA)
UEFA Referee observer	Alexandru Deaconu (ROU)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Artur Dias	14/07/1979	0	58

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
09/08/2012	UEL	3QR	Olympique de Marseille	Eskişehirspor	3-0	Istres
24/06/2013	RCUP	GS-FT	FC Isloch	FC "Olimp" Moscow region	1-0	Abano Terme
05/03/2014	U21	QR	Greece	Turkey	2-1	Katerini
23/10/2014	UEL	GS	FC Krasnodar	VfL Wolfsburg	2-4	Krasnodar
03/08/2016	UCL	3QR	AS Monaco FC	Fenerbahçe SK	3-1	Monaco
23/11/2016	UCL	GS	FC Rostov	FC Bayern München	3-2	Rostov-on-Don
01/11/2017	UCL	GS	Sevilla FC	FC Spartak Moskva	2-1	Seville
15/03/2018	UEL	R16	FC Lokomotiv Moskva	Club Atlético de Madrid	1-5	Moscow

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

Turkey

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Group B2

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Russia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Matchday 1 (07/09/2018)

Turkey-Russia

Matchday 2 (10/09/2018)

Sweden-Turkey

Matchday 4 (14/10/2018)

Russia-Turkey

Matchday 5 (17/11/2018)

Turkey-Sweden

Russia

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Matchday 1 (07/09/2018)

Turkey-Russia

Matchday 3 (11/10/2018)

Russia-Sweden

Matchday 4 (14/10/2018)

Russia-Turkey

Matchday 6 (20/11/2018)

Sweden-Russia

Legend

Competitions

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