

# BELARUS - SERBIA

## MATCH PRESS KIT

### Malmö New Stadium, Malmö

### Friday 19 June 2009 - 18.15CET (18.15 local time)

### Group A - Matchday 2



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#### Match background

The players of Belarus and Serbia will need little introduction when they meet in their second Group A fixture in Malmö.

• The two sides met in qualifying for the UEFA European Under-21 Championship and Slobodan Krčmarević's Serbia enjoyed the upper hand by beating Belarus 3-1 at home and earning a 1-1 draw away. With Belarus also defeated by Serbia and Montenegro in the final tournament in 2004, Yuri Kurnenin's team will be seeking a change of fortune along with three points at the Malmö New Stadium.

• Belarus will be desperate to improve on their opening performance in the tournament against Sweden in Malmö on Tuesday, when they succumbed to a 5-1 defeat – equalling their worst-ever competitive result at this level. Serbia opened with a goalless draw against Italy in Helsingborg on the same day.

• The full run-down of their past meetings is:

#### 2009 Qualifying Group 8

08.09.07 Serbia 3-1 Belarus, Belgrade

20.11.07 Belarus 1-1 Serbia, Vitebsk

#### 2004 Final tournament Group A

01.06.2004 Belarus 1-2 Serbia and Montenegro, Oberhausen

• The teams finished level on 17 points in Group 8 with identical records of five wins, two draws and one defeat. But Serbia earned first place thanks to their superior head-to-head record.

• Goals from Nikola Petković (6), Ljubomir Fejsa (61) and substitute Nikola Đurđić (87) gave the Eagles victory over Belarus in Belgrade in September 2007. Sergei Krivets struck the visitors' last-minute reply. The lineups were:

**Serbia:** Bojan Šaranov, Stefan Babović (Nikola Gulan 87), Gojko Kačar, Andrija Kaludjerović (Nikola Đurđić 79), Nikola Petković, Milan Smiljanić, Nenad Tomović, Ljubomir Fejsa, Marko Jovanović, Ivan Radovanović, Miralem Sulejmani (Dušan Tadić 59).

**Belarus:** Anton Kovalevski, Nikolai Osipovich, Aleksandr Martynovich, Igor Shitov, Aleksandr Volodko, Dmitri Platonov (Alekssei Kuchuk 74), Leonid Kovel (Aleksandr Ozehtsiarou 74), Dmitri Komarovski, Mikhail Afanasiev (Sergei Kislyak 61), Igor Maltsev, Sergei Krivets.

• Two months later the teams drew 1-1 in Vitebsk, Krivets giving Belarus a 48th-minute lead and Zoran Tošić levelling ten minutes later. The lineups that day were:

**Belarus:** Pavel Chesnovski, Nikolai Osipovich, Aleksandr Martynovich, Igor Shitov, Leonid Kovel, Sergei Krivets, Dmitri Komarovski, Mikhail Afanasiev (Dmitri Platonov 66), Sergei Kislyak (Aleksandr Volodko 62), Anton Putilo, Dmitri Verkhautsou.

**Serbia:** Bojan Šaranov, Nenad Tomović, Ljubomir Fejsa, Gojko Kačar, Slobodan Rajković, Nikola Petković, Milan Smiljanić, Miralem Sulejmani (Ivan Radovanović 90+1), Filip Djordjević (Milan Perić 83), Stefan Babović, Zoran Tošić (Vladimir Bogdanović 79).

• The countries' first competitive meeting at this level came in June 2004 at the final tournament in Germany, when the team then known as Serbia and Montenegro came from behind to defeat Belarus 2-1 in Oberhausen – a result that carried them into the semi-final and eliminated their opponents.



- Although Belarus opened the scoring that day through Oleg Shkabara, they lost Timofei Kalachev and Aleksandr Hleb to red cards and lost the match to goals from Serbia duo Danko Lazović and Dejan Milovanić. Serbia went on to reach the final where they went down 3-0 to Italy.
- Pavel Chesnovski, Leonid Kovel, Dmitri Komarovski and Mikhail Afanasiev were part of the Belarus side that beat Yugoslavia 2-1 in a qualifying round fixture for the UEFA European U17 Championship in October 2002. Milan Smiljanić was on the losing team that day.
- Nikola Gulan netted Serbia's final goal in a 4-0 European U19 Championship Elite round win against Belarus in May 2008 – a match in which Zivko Zivković also appeared.

