

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Hungary

Groupama Aréna - Budapest

Sunday 18 November 2018
20.45CET (20.45 local time)

Group C2 - Matchday 6



Finland

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Previous meetings

Head to Head

UEFA Nations League

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
08/09/2018	GS-FT	Finland - Hungary	1-0	Tampere	Pukki 7

2016 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
13/06/2015	QR (GS)	Finland - Hungary	0-1	Helsinki	Stieber 82
14/11/2014	QR (GS)	Hungary - Finland	1-0	Budapest	Gera 84

UEFA EURO 2012

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
11/10/2011	QR (GS)	Hungary - Finland	0-0	Budapest	
12/10/2010	QR (GS)	Finland - Hungary	1-2	Helsinki	Forssell 86; Szalai 50, Dzsudzsák 90+4

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
11/10/1997	QR (GS)	Finland - Hungary	1-1	Helsinki	Sumiala 63; Sebök 90
01/09/1996	QR (GS)	Hungary - Finland	1-0	Budapest	Orosz 15

1980 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
17/10/1979	PR (GS)	Hungary - Finland	3-1	Debrecen	Fekete 22, 42, Tatar 49; Toivola 47
20/09/1978	PR (GS)	Finland - Hungary	2-1	Helsinki	Ismail 30, Pyykkö 53; Tieber 74

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Total																		
Hungary	4	3	1	0	4	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	17	11	3	3	45	12
Finland	4	1	1	2	4	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	17	3	3	11	12	45

Squad list

Hungary

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers									
1	Péter Gulácsi	06/05/1990	28	Leipzig	-			4	0
12	Dénes Dibusz	16/11/1990	28	Ferencváros	-			1	0
22	Ádám Kovácsik	04/04/1991	27	Vidi	-			0	0
Defenders									
2	Ádám Lang	17/01/1993	25	CFR Cluj	-			2	0
3	Mihály Korhut	01/12/1988	29	H. Beer-Sheva	-			1	0
4	Tamás Kádár	14/03/1990	28	Dynamo Kyiv	-			5	0
5	Botond Baráth	21/04/1992	26	Honvéd	-			2	0
6	Willi Orban	03/11/1992	26	Leipzig	-			3	1
20	Paulo Vinicius	21/02/1990	28	Vidi	-			0	0
Midfielders									
8	Ádám Nagy	17/06/1995	23	Bologna	-			4	0
10	István Kovács	27/03/1992	26	Vidi	-			5	0
11	Zsolt Kalmár	09/06/1995	23	Dunajská Streda	-			3	0
14	Gergő Lovrencsics	01/09/1988	30	Ferencváros	-			3	0
15	László Kleinheisler	08/04/1994	24	Astana	-			5	1
18	Filip Holender	27/07/1994	24	Honvéd	-			0	0
19	Dávid Holman	17/03/1993	25	Slovan Bratislava	-			0	0
21	Dominik Nagy	08/05/1995	23	Legia	-			3	1
23	Dániel Gazdag	02/03/1996	22	Honvéd	-			0	0
Forwards									
7	Balázs Dzsudzsák	23/12/1986	31	Al-Ittihad	-			1	0
9	Ádám Szalai	09/12/1987	30	Hoffenheim	-			5	3
13	Dániel Böde	24/10/1986	32	Ferencváros	-			1	0
17	Roland Varga	23/01/1990	28	Ferencváros	-			3	0
Coach									
-	Marco Rossi	09/09/1964	54		-			4	0

