

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Slovakia

**Štadión Antona Malatinského -
Trnava**

Friday 6 September 2019
20.45CET (20.45 local time)
Group E - Matchday -8



Croatia

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Previous meetings

Head to Head

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
EURO																		
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FIFA*																		
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Friendlies																		
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	3	8	17	33
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	8	3	2	33	17
Total																		
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	3	8	17	33
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	8	3	2	33	17

* FIFA World Cup/FIFA Confederations Cup

Squad list

Slovakia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Matúš Kozáčik	27/12/1983	35	Plzeň	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Martin Dúbravka	15/01/1989	30	Newcastle	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Dominik Greif	06/04/1997	22	Slovan Bratislava	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Róbert Mazáň	09/02/1994	25	Tenerife	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Ľubomír Šatka	02/12/1995	23	Lech	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Milan Škriniar	11/02/1995	24	Internazionale	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Denis Vavro	10/04/1996	23	Lazio	*	3	0	0	0		
-	Martin Valjent	11/12/1995	23	Mallorca	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dávid Hancko	13/12/1997	21	Sparta Praha	-	3	1	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Marek Hamšík	27/07/1987	32	Dalian Yifang	*	3	2	0	0		
-	Róbert Mak	08/03/1991	28	Zenit	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Juraj Kucka	26/02/1987	32	Parma	*	3	1	0	0		
-	Ján Greguš	29/01/1991	28	Minnesota United	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Albert Rusnák	07/07/1994	25	Real Salt Lake	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Matúš Bero	06/09/1995	24	Vitesse	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Patrik Hrošovský	22/04/1992	27	Genk	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Ondrej Duda	05/12/1994	24	Hertha	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Stanislav Lobotka	25/11/1994	24	Celta	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Lukáš Haraslín	26/05/1996	23	Lechia	-	1	0	0	0		
-	László Bénes	09/09/1997	21	Mönchengladbach	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Michal Ďuriš	01/06/1988	31	Anorthosis	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Pavol Šafranko	16/11/1994	24	Sepsi Sfantu Gheorghe	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Róbert Boženík	18/11/1999	19	Žilina	-	1	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Pavel Hapal	27/07/1969	50		-	3	0	0	0		

Croatia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Lovre Kalinić	03/04/1990	29	Aston Villa	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Simon Sluga	17/03/1993	26	Luton	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dominik Livaković	09/01/1995	24	Dinamo Zagreb	-	1	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Dejan Lovren	05/07/1989	30	Liverpool	*	2	0	0	0		
-	Domagoj Vida	29/04/1989	30	Beşiktaş	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Mile Škorić	19/06/1991	28	Osijek	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Tin Jedvaj	28/11/1995	23	Augsburg	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Matej Mitrović	10/11/1993	25	Club Brugge	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Karlo Bartolec	20/04/1995	24	København	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Borna Barišić	10/11/1992	26	Rangers	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Dario Melnjak	31/10/1992	26	Rizespor	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Luka Modrić	09/09/1985	33	Real Madrid	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Milan Badelj	25/02/1989	30	Fiorentina	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Ante Rebić	21/09/1993	25	Milan	-	2	1	0	0		
-	Marcelo Brozović	16/11/1992	26	Internazionale	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Mario Pašalić	09/02/1995	24	Atalanta	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Mijo Caktaš	08/05/1992	27	Hajduk Split	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Nikola Vlašić	04/10/1997	21	CSKA Moskva	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Marko Rog	19/07/1995	24	Cagliari	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Ivan Perišić	02/02/1989	30	Bayern	-	3	1	0	0		
-	Mislav Oršić	29/12/1992	26	Dinamo Zagreb	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Bruno Petković	16/09/1994	24	Dinamo Zagreb	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Josip Brekalo	23/06/1998	21	Wolfsburg	-	3	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Zlatko Dalic	26/10/1966	52		-	3	0	0	0		

Head coach

Pavel Hapal

Date of birth: 27 July 1969

Nationality: Czech

Playing career: Sigma Olomouc (four times), Dukla Praha, Bayer Leverkusen, Tenerife, Sparta Praha, České Budějovice, Jakubčovice

Coaching career: Opava, Zlín, Baník Ostrava, Nitra, Mladá Boleslav, Žilina, Zagłębie Lubin, Senica, Slovakia Under-21, Sparta Praha, Slovakia

