

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2016/18 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Slovakia

**Štadión Antona Malatinského -
Trnava**

Sunday 8 October 2017
18.00CET (18.00 local time)
Group F - Matchday 10



Malta

Last updated 13/10/2017 17:50CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



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Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
26/03/2017	QR (GS)	Malta - Slovakia	1-3	Ta' Qali	J.P. Farrugia 14; Weiss 2, Greguš 41, Nemec 84

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
31/03/1997	QR (GS)	Malta - Slovakia	0-2	Ta' Qali	Jancula 38, Tittel 90
22/09/1996	QR (GS)	Slovakia - Malta	6-0	Bratislava	Tittel 13, 90, Simon 15, Zeman 37, Timko 56, Dubovsky 59

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
21/04/1985	QR (GS)	Malta - Czechoslovakia	0-0	Ta' Qali	
31/10/1984	QR (GS)	Czechoslovakia - Malta	4-0	Prague	Janečka 4, 71, Jarolim 35, Berger 77

	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																		
Slovakia	2	2	0	0	3	2	1	0	-	-	-	-	9	7	2	0	22	3
Malta	3	0	1	2	2	0	0	2	-	-	-	-	9	0	2	7	3	22

Squad list

Slovakia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	Current season					
					Qual.		FT			
					Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers										
-	Matúš Kozáčik	27/12/1983	33	Plzeň	5	0	0	0		
-	Martin Dúbravka	15/01/1989	28	Sparta Praha	4	0	0	0		
-	Martin Poláček	02/04/1990	27	Zagłębie	0	0	0	0		
Defenders										
-	Martin Škrtel	15/12/1984	32	Fenerbahçe	7	1	0	0		
-	Peter Pekarík	30/10/1986	30	Hertha	7	0	0	0		
-	Ján Ďurica	10/12/1981	35	Trabzonspor	7	0	0	0		
-	Tomáš Hubočan	17/09/1985	32	Marseille	8	0	0	0		
-	Lukáš Štetina	28/07/1991	26	Sparta Praha	0	0	0	0		
-	Norbert Gyömbér	03/07/1992	25	Bari 1908	4	0	0	0		
-	Róbert Mazáň	09/02/1994	23	Žilina	0	0	0	0		
-	Milan Škriniar	11/02/1995	22	Internazionale	6	0	0	0		
Midfielders										
-	Marek Hamšík	27/07/1987	30	Napoli	9	2	0	0		
-	Vladimír Weiss	30/11/1989	27	Al-Gharafa	6	2	0	0		
-	Juraj Kucka	26/02/1987	30	Trabzonspor	6	1	0	0		
-	Ján Greguš	29/01/1991	26	København	6	1	0	0		
-	Jaroslav Mihalík	27/07/1994	23	Cracovia	0	0	0	0		
-	Albert Rusnák	07/07/1994	23	Real Salt Lake	4	0	0	0		
-	Erik Sabo	22/11/1991	25	Beitar Jerusalem	2	0	0	0		
-	Patrik Hrošovský	22/04/1992	25	Plzeň	2	0	0	0		
-	Ondrej Duda	05/12/1994	22	Hertha	4	0	0	0		
-	Stanislav Lobotka	25/11/1994	22	Celta	3	1	0	0		
Forwards										
-	Adam Nemeč	02/09/1985	32	Dinamo București	6	3	0	0		
Coach										
-	Ján Kozák	17/04/1954	63		9	0	0	0		

Malta

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	Current season					
					Qual.		FT			
					Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers										
-	Andrew Hogg	02/03/1985	32	Hibernians	9	0	0	0		
-	Henry Bonello	13/10/1988	28	Valletta	0	0	0	0		
-	Steve Sultana	07/09/1990	27	Hamrun	0	0	0	0		
Defenders										
-	Ryan Camilleri	22/05/1988	29	Valletta	6	0	0	0		
-	Andrei Agius	12/08/1986	31	Hibernians	8	1	0	0		
-	Steve Borg	15/05/1988	29	Valletta	8	0	0	0		
-	Joseph Zerafa	31/05/1988	29	Valletta	7	0	0	0		
-	Samuel Magri	30/03/1994	23	Ebbsfleet United	5	0	0	0		
-	Cain Attard	10/09/1994	23	Birkirkara	2	0	0	0		
Midfielders										
-	Paul Fenech	20/12/1986	30	Balzan	7	0	0	0		
-	Clayton Failla	08/01/1986	31	Hibernians	2	0	0	0		
-	Ryan Fenech	20/04/1986	31	Balzan	3	0	0	0		
-	Clyde Borg	20/03/1992	25	Floriana	1	0	0	0		
-	Daniel Zerafa	08/04/1994	23	Hamrun	0	0	0	0		
-	Johan Bezzina	30/05/1994	23	Hibernians	0	0	0	0		
-	Luke Gambin	16/03/1993	24	Luton	6	0	0	0		
Forwards										
-	André Schembri	27/05/1986	31	Apollon	9	0	0	0		
-	Stephen Pisani	07/08/1992	25	Floriana	5	0	0	0		
-	Siraj Arab	25/03/1994	23	Hamrun	0	0	0	0		
-	Alfred Effiong	29/11/1984	32	Balzan	6	1	0	0		
-	Lydon Micallef	16/05/1992	25	Hamrun	0	0	0	0		
Coach										
-	Pietro Ghedin	21/11/1952	64		9	0	0	0		

