

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

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Match preview

There may be a new face to Serbian football as they compete in a UEFA final tournament for the first time as an independent nation, but according to coach Miroslav Djukić some traditions are worth keeping. No host nation has ever won the UEFA European Under-21 Championship, and the Serbia coach is not about to let that change.

'Expectation'

"We want that to continue," he said at a joint-press conference with Netherlands counterpart Foppe de Haan ahead of Saturday's final at a sold-out Euroborg. De Haan, of course, has other ideas. Portugal collapsed under the weight of expectation on home soil last year and it is a measure of the character that runs through the Jong Oranje that they are within a game of retaining their title. Their dramatic 32-penalty shoot-out victory against England in the semi-final said everything about their resolve and De Haan insisted they were ready to finish the job. "This morning the players showed a lot of energy in training, although the England match took a long time and they barely slept after the game because of their excitement. Maybe it's because of the psychological boost [of winning]. The team is confident."

All change

De Haan's side has changed considerably since winning the tournament last summer and he has had to make significant alterations during the course of this one as well. Captain Ron Vlaar is the latest casualty, ruled out by a knee injury, which means an entirely different eleven will start on Saturday from the team that defeated Ukraine in the final twelve months ago. Daniël de Ridder came on as a late substitute at the Bessa XXI stadium then and is likely to be the only player to feature in both showpieces.

'Real team'

FC Groningen's Arnold Kruiswijk comes in for Vlaar and could be the only new face from the starting XI against England, providing Otman Bakkal passes a fitness test on a knee problem. With no fresh injuries to report, Djukić could name an unchanged side from the one that saw off Belgium 2-0 in the last four. Serbia announced their presence here by beating five-times champions Italy in their opener and they continue to grow in stature. Branislav Ivanović, Dejan Milovanović and Boško Janković were all part of the Serbia and Montenegro squad that reached the 2004 final and all have cemented their reputations here. But De Haan believes Serbia's greatest strength lies in the collective. "In the past they played more individually but this is a real team," he said.

'No limits'

Djukić has set "no limits" for his side and after their astounding play-off success to qualify for these finals it is obvious why. Trailing Sweden 3-0 on aggregate after the home leg of their play-off they responded with a stunning 5-0 away win. Anything is possible it seems. Djukić, however, hopes to avoid penalties given his own disastrous track record from the spot, most famously missing one in the last minute of the 1993/94 season which cost Valencia CF the title. "I want my team to affect their destiny in normal time," he said. That destiny will be followed closely back home. Serbians have a strong record of success in this competition, but not yet as an independent nation. As Djukić spoke of the "pride" at representing his country, there was a feeling that could be about to change.



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Team facts

Netherlands

- The Netherlands are bidding to become the first team to win the European U21 Championship on home territory since the switch to a one-off game in 1994. Until then the final had been decided on a two-legged basis. Spain came closest in 1996, reaching the final where they lost on penalties to Italy.
- The hosts could also become only the third side to win consecutive U21 titles; England triumphed in 1982 and 1984 before Italy lifted the trophy in 1992 and 1994, going on to complete a hat-trick of titles in 1996. The Azzurri remain the only side to win the competition three editions running.
- **Kenneth Vermeer**, **Ron Vlaar**, **Arnold Kruiswijk**, **Daniël De Ridder**, **Haris Medunjanin** and **Ismaïl Aissati** could join an illustrious group of players who have won the European U21 title twice. Only Danny Thomas (England 1982 and 1984), Dario Marcolin and Roberto Muzzi (Italy 1992 and 1994) and Fabio Cannavaro and Christian Panucci (Italy 1994 and 1996) have previously achieved that feat.
- A year ago, **Vermeer**, **Vlaar** and **Aissati** all started the 3-0 defeat of Ukraine while **Kruiswijk** and **De Ridder** came on as second-half substitutes. **Medunjanin** remained on the bench.
- **Vlaar** and **Aissati** will both miss the final this time round, however, the former straining a ligament in his left knee in the semi-final against England while Aissati was ruled out of the rest of the tournament after suffering "a real setback" in his recovery from an injury to his right knee during the first game with Israel.
- Should the Netherlands triumph **De Haan** would become only the third coach to win two or more European U21 Championships. Dave Sexton was the first, with England in 1982 and 1984, before Cesare Maldini guided Italy to wins in 1992, 1994 and 1996.
- The Netherlands opened these finals with a 1-0 win against Israel in Heerenveen, **Hedwiges Maduro** scoring the only goal after ten minutes to secure a win which left his side on top of Group A - a position they never relinquished.
- **Royston Drenthe** was named Carlsberg Man of the Match and **Maceo Rigters** took that honour in Groningen three days later as the hosts secured a semi-final place with a 2-1 victory against Portugal. **Ryan Babel** broke the deadlock from the penalty spot on 33 minutes before Rigters added a second 15 minutes from time. Two minutes later Miguel Veloso reduced the deficit with a stunning free-kick but the Netherlands held on.
- The Netherlands ended that game with **Kenneth Vermeer** in goal after No1 **Boy Waterman** was substituted in the 34th minute because of a back injury. It meant a first start in this year's finals for his deputy Vermeer against Belgium last Saturday.
- The Low Countries derby ended all-square in Heerenveen last Saturday as Sébastien Pocognoli's 70th-minute strike earned Belgium a 2-2 draw. Jean-François De Sart's team had briefly held the lead following Kevin Mirallas' opener on nine minutes before **Rigters** (13) swiftly restored parity. **Drenthe** curled in a free-kick on 37 minutes to put the Netherlands in front and Belgium were heading out until Pocognoli struck.
- After the game Netherlands coach **Foppe de Haan** said: "I now hope we play England because Italy are a little bit better - they have more creativity and stronger strikers. England play 4-4-2 in a way we can handle. "
- Those words looked like coming back to haunt **De Haan** as the Netherlands went into the last minute of their semi-final 1-0 down to England at the Abe Lenstra. Leroy Lita's 39th-minute strike appeared to be decisive before **Rigters** scored a stunning overhead equaliser - but that was just the start of the drama. After a goalless extra-time period the game went to an epic penalty shoot-out, the Dutch eventually prevailing 13-12 after a total of 32 spot-kicks with **Gianni Zuiverloon** - who plays his club football in the ground with SC Heerenveen - converting the winning penalty.