Finland

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers									
1	Lukas Hradecky	24/11/1989	28	Leverkusen	-			5	0
12	Jesse Joronen	21/03/1993	25	København	-			0	0
23	Anssi Jaakkola	13/03/1987	31	Reading	-			0	0
Defenders									
2	Paulus Arajuuri	15/06/1988	30	Brøndby	-			5	0
3	Albin Granlund	01/09/1989	29	Örebro	-			3	0
5	Sauli Väisänen	05/06/1994	24	Crotone	-			1	0
15	Markus Halsti	19/03/1984	34	Esbjerg	-			0	0
16	Juha Pirinen	22/10/1991	27	HJK	-			2	0
18	Jere Uronen	13/07/1994	24	Genk	-			4	0
19	Thomas Lam	18/12/1993	24	Zwolle	-			1	0
22	Janne Saksela	14/03/1993	25	Sparta	-			0	0
Midfielders									
4	Joona Toivio	10/03/1988	30	Häcken	-			5	0
6	Glen Kamara	28/10/1995	23	Dundee	-			3	1
7	Robin Lod	17/04/1993	25	Sporting Gijón	-			5	0
8	Robert Taylor	21/10/1994	24	Tromsø	-			1	0
11	Joni Kauko	12/07/1990	28	Esbjerg	-			3	0
14	Fredrik Jensen	09/09/1997	21	Augsburg	-			1	0
21	Petteri Forsell	16/10/1990	28	Miedz	-			1	0
Forwards									
9	Eero Markkanen	03/07/1991	27	Dalkurd	-			1	0
10	Teemu Pukki	29/03/1990	28	Norwich	-			5	3
13	Pyry Soiri	22/09/1994	24	Admira	-			5	1
20	Jasse Tuominen	12/11/1995	23	BATE	-			5	0
Coach									
-	Markku Kanerva	24/05/1964	54		-			5	0

Head coach

Marco Rossi

Date of birth: 9 September 1964

Nationality: Italian

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

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

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

Markku Kanerva

Date of birth: 24 May 1964

Nationality: Finnish

Playing career: HJK Helsinki (twice), Elfsborg, FinnPa

Coaching career: HJK Helsinki (assistant), Viikingit, Finland Under-21s, Finland (caretaker, twice), Finland (assistant), Finland

- A defender in his playing days, Markku Kanerva started out at home-town club HJK and won five Finnish titles and three Finnish Cups over two spells, returning for four years until his retirement in 1998 after an initial stay from 1983 to 1990.
- Contested five games in the 1998/99 UEFA Champions League with HJK, having rejoined after stints with Swedish side Elfsborg and Finnish outfit FinnPa; Kanerva also picked up 59 caps for his national team, scoring once.
- Began his coaching career as an assistant at HJK before briefly holding the reins at Viikingit in 2003 and entering the Football Association of Finland (SPL-FBF) coaching set-up the following year.
- Took charge of Finland's U21s between 2004 and 2009, earning recognition as Finland's coach of the year in 2008 after booking the side a historic maiden place at the 2009 UEFA European U21 Championship finals.
- Assistant coach of Finland's senior team between 2010 and 2016, Kanerva took over in an interim capacity in both 2011 and 2015 before being handed the role full time as Hans Backe's replacement in December 2016. A home win against Iceland was the highlight of the unsuccessful qualifying campaign for the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

Match officials

Referee	Slavko Vinčić (SVN)
Assistant referees	Tomaž Klančnik (SVN) , Andraž Kovacic (SVN)
Additional assistant referees	Nejc Kajtazovic (SVN) , Roberto Ponis (SVN)
Fourth official	Grega Kordež (SVN)
UEFA Delegate	Sviatlana Hrynkevich (BLR)
UEFA Referee observer	Andreas Schluchter (SUI)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Slavko Vinčić	25/11/1979	1	53

UEFA Nations League matches between the two teams

No such matches refereed

Other matches involving teams from either of the two countries involved in this match

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
30/06/2011	UEL	1QR	Ferencvárosi TC	Ulisses FC	3-0	Budapest
21/11/2012	U19	QR	Finland	Montenegro	2-0	Paphos
06/09/2016	WC	QR	Faroe Islands	Hungary	0-0	Torshavn

Competition facts

What is the background to the UEFA Nations League?

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

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

What is the basic format?

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

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

League A

Group A1: Germany, France, Netherlands

Group A2: Belgium, Switzerland, Iceland

Group A3: Portugal, Italy, Poland

Group A4: Spain, England, Croatia

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

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

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

League B

Group B1: Slovakia, Ukraine, Czech Republic

Group B2: Russia, Sweden, Turkey

Group B3: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland

Group B4: Wales, Republic of Ireland, Denmark

Teams have been split into four groups of three.