### Squad news

#### Belarus

- The 5-1 defeat against Sweden was Belarus's heaviest in a final tournament and equals their worst competitive result at this level. They lost to Norway by the same score on 5 June 2001 in the qualifying group stage for the 2002 UEFA European U21 Championship.
- Mikhail Afanasiev made a national-record 39th U21 appearance in the match, overtaking Yuri Zhevnov's mark.
- Assistant coach Georgi Kondratiev replaced the suspended Kurnenin on the bench but was powerless to prevent his side falling to defeat, despite their opening the scoring with Sergei Kislyak's powerful 33rd-minute strike. Kurnenin will be back on the bench for the meeting with Serbia.
- "In the first 35 minutes we were equal to them and we even scored, then something happened and I can't explain it," Kurnenin said. "The Swedish team were more organised, had more desire and that was reflected in the result."
- Belarus trained at the Malmö Old Stadium on Wednesday morning before Kurnenin gathered his players together in the afternoon to analyse the game. During the morning session those who had started against Sweden were restricted to a few laps around the stadium, while the substitutes and reserve players took part in a full workout. All 23 players were fit with no injuries to report.
- Belarus pair Sergei Krivets and Aleksandr Martynovich were booked against Sweden and will receive a one-game suspension if they collect another booking against Serbia.

#### Serbia

- Serbia's satisfaction at their opening draw with Italy was tempered by the loss of midfielder Nemanja Matić to a broken metatarsal in his right foot, meaning he will play no further part in the tournament.
- Matić returned to Belgrade on Wednesday and Krčmarević fears he will be sorely missed. "He was very important for our game," said the coach. "He is fast, has good technique, is able to play a defensive role and it is very difficult for us to replace him."
- Nemanja Tomić, who replaced Matić against Italy, hurt his right ankle in the closing moments and was absent from the squad's training session in Paarp on Wednesday lunchtime.
- Krčmarević considers it a must-win fixture for Sweden. "This next round we have to win – we have to do this if we want to be in the quarter-finals," he said, adding that it would help Serbia's prospects if the Italy v Sweden match on the same day produced an outright winner.
- Defender Jagoš Vuković made his competitive U21 debut against Italy.
- Nikola Petković was booked against Italy and will receive a one-match ban with another caution.

### Team facts

#### Belarus

This is Belarus's second appearance in a UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament, their first coming in 2004. Midfielder Aleksandr Hleb, then with VfB Stuttgart, was the star of that side and he scored the winner as Belarus defeated eventual winners Italy 2-1 in their opening match of the group stage. Yuri Puntus's charges then drew 1-1 with a Croatia team boasting Darijo Srna, Eduardo da Silva, Niko Kranjčar and Danijel Pranjić, but a 2-1 reverse in their final game against Serbia and Montenegro – a match which Belarus finished with nine men following the dismissals of Hleb and Timofei Kalachev – ended their challenge.

**Tournament record**

**Winners:** –

**Semi-finalists:** –

**Final tournament appearances:** 2004, 2009

**2009 qualifying**

P10 W6 D2 L2 F17 A6

**Top scorer:** Dmitri Komarovski, 4 goals

**Most appearances:** 10 Nikolai Osipovich, Dmitri Komarovski, Sergei Kryvets, Igor Shitov

**Biggest win:** 6-0 v San Marino (H) 16.11.2007

**Biggest defeat:** 1-3 v Serbia (A) 08.09.2007

**Youngest player:** Vladimir Yurchenko (26.01.1989)

**Oldest player:** Aleksandr Sachivko (05.01.1986)

**Red cards:** Pavel Chesnovski

**Friendly results since qualifying**

31.03.2009 Germany 1-1 Belarus

05.06.2009 Finland 1-0 Belarus

**Capped at senior level:** Dmitri Verkhovtsov, Igor Shitov, Sergei Kryvets, Nikolai Osipovich, Leonid Kovel, Anton Putilo, Andrei Chukhlei, Maksim Bordachov

**Players with previous U21 final tournaments experience:** None

**Most capped player**

All-time: 39 Mikhail Afanasiev

Current: 39 Mikhail Afanasiev

**Leading scorer**

All-time: 11 Mikhail Afanasiev

Current: 11 Mikhail Afanasiev

**Biggest wins**

**Final tournament: 2-1** Belarus v Italy 27.05.04

2004 group stage, Ruhrstadion, Bochum

**Qualifying: 6-0** Belarus v San Marino 16.11.2007

2009 qualifying group stage, Central sport complex, Vitebsk

**Heaviest defeats**

**Final tournament: 2-1** Serbia and Montenegro v Belarus 01.06.04

2004 group stage, Niederrhein, Oberhausen

**Qualifying: 5-1** Norway v Belarus 05.06.2001

2002 qualifying group stage, Marienlyst Stadium, Drammen

**4-0** Norway v Belarus 08.09.1994

1996 qualifying group stage, Hønefoss Stadium, Honefoss

**Serbia**

Serbia will be competing in their fourth successive UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament in Sweden. It is a record matched only by Italy, and indicates a fine pedigree at this level where they have participated under a number of guises.