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- The 13-12 penalty scoreline is a UEFA competition record.
- **Rigters'** goal was his third of the finals, and he is now joint top scorer alongside England's Lita. Another in the final and he will become the second successive Dutchman to top the tournament scoring charts after Klaas Jan Huntelaar did so with four goals last year in Portugal.
- Carlsberg Man of the Match for a second time in four games, **Rigters** believes gymnastic training may have helped him score his spectacular equaliser, saying: "I have only ever scored that kind of goal in training before. The gymnastics session was good. We jumped on the trampoline so maybe that helped me in scoring this goal. I want to thank the trainer for that. "
- Doubtful with a back injury before the game goalkeeper **Waterman** thanked AZ Alkmaar coach Louis van Gaal for his penalty advice. "I have not stopped that many penalties before," he told uefa.com. "I know I can do it and talked a lot with Louis van Gaal about it. He told me to stand for as long as possible and only react to what they do. You are still tempted to dive to the corner you think they will shoot for, but I managed to stay on my feet just long enough."
- **De Haan** will celebrate his 64th birthday on 26 June, three days after the final.
- **De Haan** has crossed paths with Serbia coach Miroslav Djukić before. Djukić was in the Valencia CF side that won 1-0 away to a Heerenveen team coached by De Haan in the UEFA Champions League in September 2000. He also played the return match at Mestalla two months later, which ended 1-1, as the Spanish side topped the group with Heerenveen finishing bottom.
- The Netherlands have never before faced Serbia, either as an independent nation, as part of Serbia and Montenegro or Yugoslavia, in a competitive U21 match.
- The countries did meet in qualifying for the UEFA European Futsal Championship in February, however, with Serbia coasting to an emphatic 6-0 victory.
- Paired together at the FIFA World Cup last summer on 11 June, it was the Netherlands that came out on top, Arjen Robben scoring the only goal of the game on 18 minutes in Leipzig. **Maduro** and **Babel** were both unused substitutes for the Dutch, who went on to finish second in the group. Serbia and Montenegro ended at the foot of the table.
- FC Groningen midfielder **Kruiswijk** will play at his home stadium the Euroborg should he feature against Serbia. He has encountered Serbian opposition there before, playing all 90 minutes as Groningen beat FK Partizan 1-0 at home in the UEFA Cup first round last September but it was not enough to overhaul a 4-2 first-leg defeat. Serbia midfielder Milan Smiljanić was in the Partizan team.
- The Netherlands were awarded the right to host the 2007 UEFA European Under-21 Championship after winning the 2006 edition in Portugal. They qualified as hosts and champions and only played friendly games after winning the trophy.
- Last year was the Netherlands' first appearance in a final, having progressed beyond the last four at the third time of asking. They lost by three-goal margins in 1998 and 1988.
- The Netherlands began and ended their campaign against Ukraine last summer, losing their opening game in Agueda 2-1, then winning the final 3-0 at Boavista FC's Estádio Bessa XXI in Porto on 4 June.
- The side that day was: **Vermeer**, Gijs Luirink, Urby Emanuelson, Stijn Schaars, Romeo Castelen, Nicky Hofs, Klaas Jan Huntelaar, **Aissati**, Dwight Tiendalli, **Vlaar**, Demy de Zeeuw. **De Ridder** came on as a second-half replacement, while **Medunjanin** and **Kruiswijk** were among the unused substitutes.

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- The Dutch also needed extra time to see off France in the semi-final, Hofs making it 3-2 after a late Brian Bergougnoux equaliser had forced the additional 30 minutes.
- Huntelaar scored two goals in the final - one from the penalty spot - to finish as the tournament's leading scorer with four goals.
- Only six of the triumphant Dutch squad are among De Haan's 23 this time round: **Vermeer**, **Vlaar**, **Kruiswijk**, **De Ridder**, **Medunjanin** and **Aissati**.
- **Aissati**, 18, was a key player for the Dutch last summer and was the youngest player in the squad this time around, though he was ruled out of the rest of these finals after that knee injury against Israel.
- **Ryan Donk** left the Netherlands' training camp after the Israel match to return home for a second time as his sister was involved in a car accident. He rejoined the squad in time for the next game against Portugal.
- Born on 22 January 1984, **Rijters** is the Dutch squad's oldest player and only just qualified for this tournament. However, unless chosen as one of three permitted over-23 players, his age would rule him out of the Olympic Games for which the Jong Oranje qualified by reaching the last four.
- Team-mate **Calvin Jong-A-Pin** is also looking ahead to Beijing. Born in Amsterdam of Surinamese descent, his links with the Asian country go back a long way: "Five or six generations ago, Chinese traders came to Surinam to run plantations and there is Chinese blood in me," he told uefa.com.
- **Clarence Seedorf** and **Mark van Bommel** have both expressed an interest in being one of the three over-23 players in the squad in China.
- Former Netherlands captain Frank de Boer has been an interested observer of the Jong Oranje, saying: "I'm impressed with how they play. They are so organised, not only the first eleven, but the whole squad. They only have one goal and that's the team. If they score a goal everybody is involved and that's the secret of this team."
- The Belgium and England matches at the Abe Lenstra took place in familiar surroundings for De Haan who was head coach of Heerenveen for two spells between 1985 and 1988 and 1992 and 2004, when he stepped down to take charge of the U21 side.
- **De Haan** is the longest-serving club coach in Dutch history having spent 12 years in charge of Heerenveen and was named coach of the year in the Netherlands in 1997 and 2000.
- Three of the U21 squad have also played for the senior Dutch team. They are **Babel** (14 caps/4 goals), **Vlaar** (2/0) and **Maduro** (12/0).
- When **Babel** scored on his international debut against Romania in March 2005 he became the Netherlands' youngest goalscorer for 68 years.
- De Haan gave **Babel** a DVD of Eredivisie leading scorer Afonso Alves's goals to watch and learn from because he believes the 20-year-old can still improve in front of goal.
- **De Ridder**'s substitute appearance against England was his 29th U21 cap. However, he sat out the Portugal match, so even if he plays in the final he will not equal Arnold Bruggink's national record of 31 appearances.
- Newcastle United FC goalkeeper **Krul** is the only player in the squad who is yet to play for the U21s but was No1 in the Dutch side that made the final of the European U17 Championship two years ago.

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- Last week Newcastle confirmed **Krul** had signed a new four-year contract. The 19-year-old, who joined the English club from ADO Den Haag in 2005, is yet to make his Premier League debut although he did keep a clean sheet in the UEFA Cup Group H game at US Città di Palermo in November.

- Overall the Netherlands have played 125 competitive matches at U21 level, winning 64 and losing 34 with 27 draws. Those games have brought 223 goals scored with 129 conceded.

Serbia

- **Dejan Milovanović**, **Branislav Ivanović** and **Boško Janković** were all in the Serbia and Montenegro squad that lost 3-0 to Italy in the 2004 final. Ivanović played 90 minutes in Bochum and Milovanović was replaced three minutes past the hour, while Janković was an unused substitute.

- The trio are playing in their third U21 finals having also helped Serbia and Montenegro to the last four in Portugal a year ago.

- This time round Serbia sealed their progress to the semi-finals as Group B winners with victory against the Czech Republic in Nijmegen last Thursday. **Janković** scored the only goal of the game three minutes into added time to make it two wins in two. Three days earlier **Milovanović** had been the hero, rifling in the winner against Italy in the 63rd minute.

