



## UEFA EURO 2012 final tournament draw

Palace of Arts, Kyiv, Ukraine

Friday 2 December 2011, 19.00 local time

### Team and coach profiles

The finalists' qualifying campaigns, EURO history and coach biographies

Official press kit, part 1 of 3  
Content: UEFA.com



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**Profiles of the participants**

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The attached document includes information about the 16 teams and their head coaches, as well as a head-to-head review of each side's 12 possible opponents for the final round. These records include all matches played in UEFA European Championship and FIFA World Cup qualifying competitions and final rounds. Only results during normal playing time and extra time are taken into account.

More complete lists with all head-to-head encounters in these two competitions, as well as additional information regarding all other past meetings between the 16 final round participants can be found in a second press kit downloadable from the Media Services page inside the UEFA EURO 2012 section on UEFA.com: <http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/abouteuro/mediaservices/index.html>

A Media Information System (MIS) has also been launched for this draw. The MIS has been built to become a one-stop shop for media content and information for the tournament. Within the MIS, all accredited media will be able to access relevant final draw and tournament information through streaming video, audio and video archives, statistics, transcripts, releases and news, resources, and the events calendar.

Media members will also be able to receive up to the minute operations information via customisable SMS and email subscription services, making the MIS a unique platform for media to stay informed on the latest developments of the final draw and tournament. Further details can be found via the above link.

UEFA EURO 2012 will be the last 16-team finals before the tournament expands to 24 participants in France in 2016. The UEFA European Championship started life as a four-team knockout competition in 1960, adding four more teams and a group stage in 1980 before adopting the current system of four groups of four and knockout stages from the quarter-finals onwards in 1996.

For statistical purposes, Germany's results include the Federal Republic of Germany; Russia, the Czech Republic and Croatia are considered only as independent nations rather than as part of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia respectively.

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## THE COACHES



**Slaven Bilić**  
Croatia



**Michal Bilek**  
Czech Republic



**Morten Olsen**  
Denmark



**Fabio Capello**  
England



**Laurent Blanc**  
France



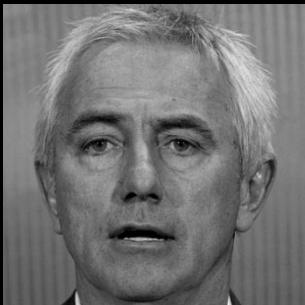
**Joachim Löw**  
Germany



**Fernando Santos**  
Greece



**Cesare Prandelli**  
Italy



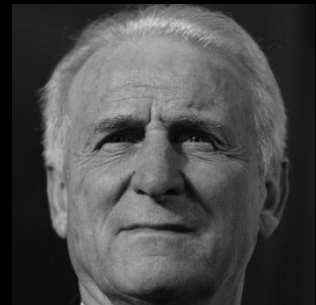
**Bert van Marwijk**  
Netherlands



**Franciszek Smuda**  
Poland



**Paulo Bento**  
Portugal



**Giovanni Trapattoni**  
Republic of Ireland



**Dick Advocaat**  
Russia



**Vicente del Bosque**  
Spain



**Erik Hamrén**  
Sweden



**Oleh Blokhin**  
Ukraine

## PROFILES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

### CROATIA

**Draw pot:** 3

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Slaven Bilić

**Leading scorer:** all time – Davor Šuker (45); current – Eduardo (22)

**Most appearances:** all time – Dario Šimić (100); current – Josip Šimunić (92)

**Association formed:** 1912

**Nickname:** Kockasti (Checks)

Croatia had not so much a foot but both feet in the UEFA EURO 2008 semi-finals after Ivan Klasnić's 119th-minute opener against Turkey, yet coach Slaven Bilić had barely returned to the bench after the wild celebrations that ensued when Semih Şentürk scored a dramatic equaliser. With fate at its most capricious, Turkey prevailed on spot kicks; Croatia went home chastened, the hangover lasting throughout 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifying as they finished third behind England and Ukraine. Second to Greece this time around, their reward was a rematch with Turkey in the play-offs – and revenge was sweet.

#### UEFA EURO 2012 play-offs

Date	Home	Result	Away	Croatia scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	<b>Croatia</b>	0-0	Turkey		Zagreb
11.11.2011	Turkey	0-3	<b>Croatia</b>	(Olić, Mandžukić, Čorluka)	Istanbul

#### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group F

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	Greece	10	7	3	0	14	5	24
2	<b>Croatia</b>	10	7	1	2	18	7	22
3	Israel	10	5	1	4	13	11	16
4	Latvia	10	3	2	5	9	12	11
5	Georgia	10	2	4	4	7	9	10
6	Malta	10	0	1	9	4	21	1

Date	Home	Result	Away	Croatia scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Croatia</b>	2-0	Latvia	(Eduardo, Mandžukić)	Rijeka
07.10.2011	Greece	2-0	<b>Croatia</b>		Piraeus
06.09.2011	<b>Croatia</b>	3-1	Israel	(Modrić, Eduardo)	Zagreb
02.09.2011	Malta	1-3	<b>Croatia</b>	(Vukojević, Badelj, Lovren)	Ta' Qali
03.06.2011	<b>Croatia</b>	2-1	Georgia	(Mandžukić, Kalinić)	Split
26.03.2011	Georgia	1-0	<b>Croatia</b>		Tbilisi
17.11.2010	<b>Croatia</b>	3-0	Malta	(Kranjčar 2, Kalinić)	Zagreb
09.10.2010	Israel	1-2	<b>Croatia</b>	(Kranjčar 2)	Ramat Gan
07.09.2010	<b>Croatia</b>	0-0	Greece		Zagreb
03.09.2010	Latvia	0-3	<b>Croatia</b>	(Petrić, Olić, Srna)	Riga

**Leading scorer:** Niko Kranjčar (4)

**Ever-presents:** None

Ivica Olić, making his first competitive start in 13 months, struck after two minutes in Istanbul as Croatia claimed what proved an unassailable a 3-0 first-leg lead over Turkey in the play-offs. With Group F leaders Greece trailing 1-0 to Georgia, Croatia were 11 minutes from automatic qualification before goals from Giorgos Fotakis and Angelos Charisteas turned things round.

Croatia's 2-1 victory over Georgia in June was the 200th game in their 21-year history as an independent nation. Their first match, against the United States in 1990, also ended 2-1. "Thank God it's over – we made it," Bilić said after the second leg against Turkey. "After everything we went through in qualifying we are back where we belong: at EURO."

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Quarter-finals	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	England

Croatia have qualified for four out of five tournaments since the break-up of Yugoslavia, their only failure coming in 2000. Inspired by three-goal Davor Šuker, Miroslav Blažević's 1996 vintage reached the last eight in their maiden finals appearance, before defeat by Germany.

Eliminated after the group stage in 2004, four years later they won three out of three, beating Germany 2-1. The semi-finals beckoned before Turkey's last-gasp equaliser and then penalties.

Croatia contributed players to the Yugoslavia team that twice finished runners-up at the UEFA European Championship, losing the inaugural showpiece 2-1 in extra time against the Soviet Union in 1960 and going down 2-0 to hosts Italy in a final replay eight years later.

### Matches played

**Overall: P63 W39 D14 L10 F112 A47**

**Final tournament: P11 W5 D3 L3 F14 A13**

**Qualifying: P52 W34 D11 L7 F98 A34**

### Team EURO records

#### Final tournament win

**3-0:** Croatia v Denmark, 16.06.96, group stage

#### Final tournament loss

**0-3:** Croatia v Portugal, 19.06.96, group stage

#### Qualifying win

**7-0:** Croatia v Andorra, 07.10.06

#### Qualifying loss

**0-2:** four times, most recently Greece v Croatia, 07.10.11

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**6:** Niko Kovač  
**6:** Robert Kovač  
**6:** Josip Šimunić  
**6:** Ivica Olić  
**5:** Dario Šimić  
**5:** Darijo Srna

### Final tournament goals

**3:** Davor Šuker  
**2:** Ivan Klasnić

### Overall appearances

**31:** Josip Šimunić  
**31:** Darijo Srna  
**30:** Dario Šimić  
**29:** Stipe Pletikosa  
**27:** Vedran Ćorluka  
**27:** Robert Kovač  
**26:** Ivica Olić

### Overall goals

**20:** Davor Šuker  
**13:** Eduardo  
**8:** Mladen Petrić  
**6:** Zvonimir Boban  
**6:** Niko Kranjčar  
**6:** Darijo Srna

## Slaven Bilić

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 11 September 1968

**Nationality:** Croatian

**Playing career:** HNK Hajduk Split (twice), NK Primorac (loan), HNK Šibenik (loan), Karlsruher SC, West Ham United FC, Everton FC

**Coaching career:** HNK Hajduk Split, Croatia Under-21, Croatia

- A towering, uncompromising central defender, he began his career with hometown club Hajduk Split, winning the Croatian domestic double in 1992 before moving abroad to German club Karlsruhe.
- Having joined West Ham for a club-record fee in January 1996, he represented Croatia at EURO '96 and helped the team to the quarter-finals; two years later, as an Everton player, he won a FIFA World Cup bronze medal as Croatia finished third in France.
- After ending his playing career at Hajduk, he briefly took charge of the team before launching his coaching career in earnest with the Croatian U21 side.
- Stepped up from the U21s to become the senior national side's coach in July 2006 and masterminded the team's successful qualification for UEFA EURO 2008, where, as the youngest coach in the tournament, his team's progress was halted only at the quarter-final stage with a penalty shoot-out defeat by Turkey.
- Despite Croatia's position as seeds in their 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifying group, they were eliminated after finishing third. Bilić announced he would stay on for the UEFA EURO 2012 qualifiers and guided them to the finals with a notable play-off win against Turkey.

### Past record against possible opponents

**Croatia v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	5	3

**Croatia v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1
Friendly	1	0	0	1	0	3

**Croatia v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	1	1
World Cup	2	0	1	1	2	4
Friendly	2	1	0	1	2	2

**Croatia v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	2	1	1	6	3

**Croatia v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	0	1	7	6
World Cup	2	0	0	2	2	9
Friendly	1	0	1	1	1	3

**Croatia v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	1	2
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	0	4	0	4	4

**Croatia v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	2	2
World Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Friendly	2	0	0	2	0	5

**Croatia v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Croatia v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	3	3
World Cup	1	1	0	0	3	0
Friendly	5	0	1	4	4	15

**Croatia v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	1	1	2	3	6

**Croatia v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	1	0	3	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1
Friendly	3	1	1	1	2	4

**Croatia v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	4	1
World Cup	4	1	3	0	5	3
Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	1

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## CZECH REPUBLIC

**Draw pot:** 4

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1976 (as Czechoslovakia)

**Coach:** Michal Břek

**Leading scorer:** all time – Jan Koller (55); current – Milan Baroš (39)

**Most appearances:** all time – Karel Poborský (118); current – Petr Čech (88)

**Association formed:** 1901

**Nickname:** Národní tým (National side)

Michal Břek's side overcame teething problems to continue the Czech Republic's record of gracing every UEFA European Championship final tournament since the break-up of Czechoslovakia in 1993. After failing to reach the 2010 FIFA World Cup – and suffering a group stage exit at UEFA EURO 2008 – Břek sought to introduce a new generation to play alongside the likes of Tomáš Rosický, Petr Čech and Milan Baroš. They made an inauspicious start to UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, losing at home to Lithuania, but ultimately came good, beating Montenegro 3-0 on aggregate in the play-offs.

### UEFA EURO 2012 play-offs

Date	Home	Result	Away	Czech Republic scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	Montenegro	0-1	<b>Czech Republic</b>	(Jiráček)	Podgorica
11.11.2011	<b>Czech Republic</b>	2-0	Montenegro	(Pilař, Sivok)	Prague

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group I

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	Spain	8	8	0	0	26	6	24
2	<b>Czech Republic</b>	8	4	1	3	12	8	13
3	Scotland	8	3	2	3	9	10	11
4	Lithuania	8	1	2	5	4	13	5
5	Liechtenstein	8	1	1	6	3	17	4

Date	Home	Result	Away	Czech Republic scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	Lithuania	1-4	<b>Czech Republic</b>	(M. Kadlec 2, Rezek 2)	Kaunas
07.10.2011	<b>Czech Republic</b>	0-2	Spain		Prague
03.09.2011	Scotland	2-2	<b>Czech Republic</b>	(Plařil, M. Kadlec)	Glasgow
29.03.2011	<b>Czech Republic</b>	2-0	Liechtenstein	(Baroš, M. Kadlec)	Ceske Budejovice
25.03.2011	Spain	2-1	<b>Czech Republic</b>	(Plařil)	Granada
12.10.2010	Liechtenstein	0-2	<b>Czech Republic</b>	(Necid, V. Kadlec)	Vaduz
08.10.2010	<b>Czech Republic</b>	1-0	Scotland	(Hubník)	Prague
07.09.2010	<b>Czech Republic</b>	0-1	Lithuania		Olomouc

**Leading scorer:** Michal Kadlec (4)

**Ever-presents:** Michal Kadlec (10)

FC Viktoria Plzeň pair Václav Pilař and Petr Jiráček both scored their first senior international goals as the Czech Republic secured a 3-0 aggregate victory over Montenegro in the play-offs.

Václav Kadlec's strike in Liechtenstein made him the youngest player to score in qualifying (18 years, 145 days), though the Czechs' tally of 12 group stage goals was the lowest of all finalists. After Milan Baroš missed from the spot in the opening-day loss to Lithuania, penalty-taking duties passed to defender Michal Kadlec, who subsequently converted three out of three.



"We were under pressure from the home defeat by Lithuania right until the end," said coach Michal Bilek. "I am proud of the players and how they coped with it. I am glad to be part of it."

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Semi-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Runners-up	England

The Czech Republic have been EURO final tournament ever-presenters since the 1993 break-up of Czechoslovakia (in contrast they have graced just one FIFA World Cup), and they became only the second side to negotiate qualifying with a 100% record en route to UEFA EURO 2000.

They lost the EURO '96 final to Germany when Oliver Bierhoff's golden goal made it 2-1, and suffered more extra-time disappointment in the last four against Greece eight years later.

In 1976, Prague-born Antonín Panenka's memorable spot kick earned Czechoslovakia the European title with a 5-3 shoot-out victory over West Germany following a 2-2 draw. The Czechs came third in their championship defence four years later.

### Matches played

**Overall: P67 W46 D9 L12 F136 A51**

**Final tournament: P17 W8 D2 L7 F24 A22**

**Qualifying: P50 W38 D7 L5 F112 A29**

### Team EURO records

#### Final tournament win

**3-0:** Czech Republic v Denmark, 27.06.04, quarter-finals

#### Final tournament loss

**1-3:** Czech Republic v Portugal 11.06.08, group stage

**2-0:** Germany v Czech Republic, 09.06.96, group stage

#### Qualifying win

**7-0:** Czech Republic v San Marino, 07.10.06

#### Qualifying loss

**0-2:** Czech Republic v Spain, 7.10.11

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

- 14:** Karel Poborský
- 12:** Pavel Nedvěd
- 11:** Vladimír Šmicer
- 10:** Jan Koller
- 9:** Marek Jankulovski
- 9:** Jirí Nemeč

### Final tournament goals

- 5:** Milan Baroš
- 4:** Vladimír Šmicer
- 3:** Jan Koller

### Overall appearances

- 35:** Jan Koller
- 34:** Petr Čech
- 34:** Karel Poborský
- 32:** Tomáš Rosický
- 31:** Pavel Nedvěd
- 31:** Jirí Nemeč
- 30:** Pavel Kuka

### Overall goals

- 21:** Jan Koller
- 12:** Patrik Berger
- 12:** Milan Baroš
- 9:** Vladimír Šmicer

## Michal Bílek

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 13 April 1965

**Nationality:** Czech

**Playing career:** AC Sparta Praha (four times), RH Cheb, Real Betis Balompié, FK Viktoria Žižkov, FK Teplice

**Coaching career:** FK Teplice, CS Cartaginés, Czech Republic Under-19, FK Chmel Blšany, FK Viktoria Plzeň, AC Sparta Praha, MFK Ružomberok, Czech Republic

- A gritty midfielder who was an expert at free-kicks and penalties, Bílek had four spells at Sparta, the most memorable between 1986 and 1990 during which he won three league titles and two Czechoslovakian Cups.
- Travelled to the 1990 FIFA World Cup as the reigning Czechoslovakian Player of the Year; featured in all five matches at right-back to help Czechoslovakia to quarter-finals, scoring from the penalty spot in the opening two matches against the United States and Austria.
- Extended his international career beyond break-up of Czechoslovakia, winning 35 caps and scoring 11 goals.
- Had slow start to coaching career, including spell in Costa Rica, but eventually established himself at top level back at home and was appointed coach of Sparta in September 2006; won domestic double in his first season but dismissed in May 2008.
- Led Slovakian club Ružomberok in 2008.09 before taking on assistant role to former team-mate Ivan Hašek with the Czech national side. Promoted to top job in October 2009 as Hašek returned to his position as association president and guided the Czechs to UEFA EURO 2012 via a play-off win against Montenegro.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Czech Republic v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	3	5

**Czech Republic v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	2
Friendly	3	1	0	2	3	5

**Czech Republic v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	2	4

**Czech Republic v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Czech Republic v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	2	0	3	7	7
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	1	0	0	1	2	3

**Czech Republic v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	3	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Czech Republic v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	0	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	2	0	0	1

**Czech Republic v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	0	2	1	4
World Cup	2	0	1	1	0	1
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Czech Republic v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	2	1
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	2
Friendly	2	1	1	0	3	2

**Czech Republic v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	4	5

**Czech Republic v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	6	3	2	1	10	6
World Cup	2	0	0	2	0	4
Friendly	1	0	1	0	1	1

**Czech Republic v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	1	1	0	0	4	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## DENMARK

**Draw pot:** 4

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1992

**Coach:** Morten Olsen

**Leading scorer:** all time – Poul Nielsen, Jon Dahl Tomasson (52); current – Dennis Rommedahl (21)

**Most appearances:** all time – Peter Schmeichel (129); current – Dennis Rommedahl (113)

**Association formed:** 1889

**Nickname:** None

When Morten Olsen leads Denmark to Poland and Ukraine, they will be returning to a competition which has served them famously well down the years having failed to qualify in 2008. This summer's showcase will be the 1992 champions' seventh UEFA European Championship final tournament since their 1984 debut in France, and they have also graced four FIFA World Cups, bowing out after the group stage in South Africa. Considering Denmark is a country of under six million where professionals were excluded from the national team until 1971, it is no mean feat; nor was topping a section including Portugal and Norway en route to UEFA EURO 2012.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group H

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Denmark</b>	8	6	1	1	15	6	19
2	Portugal	8	5	1	2	21	12	16
3	Norway	8	5	1	2	10	7	16
4	Iceland	8	1	1	6	6	14	4
5	Cyprus	8	0	2	6	7	20	2

Date	Home	Result	Away	Denmark scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Denmark</b>	2-1	Portugal	(Krohn-Dehli, Bendtner)	Copenhagen
07.10.2011	Cyprus	1-4	<b>Denmark</b>	(Jacobsen, Rommedahl 2, Krohn-Dehli)	Nicosia
06.09.2011	<b>Denmark</b>	2-0	Norway	(Bendtner 2)	Copenhagen
04.06.2011	Iceland	0-2	<b>Denmark</b>	(Schene, Eriksen)	Reykjavik
26.03.2011	Norway	1-1	<b>Denmark</b>	(Rommedahl)	Oslo
12.10.2010	<b>Denmark</b>	2-0	Cyprus	(Rasmussen, Lorentzen)	Copenhagen
08.10.2010	Portugal	3-1	<b>Denmark</b>	(Carvalho OG)	Porto
07.09.2010	<b>Denmark</b>	1-0	Iceland	(Kahlenberg)	Copenhagen

**Leading scorers:** Nicklas Bendtner, Dennis Rommedahl (3)

**Ever-presents:** Lars Jacobsen, Christian Eriksen, Dennis Rommedahl (8)

Denmark qualified as Group H winners thanks to a 2-1 defeat of Portugal in Copenhagen in the final round of matches. Goals from Michael Krohn-Dehli and Nicklas Bendtner gave Olsen's side a two-goal lead at a sold-out Parken Stadion, Cristiano Ronaldo's added-time free-kick coming too late to prevent the Danes winning the section by three points.

