

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Greece

OACA Spyros Louis - Athens

Sunday 18 November 2018
20.45CET (21.45 local time)

Group C2 - Matchday 6



Estonia

Last updated 18/11/2018 10:16CET



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Previous meetings

Head to Head

UEFA Nations League

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
08/09/2018	GS-FT	Estonia - Greece	0-1	Tallinn	Fortounis 14

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
31/08/2017	QR (GS)	Greece - Estonia	0-0	Piraeus	
10/10/2016	QR (GS)	Estonia - Greece	0-2	Tallinn	Torosidis 2, Stafylidis 60

	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																		
Greece	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	5	3	2	0	9	4
Estonia	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	5	0	2	3	4	9

Squad list

Greece

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase				
						Pld	Gls			
Goalkeepers										
1	Odisseas Vlachodimos	26/04/1994	24	Benfica	-		1	0		
12	Alexandros Paschalakis	28/07/1989	29	PAOK	-		0	0		
13	Vassilis Barkas	30/05/1994	24	AEK	-		4	0		
Defenders										
2	Michalis Bakakis	18/03/1991	27	AEK	-		2	0		
3	Vasilis Lampropoulos	31/03/1990	28	AEK	-		0	0		
4	Spyros Risvanis	03/01/1994	24	Atromitos	-		0	0		
5	Dimitris Siovas	16/09/1988	30	Leganés	-		1	0		
15	Vasilis Torosidis	10/06/1985	33	Olympiacos	-		3	0		
19	Sokratis Papastathopoulos	09/06/1988	30	Arsenal	-		5	0		
21	Dimitris Giannoulis	17/10/1995	23	Atromitos	-		0	0		
23	Leonardo Koutris	23/07/1995	23	Olympiacos	-		1	0		
Midfielders										
6	Andreas Bouchalakis	05/04/1993	25	Olympiacos	-		3	0		
8	Carlos Zeca	31/08/1988	30	København	-		3	0		
10	Kostas Fortounis	16/10/1992	26	Olympiacos	-		5	1		
16	Dimitris Kourbelis	02/11/1993	25	Panathinaikos	-		4	0		
17	Giorgos Masouras	01/01/1994	24	Panionios	-		0	0		
18	Dimitris Pelkas	26/10/1993	25	PAOK	-		5	0		
20	Petros Mantalos	31/08/1991	27	AEK	-		2	0		
22	Andreas Samaris	13/06/1989	29	Benfica	-		0	0		
Forwards										
7	Nikos Karelis	24/02/1992	26	PAOK	-		0	0		
9	Efthymis Koulouris	06/03/1996	22	Atromitos	-		3	0		
11	Kostas Mitroglou	12/03/1988	30	Marseille	-		5	1		
14	Tasos Bakasetas	28/06/1993	25	AEK	-		4	0		
Coach										
-	Angelos Anastasiadis	08/03/1953	65		-		1	0		

Estonia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers									
1	Mihkel Aksalu	07/11/1984	34	SJK	-			5	0
12	Sergei Lepmets	05/04/1987	31	Levadia	-			1	0
22	Marko Meerits	26/04/1992	26	VPS	-			0	0
Defenders									
2	Gert Kams	25/05/1985	33	Flora	-			1	0
3	Artur Pikk	05/03/1993	25	Miedz	-			3	0
4	Joonas Tamm	02/02/1992	26	Sarpsborg	-			5	0
5	Madis Vihmann	05/10/1995	23	Flora	-			2	0
18	Artjom Artjunin	24/01/1990	28	Etar	-			0	0
19	Ken Kallaste	31/08/1988	30	Korona	-			2	0
21	Nikita Baranov	19/08/1992	26	Kristiansund	-			3	0
Midfielders									
6	Marek Kaljumäe	18/02/1991	27	Kemi	-			1	0
7	Sander Puri	07/05/1988	30	Waterford	-			3	0
11	Henrik Ojamaa	20/05/1991	27	Miedz	-			5	0
13	Brent Lepistu	26/03/1993	25	Kristiansund	-			0	0
14	Konstantin Vassiljev	16/08/1984	34	Piast	-			5	0
15	Rauno Sappinen	23/01/1996	22	Den Bosch	-			1	0
16	Ilja Antonov	05/12/1992	25	Hermannstadt	-			3	0
17	Siim Luts	12/03/1989	29	Teplice	-			5	1
20	Artjom Dmitrijev	14/11/1988	30	Lahti	-			4	0
23	Taijo Teniste	31/01/1988	30	Brann	-			4	0
Forwards									
9	Ats Purje	03/08/1985	33	KuPS	-			4	0
10	Sergei Zenjov	20/04/1989	29	Cracovia	-			4	0
Coach									
-	Martin Reim	14/05/1971	47		-			5	0