- Serbia coach **Miroslav Djukić** made one change to the side that lined up against Italy, with **Zoran Tošić** replacing the injured **Miloš Krsić**. The PFC CSKA Moskva midfielder - another in his third U21 finals - picked up a thigh knock in the early stages against the Azzurrini which ruled him out of the tournament. "I am disappointed, unhappy and sad," Krsić said. "This is the third Under-21 EURO for me and I was hoping to help the team. Now I must concentrate on making a quick recovery and work towards the next EURO, this time with the senior side."

- Reserve goalkeeper **Igor Stefanović** was also ruled out of the finals after suffering an ankle injury in training the day before the Italy game.

- Having already secured their progress as Group B winners, **Djukić** made nine changes for the match against England on Sunday. **Zoran Tošić** and **Stefan Babović** were the only survivors from the team that started against the Czech Republic. It included a debut for **Aleksandar Kesić** who conceded twice as England won 2-0 with goals from Leroy Lita (5) and Matt Derbyshire (77).

- Serbia were back to full strength at the Gelredome for their semi-final against Belgium on Wednesday as goals from goals at the start and finish of the match from **Aleksandar Kolarov** and **Dragan Mrdja** took the side through to their second European U21 Championship final in three attempts after Serbia and Montenegro's success in 2004.

- Although this is the first time Serbia have qualified for the U21 finals as an independent nation, they enjoyed considerable success as part of the former Yugoslavia, lifting the trophy in 1978. Vahid Halilhodžić scored a first-half hat-trick in the second leg to lead the side to a 5-4 aggregate triumph against the German Democratic Republic.

- Yugoslavia also reached the final in 1990, where they lost 7-3 over two games to the Soviet Union while they had their first experience of a one-off final in 1990, losing 4-2 to the USSR. Yugoslavia's goals came from Davor Šuker and Robert Jarni.

- **Ivanović**, **Aleksandar Kolarov**, **Babović**, **Djorde Rakić** and **Zoran Tošić** are ever-present for Serbia in these finals.

- Serbia have never met the Netherlands in a competitive U21 match.

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- Paired together at the FIFA World Cup last summer on 11 June, it was the Netherlands that came out on top, Arjen Robben scoring the only goal on 18 minutes in Leipzig. **Dušan Basta** was an unused substitute for Serbia and Montenegro, who went on to finish bottom of the group. The Netherlands ended second and went on to lose to Portugal in the last 16.
- **Kesić** and **Gojko Kačar** were in the Serbia and Montenegro team that drew 1-1 with the Netherlands in Bulgaria in the first qualifying round of the European U17 Championship in October 2003. It was enough to secure second place in the group and eliminate the Dutch in a group won by Armenia.
- **Milan Smiljanić** tasted defeat at the Euroborg last September as he was in the FK Partizan team that lost 1-0 to FC Groningen in the UEFA Cup first round. The Serbia midfielder came up against the Netherlands' Arnold Kruiswijk that day, and despite the loss it was Partizan that went through on aggregate having won the first encounter 4-2.
- Serbia coach **Djukić** was in the Yugoslavia team that were swept aside 6-1 by the Netherlands in the quarter-finals of UEFA EURO 2000™.
- The two coaches have crossed paths before. **Djukić** was in the Valencia CF side that won 1-0 away to a SC Heerenveen team coached by Foppe de Haan in the UEFA Champions League in September 2000. He also played the return match at Mestalla two months later, which ended 1-1, as the Spanish side topped the group with Heerenveen finishing bottom.
- **Milovanović** is the oldest player in these finals. The 23-year-old was born on 21 January 1984. Israel forward Ben Sahar (born 10 August 1989) was the youngest player here.
- Serbia have played 134 competitive matches at U21 level, 66 of which have ended in victory with 34 defeats and the same number of draws. Serbia have scored 233 goals in those games and conceded 151.
- Serbia and Montenegro also qualified for last year's tournament and reached the last four as Group A runners-up behind France. Then three points, thanks to a 2-0 win against hosts Portugal on Matchday 2, proved enough, rendering defeats by Germany (1-0) and France (2-0) irrelevant, but luck was against Serbia and Montenegro in the semi-final penalty shoot-out as Ukraine emerged as 5-4 winners following a goalless draw.
- **Ivanović**, **Duško Tošić**, **Janković**, **Basta**, **Milovanović** and **Krasić** all featured in that match in Braga. Janković missed Serbia's first penalty, though Basta and Milovanović were both on target before Milan Purović's miss proved decisive in sudden death.
- Serbia qualified for these finals in dramatic fashion, opening Group 3 with a 3-1 win in Georgia and clinching first place in the section thanks to a 2-0 defeat of Lithuania in Novi Sad. That good work looked to have been undone in the play-offs, however, as Sweden ran out 3-0 winners in the first leg in Novi Sad but two goals in the first eleven minutes of the second encounter, from **Mrdja** and **Janković**, revived Serbian hopes. **Babović** levelled the aggregate scores ten minutes before half-time and put Serbia in front overall a minute before the hour, before **Krasić** added a fifth in the 66th minute to complete a remarkable 5-0 win and secure a place in the Netherlands.
- Nine members of Serbia's finals squad played in all four qualifying fixtures: **Kahrman**, **Ivanović**, **Duško Tošić**, **Smiljanić**, **Janković**, **Milovanović**, **Babović**, **Krasić** and **Mrdja**. Of those, Kahrman, Ivanović, Tošić, Janković and Milovanović played all 360 minutes.
- Seven, meanwhile, did not appear in qualifying: **Stefanović**, **Kesić**, **Kačar**, **Basta**, **Rajković**, **Nikola Petković** and **Zoran Tošić**.
- **Babović** was one of nine players to score three times in qualifying, one goal fewer than the top scorers, England's Theo Walcott and Russian pair Nikita Bazhenov and Igor Denisov.

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- Serbia are one of the most experienced sides in the finals. Nine of the squad that reached the semi-finals as part of the Serbia and Montenegro team in Portugal last year are included again here: **Ivanović**, **Rnić**, **Duško Tošić**, **Basta**, **Janković**, **Babović**, **Krašić**, **Rakić** and **Milovanović**.

- Seven members of Serbia's squad for these finals have already had a taste of senior internationals. **Janković** (4 games/2 goals), **Krašić** (4/0), **Duško Tošić** (3/0), **Ivanović** (2/0), **Basta** (2/0), **Rnić** (1/0) and **Antonio Rukavina** (1/0).

- **Rukavina** made his debut in the 2-0 victory away to Finland in qualifying for UEFA EURO 2008™ on 2 June. **Janković** opened the scoring for Serbia on two minutes and **Krašić** also started the match.

