

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2016/18 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Belgium

King Baudouin Stadium - Brussels

Saturday 25 March 2017
20.45CET (20.45 local time)
Group H - Matchday 5



Greece

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Previous meetings	2
Squad list	3
Head coach	5
Match officials	6
Competition facts	7
Match-by-match lineups	8
Legend	10

Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
27/03/1985	QR (GS)	Belgium - Greece	2-0	Brussels	Vercauteren 69, Scifo 89
19/12/1984	QR (GS)	Greece - Belgium	0-0	Athens	

	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																		
Belgium	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	7	2	2	3	7	7
Greece	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	7	3	2	2	7	7

Squad list

Belgium

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Simon Mignolet	06/08/1988	28	Liverpool	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Matz Sels	26/02/1992	25	Newcastle	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Thibaut Courtois	11/05/1992	24	Chelsea	-	4	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Thomas Vermaelen	14/11/1985	31	Roma	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Laurent Ciman	05/08/1985	31	Montreal	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Toby Alderweireld	02/03/1989	28	Tottenham	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Jan Vertonghen	24/04/1987	29	Tottenham	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Thomas Foket	25/09/1994	22	Gent	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Kevin Mirallas	05/10/1987	29	Everton	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Moussa Dembélé	16/07/1987	29	Tottenham	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Axel Witsel	12/01/1989	28	Tianjin Quanjian	-	4	1	0	0		
-	Marouane Fellaini	22/11/1987	29	Man. United	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Radja Nainggolan	04/05/1988	28	Roma	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Thorgan Hazard	29/03/1993	23	Mönchengladbach	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dries Mertens	06/05/1987	29	Napoli	-	3	3	0	0		
-	Nacer Chadli	02/08/1989	27	West Brom	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Yannick Carrasco	04/09/1993	23	Atlético	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Leander Dendoncker	15/04/1995	21	Anderlecht	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Youri Tielemans	07/05/1997	19	Anderlecht	-	1	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Christian Benteke	03/12/1990	26	Crystal Palace	-	2	3	0	0		
-	Romelu Lukaku	13/05/1993	23	Everton	-	3	5	0	0		
-	Michy Batshuayi	02/10/1993	23	Chelsea	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Divock Origi	18/04/1995	21	Liverpool	-	0	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Roberto Martínez	13/07/1973	43		-	5	0	0	0		

Greece

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Dimitrios Kiriakidis	24/09/1986	30	Panetolikos	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Stefanos Kapino	18/03/1994	23	Olympiacos	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Panagiotis Glykos	10/10/1986	30	PAOK	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Vasilis Torosidis	10/06/1985	31	Bologna	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Sokratis Papastathopoulos	09/06/1988	28	Dortmund	*	4	0	0	0		
-	Giorgos Tzavellas	26/11/1987	29	Alanyaspor	*	3	1	0	0		
-	Giannis Maniatis	12/10/1986	30	Atromitos	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Kostas Manolas	14/06/1991	25	Roma	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Kostas Stafylidis	02/12/1993	23	Augsburg	*	3	1	0	0		
-	Marios Oikonomou	06/10/1992	24	Bologna	*	1	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Alexandros Tziolis	13/02/1985	32	Hearts	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Andreas Samaris	13/06/1989	27	Benfica	*	2	0	0	0		
-	Panagiotis Tachtsidis	15/02/1991	26	Cagliari	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Petros Mantalos	31/08/1991	25	AEK	-	4	1	0	0		
-	Kostas Fortounis	16/10/1992	24	Olympiacos	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Manolis Siopis	14/05/1994	22	Panionios	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Thanasis Androutsos	06/05/1997	19	Olympiacos	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Zeca	01/10/1988	28	Panathinaikos	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Kostas Mitroglou	12/03/1988	29	Benfica	*	4	2	0	0		
-	Dimitris Diamantakos	05/03/1993	24	Karlsruhe	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Apostolos Vellios	08/01/1992	25	Nottm Forest	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Yannis Gianniotas	29/04/1993	23	APOEL	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Tasos Bakasetas	28/06/1993	23	AEK	-	3	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Michael Skibbe	04/08/1965	51		-	5	0	0	0		