Qualifying success was based on impeccable home form as Denmark won all four of the fixtures they hosted, conceding just that lone Ronaldo goal in the process.

Olsen's charges bounced back from losing in Portugal in their second tie to remain unbeaten thereafter, a 1-1 away draw in Norway and a 2-0 home success against their Scandinavian rivals proving crucial to their progress.

Such was the coach's satisfaction at the successful campaign that he went back on his 2010 decision to step down after UEFA EURO 2012, agreeing a deal until after the next FIFA World Cup once a place in Poland and Ukraine had been assured. "We have qualified at a time when we brought several new players into the team," Olsen said. "Now it is important for the players to get to know each other."

**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Did not qualify	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Quarter-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	England
<b>1992</b>	Winners	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Semi-finals	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Fourth	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Last 16	France

The 1992 champions missed out on UEFA EURO 2008, losing out to Spain and Sweden for a place in Austria and Switzerland. A 3-0 forfeit match against the Swedes in Copenhagen, and a 3-1 home loss to the eventual champions, proved fatal to their hopes.

Denmark have a proud history in the competition, however, their finest hour coming in Sweden 19 years ago. They had not even qualified for the finals but the suspension of Yugoslavia handed them a second chance they grasped with both hands. Despite having only ten days to prepare, England and France were eliminated in the group stage, holders the Netherlands went the same way in a semi-final penalty shoot-out before goals from John Jensen and Kim Vilfort secured a 2-0 final win against Germany and a fitting conclusion to a remarkable fairy tale.

The Danes also progressed beyond the group stage at their first finals appearance in 1984, eventually losing to Spain on penalties in the last four. Morten Olsen's charges again overcame the initial hurdle in 2004, but three Czech Republic goals early in the second half ended their interest in the quarter-finals.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P129 W56 D29 L44 F203 A168**

**Final tournament: P25 W7 D6 L12 F27 A38**

**Qualifying: P104 W49 D23 L32 F176 A130**

**Final tournament win**

**5-0:** Denmark v Yugoslavia, 16.06.84, group stage

**Final tournament loss**

**3-0:** five times, most recently Czech Republic v Denmark, 27.06.04, quarter-finals

**Qualifying win**

**6-0:** Denmark v Luxembourg, 12.10.83

**Qualifying loss**

**6-0:** Hungary v Denmark, 21.09.66

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**13:** Peter Schmeichel  
**10:** Michael Laudrup  
**10:** John Sivebæk  
**9:** Thomas Helveg

### Final tournament goals

**3:** Frank Arnesen  
**3:** Henrik Larsen  
**3:** Brian Laudrup  
**3:** Jon Dahl Tomasson

### Overall appearances

**39:** Peter Schmeichel  
**32:** Thomas Helveg  
**32:** Morten Olsen  
**31:** Martin Jørgensen  
**31:** Dennis Rommedahl  
**31:** Jon Dahl Tomasson

### Overall goals

**22:** Jon Dahl Tomasson  
**11:** Ole Madsen  
**10:** Preben Elkjær  
**10:** Michael Laudrup  
**9:** Dennis Rommedahl

## Morten Olsen

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 14 August 1949

**Nationality:** Danish

**Playing career:** B 1901, Cercle Brugge KSV, RWD Molenbeek, RSC Anderlecht, 1. FC Köln

**Coaching career:** Brøndby IF, 1. FC Köln, AFC Ajax, Denmark

- A commanding central defender, he played most of his club football in Belgium, winning three national titles and the UEFA Cup with Anderlecht between 1980 and 1986.
- Twice crowned Danish Player of the Year, he was captain of the legendary 'Dynamite' team of the mid-1980s that reached two successive UEFA European Championships and the 1986 FIFA World Cup; became the first Danish footballer to reach 100 caps in an international career spanning 19 years.
- Went straight into coaching and proved an immediate success, leading Brøndby to two national titles and the 1990/91 UEFA Cup semi-finals – the furthest any Danish team had progressed in Europe.
- Moved on to coach former club Köln and then, following a two-year break, Ajax, where, assisted on the field by his former Denmark team-mate Michael Laudrup, he won a Dutch league and cup double in 1998.
- Appointed Denmark head coach in 2000 and led team to 2002 World Cup and UEFA EURO 2004. Enjoyed success again as Denmark topped their 2010 World Cup qualifying group, celebrating qualification with 1-0 win against Sweden in his 100th match in charge. Subsequently named Coach of the Year in Denmark, although his team failed to get out of their group in South Africa. Bounced back to lead them to UEFA EURO 2012 and agreed a new deal until 2014.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Denmark v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	0	3
World Cup	2	1	1	0	4	2
Friendly	2	1	0	1	2	2

**Denmark v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	0	0	2	2	6
Friendly	16	11	1	4	35	23

**Denmark v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	1	2	2	6	7
World Cup	3	0	0	3	3	12
Friendly	12	3	2	7	13	19

**Denmark v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	1	1	3	4	11
World Cup	4	1	1	2	6	8
Friendly	3	0	0	3	2	6

**Denmark v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	0
Friendly	24	6	4	14	32	52

**Denmark v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Denmark v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	2	0	0	3	0
World Cup	10	4	3	3	18	13
Friendly	4	4	0	0	19	3

**Denmark v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	8	0	2	6	7	17
World Cup	3	1	0	2	2	6
Friendly	6	1	1	4	7	12

**Denmark v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	4	6
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	3
Friendly	4	0	0	4	1	7

**Denmark v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	2	2	2	6
World Cup	2	2	0	0	2	0
Friendly	97	37	17	43	161	173

**Denmark v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	5	9
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	2
Friendly	24	7	8	9	34	47

**Denmark v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	0	1	1	1	2
Friendly	1	1	0	0	1	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## ENGLAND

**Draw pot:** 2

**Tournament wins:** FIFA World Cup 1966

**Coach:** Fabio Capello

**Leading scorer:** all time – Bobby Charlton (49); current – Michael Owen (40)

**Most appearances:** all time – Peter Shilton (125); current – David Beckham (115)

**Association formed:** 1863

**Nickname:** Three Lions

England enter UEFA EURO 2012 having missed out on the last European finals under Steve McClaren, Fabio Capello's predecessor. England finished third behind Croatia and Russia in their UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying group, and they will also want to improve on their first major tournament showing under Capello himself at the 2010 FIFA World Cup. England won just once in South Africa before exiting with their heaviest World Cup defeat, 4-1 against Germany in the last 16. Qualification for this tournament went smoothly, however, Capello's men topping their group with an unbeaten record.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group G

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>England</b>	8	5	3	0	17	5	18
2	Montenegro	8	3	3	2	7	7	12
3	Switzerland	8	3	2	3	12	10	11
4	Wales	8	3	0	5	6	10	0
5	Bulgaria	8	1	2	5	3	13	5

Date	Home	Result	Away	England scorers	Venue
07.10.2011	Montenegro	2-2	<b>England</b>	(Young, Bent)	Podgorica
06.09.2011	<b>England</b>	1-0	Wales	(Young)	London
02.09.2011	Bulgaria	0-3	England	(Cahill, Rooney 2)	Sofia
04.06.2011	<b>England</b>	2-2	Switzerland	(Lampard, Young)	London
26.03.2011	Wales	0-2	<b>England</b>	(Lampard, Bent)	Cardiff
12.10.2010	<b>England</b>	0-0	Montenegro		London
07.09.2010	Switzerland	1-3	<b>England</b>	(Rooney, A. Johnson, Bent)	Basel
03.09.2010	<b>England</b>	4-0	Bulgaria	(Defoe 3, A. Johnson)	London

**Leading scorers:** Darren Bent, Jermain Defoe, Wayne Rooney, Ashley Young (3)

**Ever-presents:** Joe Hart, Ashley Cole (8)

England comfortably booked their place in Poland and Ukraine, finishing six points clear at the top of Group G. Ever-present goalkeeper Joe Hart kept five clean sheets, while at the other end the goalscoring duties were shared around as England finished with four players level on three strikes.

England reached a milestone against Montenegro in their final qualifying fixture. The match in Podgorica, which finished 2-2 and secured England's qualification, was considered the 900th match in their history. They had previously played 897 completed internationals, plus two that were abandoned.

England's game against Wales at the Millennium Stadium was the 100th time that the two nations had met. England recorded their 65th victory against their neighbours, adding the 66th in the return fixture at Wembley in September. Ashley Cole, now capped 93 times, surpassed Gary Neville's record of 85 outfield appearances without a goal during the campaign.

"Our goal was to qualify first in the group; we have qualified and we'll play the EURO so we are happy," said manager Capello after the closing draw against second-placed Montenegro.



**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Did not qualify	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Quarter-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Semi-finals	England
<b>1992</b>	Group stage	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Quarter-finals	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Third	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not qualify	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not participate	France

England have not taken part in this tournament since 2004 thanks to their failure in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying. Home and away losses to Slaven Bilić's Croatia and a defeat by Russia in Moscow proved costly as Steve McClaren's men finished third behind their conquerors.

England's overall UEFA European Championship record is a tale of disappointment. Their 2008 setback was the fifth time they had failed to reach the finals, and they have had just two semi-final places (1968, 1996) from the seven final tournaments for which they have qualified.

To underline the point England head to Poland and Ukraine as the only European winners of the World Cup who have not yet lifted the Henri Delaunay Cup. Italy (1968), Germany (1972, 1980, 1996), France (1984, 2000) and current holders Spain have all done so, but England have yet to reach the final of the competition.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P113 W63 D31 L19 F221 A83**

**Final tournament: P23 W7 D7 L9 F31 A28**

**Qualifying: P90 W56 D24 L10 F190 A55**

**Final tournament win**

**1-4:** Netherlands v England, 18.06.96, group stage

**3-0:** England v Switzerland, 17.06.04, group stage

**Final tournament loss**

**1-3:** England v USSR, 18.06.88, group stage

**1-3:** England v Netherlands, 15.06.88, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**9-0:** England v Luxembourg, 15.12.82

**Qualifying loss**

**5-2:** France v England, 27.02.63

**Player EURO records****Final tournament appearances**

- 11:** Gary Neville
- 9:** Tony Adams
- 9:** Alan Shearer
- 8:** Sol Campbell
- 8:** Stuart Pearce

**Final tournament goals**

- 7:** Alan Shearer
- 4:** Wayne Rooney
- 3:** Frank Lampard

**Overall appearances**

- 26:** Steven Gerrard
- 26:** Michael Owen
- 25:** Ashley Cole
- 24:** Gary Neville

**Overall goals**

- 13:** Michael Owen
- 13:** Alan Shearer
- 11:** Wayne Rooney
- 8:** Geoff Hurst
- 8:** Kevin Keegan

**Fabio Capello****Coach profile**

**Date of birth:** 18 June 1946

**Nationality:** Italian

**Playing career:** Spal 1907, AS Roma, Juventus, AC Milan

**Coaching career:** AC Milan (twice), Real Madrid CF (twice), AS Roma, Juventus, England

- Forged a successful career as a player, winning four Serie A titles – three with Juventus and one with Milan – and scoring eight goals from midfield in 32 appearances for Italy, including the winner in the Azzurri's first victory against England at Wembley in November 1973.
- Despite lacking coaching experience Capello replaced Arrigo Sacchi at Milan in 1991, launching a hugely successful five-year spell in which he led the star-studded team to four Italian championships – the first without losing a game - and the 1994 UEFA Champions League, defeating Johan Cruyff's FC Barcelona 4-0 in the final.
- Left Milan for Real Madrid and won Spanish title in one and only season before unsuccessful return to Milan.
- Re-established himself as one of world's foremost coaches at both Roma, where he won the 2000.01 Scudetto, and Juventus, where he ended each of his two seasons as Serie A champion only for both titles to be stripped from the club as a result of the sporting fraud scandal.
- Another one-year Spanish title-winning campaign at Madrid (a decade after his first) prompted the Football Association (FA) to appoint him England coach. Took over in January 2008 and steered team to 2010 FIFA World Cup finals with eight successive victories. Stayed on for UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying despite failing to progress beyond the last 16 in South Africa and successfully led his charges to the finals in Poland and Ukraine.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**England v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	0	2	6	7
World Cup	2	2	0	0	9	2
Friendly	2	1	1	0	3	1

**England v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	2	0	6	2
World Cup	11	7	3	1	19	7
Friendly	2	1	1	0	2	1

**England v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	4	2

**England v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	3	1	5	6
World Cup	5	2	2	1	5	3
Friendly	13	7	5	1	35	16

**England v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	2	2	1	7	6
World Cup	3	3	0	0	12	3
Friendly	12	7	2	3	19	13

**England v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	1	3	1	5	4
World Cup	3	1	2	0	7	3
Friendly	6	3	1	2	7	6

**England v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	2	2	4	8
World Cup	2	2	0	0	5	1
Friendly	24	14	3	7	60	30

**England v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	3	1	0	5	2
World Cup	2	0	1	1	0	1
Friendly	16	9	1	6	34	19

**England v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	3	1	0	8	0
World Cup	2	1	1	0	4	2
Friendly	3	3	0	0	11	1

**England v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	1	2	2	4
World Cup	4	0	4	0	3	3
Friendly	15	7	4	4	28	19

**England v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	5	4
World Cup	3	0	2	1	2	4
Friendly	13	4	7	2	14	11

**England v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	2
Friendly	2	2	0	0	5	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## FRANCE

**Draw pot:** 4

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1984, 2000; FIFA World Cup 1998

**Coach:** Laurent Blanc

**Leading scorer:** all time – Thierry Henry (51); current – Karim Benzema (13)

**Most appearances:** all time – Lilian Thuram (125); current – Florent Malouda (73)

**Association formed:** 1919

**Nickname:** Les Bleus (The Blues)

France's turn-of-the-century success, winning the 1998 FIFA World Cup before holding their collective nerve to secure their second UEFA European Championship two years later, has felt far removed of late. Les Bleus exited the 2002 and 2010 World Cups at the first hurdle and, either side of finishing runners-up at the 2006 World Cup, left only brief impressions at UEFA EURO 2004 and UEFA EURO 2008. Under Laurent Blanc past glories have not seemed quite so distant in qualifying – though they had the odd scare, not least in their final group game against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group D

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>France</b>	10	6	3	1	15	4	21
2	Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	6	2	2	17	8	20
3	Romania	10	3	5	2	13	9	14
4	Belarus	10	3	4	3	8	7	13
5	Albania	10	2	3	5	7	14	9
6	Luxembourg	10	1	1	8	3	21	4

Date	Home	Result	Away	France scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>France</b>	1-1	Bosnia and Herzegovina	(Nasri)	Paris
07.10.2011	<b>France</b>	3-0	Albania	(Malouda, Rémy, Réveillère)	Paris
06.09.2011	Romania	0-0	<b>France</b>		Bucharest
02.09.2011	Albania	1-2	<b>France</b>	(Benzema, M'Vila)	Tirana
03.06.2011	Belarus	1-1	<b>France</b>	(Malouda)	Minsk
25.03.2011	Luxembourg	0-2	<b>France</b>	(Mexès, Gourcuff)	Luxembourg
12.10.2010	<b>France</b>	2-0	Luxembourg	(Benzema, Gourcuff)	Metz
09.10.2010	<b>France</b>	2-0	Romania	(Rémy, Gourcuff)	Paris
07.09.2010	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0-2	<b>France</b>	(Benzema, Malouda)	Sarajevo
03.09.2010	<b>France</b>	0-1	Belarus		Paris

**Leading scorers:** Yoann Gourcuff, Karim Benzema, Florent Malouda (3)

**Ever-presents:** Hugo Lloris (10)

The two-time champions needed a late Samir Nasri penalty to earn the 1-1 draw against Bosnia and Herzegovina in their concluding game that booked their finals place. Laurent Blanc's charges had nevertheless spent most of the qualifying campaign on top of Group D despite the shock of a 1-0 opening home defeat by Belarus; Les Bleus responded with three successive 2-0 victories.

Appointed in the wake of the disappointing 2010 FIFA World Cup campaign, Blanc's reign began with a friendly defeat in Norway and that Belarus reverse, but France have not been beaten since, also chalking up friendly victories against England and Brazil. They are unbeaten in 17 matches, still some way short of the national record of 30 set in the 1990s.

