

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Gibraltar

Victoria Stadium - Gibraltar

Thursday 6 September 2018
20.45CET (20.45 local time)

Group D4 - Matchday 1



FYR Macedonia

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Previous meetings

Head to Head

No UEFA competition matches have been played between these two teams

Squad list

Gibraltar

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
1	Kyle Goldwin	24/04/1985	33	Gibraltar United	-	0	0	0	0		
13	Matt Cafer	27/09/1994	23	Gibraltar Phoenix	-	0	0	0	0		
23	Dayle Coleing	23/10/1996	21	College Europa	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
2	Jean-Carlos Garcia	05/07/1992	26	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
3	Joseph Chipolina	14/12/1987	30	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
4	John Sergeant	27/02/1995	23		-	0	0	0	0		
6	Louie Annesley	03/05/2000	18	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
11	Alain Pons	16/09/1995	22	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
12	Jayce Mascarenhas-Olivero	02/07/1998	20	Abingdon United	-	0	0	0	0		
14	Roy Chipolina	20/01/1983	35	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
15	Erin Barnett	02/09/1996	22	Gibraltar United	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
5	Graeme Torilla	03/09/1997	21	Mons Calpe	-	0	0	0	0		
8	Anthony Bardon	19/01/1993	25	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
10	Liam Walker	13/04/1988	30	College Europa	-	0	0	0	0		
16	Sykes Garro	26/02/1993	25	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
17	Andrew Hernandez	10/01/1999	19	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
18	Anthony Hernandez	03/02/1995	23	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
19	Tjay De Barr	13/03/2000	18	College Europa	-	0	0	0	0		
20	Jeremy Lopez	09/07/1989	29	Gibraltar Phoenix	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
7	Lee Casciaro	29/09/1981	36	Lincoln Red Imps	-	0	0	0	0		
9	Reece Styche	03/05/1989	29	Darlington	-	0	0	0	0		
Coach											

Gibraltar

										Current season					
										Qual.		FT			
-	Julio Ribas		08/01/1957	61			-	0	0	0	0				

FYR Macedonia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
1	Stole Dimitrievski	25/12/1993	24	Rayo Vallecano	-	0	0	0	0		
12	David Mitov Nilson	12/01/1991	27	Norrköping	-	0	0	0	0		
22	Damjan Siskovski	18/03/1995	23	Lahti	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
2	Kristijan Toševski	06/05/1994	24	Vardar	-	0	0	0	0		
3	Mite Cikarski	06/01/1993	25	Giannina	-	0	0	0	0		
4	Kire Ristevski	22/10/1990	27		-	0	0	0	0		
5	Visar Musliu	13/11/1994	23	Shkëndija	-	0	0	0	0		
8	Egzijan Alioski	12/02/1992	26	Leeds	-	0	0	0	0		
13	Stefan Ristovski	12/02/1992	26	Sporting CP	-	0	0	0	0		
14	Darko Velkoski	21/06/1995	23	Rijeka	-	0	0	0	0		
15	Egzon Bejtulai	07/01/1994	24	Shkëndija	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
7	Ivan Tričkovski	18/04/1987	31	AEK Larnaca	-	0	0	0	0		
11	Enis Bardi	02/07/1995	23	Levante	-	0	0	0	0		
16	Boban Nikolov	28/07/1994	24	Vidi	-	0	0	0	0		
20	Stefan Spirovski	23/08/1990	28	Ferencváros	-	0	0	0	0		
21	Eljif Elmas	24/09/1999	18	Fenerbahçe	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
9	Aleksandar Trajkovski	05/09/1992	26	Palermo	-	0	0	0	0		
10	Goran Pandev	27/07/1983	35	Genoa	-	0	0	0	0		
23	Ilija Nestorovski	12/03/1990	28	Palermo	-	0	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Igor Angelovski	02/06/1976	42		-	0	0	0	0		

Head coach

Julio César Ribas

Date of birth: 8 January 1957

Nationality: Uruguayan

Playing career: Bella Vista (three times), Nacional Montevideo (twice), Liverpool Montevideo, Gimnasia LP, Sud América, Defensor Sporting, River Plate Montevideo (twice), Mayindú, Cartaginés

Coaching career: Sud América, Nacional Asunción, Bella Vista (twice), Peñarol (twice), Liverpool Montevideo, Venezia, Juventud de las Pedras, Oman, Deportivo Maldonado, Cartagena, Lincoln Red Imps, Gibraltar