Head coach

Roberto Martínez

Date of birth: 13 July 1973

Nationality: Spanish

Playing career: Real Zaragoza, CF Balaguer, Wigan Athletic FC, Motherwell FC, Walsall FC, Swansea City AFC, Chester City FC

Coaching career: Swansea City AFC, Wigan Athletic FC, Everton FC, Belgium

- Born in Catalonia, Martínez started out with home-town club Balaguer before joining Zaragoza aged 16. The bulk of his three years there were spent in the youth and B teams, with a solitary appearance for the senior side before he returned to Balaguer in 1994, also running the club's football school.
- Moved to England and Wigan in 1995, forming the 'Three Amigos' with fellow Spaniards Jesús Seba and Isidro Díaz; spent six years with the club, helping them win the third division title in 1997 and the Football League trophy two years later.
- A year with both Motherwell and Walsall preceded a lengthier spell at Swansea between 2003 and 2006, Martínez aiding the club to promotion to League One. After a season with Chester, he returned to south Wales in 2007, initially as player-manager before quickly hanging up his boots.
- Guided Swansea to the League One championship in 2008 before leaving for Premier League Wigan the following year. Inspired an unlikely escape from relegation in 2011/12 and landed the Latics' first major trophy with victory against Manchester City FC in the FA Cup final 12 months later – although three days after that landmark triumph, Wigan were relegated.
- Martínez remained a man in demand and was appointed Everton manager in June 2013, steering the club to fifth place with their record Premier League points tally in his first term. Everton reached the 2014/15 UEFA Europa League round of 16 and both domestic cup semi-finals in the next campaign, but indifferent league form meant Martínez was dismissed in May 2016. Appointed Belgium coach three months later in the wake of Marc Wilmots' departure.

Michael Skibbe

Date of birth: 4 August 1965

Nationality: German

Playing career: FC Schalke 04

Coaching career: Borussia Dortmund, Germany (assistant), Bayer 04 Leverkusen, Galatasaray AŞ, Eintracht Frankfurt, Eskişehirspor (twice), Hertha BSC Berlin, Kardemir Karabükspor, Grasshopper Club, 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 resigning 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.

Match officials

Referee	Felix Brych (GER)
Assistant referees	Mark Borsch (GER) , Stefan Lupp (GER)
Fourth official	Marco Fritz (GER)
FIFA Match Commissioner	Christian Mutschler (SUI)
Referee observer	Jozef Marko (SVK)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Felix Brych	03/08/1975	5	81

Felix Brych

Referee since: 1993

First division: 2004

FIFA badge: 2007

Tournaments: UEFA EURO 2016, 2014 FIFA World Cup, 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup, 2012 Olympic Games

Finals

2014 UEFA Europa League

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
21/02/2008	UEL	R32	Panathinaikos FC	Rangers FC	1-1	Athens
27/11/2008	UEL	GS	Club Brugge KV	AS Saint-Étienne	1-1	Bruges
19/08/2009	UCL	PO	Panathinaikos FC	Club Atlético de Madrid	2-3	Athens
17/09/2013	UCL	GS	Olympiacos FC	Paris Saint-Germain	1-4	Piraeus
12/06/2015	EURO	QR	Wales	Belgium	1-0	Cardiff
22/06/2016	EURO	GS-FT	Sweden	Belgium	0-1	Nice

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

Belgium

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Group H

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	4	4	0	0	21	1	12
Greece	4	3	1	0	9	2	10
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4	2	1	1	8	5	7
Cyprus	4	1	0	3	3	8	3
Estonia	4	1	0	3	5	15	3
Gibraltar	4	0	0	4	2	17	0

Matchday 1 (06/09/2016)

Cyprus 0-3 Belgium

Goals: 0-1 R. Lukaku 13, 0-2 R. Lukaku 61, 0-3 Carrasco 81

Belgium: Courtois, Alderweireld, Vermaelen, Vertonghen, Witsel, De Bruyne, Fellaini (84 Nainggolan), R. Lukaku (73 Batshuayi), Hazard, Meunier, Carrasco

Matchday 2 (07/10/2016)