The goalless draw in Romania in September 2011 was France's 100th UEFA European Championship qualifier – although it was slightly different to their first, a 7-1 defeat of Greece on 1 October 1958 – while the home game against Bosnia and Herzegovina represented their 750th fixture overall.

"It's a great satisfaction to be through to EURO," said Blanc. "From now on, we'll focus on our way of playing and give more time to players who've had few opportunities because we were playing in high-stake games. But it would be interesting to see players who shine with their clubs in the national team."

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Quarter-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Winners	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Semi-finals	England
<b>1992</b>	Group stage	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Did not qualify	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Winners	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Quarter-finals	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Quarter-finals	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Fourth	France

France are in the finals for the sixth time in succession; they last missed out as holders in 1988, suffering an early end to the defence of the trophy they had lifted in Paris four years earlier with a final defeat of Spain.

Their second victory came at UEFA EURO 2000, Roger Lemerre's team becoming only the second team after West Germany (1972, 1974) to hold the world and European titles at the same time. It was a close-run thing, however, Zinedine Zidane's extra-time penalty settling a tense semi-final against Portugal before Sylvain Wiltord saved them from a final loss to Italy with a last-gasp equaliser, setting the scene for David Trezeguet's golden-goal winner.

Les Bleus have nevertheless not won a game in a final tournament in their last seven attempts. Before bowing out to Italy in Switzerland 2-0, they went down 4-1 to the Netherlands, their largest major finals loss since a 5-2 reverse against Brazil in the 1958 World Cup semi-final.

### Team EURO records

#### Matches played

**Overall: P130 W73 D33 L24 F252 A119**

**Final tournament: P28 W14 D7 L7 F46 A34**

**Qualifying: P102 W59 D26 L17 F206 A85**

#### Final tournament win

**5-0:** France v Belgium, 16.06.84, group stage

#### Final tournament loss

**4-1:** Netherlands v France, 13.06.08, group stage

#### Qualifying win

**10-0:** France v Azerbaijan, 06.09.95

#### Qualifying loss

**5-1:** Yugoslavia v France, 24.04.68

**Player EURO records****Final tournament appearances**

**16:** Lilian Thuram  
**14:** Zinédine Zidane  
**13:** Laurent Blanc  
**13:** Didier Deschamps  
**12:** Marcel Desailly  
**12:** Bixente Lizarazu

**Final tournament goals**

**9:** Michel Platini  
**6:** Thierry Henry  
**5:** Zinédine Zidane

**Overall appearances**

**47:** Lilian Thuram  
**36:** Didier Deschamps  
**35:** Laurent Blanc  
**34:** Marcel Desailly  
**33:** Zinédine Zidane

**Overall goals**

**18:** Thierry Henry  
**12:** Jean-Pierre Papin  
**12:** David Trezeguet  
**11:** Zinédine Zidane  
**11:** Youri Djorkaeff

**Laurent Blanc****Coach profile**

**Date of birth:** 19 November 1965

**Nationality:** French

**Playing career:** Montpellier Hérault SC, Napoli SSC, Nîmes Olympique SC, AS Saint-Étienne, AJ Auxerre, FC Barcelona, Olympique de Marseille, FC Internazionale Milano, Manchester United FC

**Coaching career:** FC Girondins de Bordeaux, France

- The defender's 20-year club career brought a French Cup win with Montpellier in 1990, a 1996 league and cup double with Auxerre, the 1997 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup with Barcelona and a Premier League title with United just before retirement in 2003.
- Nicknamed Le Président on account of his authority, elegance and leadership.
- Famous for 'good luck' kiss on goalkeeper Fabien Barthez's bald head before kick-offs, he won the 1998 FIFA World Cup on home soil after scoring France's golden-goal winner against Paraguay in the last 16, but missed the Paris final after being sent off in the semis.
- Helped France win UEFA EURO 2000, scoring against Denmark in the group stage, before retiring from international football that year with 97 caps and 16 goals.
- Spent four years gaining coaching qualifications before taking charge of Bordeaux in June 2007. His team finished second in his first season and won a championship and League Cup double in 2009. Guided Bordeaux into 2009.10 UEFA Champions League quarter-finals before succeeding Raymond Domenech as France coach that summer, leading his new team to UEFA EURO 2012.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**France v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	2	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1
Friendly	3	2	1	0	5	0

**France v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	2	0	7	3
World Cup	1	0	0	1	2	3
Friendly	11	6	3	2	18	10

**France v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	2	0	8	4
World Cup	2	0	0	2	1	5
Friendly	24	7	3	14	30	60

**France v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	2	0	0	5	3
World Cup	1	1	0	0	1	0
Friendly	19	13	1	5	40	24

**France v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	3	1	1	1	9	8
Friendly	20	9	5	6	29	31

**France v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	5	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	3	2

**France v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	8	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	5	5	0	0	15	4

**France v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	4	1	0	10	4
World Cup	1	1	0	0	3	1
Friendly	24	6	5	13	22	52

**France v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	5	4
World Cup	5	1	2	2	5	6
Friendly	27	5	7	15	38	69

**France v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	2	0	6	4
World Cup	4	2	1	1	6	4
Friendly	10	5	2	3	13	8

**France v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	1	2	3	7
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	1
Friendly	17	7	3	7	30	43

**France v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	3	0	4	2
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	2	0	0	5	1

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## GERMANY

**Draw pot:** 2

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1972, 1980, 1996; FIFA World Cup 1954, 1974, 1990

**Coach:** Joachim Löw

**Leading scorer:** all time – Gerd Müller (68); current – Miroslav Klose (63)

**Most appearances:** all time – Lothar Matthäus (150); current – Miroslav Klose (113)

**Association formed:** 1900

**Nickname:** Nationalmannschaft (National team)

Three-time victors and thrice runners-up, Germany are the UEFA European Championship's most successful side and an exciting squad approach UEFA EURO 2012 knowing the Nationalmannschaft, last winners in 1996, have never had to wait more than four editions for glory. Under Jürgen Klinsmann and now Joachim Löw, a fluid, attacking style has evolved since group stage exits in 2000 and 2004. Third in the last two FIFA World Cups and runners-up at UEFA EURO 2008, Löw's charges qualified with a 100% record this time around. Yet as Germany well know – nothing beats silverware.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group A

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Germany</b>	10	10	0	0	34	7	30
2	Turkey	10	5	2	3	13	11	17
3	Belgium	10	4	3	3	21	15	15
4	Austria	10	3	3	4	16	17	12
5	Azerbaijan	10	2	1	7	10	26	7
6	Kazakhstan	10	1	1	8	6	24	4

Date	Home	Result	Away	Germany scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Germany</b>	3-1	Belgium	(Özil, Schürrle, Gomez)	Dusseldorf
07.10.2011	Turkey	1-3	<b>Germany</b>	(Gomez, Müller, Schweinsteiger)	Istanbul
02.09.2011	<b>Germany</b>	6-2	Austria	(Klose, Özil 2, Podolski, Schürrle, Götze)	Gelsenkirchen
07.06.2011	Azerbaijan	1-3	<b>Germany</b>	(Özil, Gomez, Schürrle)	Baku
03.06.2011	Austria	1-2	<b>Germany</b>	(Gomez 2)	Vienna
26.03.2011	<b>Germany</b>	4-0	Kazakhstan	(Klose 2, Müller 2)	Kaiserslautern
12.10.2010	Kazakhstan	0-3	<b>Germany</b>	(Klose, Gomez, Podolski)	Astana
08.10.2010	<b>Germany</b>	3-0	Turkey	(Klose 2, Özil)	Berlin
07.09.2010	<b>Germany</b>	6-1	Azerbaijan	(Westermann, Podolski, Klose 2, Sadygov OG, Badstuber)	Cologne
03.09.2010	Belgium	0-1	<b>Germany</b>	(Klose)	Brussels

**Leading scorer:** Miroslav Klose (9)

**Ever-presents:** Manuel Neuer, Philipp Lahm, Thomas Müller (10)

Germany became the first side to qualify for the finals on 2 September, a 6-2 home victory over Austria – their eighth win in Group A – sending them through with two matches to spare.

Löw's side won those remaining games, too, joining a clique of only five teams to complete a EURO qualifying campaign with a 100% record; they finished 13 points clear of runners-up Turkey.

Germany scored three or more in eight of their ten qualifiers, with Miroslav Klose contributing nine of their 34 strikes as he closed within five of Gerd Müller's 68-goal national record.

"[Qualifying with a 100% record] means nothing: it is titles that are remembered," said Löw. "But it was a superior campaign and we've earned respect and gained confidence. Our successful start in Brussels and the convincing win against Turkey were key for us."



**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Runners-up	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Winners	England
<b>1992</b>	Runners-up	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Semi-finals*	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Group stage*	France
<b>1980</b>	Winners*	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Runners-up*	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Winners*	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify*	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not enter*	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not enter*	France

\*As West Germany

Winners in 1972 (final: 3-0 Soviet Union), 1980 (2-1 Belgium) and 1996 (2-1 Czech Republic, golden goal); and runners-up in 1976, 1992 and four years ago in Austria and Switzerland, Germany have won exactly half of their 38 finals matches – all are records.

UEFA EURO 2012 will be Germany's 11th successive final tournament – a UEFA European Championship record. They did not enter the first two editions and failed to qualify in 1968. Germany have advanced to the knockout stage in every one of their 17 FIFA World Cup appearances but in the UEFA European Championship they have suffered group stage exits three times, finishing third in the section in 1984 and 2004, and bottom in 2000.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P126 W81 D29 L16 F268 A91**

**Final tournament: P38 W19 D10 L9 F55 A39**

**Qualifying: P88 W62 D19 L7 F213 A52**

**Final tournament win**

**3-0:** West Germany v Soviet Union, 18.06.72, final

**0-3:** Russia v Germany, 16.06.96, group stage

**Final tournament loss**

**3-0:** Portugal v Germany, 20.06.00, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**0-13:** San Marino v Germany, 06.09.06

**Qualifying loss**

**0-3:** Germany v Czech Republic, 17.10.07

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**13:** Jürgen Klinsmann  
**13:** Thomas Hässler  
**12:** Andreas Brehme  
**11:** Michael Ballack  
**11:** Lothar Matthäus

### Final tournament goals

**5:** Jürgen Klinsmann  
**4:** Gerd Müller  
**4:** Rudi Völler  
**4:** Dieter Müller

### Overall appearances

**31:** Miroslav Klose  
**31:** Lothar Matthäus  
**28:** Philipp Lahm  
**26:** Jürgen Klinsmann  
**25:** Lukas Podolski  
**25:** Thomas Hässler

### Overall goals

**18:** Miroslav Klose  
**16:** Gerd Müller  
**15:** Jürgen Klinsmann  
**14:** Lukas Podolski  
**12:** Rudi Völler

## Joachim Löw

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 3 February 1960

**Nationality:** German

**Playing career:** SC Freiburg (three times), VfB Stuttgart, Eintracht Frankfurt, Karlsruher SC, FC Schaffhausen, FC Winterthur, FC Frauenfeld

**Coaching career:** FC Winterthur (youth), FC Frauenfeld, VfB Stuttgart, Fenerbahçe SK, Karlsruher SC, Adanaspor AŞ, FC Tirol Innsbruck, FK Austria Wien, Germany (assistant), Germany

- A native of the Black Forest in south-west Germany, Löw spent most of his playing days with local club Freiburg, where he had three spells, before winding down his career in Switzerland.
- Operated as a player-coach in Switzerland before becoming an assistant, and later head coach, back in Germany with Stuttgart. Succeeded Rolf Fringer in 1996 and led the Swabian side to a German Cup win in his first season and the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup final against Chelsea FC in his second.
- Left Stuttgart for Fenerbahçe but struggled to match his early success until he joined Tirol Innsbruck, guiding the team to the 2001/02 Austrian Bundesliga title.
- After nine months with Austria Wien he was summoned by old friend Jürgen Klinsmann to become his assistant with Germany. The pair led the Nationalmannschaft to a third-place finish on home soil at the 2006 FIFA World Cup.
- Replaced Klinsmann as head coach, taking the team to a runners-up spot at UEFA EURO 2008 and, subsequently, to the 2010 World Cup finals. There Germany again reached the semi-finals, ultimately claiming third place once more, and went on to win all ten UEFA EURO 2012 qualifiers.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Germany v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	3	3
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	3
Friendly	5	4	1	0	15	4

**Germany v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	1	0	5	1
World Cup	3	2	1	0	2	0
Friendly	12	8	3	1	25	10

**Germany v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	3	0	2	7	7
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	2

**Germany v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	3	5
World Cup	5	2	2	1	6	4
Friendly	8	5	2	1	15	7

**Germany v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	2
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	2
Friendly	24	14	4	6	51	32

**Germany v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	1	0	1	0
World Cup	1	0	1	0	1	1
Friendly	13	6	2	5	23	20

**Germany v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	3	1	1	1	8	9
Friendly	20	6	5	9	31	29

**Germany v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	2	1	2	5	3
World Cup	12	4	4	4	17	16
Friendly	4	2	1	1	5	4

**Germany v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	3	0	3	3
World Cup	4	4	0	0	11	3
Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	1

**Germany v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	3	2
World Cup	9	6	2	1	21	10
Friendly	26	8	7	11	40	40

**Germany v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	6	8
World Cup	5	2	3	0	7	5
Friendly	29	11	10	8	62	50

**Germany v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	4	2	2	0	7	2
Friendly	1	0	1	0	3	3

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## GREECE

**Draw pot:** 3

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 2004

**Coach:** Fernando Santos

**Leading scorer:** all time – Nikos Anastopoulos (29); current – Angelos Charisteas (25)

**Most appearances:** all time – Theodoros Zagorakis (120); current – Giorgos Karagounis (114)

**Association formed:** 1926

**Nickname:** Galanolefki (Sky blue and whites)

Fernando Santos's team were unbeaten in qualifying, owing much of their success to narrow wins. Those were a familiar feature during their stunning UEFA EURO 2004 success, and an emphasis on team spirit to compensate for the shortage of star names remains an overriding characteristic. Before Portugal, Greece had participated in two major tournaments; this marks their third consecutive UEFA European Championship appearance and they also contested the 2010 FIFA World Cup, exiting after the group stage. It was the same story at UEFA EURO 2008, where they failed to pick up a point.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group F

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Greece</b>	10	7	3	0	14	5	24
2	Croatia	10	7	1	2	18	7	22
3	Israel	10	5	1	4	13	11	16
4	Latvia	10	3	2	5	9	12	11
5	Georgia	10	2	4	4	7	9	10
6	Malta	10	0	1	9	4	21	1

Date	Home	Result	Away	Greece scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	Georgia	1-2	<b>Greece</b>	(Fotakis, Charisteas)	Tbilisi
07.10.2011	<b>Greece</b>	2-0	Croatia	(Samaras, Gekas)	Piraeus
06.09.2011	Latvia	1-1	<b>Greece</b>	(Papadopoulos)	Riga
02.09.2011	Israel	0-1	<b>Greece</b>	(Ninis)	Tel Aviv
04.06.2011	<b>Greece</b>	3-1	Malta	(Fetfatzidis 2, Papadopoulos)	Piraeus
26.03.2011	Malta	0-1	<b>Greece</b>	(Torossidis)	Ta' Qali
12.10.2010	<b>Greece</b>	2-1	Israel	(Salpingidis, Karagounis)	Piraeus
08.10.2010	<b>Greece</b>	1-0	Latvia	(Torossidis)	Piraeus
07.09.2010	Croatia	0-0	<b>Greece</b>		Zagreb
03.09.2010	<b>Greece</b>	1-1	Georgia	(Spyropoulos)	Piraeus

**Leading scorers:** Giannis Fetfatzidis, Kyriakos Papadopoulos, Vassilis Torossidis (2)

**Ever-presents:** Giorgos Karagounis, Dimitris Salpingidis (10)

The 2-1 success in Georgia that confirmed qualification was Greece's 100th UEFA European Championship qualifier.

Santos succeeded the long-serving Otto Rehhagel in August 2010 and did not taste defeat in his first 17 matches until a 3-1 home reverse against Romania in their most recent friendly on 15 November. That ended a run of ten victories and seven draws since the Portuguese coach had taken over, the longest unbeaten streak in Greece's history.

With the 14 qualifying goals shared among 11 players – including 19-year old Kyriakos Papadopoulos, who scored against Malta on his debut in June 2011 – Greece's success was a real team effort.

Captain Giorgos Karagounis was the only player to start all ten qualifiers, although striker Dimitris Salpingidis also appeared in every game; Santos used 32 players overall, giving a first cap to nine of them. "This is dedicated to all Greeks," said Santos. "We gave them a reason to smile in these tough times. Our team is constantly maturing and we set ourselves no limits. We always keep our sights high."

**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Winners	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Did not qualify	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Did not qualify	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not qualify	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Round of 16	France

Greece suffered a long wait to follow up on their first finals appearance in 1980 – where they collected one point from their three games – but it proved sensationally worthwhile as Rehhagel's men confounded all expectations to lift the trophy in Portugal in 2004.

The German coach masterminded an effective game plan, his side catching the hosts cold in the opening game with a 2-1 victory. France and the Czech Republic were beaten in the quarter and semi-finals respectively, both succumbing 1-0, before a second defeat of Portugal – thanks to Angelos Charisteas' typical header early in the second period – gave a fairy-tale ending one of football's true surprise stories.