- **Djukić** had never coached before he took charge ahead of qualifying for these finals. The 41-year-old, who was capped 48 times for Yugoslavia having represented his country at the 1998 World Cup as well as UEFA EURO 2000™, was appointed coach of FK Partizan in January and will leave the U21 side after the tournament.

- Former FK Vojvodina left-back **Petković** joined up with the Serbian squad just four days before the start of the tournament after signing a four-year contract with Gençlerbirliği SK in Ankara.

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Squad list

Netherlands

No	Player	DoB	Age	Club	Current season				All-time	
					Qual.		FT		U21	
					Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers										
1	Boy Waterman	24.01.1984	23	SC Heerenveen	-	-	3	-	3	-
16	Kenneth Vermeer	10.01.1986	21	AFC Ajax	-	-	2	-	7	-
23	Tim Krul	03.04.1988	19	Newcastle United FC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders										
2	Gianni Zuiverloon	30.12.1986	20	SC Heerenveen	-	-	4	-	4	-
3	Ron Vlaar	16.02.1985	22	Feyenoord	-	-	4	-	8	-
4	Arnold Kruiswijk	02.11.1984	22	FC Groningen	-	-	2	-	2	-
5	Erik Pieters	07.08.1988	18	FC Utrecht	-	-	3	-	3	-
18	Ryan Donk	30.03.1986	21	AZ Alkmaar	-	-	4	-	4	-
19	Calvin Jong-A-Pin	18.08.1986	20	SC Heerenveen	-	-	2	-	2	-
21	Frank van der Struijk	28.03.1985	22	Willem II	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders										
6	Hedwiges Maduro	13.02.1985	22	AFC Ajax	-	-	3	1	3	1
8	Royston Drenthe	08.04.1987	20	Feyenoord	-	-	4	1	4	1
11	Daniël de Ridder	06.03.1984	23	AFC Ajax	-	-	3	-	8	1
12	Luigi Bruins	09.03.1987	20	SC Excelsior	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Haris Medunjanin	08.03.1985	22	Sparta Rotterdam	-	-	1	-	3	-
Forwards										
7	Julian Jenner	28.02.1984	23	AZ Alkmaar	-	-	3	-	3	-
9	Ryan Babel	19.12.1986	20	AFC Ajax	-	-	4	1	4	1
10	Ismaïl Aissati	16.08.1988	18	FC Twente	-	-	1	-	6	-
13	Maceo Rigters	22.01.1984	23	NAC Breda	-	-	4	3	4	3
14	Roy Beerens	22.12.1987	19	NEC Nijmegen	-	-	3	-	3	-
15	Robbert Schilder	18.04.1986	21	Heracles Almelo	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Tim Janssen	06.03.1986	21	PSV Eindhoven	-	-	2	-	2	-
22	Otman Bakkal	27.02.1985	22	PSV Eindhoven	-	-	4	-	4	-
Coach										
-	Foppe De Haan	26.06.1943	63	NED	-	-	4	-	9	-

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Serbia

No	Player	DoB	Age	Club	Current season				All-time U21	
					Qual.		FT		Pld	Gls
					Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers										
1	Damir Kahriman	19.11.1984	22	FK Vojvodina	4	-	3	-	3	-
12	Igor Stefanović	17.07.1987	19	FK Vojvodina	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Aleksandar Kesić	18.08.1987	19	FK Mladost Apatin	-	-	1	-	1	-
Defenders										
2	Branislav Ivanović	22.02.1984	23	FC Lokomotiv Moskva	4	-	4	-	12	2
4	Nemanja Rnić	30.09.1984	22	FK Partizan	3	-	1	-	2	-
5	Gojko Kačar	26.01.1987	20	FK Vojvodina	-	-	1	-	1	-
6	Aleksandar Kolarov	10.11.1985	21	OFK Beograd	2	-	4	1	4	1
11	Duško Tošić	19.01.1985	22	OFK Beograd	4	-	3	-	5	-
15	Predrag Pavlović	19.06.1986	21	FK Napredak	1	-	1	-	1	-
19	Dušan Basta	18.08.1984	22	FK Crvena Zvezda	-	-	3	-	7	-
20	Slobodan Rajković	03.02.1989	18	OFK Beograd	-	-	1	-	1	-
22	Nikola Petković	28.03.1986	21	FK Vojvodina	-	-	1	-	1	-
Midfielders										
3	Antonio Rukavina	26.01.1984	23	FK Partizan	2	-	3	-	3	-
7	Milan Smiljanić	19.11.1986	20	FK Partizan	4	1	3	-	3	-
8	Boško Janković	01.03.1984	23	FK Crvena Zvezda	4	2	3	1	8	1
10	Dejan Milovanović	21.01.1984	23	FK Crvena Zvezda	4	1	3	1	10	2
13	Nikola Drinčić	07.09.1984	22	FC Amkar Perm	3	-	3	-	3	-
14	Stefan Babović	07.01.1987	20	OFK Beograd	4	3	4	-	4	-
16	Djordje Ivelja	30.06.1984	22	OFK Beograd	3	-	1	-	1	-
17	Miloš Krasić	01.11.1984	22	PFC CSKA Moskva	4	1	1	-	5	-
Forwards										
9	Djordje Rakić	31.10.1985	21	OFK Beograd	2	-	4	-	4	-
18	Dragan Mrdja	23.01.1984	23	K. Lierse SK	4	2	3	1	3	1
21	Zoran Tošić	28.04.1987	20	FK Banat Zrenjanin	-	-	4	-	4	-
Coach										
-	Miroslav Djukić	19.02.1966	41	SRB	4	-	4	-	4	-

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Head coaches

Netherlands: Foppe de Haan



Date of birth: 26 June 1943

Playing career: GAVC Grouw, SC Heerenveen, SV De Enschedese Boys, VV Akkrum

Coaching career: VV Drachtster Boys (1977-80), ACV (1980-83), VV Steenwijk (1983-85), Heerenveen (1985-88 and 1992-04), Netherlands Under-21s (since 2004)

After leading the Netherlands to victory in Portugal in 2006, Foppe de Haan is determined to repeat the feat on home soil as he looks forward to defending the UEFA European Under-21 Championship. "You never can win enough trophies," he said after the Netherlands' comprehensive 3-0 win against Ukraine in the final last June. With the added advantage of home support, the Netherlands will be hoping further success is just around the corner.

That triumph was one of the highlights of a long and successful career in which De Haan has twice been named Dutch coach of the year. It is fitting that SC Heerenveen's Abe Lenstra stadium is one of four venues selected to host matches during the 2007 finals given De Haan's long association with the club prior to accepting the invitation to become national U21 coach in 2004.

The Lippenhuizen-born De Haan was a midfielder with Grouw, Heerenveen, Enschedese Boys and Akkrum, but his understanding of the game and his training as a PE teacher marked him out as a coach of the future. The Friesland native started training youngsters at Akkrum in 1974 before taking on a similar role at Heerenveen two years after that. His first experience as a head coach came with amateur sides Drachtster Boys, ACV and Steenwijk, before taking charge at Heerenveen, whom he led from 1985 until 1988 when he stepped down to coach the club's youth sides.