Belgium 4-0 Bosnia and Herzegovina

Goals: 1-0 Spahić 26 (og) , 2-0 Hazard 29, 3-0 Alderweireld 60, 4-0 R. Lukaku 79

Belgium: Courtois, Alderweireld, Vertonghen, Witsel, Carrasco, Fellaini, R. Lukaku (82 Benteke), Hazard (87 Mirallas), Mertens, Meunier, J. Lukaku (21 Ciman)

Matchday 3 (10/10/2016)

Gibraltar 0-6 Belgium

Goals: 0-1 Benteke 1, 0-2 Witsel 19, 0-3 Benteke 43, 0-4 Mertens 51, 0-5 Benteke 56, 0-6 Hazard 79

Belgium: Courtois, Alderweireld, Vertonghen, Witsel, Carrasco (53 Chadli), Hazard, Mertens (64 Mirallas), Meunier, Defour, Benteke (80 Batshuayi), Ciman

Matchday 4 (13/11/2016)

Belgium 8-1 Estonia

Goals: 1-0 Meunier 8, 2-0 Mertens 16, 3-0 Hazard 25, 3-1 Henri Anier 29, 4-1 Carrasco 62, 5-1 Klavan 64 (og) , 6-1 Mertens 68, 7-1 R. Lukaku 83, 8-1 R. Lukaku 88

Belgium: Courtois, Dendoncker, Vertonghen, Witsel (88 Simons), De Bruyne, R. Lukaku, Hazard (73 Mirallas), Mertens (79 Tielemans), Meunier, Carrasco, Ciman

Matchday 5 (25/03/2017)

Belgium-Greece

Matchday 6 (09/06/2017)

Estonia-Belgium

Matchday 7 (31/08/2017)

Belgium-Gibraltar

Matchday 8 (03/09/2017)

Greece-Belgium

Matchday 9 (07/10/2017)

Bosnia and Herzegovina-Belgium

Matchday 10 (10/10/2017)

Belgium-Cyprus

Greece

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Matchday 1 (06/09/2016)

Gibraltar 1-4 Greece

Goals: 0-1 Mitroglou 10, 1-1 Walker 26, 1-2 Wiseman 44 (og) , 1-3 Fortounis 45, 1-4 Torosidis 45+2

Greece: Karnezis, Maniatis (71 Tziolis), Tzavellas, Manolas, Fortounis, Mitroglou (73 Vellios), Bakasetas, Torosidis, Mantalos (62 Gianniotas), Papastathopoulos, Samaris

Matchday 2 (07/10/2016)

Greece 2-0 Cyprus

Goals: 1-0 Mitroglou 12, 2-0 Mantalos 42

Greece: Karnezis, Maniatis, Tzavellas (88 Karelis), Manolas, Fortounis, Mitroglou, Bakasetas (77 Holebas), Torosidis, Mantalos, Papastathopoulos, Stafylidis (70 Papadopoulos)

Matchday 3 (10/10/2016)

Estonia 0-2 Greece

Goals: 0-1 Torosidis 2, 0-2 Stafylidis 60

Greece: Karnezis, Maniatis (86 Tziolis), Manolas, Papadopoulos, Karelis, Mitroglou, Bakasetas, Torosidis (18 Oikonomou), Mantalos, Papastathopoulos (6 Tachtsidis), Stafylidis

Matchday 4 (13/11/2016)

Greece 1-1 Bosnia and Herzegovina

Goals: 0-1 Karnezis 32 (og) , 1-1 Tzavellas 90+5

Greece: Karnezis, Maniatis (61 Gianniotas), Tzavellas, Papadopoulos, Fortounis, Mitroglou, Torosidis, Papastathopoulos, Mantalos (87 Karelis), Stafylidis, Samaris

Matchday 5 (25/03/2017)

Belgium-Greece

Matchday 6 (09/06/2017)

Bosnia and Herzegovina-Greece

Matchday 7 (31/08/2017)

Greece-Estonia

Matchday 8 (03/09/2017)

Greece-Belgium

Matchday 9 (07/10/2017)

Cyprus-Greece

Matchday 10 (10/10/2017)

Greece-Gibraltar

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

Disclaimer: Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.