Head coach

Ján Kozák

Date of birth: 17 April 1954

Nationality: Slovak

Playing career: LB Spišská Nová Ves, Lokomotíva Košice (three times), RFC Seraing, FK Dukla Praha

Coaching career: Lokomotíva Košice, MFK Zemplín Michalovce, FC Steel Trans Ličartovce, 1. FC Košice, Slovakia

- A creative midfielder, Kozák spent much of his playing career with local team Lokomotíva Košice, where he had three spells. He returned for the first time in 1982 at the conclusion of his military service in Prague, where he turned out for Dukla.
- A member of the Czechoslovakia squad that finished third at the 1980 UEFA European Championship, beating Italy 9-8 on penalties in the bronze-medal match, he scored nine goals in 55 international appearances. Kozák also travelled to the 1982 FIFA World Cup in Spain but did not feature due to injury.
- Won the Czechoslovak Cup three times and the 1982 league championship with Dukla before retiring in 1990. Moved into coaching several years later and proved an instant success, steering 1. FC Košice to successive titles (1997, 1998) and into the 1997/98 UEFA Champions League where, as Slovakia's first ever group stage representative, they lost all six games in a section containing Feyenoord, Juventus and Manchester United FC.
- Left Košice in 1998 but came back for further stints in 2005 and 2012. He stood down in summer 2013, succeeding Stanislav Griga and Michal Hipp as coach of Slovakia, and led the team to UEFA EURO 2016 as Group C runners-up behind holders Spain. Kozák's side went on to reach the last 16 at the finals in France.
- His son Ján Kozák Jr played in the 2005/06 UEFA Champions League group stage for MFK Petržalka, equalising and then creating the winner in a famous 3-2 comeback victory over FC Porto; grandson Filip Lesniak has been at Tottenham Hotspur FC since 2012.

Pietro Ghedin

Date of birth: 21 November 1952

Nationality: Italian

Playing career: ACF Fiorentina, SS Lazio, AC Venezia, Calcio Catania, Pescara Calcio, AC Pistoiese, AC Siena

Coaching career: Italy Under-18, Malta U21, Malta (twice), Italy (assistant), Italy women

- Defender Ghedin played in Serie A with Fiorentina and Lazio, joining the latter immediately after the capital side had won their first-ever Scudetto in 1974 and remaining at the Stadio Olimpico until 1981. He played out his career in the lower divisions.
- Ghedin became an Italian Football Federation (FIGC) coach in 1987, leading the country's U18s and becoming senior national team scout ahead of the 1990 FIFA World Cup in Italy.
- He served as the Azzurri goalkeeping coach for the Olympic Games of 1992 and 1996. Additionally, while still under contract with the FIGC, he also coached the Malta national side at both U21 and senior level between 1992 and 1995.
- Appointed assistant to Italy coach Cesare Maldini during the 1998 World Cup, Ghedin remained in that role under Dino Zoff at UEFA EURO 2000 and Giovanni Trapattoni at the 2002 World Cup.
- Ghedin became Italy's senior women's coach in 2005, guiding them to the UEFA Women's EURO 2009 quarter-finals, before leaving in 2012 to return to the Malta helm.

Match officials

Referee	Paolo Mazzoleni (ITA)
Assistant referees	Mauro Tonolini (ITA) , Andrea Crispo (ITA)
Fourth official	Davide Massa (ITA)
FIFA Match Commissioner	Outi Saarinen (FIN)
Referee observer	Boško Jovanetić (SRB)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Paolo Mazzoleni	12/06/1974	3	24

FIFA World Cup matches involving teams from the two countries involved in this match

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
25/09/2002	RCUP	QR	Ural Amateur (RUS)	Slovak Western Region	2-2	Nemsova
18/07/2013	UEL	2QR	IFK Göteborg	AS Trenčín	0-0	Helsingborg

Competition facts

The Week of Football concept enables fans around the world to enjoy the very best action from the European Qualifiers – which will determine UEFA's representatives at the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia.