Yugoslavia were the inaugural winners of the competition in 1978, defeating the Democratic Republic of Germany 5-4 on aggregate following a remarkable 4-4 second-leg draw in Mostar. That remains the nation's sole U21 triumph, though they have come close several times since – finishing runners-up as Yugoslavia in 1990, as Serbia and Montenegro in 2004, and as Serbia, in their debut tournament as an independent nation, in 2007. Vladimir Petrović, Dušan Savić, Dragan Stojković, Miroslav Đukić, Danko Lazović and Vladimir Stojković are just some of the Serbs to have played significant parts for the U21s since 1978.

**Tournament record**

**Winners:** 1978 (Yugoslavia)

**Runners-up:** 1990 (Yugoslavia), 2004 (Serbia and Montenegro), 2007 (Serbia)

**Semi-finalists:** 1980, 1984 (both (Yugoslavia), 2006 (Serbia and Montenegro)

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**Final tournament appearances:** 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009

### 2009 qualifying

P10 W7 D2 L1 F26 A5

**Top scorer:** Gojko Kačar, 6 goals

**Most appearances:** 9 Nikola Petković

**Biggest win:** 8-0 v Hungary (H) 07.09.2008

**Biggest defeat:** 1-2 v Hungary (A) 12.09.2007

**Youngest player:** Adem Ljajić (16 years, 11 months, 9 days v Hungary on 07.09.2008)

**Oldest player:** Dragan Milovanović (03.01.1986)

**Red cards:** None

### Friendly results since qualifying

19.11.2008 Israel 2-3 Serbia

11.02.2009 Cyprus 0-2 Serbia

27.03.2009 Serbia 0-0 Ukraine

01.04.2009 Serbia 1-1 Romania

07.06.2009 Serbia 4-1 FYR Macedonia

**Capped at senior level:** Milan Smiljanić, Gojko Kačar, Zoran Tošić, Ivan Obradović, Miralem Sulejmani, Nemanja Pejčinović, Nenad Tomović, Ljubomir Fejsa, Nemanja Matić, Dušan Tadić