All four of Greece's EURO finals victories – from 12 matches – came in 2004, and all by a single goal. While they lost their three group games in Austria and Switzerland in 2008, it could scarcely take the shine off a momentous achievement.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P112 W55 D22 L35 F161 A122**

**Final tournament: P12 W4 D2 L6 F9 A13**

**Qualifying: P100 W51 D20 L29 F152 A109**

**Final tournament win**

**1-2:** Portugal v Greece, 12.06.04, group stage

**1-0:** three times, most recently Portugal v Greece, 04.07.04, final

**Final tournament loss**

**1-3:** Greece v Czechoslovakia, 14.06.80, group stage

**0-2:** Greece v Sweden, 10.06.08, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**8-1:** Greece v Finland, 11.10.78

**Qualifying loss**

**7-1:** France v Greece, 01.10.58

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

- 9:** Antonis Nikopolidis
- 9:** Traianos Dellas
- 9:** Kostas Katsouranis
- 9:** Angelos Charisteas
- 8:** Giourkas Seitaridis
- 8:** Angelos Basinas
- 7:** Giorgos Karagounis

### Final tournament goals

- 4:** Angelos Charisteas
- 1:** Five players

### Overall appearances

- 36:** Theodoros Zagorakis
- 35:** Giorgos Karagounis
- 29:** Kostas Katsouranis
- 26:** Angelos Charisteas
- 25:** Antonis Nikopolidis
- 25:** Stelios Giannakopoulos

### Overall goals

- 11:** Angelos Charisteas
- 9:** Nikos Anastopoulos
- 7:** Nikos Machlas
- 6:** Fanis Gekas
- 6:** Dimitris Saravakos
- 6:** Panagiotis Tsalouchidis

## Fernando Santos

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 19 October 1954

**Nationality:** Portuguese

**Playing career:** SL Benfica, CS Marítimo, GD Estoril-Praia

**Coaching career:** GD Estoril-Praia, CF Estrela da Amadora, FC Porto, AEK Athens FC (twice), Panathinaikos FC, Sporting Clube de Portugal, SL Benfica, PAOK FC, Greece

- A left-back, Santos started his playing days at hometown club Benfica before two-year spells with Marítimo and Estoril-Praia. Retired in 1975.
- After a career change as a technician – Santos holds a degree in electrical and telecommunications engineering – he returned to football in 1987, taking over at former club Estoril-Praia. Stayed for seven years, guiding them to two promotions and the Portuguese top flight.
- Had four seasons with Estrela da Amadora prior to joining Porto in 1998. Led club to the league title in his first season, adding two domestic cups before leaving for AEK in 2001. Again made an instant impact, winning the 2002 Greek Cup.
- Joined Panathinaikos that summer but reign proved brief. Returned home to Sporting in 2003/04 before rejoining AEK in summer 2004, steadying the ship after a turbulent spell. Left in 2006 for Benfica, where he lasted a year, swiftly opting for yet another Greek sojourn with PAOK.
- Announced his departure in May 2010 and was confirmed as Otto Rehhagel's successor as Greece coach six weeks later, proving an immediate success as he led them to UEFA EURO 2012 as winners of qualifying Group F.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Greece v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	1	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	2	0	1	0

**Greece v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	0	1	4	1	9
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	0	0	3	0	10

**Greece v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	0	1	0	3
World Cup	10	3	3	4	13	18
Friendly	5	0	1	4	4	20

**Greece v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	2
World Cup	2	0	0	2	2	7
Friendly	11	2	2	7	7	20

**Greece v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	1	3	0	8
World Cup	2	0	1	1	2	4
Friendly	3	0	0	3	1	11

**Greece v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	1	0

**Greece v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	3	8
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	5	0	0	5	4	15

**Greece v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	0	4	2	8
World Cup	2	1	1	0	2	1
Friendly	4	0	4	0	5	5

**Greece v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	3	0	3	3
World Cup	4	0	0	4	3	11
Friendly	1	0	0	1	1	3

**Greece v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	3	5
World Cup	2	0	0	2	3	6
Friendly	4	0	1	3	4	8

**Greece v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	3	0	1	2	1	7
Friendly	7	1	3	3	5	10

**Greece v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	1	2
World Cup	4	1	2	1	2	2
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## ITALY

**Draw pot:** 2

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1968; FIFA World Cup 1934, 1938, 1982, 2006

**Coach:** Cesare Prandelli

**Leading scorer:** all time – Luigi Riva (35); current – Alessandro Del Piero (27)

**Most appearances:** all time – Fabio Cannavaro (136); current – Gianluigi Buffon (112)

**Association formed:** 1898

**Nickname:** Azzurri (Blues)

The Azzurri have endured a turbulent period since claiming a fourth FIFA World Cup in 2006, but Cesare Prandelli has brought stability and fresh impetus since his summer 2010 appointment. He took the reins after a forgettable defence of their global title in South Africa, finishing bottom of a group that also included Paraguay, Slovakia and New Zealand. Yet Italy, edged out on penalties by Spain in the UEFA EURO 2008 quarter-finals, head to Poland and Ukraine hopeful of a second continental crown after sauntering through qualifying unbeaten, conceding just two goals in ten outings.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group C

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Italy</b>	10	8	2	0	20	2	26
2	Estonia	10	5	1	4	15	14	16
3	Serbia	10	4	3	3	13	12	15
4	Slovenia	10	4	2	4	11	7	14
5	Northern Ireland	10	2	3	5	9	13	9
6	Faroe Islands	10	1	1	8	6	26	4

Date	Home	Result	Away	Italy scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Italy</b>	3-0	Northern Ireland	(Cassano 2, McAuley OG)	Pescara
07.10.2011	Serbia	1-1	<b>Italy</b>	(Marchisio)	Belgrade
06.09.2011	<b>Italy</b>	1-0	Slovenia	(Pazzini)	Florence
02.09.2011	Faroe Islands	0-1	<b>Italy</b>	(Cassano)	Torshavn
03.06.2011	<b>Italy</b>	3-0	Estonia	(Rossi, Cassano, Pazzini)	Modena
25.03.2011	Slovenia	0-1	<b>Italy</b>	(Motta)	Ljubljana
12.10.2010	<b>Italy</b>	3-0	Serbia	Match forfeited	Genoa
08.10.2010	Northern Ireland	0-0	<b>Italy</b>		Belfast
07.09.2010	<b>Italy</b>	5-0	Faroe Islands	(Gilardino, De Rossi, Cassano, Quagliarella, Pirlo)	Florence
03.09.2010	Estonia	1-2	<b>Italy</b>	(Cassano, Bonucci)	Tallinn

**Leading scorer:** Antonio Cassano (6)

**Ever-presents:** Giorgio Chiellini, Antonio Cassano (10)

Italy progressed with two games to spare and finished the campaign undefeated, their tally of 26 points from ten games a national record in a qualifying section for a major tournament. The Azzurri also finished with the best defensive record across the nine groups, conceding only two goals.

Discounting the six minutes played of the home game against Serbia before it was abandoned, Italy did not concede for 625 minutes between Estonia finding the net in their opening fixture in September 2010 to Serbia's goal 13 months later. Cesare Prandelli's team are still unbeaten in ten competitive games.

In the last qualifier against Northern Ireland, captain Gianluigi Buffon earned his 110th cap, taking him fourth on the all-time Italian list, while striker Antonio Cassano scored twice to make it six goals in the campaign.



"My side try to unite Italians, not divide them," Prandelli said. "We have ideas, feelings and altruism. I know we will be judged on our results but we have already done a lot. Now it is time to focus on the finals. I just hope the team will continue on this path."

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Quarter-finals	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Runners-up	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Semi-finals	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Fourth	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Winners	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not qualify	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not participate	France

Italy's sole UEFA European Championship success came in Rome in 1968 when, under coach Ferruccio Valcareggi and with Dino Zoff in goal, Yugoslavia were beaten 2-0 in a final replay after a 1-1 draw. They came close to adding a second European title in 2000, only Sylvain Wiltord's last-gasp equaliser for France denying them before David Trezeguet broke Italian hearts with an extra-time golden goal.

Semi-finalists in 1980 and 1988, Italy have reached every final tournament since 1992, when they were edged out by the Commonwealth of Independent States in qualifying. Their 2008 campaign was led by Roberto Donadoni and was ended by Spain, the eventual champions prevailing on penalties after a goalless quarter-final in Vienna.

Zoff, who lifted the FIFA World Cup as Italy captain in 1982 and then took the Azzurri to the final of UEFA EURO 2000 as coach, went 324 minutes without conceding a goal in the 1980 finals, a competition record. Alessandro Del Piero is one of five players to have appeared in four final tournaments – Lothar Matthäus, Peter Schmeichel, Lilian Thuram and Edwin van der Sar are the others – while only Spain (1964) and France (1984) have also lifted the trophy on home soil.

### Team EURO records

**Overall P125 W67 D40 L18 F195 A83**

**Final tournament: P27 W11 D12 L4 F27 A18**

**Qualifying: P98 W56 D28 L14 F168 A65**

#### Final tournament win

**2-0:** four times, most recently France v Italy, 17.06.08, group stage

#### Final tournament loss

**3-0:** Netherlands v Italy, 09.06.08, group stage

#### Qualifying win

**6-0:** Italy v Turkey, 02.12.62

#### Qualifying loss

**0-3:** Italy v Sweden, 15.10.83

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

- 13:** Paolo Maldini
- 13:** Alessandro Del Piero
- 11:** Gianluca Zambrotta
- 9:** Alessandro Nesta
- 9:** Stefano Fiore

### Final tournament goals

- 2:** Antonio Cassano
- 2:** Pierluigi Casiraghi
- 2:** Filippo Inzaghi
- 2:** Francesco Totti

### Overall appearances

- 39:** Gianluigi Buffon
- 35:** Fabio Cannavaro
- 33:** Paolo Maldini
- 32:** Alessandro Del Piero
- 28:** Christian Panucci
- 28:** Andrea Pirlo

### Top scorers

#### Overall goals

- 14:** Filippo Inzaghi
- 10:** Luigi Riva
- 9:** Alessandro Del Piero
- 8:** Antonio Cassano
- 7:** Gianluca Vialli
- 7:** Gianfranco Zola

## Cesare Prandelli

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 19 August 1957

**Nationality:** Italian

**Playing career:** US Cremonese, Atalanta BC, Juventus

**Coaching career:** Atalanta BC, US Lecce, Hellas-Verona FC, AC Venezia, Parma FC, AS Roma, ACF Fiorentina, Italy

- Made his name as a promising coach in the prestigious youth system at Atalanta, the club where he finished his playing career in 1990 after three league titles with Juventus (1981, 1982, 1984). His six seasons in Turin also brought the 1983 Coppa Italia, the 1984 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup and the European Champion Clubs' Cup a year later.
- Prandelli became Lecce head coach in 1997 but resigned the following January. He then earned promotion to the top flight with both Verona and Venezia before further boosting his burgeoning reputation after moving to Parma in 2002.
- In 2004 Prandelli took over at Roma but soon left as wife Manuele – who sadly died in November 2007 – fell seriously ill. He moved to Fiorentina in 2005, leading them to fourth place in his first season although they were subsequently stripped of their achievement for their part in Italy's sporting fraud trial.
- Prandelli guided the club to the 2007/08 UEFA Cup semi-finals and in 2008 was awarded the Panchina d'Oro for the best coach in Serie A. Took the Viola into the UEFA Champions League group stage in 2008.09 and the round of 16 a year later before succeeding Marcello Lippi as Italy coach, signing a four-year deal and guiding the Azzurri to UEFA EURO 2012 unbeaten.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Italy v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	1	1	2	3
World Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Friendly	3	1	1	1	4	2

**Italy v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	0	0
World Cup	7	3	3	1	12	3
Friendly	5	2	1	2	7	6

**Italy v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	1	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	2	3

**Italy v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	2	0	0	4	0
World Cup	4	3	0	1	7	4
Friendly	18	13	2	3	40	17

**Italy v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	6	4
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	3
Friendly	4	4	0	0	7	1

**Italy v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	2	0	0	5	1
World Cup	4	1	2	1	4	4
Friendly	5	4	0	1	9	4

**Italy v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	2	5
World Cup	5	2	2	1	6	5
Friendly	27	15	7	5	69	38

**Italy v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	2	0	1	0
World Cup	3	2	1	0	4	2
Friendly	23	7	8	8	33	27

**Italy v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	3	2	1	0	7	1
Friendly	7	3	3	1	10	5

**Italy v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	8	3	2	3	8	9
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	3
Friendly	12	6	4	2	16	12

**Italy v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	2	6
World Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Friendly	12	6	6	0	19	10

**Italy v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	4	0	0	9	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	2	0

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## NETHERLANDS

**Draw pot:** 1

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1988

**Coach:** Bert van Marwijk

**Leading scorer:** all time – Patrick Kluivert (40); current – Ruud van Nistelrooy (35)

**Most appearances:** all time – Edwin van der Sar (130); current – Rafael van der Vaart (93)

**Association formed:** 1889

**Nickname:** Oranje

Still with only the 1988 UEFA European Championship to show for over four decades near the summit of world football, there are signs that the Oranje are ready for more silverware. For a while it looked like coming at UEFA EURO 2008, before Russia sent the Netherlands home in the quarter-finals. Out went Marco van Basten and his brand of attacking football; in came Bert van Marwijk's more pragmatic style, driving them beyond expectations to the 2010 FIFA World Cup final. Having stormed through qualifying, only dropping points in their final game when already through, anticipation will be higher in Poland and Ukraine.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group E

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Netherlands</b>	10	9	0	1	37	8	27
2	Sweden	10	8	0	2	31	11	24
3	Hungary	10	6	1	3	22	14	19
4	Finland	10	3	1	6	16	16	10
5	Moldova	10	3	0	7	12	16	9
6	San Marino	10	0	0	10	0	53	0

Date	Home	Result	Away	Netherlands scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	Sweden	3-2	<b>Netherlands</b>	(Huntelaar, Kuyt)	Solna
07.10.2011	<b>Netherlands</b>	1-0	Moldova	(Huntelaar)	Rotterdam
06.09.2011	Finland	0-2	<b>Netherlands</b>	(Strootman, De Jong)	Helsinki
02.09.2011	<b>Netherlands</b>	11-0	San Marino	(Van Persie 4, Sneijder 2, Heitinga, Kuyt, Huntelaar 2, Wijnaldum)	Eindhoven
29.03.2011	<b>Netherlands</b>	5-3	Hungary	(Van Persie, Sneijder, Van Nistelrooy, Kuyt 2)	Amsterdam
25.03.2011	Hungary	0-4	<b>Netherlands</b>	(Van der Vaart, Afellay, Kuyt, Van Persie)	Budapest
12.10.2010	<b>Netherlands</b>	4-1	Sweden	(Huntelaar 2, Afellay 2)	Amsterdam
08.10.2010	Moldova	0-1	<b>Netherlands</b>	(Huntelaar)	Chisinau
07.09.2010	<b>Netherlands</b>	2-1	Finland	(Huntelaar 2)	Rotterdam
03.09.2010	San Marino	0-5	<b>Netherlands</b>	(Kuyt, Huntelaar 3, Van Nistelrooy)	Serravalle

**Leading scorer:** Klaas-Jan Huntelaar (12)

**Ever-presents:** Gregory van der Wiel, Joris Mathijsen (10)

The Netherlands qualified with a game to spare after winning their opening nine matches before blotting their copybook with a 3-2 final-day defeat by nearest challengers Sweden.

Top scorers in qualifying, the Netherlands recorded their biggest ever win on 2 September when they beat San Marino 11-0 in Eindhoven, with Robin van Persie contributing four of them.

Klaas-Jan Huntelaar was the leading scorer en route to Poland and Ukraine with 12 goals in eight appearances (he registered in seven of them), finishing three clear of Miroslav Klose, the second highest.

"We have won nine in a row and advanced as group winners," Van Marwijk said after sealing progress with a 1-0 victory over Moldova. "Still, the feeling in the dressing room was one of disappointment. There was champagne, but no one drank it. I think that is a positive thing."

**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Quarter-finals	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Semi-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Semi-finals	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	England
<b>1992</b>	Semi-finals	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Winners	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Third	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Round of 16	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not participate	France

Three times FIFA World Cup runners-up, the Netherlands went one better in their only UEFA European Championship final appearance in 1988. Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten, with that volley, struck against a USSR side Rinus Michels' men had lost to in their tournament opener.

The Oranje have been ever-present in the final tournament ever since, reaching the semi-finals in 1992, 2000 and 2004. A side captained by Johan Cruyff finished third on their debut in 1976.

The Netherlands were eliminated in extra time by Czechoslovakia in 1976, while in 1992 and 2000 they lasted the additional 30 minutes before succumbing to penalties. Those disappointments came amid a run of five shoot-out exits in six major tournaments, the EURO '96 quarter-final defeat included.