He was handed the top job again in October 1992 and won promotion to the Eredivisie in 1993 as well leading his side to the Dutch Cup final, which they lost to AFC Ajax. In the following years, Heerenveen helped the likes of Jon Dahl Tomasson and Ruud van Nistelrooy prepare for European stardom while playing UEFA Cup football. They reached the Dutch Cup final again in 1997, losing this time against Roda JC.

Named coach of the year in the Netherlands in 1997 and 2000, De Haan stepped down at Heerenveen in the summer of 2004. By then he had become the longest-serving club coach in Dutch history after 12 years in charge. He was appointed technical co-ordinator for youth football by the Royal Netherlands Football Association and U21 coach and his first major test was the 2005 FIFA U-20 World Cup. He led the Netherlands to the quarter-finals on home soil, laying the foundations for their triumph in Portugal the following summer.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Serbia: Miroslav Djukić



Date of birth: 19 February 1966

Playing career: FK Macva, FK Rad, RC Deportivo La Coruña, Valencia CF, CD Tenerife; Yugoslavia (48 caps)

Coaching career: Serbia Under-21s (since 2006) and FK Partizan (since January 2007)

Miroslav Djukić enjoyed plenty of success as a player in Spain with Deportivo and Valencia and looks set to continue in the same vein on the bench after guiding Serbia through qualifying in his first job as a coach.

Djukić, the last great libero in Yugoslavian domestic football, began his playing career with his hometown club Macva before spurning Serbia's big two FK Crvena Zvezda and FK Partizan to join Rad, a club on the rise. It was an unusual choice, but then Djukić has always done things his way. Similar thinking took him to Deportivo in 1990. Then a second division side, Djukić's decision was quickly vindicated as Depor won promotion the following year and were soon competing at Europe's top table.

Djukić will always be associated with the club, particularly for one moment in the final round of the 1993/94 season when he missed a penalty in the final minute against Valencia that cost them the title. Two years later Djukić moved to Valencia and the following season Depor finally won their first league title. "God exists, they deserve that. Now I have peace in my soul," Djukić said. After twice appearing on the losing side with Valencia in the UEFA Champions League finals of 2000 and 2001, Djukić eventually collected some silverware himself as the Mestalla club captured the Spanish crown in 2002.

He made his international debut for Yugoslavia in a 1-1 draw against Turkey in Izmir on 27 February 1991. He went on to win 46 caps, scoring twice, and represented his country at the 1998 FIFA World Cup as well as UEFA EURO 2000™. He saw out his career with Tenerife in 2004 before training to be a coach in Spain. The hard work paid off with his appointment as Serbia coach ahead of qualifying for the 2007 UEFA European Under-21 Championship. Serbia's successful campaign caught the eye of Partizan who gave him his first taste of club management when they named him coach on 9 January 2007. Djukić will continue in both jobs until the end of the tournament in the Netherlands after which he will step down as coach of the U21s.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Match officials

Referee	Damir Skomina (SVN)
Assistant referees	Manuel Navarro (SUI), Tomas Mokos (SVK)
Fourth official	Stéphane Lannoy (FRA)
UEFA Delegate	Heinz Fahnler (AUT)
UEFA Referee observer	Bo Karlsson (SWE)

Referees

Name	Nat.	DoB	UNDER21	UEFA
Damir Skomina	SVN	05.08.1976	5	9



At just 30, Damir Skomina has already handled two UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifying matches and is expected to go to the very top on the international stage. He was appointed to the UEFA Premier list of referees on 1 January this year having steadily worked his way up the ranks - both in Slovenia and abroad.

- Cut his teeth in international football at the 2003 UEFA European Under-17 finals in Portugal, where he officiated the hosts' opening group match, a 3-2 win against Denmark, before also taking charge of Italy's 4-0 defeat of Israel and Portugal's subsequent semi-final success against England on penalties.

- His big break in UEFA's two main club competitions came soon after. A 4-2 home win for RCD Mallorca against APOEL FC in October 2003 was his UEFA Cup bow before taking charge of FK Pobeda's 3-1 defeat at FC Pyunik the following July - the first of three UEFA Champions League qualifying matches he has officiated.

- Has previous Under-21 experience having taken charge of Albania v Greece (1-1) in September 2004, Wales v Germany (0-4) in February 2005 and Turkey v Israel (0-0) in September 2006. In 2005, he took charge of two FIFA World Cup qualifiers between Iceland and Malta (4-1) and Liechtenstein and Luxembourg (3-0).

- In July 2005 Skomina was the fourth official at the UEFA European Under-19 Championship final between France and England, having held the same position at the 2003 Under-17 final.

Did you know?

The Koper-based Skomina is the youngest of the match officials at the Under-21 finals.

UEFA European Under-21 Championship matches involving teams from the two countries involved in this match

Date	Comp.	Stage	Res	Venue
10.06.2007	U21	GS - FT	Netherlands - Israel	1-0 Heerenveen

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Match-by-match lineups - Netherlands

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Netherlands	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Belgium	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
Portugal	3	1	1	1	5	2	4
Israel	3	0	0	3	0	6	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
10.06.2007	Netherlands - Israel	1-0	Abe Lenstra, Heerenveen
Goals: 1-0 Maduro 10			
Netherlands: Waterman, Zuiverloon, Vlaar, Maduro, Jenner (De Ridder 75), Drenthe, Babel, Aissati (Bakkal 42), Rigters, Medunjanin (Jong-A-Pin 66), Donk			
Referee: Damir Skomina (SVN)			

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
10.06.2007	Portugal - Belgium	0-0	Euroborg, Groningen
Goals: -			

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
13.06.2007	Israel - Belgium	0-1	Abe Lenstra, Heerenveen
Goals: 0-1 Mirallas 82			

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
13.06.2007	Netherlands - Portugal	2-1	Euroborg, Groningen
Goals: 1-0 Babel 33, 2-0 Rigters 75, 2-1 Miguel Veloso 77			
Netherlands: Waterman (Vermeer 34), Zuiverloon, Vlaar, Maduro, Jenner (Beerens 46), Drenthe, Babel, Rigters, Donk, Jong-A-Pin (Pieters 78), Bakkal			
Referee: Knut Kircher (GER)			

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
16.06.2007	Belgium - Netherlands	2-2	Abe Lenstra, Heerenveen
Goals: 1-0 Mirallas 9, 1-1 Rigters 13, 1-2 Drenthe 37, 2-2 Pocognoli 70			
Netherlands: Vermeer, Zuiverloon, Vlaar, Kruiswijk, Pieters, Drenthe (Beerens 73), Babel (Jenner 79), De Ridder, Rigters (Janssen 63), Donk, Bakkal			
Referee: Stéphane Lannoy (FRA)			