### Players with previous U21 final tournament experience

2007 Netherlands: Nikola Petković, Gojko Kačar, Milan Smiljanić, Zoran Tošić

### Most capped player

All-time: 36 Danko Lazović

Current: 23 Milan Smiljanić

### Leading scorer

All-time: 17 Danko Lazović

Current: 7 Stefan Babović

### Biggest wins

**Final tournament: 2-0** Serbia v Belgium 20.06.2007

2007 semi-finals, Gelredome, Arnhem

**2-0** Serbia and Montenegro v Portugal 25.05.2006

2006 group stage, Cidade de Barcelos, Barcelos

**Qualifying:9-0** Serbia and Montenegro v San Marino 12.10.2004

2006 qualifying group stage, Vojvodina, Novi Sad

### Heaviest defeats

**Final tournament: 4-1** Netherlands v Serbia 23.06.2007

2007 final, Euroborg, Groningen

**3-0** Serbia and Montenegro v Italy 08.06.2004

2004 final, Ruhrstadion, Bochum

**Qualifying:0-7** France v Yugoslavia 16.11.1985

1986 qualifying group stage, Stade Auguste-Delaune, Reims

Squad list

**Belarus**

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	BL	Current season				Overall U21	
						a Qual.	Gls	a FT	Gls	Pld	Gls
<b>Goalkeepers</b>											
1	Pavel Chesnovski	04.03.1986	23	FC Vitebsk	-	8	-	1	-	9	-
12	Artyom Gornelko	08.12.1989	19	FC Lokomotiv Moskva	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Anton Kovalevski	02.02.1986	23	FC Naftan Novopolotsk	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
<b>Defenders</b>											
2	Nikolai Osipovich	29.05.1986	23	FC MTZ-RIPO Minsk	-	9	-	1	-	10	-
3	Aleksandr Martynovich	26.08.1987	21	FC Dinamo Minsk	*	8	-	1	-	9	-
4	Igor Shitov	24.10.1986	22	FC BATE Borisov	-	9	1	1	-	10	1
5	Maksim Bordachov	18.05.1986	23	FC BATE Borisov	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
16	Oleg Veretilo	10.07.1988	20	FC Dinamo Minsk	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
18	Dmitri Verkhovtsov	10.10.1986	22	FC Naftan Novopolotsk	-	3	1	1	-	4	1
19	Aleksei Yanushkevich	15.01.1986	23	FC Shakhtyor Soligorsk	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
<b>Midfielders</b>											
6	Sergei Balanovich	29.08.1987	21	FC Shakhtyor Soligorsk	-	3	-	-	-	3	-
7	Sergei Krivets	08.06.1986	23	FC BATE Borisov	*	9	3	1	-	10	3
8	Aleksandr Volodko	18.06.1986	23	FC BATE Borisov	-	8	-	1	-	9	-
11	Mikhail Afanasiev	04.11.1986	22	FC Amkar Perm	-	7	1	1	-	16	6
13	Aleksandr Sachivko	05.01.1986	23	FC Minsk	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15	Sergei Kislyak	06.08.1987	21	FC Dinamo Minsk	-	8	1	1	1	11	2
17	Sergei Gigevich	26.01.1987	22	FC Dinamo Minsk	-	3	-	-	-	3	-
21	Mikhail Sivakov	16.01.1988	21	Cagliari Calcio	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
23	Andrei Chukhlei	02.10.1987	21	FC Dinamo Minsk	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
<b>Forwards</b>											
9	Leonid Kovel	29.07.1986	22	FC Saturn Moskovskaya Oblast	-	7	3	1	-	17	6
10	Dmitri Komarovski	10.10.1986	22	FC Naftan Novopolotsk	-	9	4	1	-	14	4
14	Anton Putilo	23.06.1987	21	FC Dinamo Minsk	-	6	1	1	-	7	1
20	Vladimir Yurchenko	26.01.1989	20	FC Saturn Moskovskaya Oblast	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
<b>Coach</b>											
-	Yuri Kurnenin	14.06.1954	55	BLR	-	10	-	-	-	12	-

**Key:** Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

**No.** Number, **Nat.** Nationality, **DoB** Date of birth, **Pld** Matches played, **Gls** Goals

**BL** Booking list: \* Misses next match if booked, **S** Suspended

**1 - :** Total appearances in Under21 Championship including all qualifying round and play-off matches

**2 - :** Total appearances in the Under21 Championship final tournament only

**(NOTE:** These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition)

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### Serbia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	BL	Current season				Overall U21	
						a Qual.	Gls	a FT	Gls	Pld	Gls
<b>Goalkeepers</b>											
1	Željko Brkić	09.07.1986	22	FK Vojvodina	-	4	-	1	-	5	-
12	Bojan Šaranov	22.10.1987	21	OFK Beograd	-	6	-	-	-	6	-
23	Živko Živković	14.04.1989	20	FK Partizan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Defenders</b>											
2	Marko Jovanović	26.03.1988	21	FK Partizan	-	7	-	-	-	7	-
4	Gojko Kačar	26.01.1987	22	Hertha BSC Berlin	-	8	6	1	-	10	6
5	Nikola Petković	28.03.1986	23	FK Vojvodina	*	9	2	1	-	11	2
13	Ivan Obradović	25.07.1988	20	FK Partizan	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
14	Nenad Tomović	30.08.1987	21	FK Crvena Zvezda	-	10	-	1	-	11	-
15	Nemanja Pejčinović	04.11.1987	21	FK Crvena Zvezda	-	3	1	1	-	4	1
18	Marko Milinković	16.04.1988	21	MFK Košice	-	2	1	-	-	2	1
19	Rajko Brežančić	21.08.1989	19	FK Partizan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Milan Vilotić	21.10.1986	22	FK Čukarički	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
<b>Midfielders</b>											
3	Ljubomir Fejsa	14.08.1988	20	FK Partizan	-	8	1	1	-	9	1
6	Nikola Gulan	23.03.1989	20	TSV 1860 München	-	6	-	-	-	6	-
7	Milan Smiljanić	19.11.1986	22	FK Partizan	-	7	-	1	-	16	1
11	Zoran Tošić	28.04.1987	22	FK Partizan	-	2	1	1	-	8	1
17	Nemanja Matić	01.08.1988	20	MFK Košice	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
20	Dušan Tadić	20.11.1988	20	FK Vojvodina	-	5	-	-	-	5	-
22	Nemanja Tomić	21.01.1988	21	FK Partizan	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
<b>Forwards</b>											
8	Rade Veljović	09.08.1986	22	CFR 1907 Cluj	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
9	Slavko Perović	09.06.1989	20	FK Crvena Zvezda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Miralem Sulejmani	05.12.1988	20	AFC Ajax	-	5	3	1	-	6	3
16	Jagoš Vuković	10.06.1988	21	FK Rad	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
<b>Coach</b>											
-	Slobodan Krčmarević	12.06.1965	44	SRB	-	10	-	1	-	11	-