**Matches played**

**Overall: P131 W84 D22 L25 F288 A103**

**Final tournament: P32 W17 D8 L7 F55 A32**

**Qualifying: P99 W67 D14 L18 F233 A71**

**Team EURO records**

**Final tournament win**

**6-1:** Netherlands v Yugoslavia, 25.06.00, quarter-finals

**Final tournament loss**

**1-4:** Netherlands v England, 18.06.96, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**11-0:** Netherlands v San Marino, 02.09.11

**Qualifying loss**

**4-1:** Poland v Netherlands, 10.09.75

**Player EURO records****Final tournament appearances**

- 16:** Edwin van der Sar
- 13:** Phillip Cocu
- 13:** Dennis Bergkamp
- 12:** Edgar Davids
- 11:** Giovanni van Bronckhorst

**Final tournament goals**

- 6:** Patrick Kluivert
- 6:** Ruud van Nistelrooy
- 5:** Marco van Basten
- 4:** Dennis Bergkamp

**Overall appearances**

- 37:** Edwin van der Sar
- 31:** Frank de Boer
- 30:** Ruud Gullit
- 29:** Clarence Seedorf
- 29:** Rafael van der Vaart

**Overall goals**

- 16:** Marco van Basten
- 15:** Ruud van Nistelrooy
- 14:** Klaas-Jan Huntelaar
- 13:** Patrick Kluivert
- 12:** Johan Cruyff
- 11:** Robin van Persie

**Bert van Marwijk****Coach profile**

**Date of birth:** 19 May 1952

**Nationality:** Dutch

**Playing career:** Go Ahead Eagles, AZ Alkmaar, MVV Maastricht, Fortuna Sittard, FC Assent

**Coaching career:** FC Herderen, RKVCL Limmel, SV Meerssen, Fortuna Sittard, Feyenoord (twice), Borussia Dortmund, Netherlands

- Capped once by the Netherlands in 1975, Van Marwijk was a dynamic left-winger who racked up 393 appearances in the Dutch Eredivisie with four different clubs. His only trophy success was the 1978 Dutch Cup with AZ.
- Served a long coaching apprenticeship with several minor clubs before replacing Pim Verbeek at top-flight Fortuna Sittard in 1998. Steered Limburg club to Dutch Cup final in first full season before joining Feyenoord in 2000.
- Masterminded Feyenoord's UEFA Cup triumph in 2001/02, sealed with a 3-2 victory against Borussia Dortmund on home turf at De Kuip in the one-off final.
- Joined Dortmund in 2004 but finished seventh in the Bundesliga in both of his first two seasons and dismissed midway through his third. Returned to Feyenoord and led Rotterdam club to 2008 Dutch Cup win in their centenary year.
- Appointed Netherlands coach in succession to Marco van Basten in July 2008. Led Oranje through perfect 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign, winning all eight matches, and subsequently guided them all the way to the final, falling at the last to Spain. The Dutch bounced back by winning their first nine UEFA EURO 2012 qualifiers to book their place in Poland and Ukraine.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Netherlands v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Friendly	1	1	0	0	3	0

**Netherlands v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	6	1	2	3	6	10
World Cup	2	2	0	0	4	0
Friendly	1	0	1	0	1	1

**Netherlands v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	9	5
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	0
Friendly	24	9	8	7	47	34

**Netherlands v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	4	5
World Cup	3	1	2	0	4	2
Friendly	13	2	7	4	11	14

**Netherlands v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	1	0	7	3
World Cup	2	1	0	1	1	2
Friendly	17	7	3	7	43	30

**Netherlands v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	8	6
World Cup	5	0	3	2	5	7
Friendly	29	8	10	11	50	62

**Netherlands v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	4	1	0	9	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	3	0	0	10	0

**Netherlands v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	3	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1
Friendly	12	0	6	6	10	19

**Netherlands v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	0	2	2	3
World Cup	3	0	1	2	2	5
Friendly	4	0	2	2	1	4

**Netherlands v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	4	0	0	8	3
World Cup	7	2	3	2	13	10
Friendly	8	3	0	5	13	13

**Netherlands v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	1	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	5	2

**Netherlands v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	0	0
World Cup	1	0	1	0	0	0
Friendly	19	9	3	7	38	43

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## POLAND

**Draw pot:** 1

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Franciszek Smuda

**Leading scorer:** all time – Włodzimierz Lubański (48); current – Euzebiusz Smolarek (20)

**Most appearances:** all time – Michał Żewłakow (102); current – Michał Żewłakow (102)

**Association formed:** 1919

**Nickname:** Biało-czerwoni (White and reds)

FIFA World Cup semi-finalists in 1974 and 1982, Poland had to wait until 2008 before making their UEFA European Championship debut. Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker's side exited after the group stage, as they had at the 2002 and 2006 World Cups, and their bid to reach South Africa two years ago ended when they finished fifth in their six-team qualifying group. It is all a far cry from their heyday of the 1970s and early 1980s. Yet with a squad including many players not even born then and some positive friendly results, home comforts could bring the best of Franciszek Smuda's co-hosts.

### Friendly results

Date	Home	Result	Away	Ukraine scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	<b>Poland</b>	2-1	Hungary	(Brożek, Vanczák OG)	Poznan
11.11.2011	<b>Poland</b>	0-2	Italy		Wroclaw
11.10.2011	<b>Poland</b>	2-0	Belarus	(Błaszczykowski, Lewandowski)	Wiesbaden
07.10.2011	South Korea	2-2	<b>Poland</b>	(Lewandowski, Błaszczykowski)	Seoul
06.09.2011	<b>Poland</b>	2-2	Germany	(Lewandowski, Błaszczykowski)	Gdansk
02.09.2011	<b>Poland</b>	1-1	Mexico	(Brożek)	Warsaw
10.08.2011	<b>Poland</b>	1-0	Georgia	(Błaszczykowski)	Lubin
09.06.2011	<b>Poland</b>	0-1	France		Warsaw
05.06.2011	<b>Poland</b>	2-1	Argentina	(Mierzejewski, Brożek)	Warsaw
29.03.2011	Greece	0-0	<b>Poland</b>		Athens
25.03.2011	Lithuania	2-0	<b>Poland</b>		Kaunas
09.02.2011	<b>Poland</b>	1-0	Norway	(Lewandowski)	Portugal
06.02.2011	Moldova	0-1	<b>Poland</b>	(Plizga)	Portugal
10.12.2010	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2-2	<b>Poland</b>	(Brożek 2)	Antalya
17.11.2010	<b>Poland</b>	3-1	Ivory Coast	(Lewandowski 2, Obraniak)	Poznan
17.10.2010	Ecuador	2-2	<b>Poland</b>	(Smolarek, Obraniak)	Montreal
09.10.2010	USA	2-2	<b>Poland</b>	(Matuszczyk, Błaszczykowski)	Chicago
07.09.2010	<b>Poland</b>	1-2	Australia	(Lewandowski)	Krakow
04.09.2010	<b>Poland</b>	1-1	Ukraine	(Jeleń)	Lodz
11.08.2010	<b>Poland</b>	0-3	Cameroon		Szczecin

Over the past 18 months Poland's friendly results have included wins against Ivory Coast, Norway and Argentina. They have also held Germany and Greece to draws, but have struggled for consistency, as witnessed by their 2-0 defeat by Lithuania.

Nine of the XI that started November's 2-0 loss to Italy were 28 or younger, including Wojciech Szczęśny (21), Robert Lewandowski (23) and Jakub Błaszczykowski, their captain at 25.

Former skipper Michał Żewłakow, now 35, retired from international football on 29 March after winning his 102nd cap – a Poland record – in the goalless draw with Greece.

"We have made mistakes, but that happens in friendlies – we will only be 100% ready in May 2012," said Smuda.

"We've met big teams and in most cases we didn't feel inferior. The players gained belief that they can perform during the finals. We are heading in the right direction."



**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Did not qualify	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Did not qualify	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Did not qualify	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not qualify	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Round of 16	France

Poland, twice third at FIFA World Cups and 1972 Olympic gold medallists, had to wait until 2008 before finally reaching the UEFA European Championship at the 13th time of asking, Leo Beenhakker's side topped a qualifying group featuring Portugal, Serbia, Finland and Belgium.

The Biało-czerwoni made a limited impression in Austria and Switzerland, managing a goal – scored by Brazilian-born Roger Guerreiro – and a point as they finished bottom of their section.

The closest Poland had previously come to qualifying was in 1976 and 1980. In 1976 they missed out on goal difference to a Netherlands side that barred their path again four years later when they recovered from 2-0 down to beat East Germany and pip Poland by a point.

**Matches played**

**Overall: P93 W38 D25 L30 F132 A104**  
**Final tournament: P3 W0 D1 L2 F1 A4**  
**Qualifying: P90 W38 D24 L28 F131 A100**

**Team EURO records**

**Final tournament win**

none

**Final tournament loss**

**2-0:** Germany v Poland, 08.06.08, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**5-0:** three times, most recently Poland v Azerbaijan, 24.03.07

**Qualifying loss**

**1-4:** twice, most recently Slovakia v Poland, 11.10.95

**0-3:** three times, most recently Sweden v Poland, 11.06.03

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**3:** Artur Boruc  
**3:** Dariusz Dudka  
**3:** Marcin Wasilewski  
**3:** Michał Żewłakow  
**3:** Euzebiusz Smolarek  
**3:** Jacek Krzynówek  
**3:** Wojciech Łobodziński  
**3:** Mariusz Lewandowski  
**3:** Roger Guerreiro  
**3:** Marek Saganowski

### Final tournament goals

**1:** Roger Guerreiro

### Overall appearances

**28:** Jacek Bąk  
**20:** Mariusz Lewandowski  
**19:** Maciej Żurawski  
**19:** Jacek Krzynówek  
**18:** Michał Żewłakow  
**16:** Grzegorz Lato

### Overall goals

**9:** Euzebiusz Smolarek  
**8:** Andrzej Juskowiak  
**6:** Włodzimierz Lubański

## Franciszek Smuda

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 22 June 1948

**Nationality:** Polish

**Playing career:** Unia Racibórz, MKS Odra Wodzisław Śląski, KS Ruch Chorzów, KS Stal Mielec, GKS Piast Gliwice, Wisła Garfield, Hartford Bicentennials, Legia Warszawa, Los Angeles Aztecs, Oakland Stompers, San Jose Earthquakes, SpVgg Fürth, VfR Coburg

**Coaching career:** VfR Coburg, ASV Forth, FC Herzogenaurach, Altay GK, Konyaspor, KS Stal Mielec, RTS Widzew Łódź (three times), Wisła Kraków (twice), Legia Warszawa, Piotrcovia Piotrków Trybunalski, AC Omonia, MKS Odra Wodzisław Śląski, Zagłębie Lubin (twice), KKS Lech Poznań, Poland

- Spent a significant part of his playing career as a defender in the North American Soccer League during the 1970s. Retired after a spell in Germany, where he also started coaching.
- Moved on to Turkey, but relegated from top flight with Konyaspor in 1993 and returned home to Poland – after a 16-year absence – to coach former club Stal Mielec.
- Led Widzew Łódź to undefeated title success in 1996, defending the crown the following season and playing in the UEFA Champions League. Also a title winner with Wisła Kraków in 1999.
- Flitted between teams over next few years before establishing himself once again at Lech Poznań and leading the club through the UEFA Cup group stage, to victory in the Polish Cup and third place in the league in 2008/09.
- Left for Zagłębie Lubin, succeeding Leo Beenhakker as Poland coach after the national team's failure to qualify for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Coached Zagłębie in tandem with the UEFA EURO 2012 co-hosts until the end of December 2009.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Poland v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	0	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	1	1	2	3	6

**Poland v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	2
World Cup	2	2	0	0	7	2
Friendly	11	7	2	2	20	7

**Poland v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	3
Friendly	2	1	0	1	3	3

**Poland v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	0	0
World Cup	7	1	3	3	3	12
Friendly	5	2	1	2	6	7

**Poland v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	3	3	0	0	6	2
Friendly	16	4	1	11	23	35

**Poland v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	1	2	5	6
World Cup	4	2	1	1	4	5
Friendly	1	0	0	1	0	2

**Poland v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	2	2	2	6
World Cup	11	1	3	7	7	19
Friendly	2	0	1	1	1	2

**Poland v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	3	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	21	10	6	5	37	22

**Poland v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	2	2	3	7
World Cup	1	1	0	0	3	2
Friendly	11	2	3	6	10	18

**Poland v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	5	5

**Poland v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	1	2	1	5
World Cup	3	0	1	2	0	2
Friendly	12	1	3	8	10	25

**Poland v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	0	4	0	8
World Cup	3	1	0	2	2	4
Friendly	19	7	4	8	35	44

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## PORTUGAL

**Draw pot:** 3

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Paulo Bento

**Leading scorer:** all time – Pauleta (47); current – Cristiano Ronaldo (32)

**Most appearances:** all time – Luís Figo (127); current – Cristiano Ronaldo (87)

**Association formed:** 1914

**Nickname:** Selecção das Quinas (Team of Shields)

Since reaching the UEFA EURO 2004 final Portugal have become fixtures in the knockout stages of major tournaments. Semi-finalists at the 2006 FIFA World Cup, quarter-finalists at UEFA EURO 2008, they were unlucky to encounter eventual winners Spain in the last 16 in South Africa two summers ago. Yet a fifth successive UEFA European Championship final tournament was in jeopardy when Paulo Bento replaced Carlos Queiroz two games – and just one point – into UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying. He made an immediate impact, culminating in a resounding play-off triumph against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### UEFA EURO 2012 play-offs

Date	Home	Result	Away	Portugal scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	<b>Portugal</b>	6-2	Bosnia and Herzegovina	(Ronaldo 2, Nani, Postiga 2, Veloso)	Lisbon
11.11.2011	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0-0	<b>Portugal</b>		Zenica

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group H

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	Denmark	8	6	1	1	15	6	19
2	<b>Portugal</b>	8	5	1	2	21	12	16
3	Norway	8	5	1	2	10	7	16
4	Iceland	8	1	1	6	6	14	4
5	Cyprus	8	0	2	6	7	20	2

Date	Home	Result	Away	Portugal scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	Denmark	2-1	<b>Portugal</b>	(Ronaldo)	Copenhagen
07.10.2011	<b>Portugal</b>	5-3	Iceland	(Nani 2, Postiga, Moutinho, Eliseu)	Porto
02.09.2011	Cyprus	0-4	<b>Portugal</b>	(Ronaldo 2, Almeida, Danny)	Nicosia
04.06.2011	<b>Portugal</b>	1-0	Norway	(Postiga)	Lisbon
12.10.2010	Iceland	1-3	<b>Portugal</b>	(Ronaldo, Meireles, Postiga)	Reykjavik
08.10.2010	<b>Portugal</b>	3-1	Denmark	(Nani 2, Ronaldo)	Porto
07.09.2010	Norway	1-0	<b>Portugal</b>		Oslo
03.09.2010	<b>Portugal</b>	4-4	Cyprus	(Almeida, Meireles, Danny, Fernandes)	Guimaraes

**Leading scorer:** Cristiano Ronaldo (7)

**Ever-presents:** Raul Meireles, Nani (10)

Bento oversaw five wins but defeat in Denmark left them second in Group H. They beat Bosnia and Herzegovina 6-2 – the biggest winning margin in the play-offs – despite a goalless opener in Zenica. Cristiano Ronaldo took his international tally to 32 goals with two in the second leg, going level with Luís Figo in third on Portugal's top scorer list. Only Pauleta (47) and Eusébio (41) lie ahead.

Ronaldo, still just 26, became Portugal's fifth most-capped player during qualifying and is now on 87 appearances. "Credit goes to the team – all the players – who had the ability to adapt to a new philosophy and new ideas," Bento said after Portugal confirmed their place in Poland and Ukraine.

**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Quarter-finals	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Runners-up	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Semi-finals	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Did not qualify	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Semi-finals	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Did not qualify	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Round of 16	France

Portugal made their UEFA European Championship final tournament debut in 1984, and came within six minutes of the Paris showpiece. Leading hosts France 2-1 deep into extra time, Jean-François Domergue levelled before Michel Platini clipped in a 119th-minute winner.

The Selecção next qualified for the tournament in 1996 and are one of seven nations to take part then and reach every finals since, along with Spain, Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands and Czech Republic.

Portugal have contested five final tournaments and have never failed to advance beyond the group stage, losing semi-finals to eventual winners France in 1984 and 2000. They went one better on home soil at UEFA EURO 2004 before losing 1-0 to Greece, 100-1 outsiders at the start of the tournament, in Lisbon.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P122 W66 D28 L28 F217 A118**

**Final tournament: P24 W12 D4 L8 F34 A23**

**Qualifying: P98 W54 D24 L20 F183 A95**

**Qualifying win:**

**8-0:** Portugal v Liechtenstein, 09.06.99

**8-0:** Portugal v Liechtenstein, 18.12.94

**Qualifying loss:**

**5-0:** USSR v Portugal, 27.04.83,

**5-0:** Czechoslovakia v Portugal, 30.04.75

**Final tournament win**

**3-0:** Portugal v Germany, 20.06.00, group stage

**0-3:** Croatia v Portugal, 19.06.96, group stage

**Biggest loss**

**2-0:** Switzerland v Portugal, 15.06.08, group stage

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**14:** Luís Figo  
**14:** Nuno Gomes  
**12:** Fernando Couto  
**12:** Rui Costa  
**10:** Costinha  
**10:** Ricardo

### Final tournament goals

**6:** Nuno Gomes  
**3:** Sérgio Conceição  
**3:** Cristiano Ronaldo

### Overall appearances

**34:** Luís Figo  
**33:** Vítor Baía  
**32:** Rui Costa  
**30:** Cristiano Ronaldo  
**29:** Fernando Couto  
**28:** Nuno Gomes  
**25:** João Pinto

### Overall goals

**18:** Cristiano Ronaldo  
**14:** João Pinto  
**12:** Rui Costa  
**9:** Nuno Gomes  
**8:** Hélder Postiga  
**8:** Luís Figo  
**8:** Nené

## Paulo Bento

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 20 June 1969

**Nationality:** Portuguese

**Playing career:** CF Estrela da Amadora, Vitória SC, SL Benfica, Real Oviedo CF, Sporting Clube de Portugal

**Coaching career:** Sporting Clube de Portugal, Portugal

- Capped 35 times, the former midfielder who made an instant impact at Sporting in October 2005, Paulo Bento has enjoyed success throughout his footballing life. He began his playing career at Estrela da Amadora, helping them to the Portuguese Cup in 1989/90. He moved on to Vitória SC before a switch to Benfica brought another cup triumph in 1995/96, prior to four seasons in Spain with Real Oviedo.
- Returned to Sporting for 2000/01, helping them win the Portuguese double the following season. Retired from playing in summer 2004 and quickly accepted a role in the Sporting coaching set-up where he guided the youth team to the national title in 2004/05.
- In October 2005, promoted to first-team coach after the sacking of José Peseiro and quickly improved the side's fortunes, leading Sporting on a run of ten straight victories between January and April 2006.
- Started 2008/09 with a Super Cup win against FC Porto but failed to add to that and left the club midway through the following campaign after a run of poor results. In September 2010 was appointed Carlos Queiroz's successor as Portugal coach after the team had taken only one point from their first two UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying games and oversaw a revival that culminated in a play-off win against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Portugal v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	3	2
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Portugal v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	0	1	3	2
World Cup	3	2	1	0	5	2
Friendly	4	2	2	0	4	1

**Portugal v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	3	1	1	11	4
World Cup	4	2	1	1	8	6
Friendly	2	2	0	0	5	2

**Portugal v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	6	5
World Cup	4	1	1	2	5	4
Friendly	1	1	0	0	2	0

**Portugal v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	1	3	0	6	5
World Cup	4	2	1	1	8	6
Friendly	2	2	0	0	5	2

**Portugal v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	3	1
World Cup	2	0	2	0	2	2
Friendly	8	5	0	3	10	5

**Portugal v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	0	2	3	5
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	1
Friendly	19	5	1	13	24	40

**Portugal v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	2	0
World Cup	2	1	1	0	7	1
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Portugal v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	5	3
World Cup	5	1	2	2	4	6
Friendly	8	1	2	5	7	15

**Portugal v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	1	0	2	1
World Cup	4	1	1	2	5	4
Friendly	30	8	11	11	42	53

**Portugal v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	0	2	0	4
World Cup	4	1	0	3	4	7
Friendly	18	3	2	13	17	40

**Portugal v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	2
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

**Draw pot:** 4

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Giovanni Trapattoni

**Leading scorer:** all time – Robbie Keane (53); current – Robbie Keane (53)

**Most appearances:** all time – Shay Given (120); current – Shay Given (120)

**Association formed:** 1921

**Nickname:** The Boys in Green

When Giovanni Trapattoni took the reins in summer 2008, he assumed control of a side that had not graced a UEFA European Championship in two decades. Their UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying campaign had brought just four wins in 12 outings – including two against San Marino – as Ireland finished well adrift of the Czech Republic and Germany; 'Trap' made an instant impression. He took Ireland to the brink of the 2010 FIFA World Cup before William Gallas's extra-time goal sent France through at their expense. After finishing behind Russia, a 4-0 first-leg victory over Estonia ensured there was no play-off woe this time.