Qualifying for the 2018 FIFA World Cup comprises nine groups of six teams, with matches played on a home-and-away basis.

Qualifying takes place under the 'Week of Football' concept, introduced ahead of the UEFA EURO 2016 qualifying campaign, in which games are spread out from Thursday to Tuesday, shining the spotlight on more teams on the road to the finals in Russia. Moreover, thanks to the Week of Football, at least 43% of matches will be played on weekends, giving fans a better chance to follow the action on television, in the stadiums and on UEFA.com.

Kick-off times will be set mainly at 18:00CET and 20:45CET on Saturdays and Sundays and at 20:45CET for Thursdays, Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays. In double-header matchweeks, sides will play on Thursday/Sunday, Friday/Monday or Saturday/Tuesday. Each day of the Week of Football will feature eight to ten games.

The nine group winners will qualify directly for the final tournament. The eight best runners-up will contest play-offs to decide the last four qualifiers for the finals.

The 13 qualifiers then join hosts Russia in the finals to make it 14 UEFA member associations represented.

How qualification works

The other confederations have the following qualifying berths:

Africa: 5

Asia: 4.5

North and Central America and Caribbean: 3.5

Oceania: 0.5

South America: 4.5

Match-by-match lineups

Slovakia

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Group F

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
England	9	7	2	0	17	3	23
Scotland	9	5	2	2	15	10	17
Slovakia	9	5	0	4	14	7	15
Slovenia	9	4	2	3	10	5	14
Lithuania	9	1	3	5	7	19	6
Malta	9	0	1	8	3	22	1

Matchday 1 (04/09/2016)

Slovakia 0-1 England

Goals: 0-1 Lallana 90+5

Slovakia: Kozáčik, Pekarík, Škrtel, Ďurica, Greguš, Hubočan, Hamšík, Švento (78 Kiss), Mak (71 Kubík), Ďuriš, Pečovský (55 Gyömbér)

Matchday 2 (08/10/2016)

Slovenia 1-0 Slovakia

Goals: 1-0 Kronaveter 74

Slovakia: Kozáčik, Ďurica, Greguš, Hrošovský (79 Ďuriš), Pauschek (79 Sabo), Hubočan, Saláta, Hamšík, Švento (79 Holúbek), Kucka, Mak

Matchday 3 (11/10/2016)

Slovakia 3-0 Scotland

Goals: 1-0 Mak 18, 2-0 Mak 56, 3-0 Nemeč 68

Slovakia: Kozáčik, Škrtel, Ďurica, Sabo, Nemeč (69 Bakoš), Škriniar, Hamšík (87 Kiss), Kucka, Mak (80 Švento), Ďuriš, Holúbek

Matchday 4 (11/11/2016)

Slovakia 4-0 Lithuania

Goals: 1-0 Nemeč 12, 2-0 Kucka 15, 3-0 Škrtel 36, 4-0 Hamšík 86

Slovakia: Kozáčik, Pekarík, Škrtel, Ďurica, Weiss (89 Bero), Nemeč (77 Ďuriš), Škriniar, Hubočan, Hamšík, Kucka, Mak (83 Švento)

Matchday 5 (26/03/2017)

Malta 1-3 Slovakia

Goals: 0-1 Weiss 2, 1-1 J.P. Farrugia 14, 1-2 Greguš 41, 1-3 Nemeč 84

Slovakia: Kozáčik, Pekarík, Škrtel, Greguš, Weiss (86 Rusnák), Nemeč, Hrošovský, Škriniar, Hubočan, Kucka (74 Ďuriš), Mak (50 Hamšík)

Matchday 6 (10/06/2017)

Lithuania 1-2 Slovakia

Goals: 0-1 Weiss 32, 0-2 Hamšík 58, 1-2 Novikovas 90+3

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Škrtel, Ďurica, Greguš, Weiss, Duda (89 Bénes), Škriniar, Hubočan (58 Gyömbér), Hamšík, Mak (77 Rusnák)

Matchday 7 (01/09/2017)

Slovakia 1-0 Slovenia

Goals: 1-0 M. Mevlja 81 (og)

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Gyömbér, Weiss (55 Rusnák), Nemeč, Škriniar, Hubočan, Hamšík (87 Duda), Kucka (65 Greguš), Mak, Lobotka

Matchday 8 (04/09/2017)

England 2-1 Slovakia

Goals: 0-1 Lobotka 3, 1-1 Dier 37, 2-1 Rashford 59

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Škrtel, Ďurica, Weiss (68 Rusnák), Nemeč (69 Ďuriš), Škriniar, Hubočan, Hamšík (79 Duda), Mak, Lobotka