**Key:** Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

**No.** Number, **Nat.** Nationality, **DoB** Date of birth, **Pld** Matches played, **Gls** Goals

**BL** Booking list: \* Misses next match if booked, **S** Suspended

**1 - :** Total appearances in Under21 Championship including all qualifying round and play-off matches

**2 - :** Total appearances in the Under21 Championship final tournament only

**(NOTE:** These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition)

Match-by-match lineups - Group A

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Sweden	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Italy	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Serbia	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Belarus	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium/Venue
16.06.2009	Sweden - Belarus	5-1	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
<b>Goals:</b> 0-1 Kislyak 33, 1-1 Martynovich 34 (o.g.) , 2-1 Berg 38, 3-1 Berg 44, 4-1 Berg 81, 5-1 Svensson 89			
<b>Sweden:</b> Dahlin, Lustig, Bjärnsmyr, R.Bengtsson, Johansson, Toivonen (Harbuzi 84), Berg, Svensson (Landgren 89), Elm, Wernbloom, Bajrami (Molins 71)			
<b>Belarus:</b> Chesnovski, Osipovich, Martynovich, Shitov, Krivets (Yurchenko 78), Volodko, Kovel, Komarovski (Putilo 53), Afanasiev (Chukhlei 53), Kislyak, Verkhovtsov			
16.06.2009	Italy - Serbia	0-0	Olympia, Helsingborg
<b>Goals:</b> -			
<b>Italy:</b> Consigli, Motta (Pisano 78), Andreolli, Criscito, Marchisio, Acquafresca, Giovinco, De Ceglie, Bocchetti, Balotelli (Abate 67), Cigarini			
<b>Serbia:</b> Brkić, Fejsa, Kačar, Petković, Smiljanić, Sulejmani, Z. Tošić, Tomović, Pejčinović, Vuković, Matić (Tomić 85)			
19.06.2009	Sweden - Italy	-	Olympia, Helsingborg
19.06.2009	Belarus - Serbia	-	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
23.06.2009	Serbia - Sweden	-	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
23.06.2009	Belarus - Italy	-	Olympia, Helsingborg

### Match officials

<b>Referee</b>	Cüneyt Çakir (TUR)
<b>Assistant referees</b>	Derek Rose (SCO), Oleksandr Voytyuk (UKR)
<b>Fourth official</b>	Pedro Proença (POR)
<b>UEFA Delegate</b>	Adonis Procopiou (CYP)
<b>UEFA Referee observer</b>	Marc Batta (FRA)

### Referees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Nat.</b>	<b>Date of birth</b>	<b>U21</b>	<b>UEFA</b>
Cüneyt Çakir	TUR	23.11.1976	2	8

### Cüneyt Çakir

- One of Turkey's most promising match officials, Cüneyt Çakir has enjoyed a rapid rise up the ladder since his UEFA debut as the fourth official in the UEFA Champions League first qualifying round game between Skonto FC and Sliema Wanderers FC in July 2003.
- He took charge of two matches at the 2007 UEFA European Under-19 Championship in Austria and was also the referee for two qualifying fixtures in the run-up to UEFA EURO 2008™.
- Çakir, who lives with his wife in Istanbul and works in insurance, made his refereeing debut in the UEFA Cup proper in 2008/09, taking charge of two games including the group-stage fixture between FC Twente and FC Schalke 04 in December 2008. He has been in the middle for more than 100 matches in the Turkish Süper Lig.

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

No matches found

## Head coach

### **Belarus: Yuri Kurnenin**

**Date of birth:** 14 June 1954

**Playing career:** FC Dinamo Moskva (1971-75), FC Dinamo Minsk (1976-87)

**Coaching career:** KIM Vitebsk (1989-90), FC Dinamo Brest (1991-92), Samotlor XXI Nizhnevartovsk (1993-94), Syria (1995-96), Al-Ahli Oman (1997), FC Dinamo Minsk (1999-2000), FC Chernomorets Novorossiysk (2000-2001), FC Shakhtar Soligorsk (2002), FC Dinamo Minsk (2003), Belarus (assistant coach 2003), Belarus Under-21s (February 2006 to present)

Despite taking Belarus to the 2009 UEFA European Under-21 Championship, Yuri Kurnenin is still best known in his homeland for his success as a player. He began at FC Dinamo Moskva but made his name with FC Dinamo Minsk between 1976 and his retirement in 1987. A member of the Dinamo side that became the only Belarussian club to win the Soviet title in 1982, Kurnenin initially played in midfield, but switched to wing-back, where his attacking instincts brought a famous hat-trick in a victory against FC Kairat Almaty during the title-winning season. Kurnenin entered the record books by scoring Belarus's first goal in UEFA competition when his free-kick against Grasshopper-Club earned Dinamo a 1-0 first-round victory in the European Champion Clubs' Cup in September 1983.