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
16.06.2007	Israel - Portugal	0-4	Euroborg, Groningen
Goals: 0-1 Manuel Fernandes 37, 0-2 Ricardo Vaz Té 45, 0-3 Miguel Veloso 49, 0-4 Nani 50			

Semi-finals

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
20.06.2007	Netherlands - England	1-1(13-12) (P)	Abe Lenstra, Heerenveen
Goals: 0-1 Lita 39, 1-1 Rigters 89			
Penalty Shoot-out: 0-1 Young, 1-1 Babel, 1-2 Milner, 1-3 Noble, 2-3 Janssen, 3-3 Beerens, 3-4 Derbyshire, 4-4 Maduro, 4-5 Ferdinand, 5-5 De Ridder, 5-6 Carson, 6-6 Zuiverloon, 6-7 Rosénior, 7-7 Rigters, 7-8 Taylor, 8-8 Waterman, 8-9 Young, 9-9 Beerens, 9-10 Milner, 10-10 Drenthe, 10-11 Noble, 11-11 Maduro, 11-12 Hoyte, 12-12 Janssen, 13-12 Zuiverloon			
Netherlands: Waterman, Zuiverloon, Vlaar (Kruiswijk 66), Pieters (Janssen 76), Maduro, Drenthe, Babel, De Ridder, Rigters, Donk, Bakkal (Beerens 58)			
Referee: Knut Kircher (GER)			

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Match-by-match lineups - Serbia

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Serbia	3	2	0	1	2	2	6
England	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
Italy	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Czech Republic	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
11.06.2007	Czech Republic - England	0-0	Gelredome, Arnhem

Goals: -

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
11.06.2007	Serbia - Italy	1-0	De Goffert, Nijmegen

Goals: 1-0 D. Milovanović 63

Serbia: Kahrیمان, Ivanović, Rukavina, Kolarov, Smiljanić, Janković, D. Milovanović, D. Tošić, Babović (Drinčić 76), Krasić (Z. Tošić 32), Mrdja (Rakić 83)

Referee: Stéphane Lannoy (FRA)

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
14.06.2007	Czech Republic - Serbia	0-1	De Goffert, Nijmegen

Goals: 0-1 Janković 93

Serbia: Kahrیمان, Ivanović, Rukavina, Kolarov, Smiljanić, Janković, D. Milovanović, D. Tošić, Babović (Basta 66), Mrdja (Rakić 46), Z. Tošić

Referee: Robert Małek (POL)

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
14.06.2007	England - Italy	2-2	Gelredome, Arnhem

Goals: 1-0 Nugent 24, 2-0 Lita 26, 2-1 Chiellini 35, 2-2 Aquilani 69

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
17.06.2007	Italy - Czech Republic	3-1	Gelredome, Arnhem

Goals: 1-0 Aquilani 4, 1-1 Papadopoulos 14, 2-1 Chiellini 29, 3-1 Rossi 46

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
17.06.2007	England - Serbia	2-0	De Goffert, Nijmegen

Goals: 1-0 Lita 5, 2-0 Derbyshire 77

Serbia: Kesić, Rnić, Kačar, Drinčić, Babović (Rakić 46), Pavlović, Ivelja, Basta, Rajković (Ivanović 82), Z. Tošić (Kolarov 67), Petković

Referee: Knut Kircher (GER)

Semi-finals

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
20.06.2007	Serbia - Belgium	2-0	Gelredome, Arnhem

Goals: 1-0 Kolarov 4, 2-0 Mrdja 87

Serbia: Kahrیمان, Ivanović, Rukavina, Kolarov, Smiljanić, Janković, Rakić (Mrdja 77), D. Milovanović (Babović 90+1), D. Tošić, Drinčić, Z. Tošić (Basta 67)

Referee: Robert Małek (POL)

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Competition facts

UEFA European Under-21 Championship: 2009

- Qualifying for the 2007-09 edition has already begun with the likes Italy and Spain off to winning starts, while the new champions will also have to qualify if they are to defend their trophy in Sweden in two summers' time. Players are eligible if they were born on or after 1 January 1986.
- The UEFA Executive Committee awarded hosting rights to the Swedish Football Association on 4 October last year and qualifying began on 1 June.
- The Netherlands are up against Switzerland, Norway, F.Y.R. Macedonia and Estonia in Group 5 while Serbia are in Group 8 which also contains Hungary, Belarus, Latvia and San Marino.
- In all 51 UEFA member associations have been divided into eight groups following February's draw in Stockholm, and will compete over ten matchdays until 10 September next year. The ten group winners and four best second-placed sides will progress to the play-offs. These will be held over two legs on 11/12 and 14/15 October 2008 with the seven winners going on to join Sweden at the 2009 finals between 14 and 27 June.

UEFA European Under-21 Championship: 2007 qualifying

- It started out with 51 nations, but 87 games and 228 goals later, two teams remain standing in the 2007 UEFA European Under-21 Championship final: Serbia and hosts the Netherlands.
- Russia were the most prolific scorers in qualifying, although 12 goals in their four matches were not enough to secure a place in the finals as they lost out to Portugal in the play-offs.
- The Portuguese scored eight during their campaign, the same as England and Belgium but two fewer than Serbia who were the most free-scoring of the finalists. The Czech Republic hit the net seven times, and Israel five, while Italy booked their place by scoring at the unremarkable rate of exactly one per game.
- Italy boasted the best defence in qualifying, holding out for 330 minutes before Spain's Roberto Soldado finally broke their resistance in the play-offs.
- Having lost the first leg of their play-off 3-0 in Sweden, Serbia's 5-0 second-leg triumph was the biggest win in qualifying, matching Hungary's 5-0 demolition of Finland. The Finns also conceded five against Russia although Veli Lampi did score a consolation in that match.
- Only players born or after 1 January 1984 are eligible to play in the 2006/07 European U21 Championship.
- At 15 years and eleven months, Liechtenstein midfielder David Hasler was the youngest player to appear in qualifying when he started in his side's back-to-back defeats by Northern Ireland in the preliminary round in April and May.
- Terry Dixon became the youngest in qualifying proper when he came on as a substitute in the Republic of Ireland's loss to Belgium in September. At 16 years and seven months the Tottenham Hotspur FC striker was six years younger than F.Y.R. Macedonia goalkeeper Filip Madzovski, who was born on 1 January 1984 - the maximum limit of eligibility.