### UEFA EURO 2012 play-offs

Date	Home	Result	Away	Ireland scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	1-1	Estonia	(Ward)	Dublin
11.11.2011	Estonia	0-4	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	(Andrews, Walters, Keane 2)	Tallinn

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group B

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	Russia	10	7	2	1	17	4	23
2	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	10	6	3	1	15	7	21
3	Armenia	10	5	2	3	22	10	17
4	Slovakia	10	4	3	3	7	10	15
5	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	10	2	2	6	8	14	8
6	Andorra	10	0	0	10	1	25	0

Date	Home	Result	Away	Ireland scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	2-1	Armenia	(V. Aleksanyan OG, Dunne)	Dublin
07.10.2011	Andorra	0-2	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	(Doyle, McGeady)	Andorra La Vella
06.09.2011	Russia	0-0	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>		Moscow
02.09.2011	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	0-0	Slovakia		Dublin
04.06.2011	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0-2	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	(Keane 2)	Skopje
26.03.2011	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	2-1	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	(McGeady, Keane)	Dublin
12.10.2010	Slovakia	1-1	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	(St Ledger)	Zilina
08.10.2010	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	2-3	Russia	(Keane, Long)	Dublin
07.09.2010	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	3-1	Andorra	(Kilbane, Doyle, Keane)	Dublin
03.09.2010	Armenia	0-1	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	(Fahey)	Yerevan

**Leading scorer:** Robbie Keane (7)

**Ever-presents:** Glenn Whelan, Aiden McGeady (12)



Ireland suffered only one defeat – a 3-2 loss to eventual section winners Russia in their third qualifier – and performed consistently throughout, also picking up some creditable friendly results including a 2-0 win against Trapattoni's native Italy in June. Shay Given and Robbie Keane both enjoyed campaigns to remember, the former – Ireland's most-capped player – making his 120th international appearance in the play-off second leg against Estonia while Keane's double in the Tallinn opener took him on to 53 goals for his country. The striker had brought up his half-century in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with another two goals on 4 June.

Trapattoni's side also established a new national record for consecutive clean sheets; between the 3-2 friendly defeat at home by Uruguay in March and the 2-1 win at home to Armenia in the final group game, Ireland went eight matches without conceding and are unbeaten in 11 matches. "Ireland picked [this coaching team] to get results and now we've given them the perfect answer – and the players have too," said Trapattoni, who has suffered just two defeats since taking over in May 2008.

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Did not qualify	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Did not qualify	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Play-offs	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Play-offs	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Second round	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not qualify	France

Ireland qualified for their only previous UEFA European Championship in 1988, opening their campaign with a famous 1-0 win against England thanks to Ray Houghton's early header. Jack Charlton's side were only edged out for a semi-final place in West Germany by eventual champions the Netherlands.

Ireland subsequently narrowly missed out on the final tournament in 1992, 1996 and 2000, losing in play-offs to the Netherlands and Turkey in those last two attempts. Recent years have proved leaner, however, Ireland finishing in third place in their qualifying groups for both 2004 and 2008 – ending the latter campaign 12 points behind section winners the Czech Republic and ten adrift of Germany.

### Team EURO records

#### Matches played

**Overall: P112 W45 D33 L34 F163 A130**

**Final tournament: P3 W1 D1 L1 F2 A2**

**Qualifying: P109 W44 D32 L33 F161 A128**

#### Final tournament win

**1-0:** England v Republic of Ireland, 12.06.88, group stage

#### Final tournament loss

**0-1:** Republic of Ireland v Netherlands, 18.06.88, group stage

#### Qualifying win

**8-0:** Republic of Ireland v Malta, 16.11.83

#### Qualifying loss

**6-0:** Austria v Republic of Ireland, 10.10.71

**Player EURO records**

**Final tournament appearances**

**3:** 11 players

**Final tournament goals**

**1:** Ray Houghton

**1:** Ronnie Whelan

**Overall appearances**

**35:** Robbie Keane

**32:** Kevin Kilbane

**31:** Shay Given

**29:** Damien Duff

**27:** Liam Brady

**Overall goals**

**18:** Robbie Keane

**10:** Frank Stapleton

**9:** Don Givens

**8:** John Aldridge

**8:** Niall Quinn

**Giovanni Trapattoni**

**Coach profile**

**Date of birth:** 17 March 1939

**Nationality:** Italian

**Playing career:** AC Milan, AS Varese

**Coaching career:** AC Milan, Juventus (twice), FC Internazionale Milano, FC Bayern München (twice), Cagliari Calcio, ACF Fiorentina, Italy, SL Benfica, VfB Stuttgart, FC Salzburg, Republic of Ireland

- Capped 17 times by Italy, Trapattoni spent the majority of his club career as a defender and ball-winning midfielder with Milan, winning seven major trophies including two European Champion Clubs' Cups.
- Started coaching with Milan but established himself as one of Italy's greatest ever 'allenatori' during ten-year spell with Juventus, which yielded victories in all three major European club competitions – an unprecedented achievement – and six Serie A titles.
- Decamped to Inter in 1986 and led the Nerazzurri to long-awaited Scudetto triumph in 1988/89 as well as the UEFA Cup, a trophy he won again during a second spell at Juve from 1991 to 1994.
- Moved abroad and won national titles with Bayern, Benfica and Salzburg, becoming the first coach since Ernst Happel to win league championships in four different countries. No success, however, with the Italian national team after unexpected early exits at 2002 FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2004.
- Returned to international management with Ireland in 2008; led the team undefeated through 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifying group – including two draws against Italy – before suffering play-off defeat by France. Reached the play-offs again for UEFA EURO 2012 but this time there was a happy ending as Estonia were defeated 5-1 as Ireland qualified for the first time since 1988.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Republic of Ireland v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	0	4	0	4	4

**Republic of Ireland v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	1	3	1	4	5
World Cup	3	0	2	1	3	7
Friendly	6	2	1	3	6	7

**Republic of Ireland v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	1	1	0	1
World Cup	1	0	1	0	1	1
Friendly	13	5	2	6	20	23

**Republic of Ireland v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	0	1

**Republic of Ireland v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	0	2	1	5
World Cup	4	1	2	1	4	4
Friendly	5	1	0	4	4	9

**Republic of Ireland v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	0	4	3	8
World Cup	7	2	3	2	10	13
Friendly	8	5	0	3	13	13

**Republic of Ireland v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	3	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	21	5	6	10	22	37

**Republic of Ireland v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	1	3
World Cup	2	0	2	0	2	2
Friendly	8	3	0	5	5	10

**Republic of Ireland v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	2	2	5	8
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	2	0	1	4	2

**Republic of Ireland v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	6	0	2	4	4	14
World Cup	8	2	2	4	5	11
Friendly	10	2	3	5	9	23

**Republic of Ireland v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	1	1	1	2
World Cup	2	0	0	2	2	6
Friendly	4	3	0	1	9	6

**Republic of Ireland v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## RUSSIA

**Draw pot:** 2

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1960 (as Soviet Union)

**Coach:** Dick Advocaat

**Leading scorer:** all time – Vladimir Beschastnykh (26); current – Roman Pavlyuchenko (20)

**Most appearances:** all time – Viktor Onopko (109); current – Sergei Ignashevich (71)

**Association formed:** 1912

**Nickname:** None

Semi-finalists in 2008, Russia approach UEFA EURO 2012 confident after topping a major tournament qualifying group for the first time in five attempts. That ensured no repeat of two years ago, when Slovenia claimed a surprise away-goals triumph in the FIFA World Cup play-offs. Unbeaten on their travels this time round, Dick Advocaat's side conceded four goals in ten qualifiers. It was their attack that illuminated UEFA EURO 2008, namely Andrey Arshavin. Suspended for the first two games, he returned to inspire them out of their group and then past the Netherlands. It took Spain to halt him.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group B

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Russia</b>	10	7	2	1	17	4	23
2	Republic of Ireland	10	6	3	1	15	7	21
3	Armenia	10	5	2	3	22	10	17
4	Slovakia	10	4	3	3	7	10	15
5	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	10	2	2	6	8	14	8
6	Andorra	10	0	0	10	1	25	0

Date	Home	Result	Away	Russia scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Russia</b>	6-0	Andorra	(Dzagoev 2, Ignashevich, Pavlyuchenko, Glushakov, Bilyaletdinov)	Moscow
07.10.2011	Slovakia	0-1	<b>Russia</b>	(Dzagoev)	Zilina
06.09.2011	<b>Russia</b>	0-0	Republic of Ireland		Moscow
02.09.2011	<b>Russia</b>	1-0	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	(Semshov)	Moscow
04.06.2011	<b>Russia</b>	3-1	Armenia	(Pavlyuchenko 3)	St Petersburg
26.03.2011	Armenia	0-0	<b>Russia</b>		Yerevan
12.10.2010	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0-1	<b>Russia</b>	(Kerzhakov)	Skopje
08.10.2010	Republic of Ireland	2-3	<b>Russia</b>	(Kerzhakov, Dzagoev, Shirokov)	Dublin
07.09.2010	<b>Russia</b>	0-1	Slovakia		Moscow
03.09.2010	Andorra	0-2	<b>Russia</b>	(Pogrebnyak 2)	Andorra La Vella

**Leading scorers:** Alan Dzagoev, Roman Pavlyuchenko (4)

**Ever-presents:** Vasili Berezutski, Andrey Arshavin (10)

Dick Advocaat's side made a slow start to qualifying, following a sluggish victory over Andorra with a 1-0 home loss to Slovakia. They steadily improved, sealing progress with a final-day win. Sergei Ignashevich's goal in the 6-0 win against Andorra that clinched the group on 11 October was the 50th of his professional career. He is the most prolific defender in Russian football history.

Russia's success emanated from a strong base as they conceded four times in ten qualifiers – only Italy shipped fewer – while three crucial deflected goals all ultimately earned victories.

"We took part in a difficult ten-match competition and deservedly won it," said Dutchman Advocaat. "I hope any criticisms towards the national team will die down now."

### EURO pedigree

Finals	Performance	Hosts
<b>2008</b>	Semi-finals	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Group stage	England

As part of the Soviet Union, Russia helped win the inaugural competition in 1960, as a side containing FC Dinamo Moskva goalkeeper Lev Yashin and FC Spartak Moskva's Igor Netto beat Yugoslavia 2-1 in the final; striker Viktor Ponedelnik scored the extra-time winner.

The USSR were runners-up to Spain in 1964, lost the 1972 final to West Germany and suffered more showpiece woe in 1988 as a Ukrainian-accented team went down 2-0 to the Netherlands.

Since playing under the banner of the CIS (Confederation of Independent States) in 1992, Russia have struggled to repeat past glories. They earned one win in nine finals games in 1992, 1996 and 2004, failing to qualify in 2000, before a welcome return to the business end in Austria and Switzerland where they reached the semi-finals.

### Team EURO records

#### Matches played

**Overall: P63 W37 D12 L14 F124 A60**

**Final tournament: P11 W4 D1 L6 F13 A20**

**Qualifying: P52 W33 D11 L8 F111 A40**

#### Final tournament win

**3-1:** Netherlands v Russia, 21.06.08, quarter-finals (aet)

**2-0:** Russia v Sweden, 18.06.08, group stage

#### Final tournament loss

**4-1:** Spain v Russia, 10.06.08, group stage

**0-3:** twice, most recently Russia v Spain, 26.06.08, semi-finals

#### Qualifying win

**0-7:** San Marino v Russia, 07.06.95

#### Qualifying loss

**3-0:** England v Russia, 12.09.07

**Player EURO records****Final tournament appearances****6:** Aleksandr Anyukov**6:** Igor Semshov**5:** 12 players**Final tournament goals****3:** Roman Pavlyuchenko**2:** Andrey Arshavin**Overall appearances****34:** Sergei Ignashevich**34:** Viktor Onopko**25:** Aleksandr Anyukov**25:** Andrey Arshavin**23:** Vasili Berezutski**Overall goals****9:** Aleksandr Kerzhakov**9:** Roman Pavlyuchenko**8:** Valeri Karpin**8:** Vladimir Beschastnykh**Dick Advocaat****Coach profile****Date of birth:** 27 September 1947**Nationality:** Dutch**Playing career:** ADO Den Haag (twice), Roda JC, VVV Venlo, Chicago Sting, Sparta Rotterdam, K. Berchem Sport, FC Utrecht**Coaching career:** DSVP, HFC Haarlem, FC Dordrecht, Netherlands (twice), PSV Eindhoven, Rangers FC, VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, United Arab Emirates, Korea Republic, FC Zenit St Petersburg, AZ Alkmaar, Belgium, Russia

- A combative midfielder, Advocaat's playing career lasted 18 years and included three seasons in the North American Soccer League with Chicago Sting.
- Twice served as assistant coach to Rinus Michels with the Dutch national team, where he earned the nickname Little General. Then took charge himself and led the Oranje to the 1994 FIFA World Cup quarter-finals in the United States.
- Won the Dutch Cup and Eredivisie with PSV (1995-98) before moving to Scotland and picking up domestic treble in the first of four seasons with Rangers.
- Then opted for a second spell with the Netherlands and led team to UEFA EURO 2004 semi-finals. Two years later he was in charge of South Korea at the World Cup finals.
- Returned to club football with Zenit, winning the Russian title in 2007 and the UEFA Cup – where he defeated former club Rangers – and UEFA Super Cup a year later. Left in August 2009, becoming Belgium coach two months later before agreeing to coach AZ Alkmaar for the rest of the season. Took charge of Russia in May 2010, clinching a place at UEFA EURO 2012 with a 6-0 defeat of Andorra on the final day of qualifying.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Russia v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	2	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Russia v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	5	5

**Russia v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	1	0	3	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Russia v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	0	2
World Cup	2	0	1	1	1	7
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Russia v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Russia v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	2	0	8	5
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	0	2	2	4

**Russia v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	5	5
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	2	3

**Russia v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	0	3	1	8
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	0	1

**Russia v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	4	0	0	8	2
World Cup	2	0	1	1	1	2
Friendly	3	0	3	0	4	4

**Russia v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	2	0
World Cup	4	0	2	2	4	8
Friendly	2	0	1	1	1	2

**Russia v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	1	0	0	3	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	1	1	2	5

**Russia v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	0	1	1	3	4
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## SPAIN

**Draw pot:** 1

**Tournament wins:** UEFA European Championship 1964, 2008; FIFA World Cup 2010

**Coach:** Vicente del Bosque

**Leading scorer:** all time – David Villa (51); current – David Villa (51)

**Most appearances:** all time – Iker Casillas (127); current – Iker Casillas (127)

**Nickname:** La Roja (The Reds)

As reigning world and European champions, Spain will be the team to beat once more in Poland and Ukraine. After ending a 44-year wait for a major trophy with their UEFA EURO 2008 triumph under Luis Aragonés, the Spanish have kept up the winning habit under Vicente del Bosque. They posted ten straight victories in 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifying, then recovered from a slow start in South Africa to reach the final where Andrés Iniesta hit the extra-time winner against the Netherlands. There has been no let-up since with eight wins in a row to reach next summer's showpiece.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group I

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	<b>Spain</b>	8	8	0	0	26	6	24
2	Czech Republic	8	4	1	3	12	8	13
3	Scotland	8	3	2	3	9	10	11
4	Lithuania	8	1	2	5	4	13	5
5	Liechtenstein	8	1	1	6	3	17	4

Date	Home	Result	Away	Spain scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Spain</b>	3-1	Scotland	(Silva 2, Villa)	Alicante
07.10.2011	Czech Republic	0-2	<b>Spain</b>	(Mata, Alonso)	Prague
06.09.2011	<b>Spain</b>	6-0	Liechtenstein	(Negredo 2, Villa 2, Xavi, Ramos)	Logrono
29.03.2011	Lithuania	1-3	<b>Spain</b>	(Xavi, Kijanskas OG, Mata)	Kaunas
25.03.2011	<b>Spain</b>	2-1	Czech Republic	(Villa 2)	Granada
12.10.2010	Scotland	2-3	<b>Spain</b>	(Villa, Iniesta, Llorente)	Glasgow
08.10.2010	<b>Spain</b>	3-1	Lithuania	(Llorente 2, Silva)	Salamanca
03.09.2010	Liechtenstein	0-4	<b>Spain</b>	(Torres 2, Villa, Silva)	Vaduz

**Leading scorer:** David Villa (7)

**Ever-presents:** Sergio Ramos, David Villa (8)

Spain put high-profile friendly losses to Argentina (4-1) and Portugal (4-0) behind them to become only the fifth team to complete a EURO qualifying campaign with a perfect record.

The first of David Villa's two goals against the Czech Republic in Granada on 25 March 2011 enabled him to overtake Raúl González as his country's all-time leading marksman. He ended the campaign as the first Spaniard to reach 50 international goals.

Xavi Hernández became the fourth Spanish international to have won a century of caps in that Czech game, while goalkeeper Iker Casillas surpassed FC Barcelona goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta's all-time mark during last month's friendly internationals, equalling the record with his 126<sup>th</sup> cap in the friendly against England on 12 November and surpassing it against Costa Rica four days later.

"Nobody has ever won a sequence of EURO, World Cup, EURO," said coach Del Bosque. "That's the huge goal we have ahead of us, now let's see if we can pull it off."