- A versatile attacking midfielder often deployed on the right flank, Hapal represented both Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic in the early 1990s, winning a total of 31 senior international caps and scoring one goal.
- Born 50km from Olomouc, Hapal started his playing career with Sigma – the first of four spells at the club – and helped them reach the 1991/92 UEFA Cup quarter-finals. His three goals in a memorable 6-2 aggregate win against Hamburg caught the eye of Bundesliga scouts and prompted a move to Leverkusen, where he remained for three years, winning the DFB-Pokal in 1992/93.
- Pursued his career in the Spanish Liga with Tenerife, where he also spent three seasons, before returning to his Czech homeland in 1998 and hanging up his boots four years later.
- Went straight into coaching, serving a succession of Czech clubs before making his name across the border in Slovakia – firstly by leading Nitra to a third-placed finish in 2007/08, then by steering Žilina to a record-equalling fifth Slovakian title in 2009/10, his debut season.
- After a two-year spell at Polish side Zagłębie Lubin and a brief stint back in Slovakia with Senica, he was appointed as coach of Slovakia's Under-21 side. It proved a successful alliance as he led the team to the European finals in Poland, where they were unfortunate to be eliminated in the group stage despite winning two of their three matches. Sparta Praha appointed him in March 2018 but he left in the summer and took charge of the senior Slovakia side in October following Ján Kozák's departure.

Zlatko Dalić

Date of birth: 26 October 1966

Nationality: Croatian

Playing career: Hajduk Split (twice), Budućnost Titograd, Velež, Varteks (twice)

Coaching career: Varteks, Rijeka, Dinamo Tirana, Slaven Belupo (twice), al-Faisaly, al-Hilal, al-Ain, Croatia

- A midfielder, he spent the best years of his playing career at Varteks, scoring 13 goals in 108 matches from 1992–96.
- Played for Varteks in two spells, and after hanging up his boots in 2000, worked simultaneously as the club's assistant coach and sporting director. Took sole command on the field for the first time in 2005.
- Dalić more recently found success in the Middle East with al-Hilal (Saudi Arabia) and al-Ain (United Arab Emirates); in 2016, he led al-Ain to the AFC Champions League final, where they lost to South Korea's Jeonbuk FC over two legs.
- Assistant coach of Croatia under-21s from 2006-11, he returned to the national-team set-up as boss of the senior side on 7 October 2017, stepping in following the departure of Ante Čačić.
- A win away to Ukraine two days after Dalić's appointment earned a 2018 FIFA World Cup play-off place, where Greece were defeated as Croatia reached the finals, prompting Dalić to sign a contract running until 2020. They went on to excel in Russia, reaching the knockout stages for the first time since 1998 courtesy of wins against Nigeria, Argentina and Iceland; Denmark and hosts Russia were beaten on penalties en route to the semi-finals, where England were overcome in extra time, but France proved a step too far in the final.

Match officials

Referee	Felix Brych (GER)
Assistant referees	Mark Borsch (GER) , Stefan Lupp (GER)
Fourth official	Marco Fritz (GER)
UEFA Delegate	Andrew Shaw (ENG)
UEFA Referee observer	Miroslav Tulinger (CZE)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEFA EURO matches	UEFA matches
Felix Brych	03/08/1975	12	102

Felix Brych

Referee since: 1993
First division: 2004
FIFA badge: 2007

Tournaments: 2018 FIFA World Cup, UEFA EURO 2016, 2014 FIFA World Cup, 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup, 2012 Olympic Games

Finals

2017 UEFA Champions League
2014 UEFA Europa League

UEFA European Championship matches featuring the two countries involved in this match

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
11/11/2011	EURO	PO	Turkey	Croatia	0-3	Istanbul

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

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
06/06/2007	U19	ELITE	Croatia	Italy	3-1	Katerini
11/11/2011	EURO	PO	Turkey	Croatia	0-3	Istanbul
06/09/2013	WC	QR	Serbia	Croatia	1-1	Belgrade
09/10/2017	WC	QR	Ukraine	Croatia	0-2	Kyiv
12/10/2018	UNL	GS-FT	Croatia	England	0-0	Rijeka

Match-by-match lineups

Slovakia

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group E

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Croatia	8	5	2	1	17	7	17
Wales	8	4	2	2	10	6	14
Slovakia	8	4	1	3	13	11	13
Hungary	8	4	0	4	8	11	12
Azerbaijan	8	0	1	7	5	18	1

Matchday 1 (21/03/2019)

Slovakia 2-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Duda 42, 2-0 Rusnák 85

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Vavro, Duda (87 Šafranko), Rusnák (92 Mihalík), Škriniar, Hancko, Hamšík, Kucka, Mak (79 Stoch), Lobotka

Matchday 2 (24/03/2019)