UEFA European Under-21 Championship: 2007 finals

- No team has won the competition on home territory since the switch to a new format in 1994. Until then the final had been decided on a two-legged basis. Spain came closest in 1996, reaching the final where they lost on penalties to Italy.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

- Italy have won four of the seven finals since the new format was introduced.
- Seven single-match finals (from a total of 15) have taken place since the format changed for the 1992-94 competition.
- Since the 1992-94 change, Italy have won all four finals in which they have appeared with Spain, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands winning the other three. France, Greece, Serbia and Montenegro and Ukraine have each been losing finalists.
- Six red cards have been issued in single-match finals. The most recent was Olexandr Romanchuk for Ukraine in the 2006 showpiece.
- The single-match final has seen three goals on three occasions. In 2000, Italy beat the Czech Republic 2-1, thanks to Andrea Pirlo's double. In 2004, the Azzurrini won 3-0 against Serbia and Montenegro thanks to goals from Daniele De Rossi, Cesare Bovo and Alberto Gilardino. The Netherlands won by the same margin last year, with Klaas Jan Huntelaar (two) and Nicky Hofs on target.
- Those 3-0 wins for Italy in 2004 and the Netherlands in 2006 are the biggest winning margins in a one-off final.
- Pirlo and Huntelaar are the only men to have scored twice in a final since 1994's move to one-off games. Prior to that Vahid Halilhodžić (Yugoslavia 1978), Gary Owen (England 1982), Franck Sauzée (France 1988) and Andrei Sidelnikov (USSR 1990) had all scored twice in one leg of a final.
- Prior to the single-match finals, Pierre Littbarski, for West Germany in the 1982 final second leg, is the only man to have scored a hat-trick.
- Since the single-match finals began, two have ended in penalty shoot-outs, with nine-man Italy triumphing 5-4 in the 1996 final against Spain. The Czech Republic did likewise, prevailing 3-1 over France in 2002 following the only final to date to end in a goalless draw.
- Only the 1994 final has been decided in extra time, substitute Pierluigi Orlandini winning it for Italy against Portugal with the only goal of the game in the 97th minute.
- Only five players have won the European U21 title twice: Danny Thomas (England 1982 and 1984), Dario Marcolin and Roberto Muzzi (Italy 1992 and 1994) and Fabio Cannavaro and Christian Panucci (Italy 1994 and 1996).
- The fulcrum of Italy's FIFA World Cup winning squad had also been involved in U21 final victories: Cannavaro (1994 and 1996), Filippo Inzaghi (1994), Francesco Totti and Alessandro Nesta (1996), Andrea Pirlo and Gennaro Gattuso (2000) and Marco Amelia, Daniele De Rossi, Alberto Gilardino and Andrea Barzagli (2004). Laurent Blanc is the only other player to have achieved the double, adding his 1998 World Cup medal to the U21 one he had picked up a decade earlier.
- Pierre Littbarski claimed the 1990 World Cup with West Germany, beating England in the semi-finals. Eight years earlier he had scored a hat-trick in vain as his side lost the U21 final 5-4 on aggregate to the same opponents.
- When he helped France to success at UEFA EURO 2000™ Blanc became the first - and so far only - player to win both the U21 title and the UEFA European Championship.
- Ben Sahar at 17 is the youngest player among the eight squads in the Netherlands. He was born on 10 August 1989. The 23-year-old Dejan Milovanović, born on 21 January 1984, is the oldest player on view.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Competition information

After 15 games in 14 days the eight teams at the UEFA European Under-21 Championship finals have been whittled down to just two: the Netherlands and Serbia. The pair meet at the Euroborg in Groningen at 20.45CET and the Dutch holders will be attempting to become the first side to claim the title on home territory since the final became a one-off match. Serbia, however, are keen to maintain that disappointing run for host nations in what will be coach Miroslav Djukić's last game in charge before he steps down to concentrate on his role at FK Partizan; he is hoping to leave a lasting impression.

• **Carlsberg Man of the Match:** A member of the UEFA Technical Study Group will select a man of the match at every game in the finals. The player will receive his award at the post-match press conference. The winners so far are:

NED v ISR: Royston Drenthe (NED)
POR v BEL: Marouane Fellaini (BEL)
CZE v ENG: Nigel Reo-Coker (ENG)
SRB v ITA: Dejan Milovanović (SRB)
ISR v BEL: Kevin Mirallas (BEL)
NED v POR: Maceo Rigters (NED)
CZE v SRB: Duško Tošić (SRB)
ENG v ITA: Alberto Aquilani (ITA)
BEL v NED: Sébastien Pocognoli (BEL)
ISR v POR: Miguel Veloso (POR)
ENG v SRB: James Milner (ENG)
ITA v CZE: Giuseppe Rossi (ITA)
NED v ENG: Maceo Rigters (NED)
SRB v BEL: Branislav Ivanović (SRB)
POR v ITA: Emiliano Viviano (ITA)

• **Attendances:** Attendances have eclipsed all previous tournaments after the remaining 1,021 tickets for the final were sold within one minute and 14 seconds on Friday. The 20,000-capacity Euroborg will therefore be packed to the rafters on Saturday night, after home hopes of a second successive U21 title made seats at the event the hottest tickets in town. The record of 182,671 spectators attending games in Portugal last year has already been surpassed and this season's aggregate total will now extend well beyond 200,000 - higher than the population of the city of Groningen. The attendances here so far have been:

NED v ISR: 22,013
POR v BEL: 7,197
CZE v ENG: 9,382
SRB v ITA: 8,347
ISR v BEL: 5,239
NED v POR: 19,498
CZE v SRB: 6,109
ENG v ITA: 17,103
BEL v NED: 24,099
ISR v POR: 10,833
ITA v CZE: 7,167
ENG v SRB: 9,133
NED v ENG: 23,467
SRB v BEL: 17,438
POR v ITA: 5,161