**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Winners	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Group stage	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Quarter-finals	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Quarter-finals	England
<b>1992</b>	Did not qualify	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Group stage	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Runners-up	France
<b>1980</b>	Group stage	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Quarter-finals	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Quarter-finals	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Winners	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Quarter-finals	France

Spain's long wait for silverware came to an end in Vienna in 2008 as Aragonés's side defeated Germany 1-0 to deservedly win a competition they had taken by storm. Fernando Torres provided the decisive blow in the final, shooting beyond Jens Lehmann in the 33rd minute.

Prior to that tournament, Spain had failed to even reach a semi-final since claiming their first major prize on home soil in Madrid in 1964. They won that year's final 2-1 against the Soviet Union at the Santiago Bernabéu. Marcelino Martínez headed a memorable winner six minutes from time after Galimzian Khusainov had quickly cancelled out Jesús Pereda's sixth-minute opener.

Up until the end of UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying, Spain had been involved in the most fixtures by a single country in the competition with 135 matches played since their 4-2 away win against Poland in the last 16 of the 1960 UEFA European Championship on 28 June 1959.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P135 W85 D25 L25 F298 A114**

**Final tournament: P30 W13 D9 L8 F38 A31**

**Qualifying: P105 W72 D16 L17 F260 A83**

**Final tournament win**

**4-1:** Spain v Russia, 10.06.08, group stage

**Final tournament loss**

**2-0:** Germany v Spain, 17.06.88, group stage

**2-0:** France v Spain, 27.06.84, final

**Qualifying win**

**12-1:** Spain v Malta, 21.12.83

**Qualifying loss**

**1-3:** three times, most recently France v Spain, 20.02.91

**0-2:** three times, most recently Sweden v Spain, 07.10.06

Note: Spain's quarter-final against the Soviet Union on 22.05.60 was awarded **3-0** to the Soviet Union after Spain withdrew

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

- 10:** Rafael Gordillo
- 8:** Iker Casillas
- 8:** Carles Puyol
- 8:** Fernando Torres
- 8:** Víctor Muñoz
- 8:** Alfonso Pérez
- 8:** Luis Arconada

### Final tournament goals

- 4:** David Villa
- 3:** Alfonso Pérez

### Overall appearances

- 35:** Iker Casillas
- 31:** Andoni Zubizarreta
- 27:** Raúl González
- 26:** Xavi Hernández
- 26:** Carlos Marchena

### Overall goals

- 19:** Raúl González
- 18:** David Villa
- 14:** Carlos Santillana
- 10:** Fernando Hierro
- 7:** Joseba Etxeberria
- 7:** Xavi Hernández

## Vicente del Bosque

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 23 December 1950

**Nationality:** Spanish

**Playing career:** Real Madrid Castilla, Córdoba CF, CD Castellón, Real Madrid CF

**Coaching career:** Real Madrid Castilla, Real Madrid CF, Beşiktaş JK, Spain

- Came up through the youth ranks at Real Madrid and became an important member of the team as a defensive midfielder during the 1970s, winning five league titles in six seasons and four Spanish Cups.
- Capped 18 times, Del Bosque ended his Spain career at the 1980 UEFA European Championship in Italy – his only major tournament as a player. Also appeared for Madrid in the 1981 European Champion Clubs' Cup final against Liverpool FC.
- Joined Madrid's coaching staff shortly after stopping playing in 1984 and spent many years in youth development, stepping up in 1994 and 1996 as the first team's interim coach.
- Given the job full time in November 1999, he won seven trophies including two UEFA Champions League triumphs and two Spanish titles. Left in 2003 and resurfaced briefly in Turkey with Beşiktaş.
- Succeeded Luis Aragonés as Spain coach in July 2008. Set a new global record by winning his opening 13 matches and steered the European champions to the 2010 FIFA World Cup with a perfect qualifying record. Went on to guide Spain to a first world title in South Africa with a final victory against the Netherlands and subsequently took team to UEFA EURO 2012 with wins in all eight qualifiers.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Spain v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	4	2	1	1	6	4

**Spain v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	1	1	5	3
World Cup	2	2	0	0	6	3
Friendly	4	3	1	0	8	4

**Spain v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	1	0	1	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Spain v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	2	1	0	1
World Cup	3	0	1	2	2	4
Friendly	23	8	8	7	27	33

**Spain v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	8	6	2	0	17	7
World Cup	3	2	0	1	6	2
Friendly	6	4	1	1	12	7

**Spain v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	2	1	0	1
World Cup	3	0	1	2	2	4
Friendly	30	11	11	8	53	42

**Spain v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	1	3	2	5
World Cup	2	1	1	0	1	0
Friendly	16	6	1	9	19	34

**Spain v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	6	4	2	0	14	4
World Cup	8	4	2	2	11	5
Friendly	10	5	3	2	23	9

**Spain v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	0	1	4	4	10
World Cup	1	0	0	1	1	3
Friendly	24	13	5	6	52	22

**Spain v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	3	0	0	8	1
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	1	0

**Spain v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	5	2	1	2	3	5
World Cup	4	1	1	2	4	5
Friendly	12	4	4	4	16	17

**Spain v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	0	1	5	3
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	3
Friendly	8	3	4	1	14	9

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## SWEDEN

**Draw pot:** 3

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Erik Hamrén

**Leading scorer:** all time – Sven Rydell (49); current – Zlatan Ibrahimović (28)

**Most appearances:** all time – Thomas Ravelli (143); current – Anders Svensson (123)

**Association formed:** 1904

**Nickname:** Blågult (Blue and yellows)

After missing out on the 2010 FIFA World Cup, Sweden have made a good start to re-establishing themselves as major event regulars after qualifying as best runners-up. Under Tommy Söderberg and Lars Lagerbäck, the Blågult graced five consecutive final tournaments between UEFA EURO 2000 and UEFA EURO 2008, when losses to Spain and Russia consigned them to third in Group D. Appointed in 2009, Erik Hamrén has ushered in a host of bright young things, and they helped book Sweden's place in Poland and Ukraine as the qualifying competition's best runners-up.

### UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying Group E

Pos.	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
1	Netherlands	10	9	0	1	37	8	27
2	<b>Sweden</b>	10	8	0	2	31	11	24
3	Hungary	10	6	1	3	22	14	19
4	Finland	10	3	1	6	16	16	10
5	Moldova	10	3	0	7	12	16	9
6	San Marino	10	0	0	10	0	53	0

Date	Home	Result	Away	Sweden scorers	Venue
11.10.2011	<b>Sweden</b>	3-2	Netherlands	(Källström, Larsson, Toivonen)	Solna
07.10.2011	Finland	1-2	<b>Sweden</b>	(Larsson, M. Olsson)	Helsinki
06.09.2011	San Marino	0-5	<b>Sweden</b>	(Källström, Wilhelmsson 2, M. Olsson, Hysén)	Serravalle
02.09.2011	Hungary	2-1	<b>Sweden</b>	(Wilhelmsson)	Budapest
07.06.2011	<b>Sweden</b>	5-0	Finland	(Källström, Ibrahimović 3, Bajrami)	Solna
03.06.2011	Moldova	1-4	<b>Sweden</b>	(Toivonen, Elmander, Gerndt)	Chisinau
29.03.2011	<b>Sweden</b>	2-1	Moldova	(Lustig, Larsson)	Solna
12.10.2010	Netherlands	4-1	<b>Sweden</b>	(Granqvist)	Amsterdam
07.09.2010	<b>Sweden</b>	6-0	San Marino	(Ibrahimović 2, D. Simoncini OG, A. Simoncini, Granqvist, Berg)	Malmö
03.09.2010	<b>Sweden</b>	2-0	Hungary	(Wernbloom 2)	Solna

**Leading scorer:** Zlatan Ibrahimović (5)

**Ever-presents:** Mikael Lustig, Sebastian Larsson, Kim Källström, Johan Elmander (10)

Sweden secured their finals place after a superb 3-2 victory against Group E winners the Netherlands in their final qualifier – the Oranje had won nine out of nine going into the tie. That proved a fitting farewell in Sweden's last competitive game at Solna's Råsundastadion as the venue, opened in 1937, will be torn down next year. A new national arena is in construction.

Right-back Mikael Lustig, 24, played every minute of Sweden's qualifying campaign and was one of 14 players to register for Erik Hamrén's side en route to Poland and Ukraine.

"I feel enormous joy and enormous pride; it was a fantastic team effort," said Hamrén after Sweden clinched their finals place by inflicting a first defeat on the Netherlands. "I went to bed around four, and then my eyes were still wide open. Finally I started to reply to my text messages. I think I'd received 82 and I don't know what the time was when I sent off my last one, but finally I fell asleep."

**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Group stage	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Quarter-finals	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Group stage	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Did not qualify	England
<b>1992</b>	Semi-finals	Sweden
<b>1988</b>	Did not qualify	West Germany
<b>1984</b>	Did not qualify	France
<b>1980</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1976</b>	Did not qualify	Yugoslavia
<b>1972</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium
<b>1968</b>	Did not qualify	Italy
<b>1964</b>	Quarter-finals	Spain
<b>1960</b>	Did not participate	France

Sweden reached the semi-finals on home turf in 1992, beating England and Denmark after an opening-day draw with France. However, with Stefan Schwarz suspended and Jonas Thern playing through injury, they were overwhelmed by Germany in Solna even if a last-minute effort made it 3-2.

It was not until 2000 – at the ninth time of asking after not entering the inaugural event – that they successfully negotiated qualifying to reach the final tournament. They have been finals ever-presents since.

Sweden exited UEFA EURO 2004 unbeaten. They kicked off with a 5-0 victory over Bulgaria and fought back to draw against Italy – courtesy of a Zlatan Ibrahimović back-heel – and Denmark, before losing 5-4 on penalties to the Netherlands in the quarter-finals after a goalless draw.

**Team EURO records**

**Overall: P106 W52 D25 L29 F174 A109**

**Final tournament: P14 W4 D5 L5 F19 A16**

**Qualifying: P92 W48 D20 L24 F155 A93**

**Final tournament win**

**5-0:** Sweden v Bulgaria, 14.06.04, group stage

**Final tournament loss**

**2-0:** Russia v Sweden, 18.06.08, group stage

**Qualifying win**

**6-0:** Sweden v San Marino, 07.09.10

**0-6:** San Marino v Sweden, 07.06.03

**Qualifying loss**

**1-4:** twice, most recently Netherlands v Sweden, 12.10.10

**0-3:** four times, most recently Spain v Sweden, 17.11.07

## Player EURO records

### Final tournament appearances

**10:** Henrik Larsson  
**10:** Fredrik Ljungberg  
**10:** Olof Mellberg  
**7:** Joachim Björklund  
**7:** Andreas Isaksson  
**7:** Mikael Nilsson  
**7:** Zlatan Ibrahimović

### Final tournament goals

**4:** Henrik Larsson  
**4:** Zlatan Ibrahimović  
**3:** Tomas Brodin

### Overall appearances

**33:** Olof Mellberg  
**32:** Kim Källström  
**32:** Anders Svensson  
**31:** Andreas Isaksson  
**31:** Fredrik Ljungberg  
**27:** Zlatan Ibrahimović

### Overall goals

**12:** Marcus Allbäck  
**12:** Zlatan Ibrahimović  
**7:** Henrik Larsson  
**7:** Kim Källström  
**6:** Johan Elmander

## Erik Hamrén

## Coach profile

**Date of birth:** 27 June 1957

**Nationality:** Swedish

**Playing career:** Ljusdals IF, Stockviks FF

**Coaching career:** Njurunda IK, IFK Sundsvall, Bro IK, Enköpings SK, Väsby IK, IF Brommapojkarna, Vasalunds IF, Degerfors IF, AIK Solna, Örgryte IS, Aalborg BK, Rosenborg BK, Sweden

- Played the game only until his late teens. Began coaching at junior level before taking on his first senior posts with Swedish second-tier clubs Väsby, Brommapojkarna and Vasalund.
- Joined Allsvenskan outfit Degerfors in 1994 and moved on a year later to AIK. Guided Stockholm club to three successive Swedish Cup finals, losing the first one, in 1995, and winning the next two.
- Won cup for a third time in 2000 with his next club Örgryte after two-legged final victory against AIK. Remained for six seasons before moving abroad in January 2004 to coach Danish club AaB.
- Led AaB to 2007/08 Danish Superliga title – only the third championship in club's history – but announced mid-season he would be leaving at the end of the campaign for Rosenborg. Masterminded runaway Tippeligaen title success in his first full season.
- Replaced long-serving Sweden coach Lars Lagerbäck in November 2009, remaining with Rosenborg until the start of UEFA EURO 2012 qualification in September 2010. Proved an immediate success in his new role, guiding Sweden to the finals thanks to a defeat of the Netherlands on the last day of qualifying.

### Past record against possible opponents

**Sweden v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	1	1	0	5	4

**Sweden v Netherlands**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	1	1	1	4	6
World Cup	1	0	1	0	0	0
Friendly	18	7	3	8	42	35

**Sweden v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	2	2	0	6	2
World Cup	2	0	0	2	0	2
Friendly	97	43	17	37	173	161

**Sweden v Poland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	4	0	0	8	0
World Cup	3	2	0	1	4	2
Friendly	19	8	4	7	44	35

**Sweden v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	2	1	0	4	2
World Cup	4	0	4	0	3	3
Friendly	15	4	4	7	19	28

**Sweden v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	1	0	2	1
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	3
Friendly	4	1	0	3	6	9

**Sweden v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	3	0	2	1	4	6
World Cup	4	1	1	2	4	6
Friendly	10	3	2	5	8	13

**Sweden v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	0	2
World Cup	1	1	0	0	3	1
Friendly	4	4	2	0	8	4

**Sweden v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	1	0	0	1	2	3
World Cup	9	1	2	6	10	21
Friendly	26	11	7	8	40	40

**Sweden v Spain**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	3
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	2
Friendly	3	1	1	1	2	2

**Sweden v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	8	3	2	3	9	8
World Cup	2	1	0	1	3	3
Friendly	12	2	4	6	12	16

**Sweden v Ukraine**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	2	2

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## UKRAINE

**Draw pot:** 1

**Tournament wins:** none

**Coach:** Oleh Blokhin

**Leading scorer:** all time – Andriy Shevchenko (46); current – Andriy Shevchenko (46)

**Most appearances:** all time – Anatoliy Tymoshchuk (113); current – Anatoliy Tymoshchuk (113)

**Association formed:** 1992

**Nickname:** Synyo-Zhovti (Blue and yellows)

Having reached the 2006 FIFA World Cup quarter-finals in their only previous major tournament appearance since independence in 1991, the co-hosts are eager to go even further at UEFA EURO 2012. According to Oleh Blokhin, back in charge after a turbulent couple of years in which three coaches came and went, the minimum target is advancing from Group D. The tournament is likely to mark the curtain call for Andriy Shevchenko, Anatoliy Tymoshchuk and Olexandr Shovkovskiy; for the likes of Yaroslav Rakitskiy, Andriy Yarmolenko and Yevhen Konoplyanka it could be just the start.

### Friendly results

Date	Home	Result	Away	Ukraine scorers	Venue
15.11.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	2-1	Austria	(Milevskiy, Dević)	Lviv
11.11.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	3-3	Germany	(Yarmolenko, Konoplyanka, Nazarenko)	Kyiv
11.10.2011	Estonia	0-2	<b>Ukraine</b>	(Gusev, Aliyev)	Tallinn
07.10.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	3-0	Bulgaria	(Selin, Shevchenko, Yarmolenko)	Kyiv
06.09.2011	Czech Republic	4-0	<b>Ukraine</b>		Prague
02.09.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	2-3	Uruguay	(Yarmolenko, Konoplyanka)	Kharkiv
10.08.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	0-1	Sweden		Kharkiv
06.06.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	1-4	France	(Tymoschuk)	Donetsk
01.06.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	2-0	Uzbekistan	(Tymoschuk, Voronin)	Kyiv
29.03.2011	<b>Ukraine</b>	0-2	Italy		Kyiv
09.02.2011	Sweden	1-1	<b>Ukraine</b>	(Dević)	Nicosia
08.02.2011	Romania	2-2	<b>Ukraine</b>	(Rakitskiy, Milevskiy)	Paralimni, Cyprus
17.11.2010	Switzerland	2-2	<b>Ukraine</b>	(Aliyev, Konoplyanka)	Geneva
11.10.2010	Brazil	2-0	<b>Ukraine</b>		Derby, England
08.10.2010	<b>Ukraine</b>	2-2	Canada	(Milevskiy, Tymoschuk)	Kyiv
07.09.2010	<b>Ukraine</b>	2-1	Chile	(Rakitskiy, Aliyev)	Kyiv
04.09.2010	Poland	1-1	<b>Ukraine</b>	(Seleznyov)	Lodz
11.08.2010	<b>Ukraine</b>	1-1	Netherlands	(Aliyev)	Donetsk

Myron Markevych guided Ukraine to three wins and a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands before relinquishing the reins to focus on responsibilities at FC Metalist Kharkiv in August 2010. Yuriy Kalitvintsev managed one victory in eight games as a caretaker coach before making way for Blokhin in April. After initial success Ukraine suffered a national record four successive losses.

Andriy Shevchenko became the first Ukrainian player to reach 100 caps on 8 October 2010, in a draw with Canada. Three days later, against Brazil, Anatoliy Tymoshchuk became the second. "Our job is to win EURO but we should remember that there are at least ten other very strong contenders. Apart from Brazil and Argentina, the strongest national teams in world football are all in Europe, so we should first focus on qualifying from the group," said Blokhin.



**EURO pedigree**

<b>Finals</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>2008</b>	Did not qualify	Austria/Switzerland
<b>2004</b>	Did not qualify	Portugal
<b>2000</b>	Did not qualify	Belgium/Netherlands
<b>1996</b>	Did not qualify	England

Ukraine was always a prolific resource for the Soviet Union team that won the inaugural UEFA European Championship in 1960 and then finished runners-up three times: losing to Spain in 1964, West Germany in 1972 and then in 1988, going down 2-0 to the Netherlands.

That 1988 side, who had defeated the Oranje 1-0 in the group stage a fortnight earlier, were known as 'Dynamo Kyiv in disguise' after Valeriy Lobanovskiy raided his club for 11 players, eight of which played in the final.