His coaching career began with KIM Vitebsk in the minor Soviet leagues in 1989 before a move to FC Dinamo Brest, whom he led to third place in the inaugural Belarus championship in 1992, still the club's best finish. Kurnenin went on to coach in Russia, Syria and Oman, notably leading the Syrian national side to the 1996 AFC Asian Cup finals.

He returned to Belarus, and Dinamo, in 1999 but was unable to emulate his playing success and was sacked midway through the 2000 season. Spells at FC Chernomorets Novorossiysk and FC Shakhtar Soligorsk followed before another brief stint at Dinamo in 2003. He then teamed up with former Dinamo Moskva and Dinamo Minsk team-mate Anatoliy Baidachniy as assistant coach of the Belarus national side before taking over the U21s in February 2006.

### **Serbia: Slobodan Krčmarević**

**Date of birth:** 12 June 1965

**Playing career:** OFK Beograd, FK Partizan, Vasalunds IF, Apollon Limassol FC, Anorthosis Famagusta FC, PAOK FC, Panionios GSS

**Coaching career:** Serbia and Montenegro Under-19s (2002-03 coaching staff), FK Partizan (2003-05 Under-19 coach), OFK Beograd (2005-07), Serbian Under-21s (2007-present)

Slobodan Krčmarević was a technically gifted player, but he readily admits that too often artistry rode roughshod over industry. As a coach, it is a mistake he is determined his charges will not repeat. Krčmarević came through the ranks at OFK Beograd, and as a left winger he hardly left the touchline and gained a reputation for his flamboyant style. In 1990, he joined FK Partizan, but soon found his playing time curtailed as coach Ivica Osim demanded hard work complement flashes of brilliant individual skill. Krčmarević may not have heeded the advice at the time, but he now repeats the mantra religiously to his players: "Hard work above all else".

Krčmarević went on to play in Sweden, Cyprus and Greece before the end of his playing career, getting his first coaching job with Serbia and Montenegro's Under-19 side in 2002. The following year he returned to Partizan to work in their youth academy and quickly established a reputation as having a fine eye for young talent. It was on his insistence that Partizan signed Stevan Jovetić from Montenegrin club FK Sutjeska and after helping the youngster establish himself in the first team, Jovetić was quickly snapped up by ACF Fiorentina.

A brief but impressive stint in charge of OFK followed and once again Krčmarević's work with young players caught the eye, leading to his appointment as coach of the U21s following Serbia's run to the final of the 2007 UEFA European Under-21 Championship. He achieved his first objective by qualifying for Sweden despite losing a number of players to the senior side, and the great harmony he has created is a hallmark of his new-look squad.

## Competition facts

Sweden are striving to become only the second team to win the competition on home territory since the switch to a new format from a two-legged final in 1994. Until the Netherlands triumphed last time out, Spain had come closest to ending that streak when they lost the 1996 showpiece on penalties to Italy.

### Previous winners (hosts)

2007 Netherlands (Netherlands)\*  
2006 Netherlands (Portugal) \*  
2004 Italy (Germany) \*  
2002 Czech Republic (Switzerland) \*  
2000 Italy (Slovakia)  
1998 Spain (Romania)  
1996 Italy (Spain)  
1994 Italy (France)  
1992 Italy  
1990 USSR  
1988 France  
1986 Spain  
1984 England  
1982 England  
1980 USSR  
1978 Yugoslavia  
\*Current format

### Leading scorers (competitive matches)

#### All-time

15 Lampros Choutos (Greece)  
14 Roy Makaay (Netherlands), Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)  
12 Francis Jeffers (England), Imre Szabics (Hungary), Steffen Iversen (Norway), Óscar García (Spain)  
11 Andrea Pirlo (Italy), Alberto Gilardino (Italy), Hélder Postiga (Portugal), Hugo Almeida (Portugal), Spartak Gogniev (Russia), Ricardo Cabanas (Switzerland)