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

- **Olympic Games:** The Netherlands, Belgium, and Serbia all qualified for the 2008 Olympic Football Tournament in Beijing having reached the semi-finals. England also won through to the last four but will not take a team to China, so the play-off between Portugal and Italy in Nijmegen decided Europe's fourth and final entrant with Italy prevailing 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out after a goalless draw.
- **Olympic eligibility:** Players born on or after the 01.01.1984 are eligible for these finals, while only players aged 23 or under (born on or after 01.01.1985) are eligible for the Olympic Games, along with three overage players.
- **South American challenge:** Brazil and Argentina are the only other teams (apart from hosts China) to seal their spots in Beijing so far, having finished first and second in the South American equivalent of these finals in January. Brazil have never won an Olympic football gold medal, while Argentina are the defending champions having defeated Paraguay in Athens in 2004. Sixteen teams will compete in the football tournament.
- **TV rights:** Television rights for the finals have been sold to more than 150 countries and territories worldwide. Partnerships exist with leading broadcasters in all the participating countries including RAI (Italy), Sky Sports (UK), Talpa (Netherlands), Sport 1 (Israel), B92 (Serbia), TVI (Portugal), RTBF and VRT (Belgium), and Czech TV (Czech Republic). Free live streaming will be available on www.uefa.com in Europe in all the remaining national associations where broadcast rights have not been acquired and outside Europe in Japan and Korea Republic. uefa.com will also be offering free short highlights of each game as well as extensive full highlights and full match reruns. Regular vodcasts and video features will be available to complement the extensive news and live coverage on site.
- **Fan Festival:** A Fan Festival will take place at the Grote Markt square in Groningen in the afternoon ahead of the final, running from 15.45 until 19.15.
- **New ball:** The finals have an official match ball for the first time, an adidas one featuring the orange of the Dutch national shirts tinged with gold to represent the Netherlands' success at last summer's finals and the fact that they are hosting the event. The ball employs the latest technology and is made of just 14 panels, as opposed to the 32-panel design that has characterised most footballs since 1970. With balls now being thermally bonded rather than hand stitched, fewer panels are used, allowing a smoother surface and a perfectly rounded ball which is easier for players to control.
- **Official song:** Rush Hour by DJ Armin van Buuren is the official tune of the finals. Available in shops, it will be played during the warm-up before every match, as the players enter the pitch and after each goal in the final. In addition, Van Buuren will perform during the final in Groningen after a concert at the Radio 538 Fan Festival at the city's Grote Markt earlier in the day.
- **Free transport:** Rexona are providing free coaches for Dutch fans wanting to see the host nation's games, departing from all over the Netherlands in a bid to increase support for Foppe de Haan's team. Home supporters who already have a match ticket for one of their team's games can apply for a seat on one of the coaches at www.Rexona.nl/bus.
- **Anti-doping:** All eight teams attended a one-hour anti-doping session in which UEFA experts highlighted the dangers of drugs and doping, as well as explaining doping control procedures. UEFA's anti-doping drive, which has been stepped up in the past couple of years, is particularly aimed at younger players, with education programmes taking place at all youth tournaments.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

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• **2006 team of the tournament:** uefa.com staff writers selected the following side from the 176 who took part in Portugal.

GK: Steve Mandanda (France)

RB: Dwight Tiendalli (Netherlands)

CB: Dmytro Chygrynskiy (Ukraine)

CB: Milan Stepanov (Serbia and Montenegro)

LB: Urby Emanuelson (Netherlands)

RM: Thomas Kahlenberg (Denmark)

CM: Ismaïl Aissati (Netherlands)

CM: Rio Antonio Mavuba (France)

LM: Jérémy Toulalan (France)

CF: Artem Milevskiy (Ukraine)

CF: Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)

The uefa.com U21 team of the tournament does not bear the official UEFA imprimatur.

Trophy: The UEFA European Under-21 Championship trophy was created by Bertoni in Milan for the 1996-98 campaign after Italy kept the previous one following their three consecutive tournament wins. The 37cm-high trophy is made of brass, glass and Plexiglas, weighs seven kilograms and cost 10,000CHF. The winning nation will get to keep the trophy until the draw for the 2009 finals and will also receive a scaled-down replica.

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Tournament schedule

Final tournament

Date		Home	Res	Away	Venue
10.06.2007	Grp A	Netherlands	1 - 0	Israel	Heerenveen
10.06.2007	Grp A	Portugal	0 - 0	Belgium	Groningen
11.06.2007	Grp B	Czech Republic	0 - 0	England	Arnhem
11.06.2007	Grp B	Serbia	1 - 0	Italy	Nijmegen
13.06.2007	Grp A	Israel	0 - 1	Belgium	Heerenveen
13.06.2007	Grp A	Netherlands	2 - 1	Portugal	Groningen
14.06.2007	Grp B	Czech Republic	0 - 1	Serbia	Nijmegen
14.06.2007	Grp B	England	2 - 2	Italy	Arnhem
16.06.2007	Grp A	Belgium	2 - 2	Netherlands	Heerenveen
16.06.2007	Grp A	Israel	0 - 4	Portugal	Groningen
17.06.2007	Grp B	Italy	3 - 1	Czech Republic	Arnhem
17.06.2007	Grp B	England	2 - 0	Serbia	Nijmegen

Group A

Pos.	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Netherlands	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
2	Belgium	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
3	Portugal	3	1	1	1	5	2	4
4	Israel	3	0	0	3	0	6	0

Group B

Pos.	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Serbia	3	2	0	1	2	2	6
2	England	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
3	Italy	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
4	Czech Republic	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Semi-finals

Date	Home	Res	Away	Venue
20.06.2007	Netherlands	1-1 (13-12p)	England	Heerenveen
20.06.2007	Serbia	2-0	Belgium	Arnhem

Olympic play-off

Date	Home	Res	Away	Venue
21.06.2007	Portugal	0-0 (3-4p)	Italy	Nijmegen

Final

Date	Home	Res	Away	Venue
23.06.2007	Netherlands	20.45	Serbia	Groningen

Top scorers - Final tournament

- 3 Maceo Rigters (NED)
- 3 Leroy Lita (ENG)
- 2 Giorgio Chiellini (ITA)
- 2 Alberto Aquilani (ITA)
- 2 Kevin Mirallas (BEL)
- 2 Miguel Veloso (POR)

NETHERLANDS - SERBIA

MATCH PRESS KIT

Legend

Squad list

No: number **DoB:** date of birth

Qual: qualifying **FT:** final tournament

Pld: played **Gls:** goals **All-time U21:** final tournament only

Match officials

Nat: nationality

DoB: date of birth

Under-21: Total matches officiated in UEFA European Under-21 Championship including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in all UEFA competitions including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

Group statistics/Tournament schedule

Pos: position **Pld:** played

W: won **D:** drawn

L: lost **GF:** goals for

GA: goals against **Pts:** points

NOTE: All-time statistics

Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out.

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship • **U21:** UEFA European Under-21 Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup • **CONFCUP:** Confederation Cup

FRIE: Friendly internationals • **U21FRIE:** Under-21 friendly internationals

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

U19: UEFA European Under-19 Championship • **U18:** UEFA European Under-18 Championship

U17: UEFA European Under-17 Championship • **U16:** UEFA European Under-16 Championship

RCUP: UEFA Regions' Cup • **MCUP:** UEFA-CAF Meridian Cup

:: Competition stages

F: Final

GS: Group stage

GS1: First group stage

GS2: Second group stage

KO1: First knockout round

PR: Preliminary round

QF: Quarter-finals

QR: Qualifying round

QR1: First qualifying round

QR2: Second qualifying round

FT: Final tournament

P-O 3rd: Third place play-off

P-O 7th: Seventh place play-off

QR3: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

1/8: Eighth-finals

1/16: Sixteenth-finals

1st: first leg

2nd: second leg

P-O: Play-off

P-O 5th: Fifth place play-off

P-O 8th: Eighth place play-off

:: Statistics

(-) : Denotes player substituted

(*) : Denotes player dismissed/sent off

(+) : Denotes player introduced

(+/-) : Denotes player introduced and substituted

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