- During a 17-year playing career that was mostly spent in his native Uruguay but also took him to Argentina's Gimnasia and Cartagines in Costa Rica, Ribas won the Uruguayan league with Nacional in 1977 and Bella Vista in 1990 and also won second division titles in his homeland with Liverpool and River Plate, in addition to his ten caps for Uruguay.
- His coaching career started successfully with a second division title for his first club, Sud América. Another second-tier championship success three years later with Bella Vista, whom he had represented three times as a player, earned a move to Montevideo giants Peñarol, where Ribas remained for three years, winning the Uruguayan national championship in 1999.
- His first move outside Uruguay brought him to Venice, but it did not go to plan as Venezia were relegated from Italy's Serie B. Ribas then tried his hand at international football, coaching Oman for a short spell in 2008.
- Back at Peñarol, he helped steer the club to the 2009 Uruguayan title but was soon on the move again, eventually ending up in Spain's Segunda División B (third tier) with Cartagena in 2014/15.
- He was appointed coach of Lincoln Red Imps, the perennial champions of Gibraltar, in April 2016, and although they were pipped to the title in his first full season, Ribas nevertheless made a name for himself by leading the team to a sensational 1-0 home first-leg win over Celtic in a UEFA Champions League qualifier (albeit in a 1-3 aggregate defeat) and then reclaiming the national title for Lincoln in 2017/18 before taking over as head coach of the Gibraltar national team.

Igor Angelovski

Date of birth: 2 June 1976

Nationality: Macedonian

Playing career: Makedonija Gorce Petrov, Pelister, Publikum, Cementarnica (twice), Pobeda

Coaching career: Rabotnicki, FYR Macedonia (assistant), FYR Macedonia

- A former midfielder, Angelovski spent most of his playing career in his homeland, his highlight coming in 2002/03 when he lifted the Macedonian Cup with Cementarnica.
- After retiring in 2007, he served as sporting director at Rabotnicki for five years before becoming a surprise choice to replace Zhikica Tasevski as the club's head coach aged 37 prior to 2013/14.
- Angelovski wasted no time showing his coaching potential by becoming the youngest coach to win the Macedonian championship, leading the Skopje-based side to a domestic double in his debut season – aged 38. He repeated his Macedonian Cup success with Rabotnicki the following year, and won consecutive awards for best domestic coach in 2014 and 2015.
- While continuing in his Rabotnicki job, he served as Ljubinko Drulović's assistant with FYR Macedonia from July to October 2015 while studying for his UEFA Pro licence.
- Angelovski took temporary charge of the national team in October 2015 and enjoyed a winning debut in a 4-1 friendly win against Montenegro in Skopje the following month. He was appointed coach on a permanent basis shortly afterwards and oversaw the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign in which the team picked up 11 points from ten matches.

Match officials

Referee	Jens Maae (DEN)
Assistant referees	Lars Hummelgaard (DEN) , Jesper Dahl (DEN)
Additional assistant referees	Jørgen Burchardt (DEN) , Morten Krogh (DEN)
Fourth official	Niels Hoeg (DEN)
UEFA Delegate	Emil Ubias (CZE)
UEFA Referee observer	Thomas Einwaller (AUT)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Jens Maae	10/03/1982	0	27

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

No such matches refereed

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

Gibraltar

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Group D4

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FYR Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gibraltar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Matchday 1 (06/09/2018)

Gibraltar-FYR Macedonia

Matchday 2 (09/09/2018)

Liechtenstein-Gibraltar

Matchday 3 (13/10/2018)

Armenia-Gibraltar

Matchday 4 (16/10/2018)

Gibraltar-Liechtenstein

Matchday 5 (16/11/2018)

Gibraltar-Armenia

Matchday 6 (19/11/2018)

FYR Macedonia-Gibraltar

FYR Macedonia

UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

Matchday 1 (06/09/2018)

Gibraltar-FYR Macedonia

Matchday 2 (09/09/2018)

FYR Macedonia-Armenia

Matchday 3 (13/10/2018)

FYR Macedonia-Liechtenstein

Matchday 4 (16/10/2018)

Armenia-FYR Macedonia

Matchday 5 (16/11/2018)

Liechtenstein-FYR Macedonia

Matchday 6 (19/11/2018)

FYR Macedonia-Gibraltar

Legend

Competitions

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