#### In a final tournament since 2000

4 Andrea Pirlo (Italy, 2000), Alberto Gilardino (Italy, 2004), Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands, 2006), Maceo Rigters (Netherlands, 2007), Johan Elmander (Sweden, 2004)  
3 Thomas Kahlenberg (Denmark, 2006), Leroy Lita (England, 2007), Massimo Maccarone (Italy, 2002), Giorgio Chiellini (Italy, 2007), Nicky Hofs (Netherlands, 2006), Hugo Almeida (Portugal, 2004), Markus Rosenberg (Sweden, 2004)

#### Per U21 campaign (qualifying to final) since 2000

2007: 4 Theo Walcott (England), Maceo Rigters (Netherlands), Igor Denisov (Russia), Nikita Bazhenov (Russia), Dragan Mrdja (Serbia)  
2006: 14 Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)  
2004: 11 Alberto Gilardino (Italy)  
2002: 9 Ricardo Cabanas (Switzerland)  
2000: 15 Lampros Choutos (Greece)

### Biggest wins

#### All-time

14-0: Spain v San Marino, 08.02.2005  
2006 qualifying group stage, Estadio Santo Domingo, El Ejido

#### Final tournament

6-0: England v Turkey, 29.05.2000  
2000 final tournament group stage, Tehelné Pole Stadium, Bratislava

#### Final

4-1: Netherlands v Serbia, 23.06.2007  
2007 Euroborg, Groningen, Netherlands

# **BELARUS - SERBIA**

## **MATCH PRESS KIT**

Friday 19 June 2009 - 18.15CET (18.15 local time)

**Malmö New Stadium, Malmö**

### **Most goals in a game**

#### **All-time**

14: Spain 14-0 San Marino (see above)

#### **Final tournament**

7: Czech Republic 4-3 Croatia, 01.06.2000

2000 group stage, Mestský Stadium, Trenčín, Slovakia

#### **Final**

8: Yugoslavia 4-4 German Democratic Republic 31.05.1978

(second leg, Yugoslavia won 5-4 on agg), Mostar, Yugoslavia

### **Record attendance**

#### **All-time**

42,000: Turkey 1-1 Germany, 18.11.2003

2004 qualifying play-off, Sükrü Saraçoğlu Stadium, Istanbul

#### **Final tournament**

35,500: Italy 1-1 Spain (Italy win 5-4 on pens), 31.05.1996

1996 final, Olímpico de Montjuïc, Barcelona

#### **Final**

35,500: Italy 1-1 Spain (see above)

## Competition information

• **Qualifying:** Qualifying kicked off on 31 May 2007 and ran until 15 October 2008 with a group stage followed by play-offs to determine which seven nations joined Sweden, who qualified automatically as hosts, at the eight-team final tournament.

• **How the 2009 final round works:** The group stage is based on a league system (three points for a win, one for a draw, none for a defeat) to produce four semi-finalists.

If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of all the matches in their group, the following criteria will be used to determine the rankings in the order given:

- a) number of points obtained in the matches among the teams in question;
- b) goal difference in the matches among the teams in question;
- c) number of goals scored in the matches among the teams in question (if more than two teams finish equal on points);
- d) goal difference in all the group matches;
- e) number of goals scored in all the group matches;
- f) coefficient from the qualifying competitions (only group stage matches) for the 2006/07 and 2007/09 UEFA European Under-21 Championship (points obtained divided by the number of matches played);
- g) goal difference from the play-offs;
- h) average number of goals scored per play-off;
- i) fair play conduct of the teams (final tournament);
- h) drawing of lots.

If two teams with the same number of points, goals scored and conceded play their last group match against each other and are still equal at the end of that match, the ranking of the two teams in question will be determined by penalties, provided no other teams within the group have the same number of points on completion of all group matches.

The winners and runners-up in each group play each other over one match to produce the two finalists – Winner Group A v Runner-up Group B/Winner Group B v Runner-up Group A. If in the semi-finals or final the match ends in a draw, extra time then penalties will be played to determine the winner.