Matchday 9 (05/10/2017)

Scotland 1-0 Slovakia

Goals: 1-0 Škrtel 89 (og)

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Škrtel, Ďurica, Greguš, Nemeč (79 Weiss), Hubočan, Hamšík (79 Duda), Kucka (80 Gyömbér), Mak, Lobotka

Matchday 10 (08/10/2017)

Slovakia-Malta

Malta

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Matchday 1 (04/09/2016)

Malta 1-5 Scotland

Goals: 0-1 Snodgrass 10, 1-1 Effiong 14, 1-2 C. Martin 53, 1-3 Snodgrass 61 (P) , 1-4 S. Fletcher 78, 1-5 Snodgrass 85

Malta: Hogg, Caruana, J. Zerafa, Sciberras, Agius, P. Fenech, Gambin, Schembri (66 Briffa), S. Borg, Scicluna (79 R. Camilleri), Effiong (89 Mifsud)

Matchday 2 (08/10/2016)

England 2-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Sturridge 29, 2-0 Alli 38

Malta: Hogg, Sciberras, Agius, S. Borg, P. Fenech, Schembri (86 R. Muscat), R. Camilleri, Kristensen, Effiong (76 Mifsud), Z. Muscat, A. Muscat

Matchday 3 (11/10/2016)

Lithuania 2-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Černych 76, 2-0 Novikovas 84 (P)

Malta: Hogg, Caruana, J. Zerafa, Sciberras, Agius, S. Borg, P. Fenech (85 S. Pisani), Mifsud, Schembri (83 R. Muscat), Kristensen (80 Effiong), Z. Muscat

Matchday 4 (11/11/2016)

Malta 0-1 Slovenia

Goals: 0-1 Verbič 47

Malta: Hogg, Magri, J. Zerafa, Sciberras, Agius, Mifsud (77 J.P. Farrugia), Gambin, R. Muscat, Schembri, R. Camilleri (68 S. Borg), Z. Muscat

Matchday 5 (26/03/2017)

Malta 1-3 Slovakia

Goals: 0-1 Weiss 2, 1-1 J.P. Farrugia 14, 1-2 Greguš 41, 1-3 Nemeč 84

Malta: Hogg, Magri, Sciberras, P. Fenech, Schembri (91 Montebello), Gambin (73 Kristensen), J.P. Farrugia, R. Camilleri (81 Baldacchino), J. Zerafa, Z. Muscat, Attard

Matchday 6 (10/06/2017)

Slovenia 2-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Iličič 45+2, 2-0 Novakovič 84

Malta: Hogg, S. Borg (89 Magri), Agius, R. Fenech, Failla, Schembri (62 Mifsud), Kristensen (46 Gambin), Effiong, Z. Muscat, S. Pisani, A. Muscat

Matchday 7 (01/09/2017)

Malta 0-4 England

Goals: 0-1 Kane 53, 0-2 Bertrand 86, 0-3 Welbeck 90+1, 0-4 Kane 90+2

Malta: Hogg, Magri, S. Borg, Agius, R. Fenech (83 P. Fenech), Schembri (86 Mifsud), Z. Muscat, J.P. Farrugia, Kristensen, J. Zerafa (75 R. Camilleri), S. Pisani

Matchday 8 (04/09/2017)

Scotland 2-0 Malta

Goals: 1-0 Berra 9, 2-0 Griffiths 49

Malta: Hogg, Magri, S. Borg (86 A. Muscat), Agius, R. Fenech, Schembri (71 Gambin), Z. Muscat, Kristensen (85 P. Fenech), J. Zerafa, Effiong, S. Pisani

Matchday 9 (05/10/2017)

Malta 1-1 Lithuania

Goals: 1-0 Agius 23, 1-1 Slivka 53

Malta: Hogg, J. Zerafa, S. Borg, Agius, P. Fenech (91 Attard), Schembri (46 Failla), Gambin (85 Clyde Borg), Z. Muscat, R. Camilleri, Effiong, S. Pisani

Matchday 10 (08/10/2017)

Slovakia-Malta

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

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time
No.: Number
ag: Match decided on away goals
agg: Aggregate
AP: Appearances
Comp.: Competition
D: Drawn
DoB: Date of birth
ET: Extra Time
GA: Goals against
GF: Goals for
gg: Match decided by golden goal
L: Lost
Nat.: Nationality

pens: Penalties
og: Own goal
P: Penalty
Pld: Matches played
Pos.: Position
Pts: Points
R: Sent off (straight red card)
Res.: Result
sg: Match decided by silver goal
t: Match decided by toss of a coin
W: Won
Y: Booked
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)
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

Overall: Total appearances in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament only

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