Head coach

Angelos Anastasiadis

Date of birth: 3 October 1953

Nationality: Greek

Playing career: PAOK, Panathinaikos, Korinthos, Diagora

Coaching career: Diagora, Panargeiako, PAOK (three times), Iraklis (twice), Panathinaikos, Cyprus, PAS Giannina, Platania, AEL Larissa, Greece

- Salonika-born Anastasiadis began his playing career with local club PAOK, serving the first team for eight years during which he won both major domestic trophies and collected a dozen caps for the Greek national team.
- Left for Panathinaikos in 1981, winning the Greek Cup in his first season and the domestic double in his third, which also proved to be his last, his career subsequently ending on the island of Rhodes with Diagoras.
- Did not start coaching until the mid-1990s, and paid his dues in Greece's lower leagues before landing the top job at PAOK in 1997. Had two spells with Iraklis sandwiching an eventful 2000/01 season at Panathinaikos, during which he led the Greens into the second group phase of the UEFA Champions League, eliminating Juventus and Hamburger SV en route.
- Returned for a second spell at PAOK in 2002 and led them to Greek Cup success in his first season, beating local rivals Aris Thessaloniki FC 1-0 in the final. After leaving PAOK in September 2004 he was appointed three months later as national team coach of Cyprus – a position he would hold for more than six years, during which the island nation enjoyed some of their finest ever results.
- After leaving the Cyprus job in the spring of 2011 he returned to Greece, eventually finding his way back home again to PAOK, but he had been out of work for two years – following a short spell at Larissa – when in October 2018 the call came for him to replace Michael Skibbe as the new national team coach of Greece.

Martin Reim

Date of birth: 14 May 1971

Nationality: Estonian

Playing career: Tallinna Lõvid, Tallinna Sport, Norma Tallinn, Flora (twice), Lelle, KTP Kotka, Tervis Pärnu, Viimsi

Coaching career: Flora, Estonia U18, Estonia U21, Estonia U23, Estonia

- Reim was a defensive midfielder whose international career spanned 17 years after his debut for the newly-independent nation in June 1992 against Slovenia, a 1-1 draw. He won his 157th cap (then a European record) in June 2009, six months after ending club career.
- Took first steps in the game alongside goalkeeper Mart Poom. Began career in Soviet Estonia's top division aged 16, finishing top scorer in 1990 while playing for Norma.
- Spent bulk of his club career (a combined 16 years) in two stints at Flora, retiring with seven titles and three Estonian Cups to his name. He also reached the Finnish Cup final during his only overseas spell, 18 months at KTP Kotka.
- Returned to Flora as head coach in December 2009, having served as assistant to Janno Kivisild in the latter part of his playing career; won the Estonian title in 2010 and 2011. Also lifted the Estonian Cup in 2011, but left in October 2012 and established a football academy in Tallinn.
- Subsequently coached Estonia at various levels – youth, U21s and U23s – with some success. Was named successor to Magnus Pehrsson as senior Estonia coach on 14 September 2016 in the wake of a 5-0 defeat away to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the first match of 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying and, though Estonia ultimately finished fourth in their section, did oversee a famous friendly 3-0 win against Croatia in March 2017.