Ukraine have never qualified as an independent nation, but came within 12 minutes of reaching UEFA EURO 2000. Denied an automatic spot after a last-day draw in Russia, they were heading through on away goals in the play-offs before Miran Pavlin struck to earn Slovenia a 3-2 aggregate win.

**Team EURO records**

**Matches played**

**Overall: P42 W16 D13 L13 F56 A48**

**Final tournament: P0 W0 D0 L0 F0 A0**

**Qualifying: P42 W16 D13 L13 F56 A48**

**Final tournament win**

none

**Final tournament loss**

none

**Qualifying win**

**5-0:** Ukraine v Faroe Islands, 17.10.07

**Qualifying loss**

**4-0:** Croatia v Ukraine, 25.03.95

**Player EURO records****Final tournament appearances**

none

**Final tournament goals**

none

**Overall appearances**

**26:** Andriy Shevchenko  
**25:** Olexandr Shovkovskiy  
**24:** Oleh Luzhny  
**21:** Oleksiy Mykhaylychenko  
**19:** Andriy Husin  
**19:** Oleh Kuznetsov  
**19:** Anatoliy Tymoshchuk  
**19:** Andriy Voronin

**Overall goals**

**10:** Andriy Shevchenko  
**5:** Tymerlan Huseynov  
**5:** Serhiy Rebrov  
**4:** Oleh Gusev  
**4:** Oleh Protasov

**Oleh Blokhin****Coach profile****Date of birth:** 5 November 1952**Nationality:** Ukrainian**Playing career:** FC Dynamo Kyiv, SK Vorwärts Steyr, Aris Limassol FC**Coaching career:** Olympiacos FC, PAOK FC (twice), Ionikos FC (twice), AEK Athens FC, Ukraine (twice), FC Moskva

- Blokhin rose through Dynamo's youth ranks to win seven Soviet titles and five USSR Cups, as well as lifting the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup in 1975 and 1986 and the UEFA Super Cup in 1975. A fearsome forward, he scored 211 goals in 432 Soviet league appearances, both competition records.
- Spent his final seasons in Austria at Vorwärts Steyr and Aris Limassol in Cyprus, staying a year at each before retiring in 1990.
- Record holder of caps (112) and goals (42) for the Soviet national team, Blokhin won a bronze medal at the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games and also participated in the 1982 and 1986 FIFA World Cups. In 1975, his role in Dynamo's UEFA Cup Winners' Cup triumph and three goals against FC Bayern München in the two-legged UEFA Super Cup helped him win the Ballon d'Or.
- Started his coaching career in 1990 with Olympiacos, spending three years with the club – winning two Greek Cups – and also having spells at PAOK, Ionikos and AEK. Took charge of Ukraine in September 2003, guiding the team to the quarter-finals of the 2006 FIFA World Cup, where they lost to eventual champions Italy.
- Stepped down after missing out on UEFA EURO 2008 but was reappointed in April 2011 after spells at Moskva and FC Chornomorets Odesa, the latter as sporting director.

**Past record against possible opponents**

**Ukraine v Croatia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	1	4
World Cup	4	0	3	1	3	5
Friendly	1	0	0	1	1	3

**Ukraine v Greece**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	0	1	2	1
World Cup	4	1	2	1	2	2
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Ukraine v Czech Republic**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	1	0	0	1	0	4

**Ukraine v Italy**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	0	4	2	9
World Cup	1	0	0	1	0	3
Friendly	2	0	1	1	0	2

**Ukraine v Denmark**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	1	0	2	1
Friendly	1	0	0	1	0	1

**Ukraine v Portugal**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	2
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Ukraine v England**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	2	1	0	1	2	2
Friendly	2	0	0	2	0	5

**Ukraine v Republic of Ireland**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Ukraine v France**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	4	0	3	1	2	4
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	2	0	0	2	1	5

**Ukraine v Russia**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	2	1	1	0	4	3
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Ukraine v Germany**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	4	0	2	2	2	7
Friendly	1	0	1	0	3	3

**Ukraine v Sweden**

Competition	P	W	D	L	F	A
EURO	0	0	0	0	0	0
World Cup	0	0	0	0	0	0
Friendly	3	1	1	1	2	2

**Key**

**EURO** – UEFA European Championships including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**World Cup** – FIFA World Cups including qualifying competitions and final rounds

**Pld** – Matches played

**W** – Won

**D** – Drawn

**L** – Lost

**F** – Goals for

**A** – Goals against

## QUALIFYING COMPETITION

<b>Group A</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>
Turkey	10	5	2	3	13	11	2	17
Belgium	10	4	3	3	21	15	6	15
Austria	10	3	3	4	16	17	-1	12
Azerbaijan	10	2	1	7	10	26	-16	7
Kazakhstan	10	1	1	8	6	24	-18	4

<b>Group B</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Russia</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Rep. of Ireland</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>
Armenia	10	5	2	3	22	10	12	17
Slovakia	10	4	3	3	7	10	-3	15
FYROM	10	2	2	6	8	14	-6	8
Andorra	10	0	0	10	1	25	-24	0

<b>Group C</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>26</b>
Estonia	10	5	1	4	15	14	1	16
Serbia	10	4	3	3	13	12	1	15
Slovenia	10	4	2	4	11	7	4	14
Northern Ireland	10	2	3	5	9	13	-4	9
Faroe Islands	10	1	1	8	6	26	-20	4

<b>Group D</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>
Bosnia&Herzegovina	10	6	2	2	17	8	9	20
Romania	10	3	5	2	13	9	4	14
Belarus	10	3	4	3	8	7	1	13
Albania	10	2	3	5	7	14	-7	9
Luxembourg	10	1	1	8	3	21	-18	4

<b>Group E</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>
Hungary	10	6	1	3	22	14	8	19
Finland	10	3	1	6	16	16	0	10
Moldova	10	3	0	7	12	16	-4	9
San Marino	10	0	0	10	0	53	-53	0

<b>Group F</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>Greece</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>
Israel	10	5	1	4	13	11	2	16
Latvia	10	3	2	5	9	12	-3	11
Georgia	10	2	4	4	7	9	-2	10
Malta	10	0	1	9	4	21	-17	1

<b>Group G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>Pts</b>
<b>England</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>
Montenegro	8	3	3	2	24	10	14	12
Switzerland	8	3	2	3	12	10	2	11
Wales	8	3	0	5	6	10	-4	9
Bulgaria	8	1	2	5	3	13	-10	5

## QUALIFYING COMPETITION

Group H	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
<b>Denmark</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>
Norway	8	5	1	2	10	7	3	16
Iceland	8	1	1	6	6	14	-8	4
Cyprus	8	0	2	6	7	20	-13	2

Group I	P	W	D	L	F	G	+/-	Pts
<b>Spain</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>
Scotland	8	3	2	3	9	10	-1	11
Lithuania	8	1	2	5	4	13	-9	5
Liechtenstein	8	1	1	6	3	17	-14	4

## OVERALL TEAM STATISTICS

	CRO	CZE	DEN	ENG	ESP	FRA	GER
Goals scored	21	15	15	17	26	15	34
Goals conceded	7	8	6	5	6	4	7
Shots on target	84	47	44	38	86	64	87
Shots off target	78	54	47	45	59	60	73
Corners	86	64	38	43	70	68	62
Offsides	12	21	26	23	24	36	26
Yellow cards	23	16	9	13	3	13	7
Red cards	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Fouls committed	157	129	96	97	78	119	68

	GRE	ITA	NED	RUS	ROI	POR	SWE
Goals scored	14	20	38	17	20	27	31
Goals conceded	5	2	27	4	8	14	11
Shots on target	54	60	83	59	57	79	77
Shots off target	63	48	61	73	48	81	79
Corners	52	50	63	69	42	81	64
Offsides	29	34	25	27	27	25	24
Yellow cards	27	5	4	19	19	12	12
Red cards	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Fouls committed	138	95	114	147	176	125	122

\* Poland and Ukraine did not participate in qualifying

## GOALS & RECORDS

The Netherlands' 11-0 win against San Marino was the biggest winning margin in the Oranje's history, eclipsing 9-0 defeats of Finland in the 1912 Olympics and Norway during 1972 FIFA World Cup qualifying.

Goals scored	Home	Away	Result
11	Netherlands	San Marino	11-0
8	Portugal	Iceland	5-3
8	Germany	Austria	6-2
8	Netherlands	Hungary	5-3
8	Finland	San Marino	8-0
8	Belgium	Austria	4-4
8	Hungary	San Marino	8-0
8	Portugal	Cyprus	4-4
7	Germany	Azerbaijan	6-1
6	Russia	Andorra	6-0
6	Spain	Liechtenstein	6-0

With 12 goals, Huntelaar was the leading marksman in qualifying, just one shy of the 13-goal record set by Northern Ireland's David Healy in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying.

Huntelaar's tally is all the more remarkable given he played in only eight of his team's ten matches, thus averaging 1.5 goals a game.

Player	Team	Goals scored	Minutes played
Klaas-Jan Huntelaar	Netherlands	12	684
Miroslav Klose	Germany	9	505
David Villa	Spain	7	609
Cristiano Ronaldo	Portugal	7	720
Mikael Forssell	Finland	7	721
Robbie Keane	Republic of Ireland	7	959
Mario Gomez	Germany	6	406
Robin van Persie	Netherlands	6	474
Gergely Rudolf	Hungary	6	642
Antonio Cassano	Italy	6	674
Dirk Kuyt	Netherlands	6	685
Henrik Mkhitaryan	Armenia	6	900
Konstantin Vassiljev	Estonia	6	925

Goals scored	Number
Between minute 1 and 15	78
Between minute 16 and 30	103
Between minute 31 and 45	94
In additional time 1st half	8
Between minute 46 and 60	106
Between minute 61 and 75	110
Between minute 76 and 90	116
In additional time 2nd half	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>654</b>

## FACTS & FIGURES

### Qualifying basics

- Germany and Spain – finalists at UEFA EURO 2008 – were the only sides to finish qualifying with 100% records, but Joachim Löw's team may cite theirs as the more impressive given they had to play ten games in Group A rather than the eight Spain navigated in Group I.
- Germany also scored an average of 3.4 goals a game whereas Vicente del Bosque's men managed a more modest 3.25.
- Germany were the first side to qualify for the finals, apart from the co-hosts, sealing their place with a 6-2 win against Austria on 2 September 2011.
- In their last qualifying match – the 3-1 victory at home to Scotland – Spain equalled France and the Netherlands' record of 14 consecutive wins in official competition.
- The Netherlands lost their 100% record on the final day, losing 3-2 in Sweden having already confirmed their finals place. Bert van Marwijk's men boasted the top scorer in qualification – 12-goal Klaas-Jan Huntelaar – and the highest goal average: 3.7 per game. Their 11-0 thrashing of San Marino was the Oranje's biggest international victory.
- In addition to the Oranje's 11-0 win, Hungary and Finland both beat San Marino 8-0, and there were five other thrilling matches where teams shared out eight goals more evenly.

Belgium 4-4 Austria

Germany 6-2 Austria

Netherlands 5-3 Hungary

Portugal 4-4 Cyprus

Portugal 5-3 Iceland

- Andorra and San Marino were the only sides to end the qualifying campaign with no points. Andorra scored one goal and conceded 25 in Group B, while the Sammarinese had a particularly torrid time – their 11-0 loss to the Netherlands was the worst of their ten Group E defeats; they conceded 53 goals without scoring.
- Greece and the Czech Republic are the lowest-scoring countries to reach UEFA EURO 2012, registering 14 and 15 goals respectively in ten games en route to Poland and Ukraine. Greece's 14 came in ten matches as they came first in Group F; the Czechs notched just 12 – including three Michal Kadlec penalties – in eight Group I outings to finish runners-up before scoring three more in the play-offs against Montenegro.
- Italy boast the best defensive record going into the finals. They were breached only twice – against Estonia and Serbia – in ten Group C fixtures, an average of 0.2 goals per game.
- Of the 16 teams at UEFA EURO 2012, only Ukraine will be making their first European finals appearance, though plenty of Ukrainian players – not least current national coach Oleh Blokhin – featured in the Soviet Union's numerous finals campaigns in the past.
- The Republic of Ireland have been absent from the finals the longest of all the qualified sides, last taking part at the 1988 competition in West Germany in what was their continental finals debut.

## FACTS & FIGURES

### Oldest and youngest

- Oldest player: Jákup Mikkelsen (40 years and 361 days) – Faroe Islands v Northern Ireland, 10.08.2011
- Oldest outfield player: David Weir (40 years and 155 days) – Scotland v Spain, 12.10.10
- Oldest scorer: Jari Litmanen (39 years and 272 days) – Finland v San Marino, 17.11.10
- Youngest player: Romelu Lukaku (17 years and 112 days) – Belgium v Germany, 07.09.10
- Youngest scorer: Václav Kadlec (18 years and 145 days) – Liechtenstein v Czech Republic, 12.10.10

### Final score

- The first goal on the road to Poland/Ukraine was scored by Faroe Islands striker Jóan Edmundsson on 11 August 2010 in Tallinn; his team went on to lose 2-1.
- Ten players hit hat-tricks in qualification, yet only Robin van Persie went on to score a fourth goal in a single match, doing so in the Netherlands' 11-0 win against San Marino.
- The hat-trick scorers are listed (with goal times) in chronological order:
  - Klaas-Jan Huntelaar 38 48 66 (San Marino 0-5 Netherlands, Group E, 03.09.10)
  - Tim Matavž 25 36 65 (Slovenia 5-1 Faroe Islands, Group C, 08.10.10)
  - Ádám Szalai 18 27 48 (Hungary 8-0 San Marino, Group E, 08.10.10)
  - Yossi Benayoun 7 64p 75 (Israel 3-1 Malta, Group F, 02.09.10)
  - Jermain Defoe 3 61 86 (England 4-0 Bulgaria, Group G, 03.09.10)
  - Xherdan Shaqiri 45+2 62 90 (Switzerland 3-1 Bulgaria, Group G, 06.09.11)
  - Roman Pavlyuchenko 26 59 73p (Russia 3-1 Armenia, Group B, 04.06.11)
  - Zlatan Ibrahimović 31 35 53 (Sweden 5-0 Finland, Group E, 07.06.11)
  - Robin van Persie 7 65 67 79 (Netherlands 11-0 San Marino, Group E, 02.09.11)
  - Mikael Forssell 51 59 78 (Finland 8-0 San Marino, Group E, 17.11.10)

- Four of those ten trebles were scored against San Marino.
- Ibrahimović's 22-minute hat-trick against Finland was the fastest in qualifying.
- Huntelaar was the solitary player to claim a treble away from home in qualifying.

### Personal bests

- Two players scored their 50th international goals in UEFA EURO 2012 qualification:
  - The Republic of Ireland's Robbie Keane became the first player from the British Isles to reach 50 goals, registering numbers 50 and 51 in a 2-0 win in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 4 June 2011. Two more goals against Estonia in the play-offs took his haul to 53.
  - Spain's David Villa surpassed Raúl González's national-team record of 44 goals, netting twice in a 2-1 victory over the Czechs on 25 March 2011. He achieved the 50 mark in the 3-1 success against Scotland in the world and European champions' concluding qualifier.



- The following players (listed in chronological order) earned their 100th caps in the course of UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying.

- Mario Frick (Liechtenstein) v Switzerland, friendly, 10 August 2011
- Dennis Rommedahl (Denmark) v Germany, friendly, 11 August 2010
- Yiannis Okkas (Cyprus) v Norway, Group H, 8 October 2010
- Giorgos Karagounis (Greece) v Latvia, Group F, 8 October 2010
- Andriy Shevchenko (Ukraine) v Canada, friendly, 8 October 2010
- Michał Żewłakow (Poland) v United States, friendly, 9 October 2010
- Anatoliy Tymoshchuk (Ukraine) v Brazil, friendly, 11 October 2010
- Miroslav Karhan (Slovakia) v Republic of Ireland, Group B, 12 October 2010
- Martin Jørgensen (Denmark) v Czech Republic, friendly, 17 November 2010
- Raio Piiroja (Estonia) v Uruguay, friendly, 25 March 2011
- Xavi Hernández (Spain) v Czech Republic, Group I, 25 March 2011
- Stilyan Petrov (Bulgaria) v Switzerland, Group G, 26 March 2011
- Dejan Stanković (Serbia) v Faroe Islands, Group C, 6 September 2011
- Levan Kobiashvili (Georgia) v Greece, Group F, 11 October 2011

- In addition, Croatia coach Slaven Bilić took his combined appearances total to 100 in a 2-0 loss away to Greece on 7 October 2011 – capped 43 times as a player, he was overseeing his 57th game as a coach.

- Kevin Kilbane's unprecedented run of 66 straight competitive matches for the Republic of Ireland ended when a back injury forced him to miss the 0-0 Dublin draw with Slovakia on 2 September 2011.

### Minor landmarks

- Montenegro and Estonia both broke new ground, contesting a play-off for the first time in their histories – losing out to the Czechs and Ireland respectively.

- Of the other play-off contenders, only Bosnia and Herzegovina had never been to a major championship before. They were denied a place this time by Portugal, having fallen to the same opponents in the 2010 World Cup play-offs. Still, their points tally of 20 was a national record.

- Four different coaches led Finland in UEFA EURO 2012 qualification: following Stuart Baxter's departure, Olli Huttunen took charge for one game – a national-record 8-0 triumph over San Marino – and Markku Kanerva for three friendlies before Mixu Paataleinen was put in permanent command.

- David Healy joined former Manchester United FC defender Mal Donaghy as Northern Ireland's most-capped outfield player as he made his 91st outing against Italy on 11 October 2011; goalkeeper Pat Jennings holds the national record with 119 caps.

- For the first time in their history Bulgaria failed to score a home goal during UEFA European Championship qualifying. Their three Group G strikes all came on their travels. Midfielder Stilyan Petrov ended the campaign with 106 caps, having earlier broken Bulgarian Football Union (BFS) president Borislav Mihaylov's national record of 102.

- Along with team-mate Nemanja Vidić, Serbia captain Dejan Stanković announced his retirement from international football at the close of the qualifying programme. He had earned 102 caps, the same as his nation's most-capped player Savo Milošević. Stanković is the only Serbian player to have featured at three World Cups: 1998, 2006 and 2010.