Wales 1-0 Slovakia

Goals: 1-0 James 5

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík (90 Šafranko), Vavro, Duda (65 Ďuriš), Rusnák, Škriniar, Hancko, Hamšík, Kucka, Mak (69 Stoch), Lobotka

Matchday 4 (11/06/2019)

Azerbaijan 1-5 Slovakia

Goals: 0-1 Lobotka 8, 0-2 Kucka 27, 1-2 Sheydaev 29, 1-3 Hamšík 30, 1-4 Hamšík 57, 1-5 Hancko 85

Slovakia: Dúbravka, Pekarík, Vavro, Rusnák, Boženík (71 Duda), Škriniar, Hancko, Hamšík (86 Haraslín), Kucka, Mak, Lobotka (84 Greguš)

Matchday 5 (06/09/2019)

Slovakia-Croatia

Matchday 6 (09/09/2019)

Hungary-Slovakia

Matchday 7 (10/10/2019)

Slovakia-Wales

Matchday 9 (16/11/2019)

Croatia-Slovakia

Matchday 10 (19/11/2019)

Slovakia-Azerbaijan

Croatia

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group E

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Croatia	8	5	2	1	17	7	17
Wales	8	4	2	2	10	6	14
Slovakia	8	4	1	3	13	11	13
Hungary	8	4	0	4	8	11	12
Azerbaijan	8	0	1	7	5	18	1

Matchday 1 (21/03/2019)

Croatia 2-1 Azerbaijan

Goals: 0-1 Sheydaev 19, 1-1 Barišić 44, 2-1 Kramarić 79

Croatia: Kalinić, Brekalo, Barišić, Perišić, Čaleta-Car, Rakitić, Kovačić (73 Vlašić), Kramarić, Modrić (91 Badelj), Petković (69 Rebić), Vida

Matchday 2 (24/03/2019)

Hungary 2-1 Croatia

Goals: 0-1 Rebić 13, 1-1 Szalai 34, 2-1 Pátkai 76

Croatia: Kalinić, Barišić (30 Leovac), Perišić, Lovren, Rakitić, Kramarić, Modrić, Brozović, Jedvaj (77 Petković), Rebić (67 Brekalo), Vida

Matchday 3 (08/06/2019)

Croatia 2-1 Wales

Goals: 1-0 Lawrence 17 (og) , 2-0 Perišić 48, 2-1 Brooks 77

Croatia: Livaković, Barišić, Perišić (93 Škorić), Lovren, Brekalo (67 Pašalić), Kovačić (76 Badelj), Kramarić, Modrić, Brozović, Jedvaj, Vida

Matchday 5 (06/09/2019)

Slovakia-Croatia

Matchday 6 (09/09/2019)

Azerbaijan-Croatia

Matchday 7 (10/10/2019)

Croatia-Hungary

Matchday 8 (13/10/2019)

Wales-Croatia

Matchday 9 (16/11/2019)

Croatia-Slovakia

Legend

:: Previous meetings

Goals for/against: Goal totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (e.g. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw

:: Squad list

Qual.: Total European Qualifiers appearances/goals for UEFA EURO 2020 only.

FT: Total UEFA EURO 2020 appearances/goals in final tournament only.

Overall: Total international appearances/goals.

DoB: Date of birth

Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated

D: Disciplinary (*: misses next match if booked, S: suspended)

:: Team facts

EURO finals: The UEFA European Championship was a four-team event in 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1976 (when the preliminary round and quarter-finals were considered part of qualifying).

From 1980 it was expanded to an eight-team finals and remained in that format in 1984, 1988 and 1992 until 1996, when the 16-team format was adopted. UEFA EURO 2016 was the first tournament to be played as a 24-team finals.

Records of inactive countries

A number of UEFA associations have been affected by dissolution or splits of member associations. For statistical purposes, the records of these inactive countries have been allocated elsewhere: therefore, all Soviet Union matches are awarded to Russia; all West Germany – but not East Germany – matches are awarded to Germany; all Yugoslavia and Serbia & Montenegro matches are awarded to Serbia; all Czechoslovakia matches are allocated to both the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Abandoned/forfeited matches

For statistical purposes, when a match has been started and then abandoned but later forfeited, the result on the pitch at the time of abandonment is counted. Matches that never started and were either cancelled or forfeited are not included in the overall statistics.

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time

No.: Number

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

ET: Extra Time

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

gg: Match decided by golden goal

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

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pens: Penalties

og: Own goal

P: Penalty

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (straight red card)

Res.: Result

sg: Match decided by silver goal

t: Match decided by toss of a coin

W: Won

Y: Booked

Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)

N/A: Not applicable