Match officials

Referee	Yevhen Aranovskiy (UKR)
Assistant referees	Serhiy Bekker (UKR) , Oleg Pluzhnyk (UKR)
Additional assistant referees	Serhiy Boiko (UKR) , Anatoliy Abdula (UKR)
Fourth official	Semen Shlonchak (UKR)
UEFA Delegate	Andrew Shaw (ENG)
UEFA Referee observer	Vlado Svilokos (CRO)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Yevhen Aranovskiy	13/10/1976	0	44

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
26/07/2012	UEL	2QR	Anorthosis Famagusta FC	FC Levadia Tallinn	3-0	Larnaca
25/10/2018	UEL	GS	PAOK FC	Vidi FC	0-2	Salonika

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

Greece

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)

Estonia 0-1 Greece

Goals: 0-1 Fortounis 14

Greece: Barkas, Manolas, Bouchalakis (78 Tziolis), Fortounis, Mitroglou (50 Bakasetas), Torosidis, Kourbelis, Pelkas (92 Koulouris), Papastathopoulos, Mantalos, Lykogiannis

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Hungary 2-1 Greece

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

Greece: Barkas, Tzavellas (46 Lykogiannis), Manolas (52 Oikonomou), Bouchalakis, Christodoulopoulos, Fortounis, Torosidis, Kourbelis, Donis (46 Mitroglou), Pelkas, Papastathopoulos

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Greece 1-0 Hungary

Goals: 1-0 Mitroglou 65

Greece: Barkas, Bakakis, Manolas, Zeca, Fortounis, Mitroglou (94 Bouchalakis), Bakasetas, Kourbelis (46 Tziolis), Pelkas (85 Christodoulopoulos), Papastathopoulos, Tsimikas

Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

Finland 2-0 Greece

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

Greece: Barkas, Bakakis, Manolas, Tziolis, Zeca, Fortounis, Mitroglou, Bakasetas (55 Christodoulopoulos), Pelkas (73 Koulouris), Papastathopoulos (46 Tzavellas), Tsimikas

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Greece 1-0 Finland

Goals: 1-0 Granlund 25 (og)

Greece: Vlachodimos, Manolas (28 Siovas), Zeca, Fortounis, Mitroglou (69 Koulouris), Torosidis, Kourbelis, Pelkas (84 Bakasetas), Papastathopoulos, Mantalos, Koutris

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Greece-Estonia

Estonia

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

Estonia 0-1 Greece

Goals: 0-1 Fortounis 14

Estonia: Aksalu, Kams, Pikk, Vihmann, Henri Anier (63 Zenjov), Ojamaa (80 Tamm), Luts (86 S. Puri), Vassiljev, Mets, Dmitrijev, Baranov

Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

Finland 1-0 Estonia

Goals: 1-0 Pukki 12

Estonia: Aksalu, Tamm, Zenjov (86 Purje), Ojamaa, Luts (77 Henri Anier), Vassiljev, Klavan, Mets, Kallaste, Dmitrijev (77 Antonov), Teniste

Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

Estonia 0-1 Finland

Goals: 0-1 Pukki 90+1

Estonia: Aksalu, Tamm, S. Puri, Zenjov (60 Luts), Ojamaa, Vassiljev (88 Kaljumäe), Sappinen (71 Purje), Kallaste, Dmitrijev, Baranov, Teniste

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

Estonia: Aksalu (43 Lepmets), Pikk, Tamm, Henri Anier (90 Purje), Ojamaa, Vassiljev, Antonov, Luts, Mets, Baranov, Teniste

Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

Hungary 2-0 Estonia

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

Estonia: Aksalu, Pikk, Tamm, Vihmann, Henri Anier, Ojamaa (60 Zenjov), Vassiljev (82 Purje), Antonov, Luts (77 S. Puri), Dmitrijev, Teniste

Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

Greece-Estonia

Legend

Competitions

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