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

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

League C

Group C1: Scotland, Albania, Israel

Group C2: Hungary, Greece, Finland, Estonia

Group C3: Slovenia, Norway, Bulgaria, Cyprus

Group C4: Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Lithuania

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

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

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

League D

Group D1: Georgia, Latvia, Kazakhstan, Andorra

Group D2: Belarus, Luxembourg, Moldova, San Marino

Group D3: Azerbaijan, Faroe Islands, Malta, Kosovo

Group D4: FYR Macedonia, Armenia, Liechtenstein, Gibraltar

Teams have been split into four groups of four.

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

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

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

Leagues A and B consist of four groups of three teams

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

League D is formed by four groups of four teams

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

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

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

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

When will the UEFA Nations League take place?

The UEFA Nations League will take place as follows:

See the full fixture list.

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

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

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

Will qualifying for the UEFA EURO change?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How are the overall UEFA Nations League rankings calculated?

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

What are the advantages for national associations and teams?

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

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

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

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

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

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

What are the advantages for supporters?

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

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

Will this mean more demands on players and clubs?

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

Is this just about generating more revenue?

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

Will there be no more friendly internationals?

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

Match-by-match lineups

Hungary

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Group C2

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Finland	5	4	0	1	5	1	12
Greece	5	3	0	2	4	4	9
Hungary	5	2	1	2	7	6	7
Estonia	5	0	1	4	3	8	1

Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

Finland 1-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Pukki 7

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

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Hungary 2-1 Greece

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

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

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Greece 1-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Mitroglou 65

Hungary: Gulácsi, Kádár, Fiola, Orban, A. Nagy, Szalai, Kalmár (55 Kovács), Kleinheisler, R. Varga (68 D. Nagy), Sallai, Bese (75 Németh)

Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

Estonia 3-3 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Luts 20, 1-1 D. Nagy 24, 1-2 Szalai 54, 2-2 Pátkai 70 (og), 3-2 Henri Anier 79, 3-3 Szalai 81

Hungary: Gulácsi, Kádár, Baráth, Orban, A. Nagy, Szalai, Kovács, Lovrencsics (80 Bese), Kleinheisler (68 Pátkai), D. Nagy (75 Eppel), Sallai

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Hungary 2-0 Estonia

Goals: 1-0 Orban 8, 2-0 Szalai 69

Hungary: Dibusz, Korhut, Kádár, Baráth, Orban, A. Nagy, Szalai (76 Böde), Kovács, Kalmár (84 Kleinheisler), Pátkai, D. Nagy (65 Dzsudzsák)

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Hungary-Finland

Finland

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

Finland 1-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Pukki 7

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Toivio, Lod, Pukki, Schüller (63 Sparv), Soiri (85 Taylor), Uronen (46 Granlund), Kauko, Tuominen, Raitala

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Finland 1-0 Estonia

Goals: 1-0 Pukki 12

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Granlund (76 Väisänen), Toivio, Lod (87 Karjalainen), Pukki (91 Kauko), Schüller, Soiri, Sparv, Tuominen, Raitala

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Estonia 0-1 Finland

Goals: 0-1 Pukki 90+1

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Toivio, Lod, Pukki, Schüller (72 Kamara), Soiri (61 Forsell), Sparv, Uronen, Tuominen (88 Markkanen), Raitala

Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

Finland 2-0 Greece

Goals: 1-0 Soiri 46, 2-0 Kamara 89

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Toivio, Kamara, Lod, Pukki (12 Skrabb), Soiri (86 Pirinen), Sparv, Uronen, Tuominen (91 Karjalainen), Raitala

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Greece 1-0 Finland

Goals: 1-0 Granlund 25 (og)

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Granlund, Toivio, Kamara, Lod, Pukki (93 Lam), Kauko, Soiri (74 Jensen), Uronen, Tuominen (83 Pirinen)

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Hungary-Finland

Legend

Competitions

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