- **Eligibility:** Players are eligible to play in the competition if they were born on or after 1 January 1986.
- **Disciplinary information:** A player is automatically suspended for the next match after two cautions in two different matches. Yellow cards are not cancelled after the group stage but do expire on completion of the competition.
- **Referees:** The six referees chosen to officiate in Sweden are among the most promising in Europe. The selection includes Peter Rasmussen (Denmark), Tony Chapron (France), Bjorn Kuipers (Netherlands), Pedro Proença (Portugal), Claudio Circhetta (Switzerland) and Cüneyt Çakir (Turkey).
- **Trophy:** The UEFA European Under-21 Championship trophy was created for the 1996-98 campaign after Italy kept the previous one following their three consecutive tournament wins. A bigger trophy, 60cm as opposed to the previous 37cm, has been forged for this summer's finals. The winning nation will receive a full-sized replica of the trophy.
- **Medals:** 33 gold medals are presented to the winning team and 33 silver medals to the runners-up. The teams beaten in the semi-finals will each receive 33 bronze medals.
- **Ambassadors:** Four former internationals with an aggregate of 395 Sweden caps have been enlisted as ambassadors for the four cities hosting matches. Marcus Allbäck (Gothenburg), Niclas Alexandersson (Halmstad), Roland Nilsson (Helsingborg) and Patrik Andersson (Malmö) will supplement the work of the overall tournament ambassador, striker Henrik Larsson.
- **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.
- **Official ball:** The adidas TERRAPASS was unveiled at the tournament draw in Gothenburg with a futuristic design to celebrate the colours of host nation Sweden. The bright blue and yellow of the Swedish flag are enhanced by 12 watermarks containing the silhouette of Europe, along with the official event logo.
- **Official song:** Get Up and Go by indie artist Keren DeBerg is the official tune of the finals and will be played at every match before being performed live at the final. Keren DeBerg's personal website can be found at [www.kerendeborg.com](http://www.kerendeborg.com).

• **TV rights:** Television rights for the finals have been sold to more than 130 countries and territories worldwide. Partnerships exist with leading broadcasters in all the participating countries including RAI (Italy), Sky Sports (UK), TV Viisi (Finland), TV4 (Sweden), RTS (Serbia), Sogecable (Spain), ZDF and DSF (Germany) and Belarus TV (Belarus). Free live streaming will be available on [www.uefa.com](http://www.uefa.com) in Europe in all the remaining national associations where broadcast rights have not been acquired and outside Europe in Japan and India among others. [uefa.com](http://www.uefa.com) will also be offering free two-minute 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.

**uefa.com:** A team of reporters in Sweden is helping [uefa.com](http://www.uefa.com) provide unrivalled coverage in eight European languages – English, Swedish, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian – including a live MatchCentre for every game. The Swedish version is run in close co-operation with the host national association.

• **Quicklinks:** A media information guide is being updated daily on [uefa.com](http://www.uefa.com), providing times of press conferences and training. It can be accessed via this link:

<http://www.uefa.com/competitions/under21/finals/newsid=836979.html>

Tournament schedule

**Final tournament**

Date		Home	Res.	Away	Venue
15.06.2009	Grp B	England	2 - 1	Finland	Halmstad
15.06.2009	Grp B	Spain	0 - 0	Germany	Gothenburg
16.06.2009	Grp A	Sweden	5 - 1	Belarus	Malmö
16.06.2009	Grp A	Italy	0 - 0	Serbia	Helsingborg
18.06.2009	Grp B	Germany	18.15	Finland	Halmstad
18.06.2009	Grp B	Spain	20.45	England	Gothenburg
19.06.2009	Grp A	Sweden	16.00	Italy	Helsingborg
19.06.2009	Grp A	Belarus	18.15	Serbia	Malmö
22.06.2009	Grp B	Finland	20.45	Spain	Gothenburg
22.06.2009	Grp B	Germany	20.45	England	Halmstad
23.06.2009	Grp A	Serbia	20.45	Sweden	Malmö
23.06.2009	Grp A	Belarus	20.45	Italy	Helsingborg

**Group A**

Pos.	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Sweden	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
2	Italy	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
3	Serbia	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	Belarus	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

**Group B**

Pos.	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	England	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
2	Spain	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
3	Germany	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	Finland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

Top scorers - Final tournament

- 3** - Marcus Berg (SWE)
- 1** - Gustav Svensson (SWE)
- 1** - Sergei Kislyak (BLR)
- 1** - Lee Cattermole (ENG)
- 1** - Micah Richards (ENG)
- 1** - Tim Sparv (FIN)

## Legend

### :: Competitions

#### Club competitions

**ECCLC**: European Champions Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

**UCUP**: UEFA Cup • **UCWC**: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup

**SCUP**: UEFA Super Cup • **UIC**: UEFA Intertoto Cup

**ICF**: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

### National team competitions

**EURO**: UEFA European Football Championship

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

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

**U21**: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

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

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

### :: 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

**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

### :: Statistics

**(-)** : Denotes player substituted

**(\*)** : Denotes player dismissed/sent off

**(+)** : Denotes player introduced

**(+/-)** : Denotes player introduced and substituted

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