

SERBIA - SWEDEN

MATCH PRESS KIT

Malmö New Stadium, Malmö

Tuesday 23 June 2009 - 20.45CET (20.45 local time)

Group A - Matchday 3



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Match background

Sweden enter their final Group A fixture looking to avenge a crushing defeat against their old foes Serbia and in the process claim a place in the semi-finals.

- Although the UEFA European Under-21 Championship hosts hold a one-point advantage over Serbia heading into this deciding match, they should know better than to take anything for granted against opponents who overturned a three-goal deficit in the countries' qualifying play-off for the 2007 finals by winning 5-0 here in Sweden.

- After beating Belarus and losing to Italy, Sweden need only avoid defeat at the Malmö New Stadium to ensure their progress to the semi-finals. For Serbia, victory alone will suffice following their successive goalless draws with Italy and Belarus.

- Sweden have suffered more than their share of heartache against the Balkan nation in recent years. The two sides have met three times in competitive UEFA European Under-21 Championship fixtures, with a win apiece and one draw – but on each occasion Serbia had the last laugh.

- The full breakdown of those past meetings is:

2007 Qualifying play-off

06.10.06 Serbia 0-3 Sweden, Novi Sad

10.10.06 Sweden 0-5 Serbia, Trollhattan

(Serbia win 5-3 on aggregate)

2004 Semi-finals

05.06.04 Sweden 1-1 Serbia and Montenegro, Oberhausen

(Serbia and Montenegro win 6-5 on pens)

- To qualify for the 2007 tournament in the Netherlands, Serbia staged a remarkable comeback from a 3-0 defeat in Novi Sad on 6 October 2006, winning the away leg 5-0 in Trollhattan four days later.

- In the first of those games an early double from Dušan Djurić (4, 9) put Sweden in control. Samuel Holmén added a third (73) to seemingly put the Scandinavian side on the brink of the finals.

- The lineups were:

Serbia: Damir Kahrman, Branislav Ivanović, Duško Tošić, Nemanja Rnić (Antonio Rukavina 76), Aleksandar Kolarov, Boško Janković, Dejan Milovanović, Nikola Drinčić, Predrag Pavlović (Milan Smiljanić 46), Miloš Krasić (Stefan Babović 60), Dragan Mrdja.

Sweden: Johan Dahlin, Fredrik Stoor, Andreas Granqvist, Karl Svensson, Oscar Wendt, Rasmus Lindgren, Erkan Zengin, Pontus Wernblom, Dušan Djurić (Sebastian Larsson 65), Samuel Holmén, Henok Goitom (Joakim Sjöbage 78).

- Serbia were quickly back in contention in the second leg, scoring two early goals through Dragan Mrdja (9) and Boško Janković (11). Stefan Babović levelled the aggregate scores in the 35th minute and Serbia completed the turnaround in the second half with strikes from Babović again (59) and Miloš Krasić (66).



- Of the current Sweden squad, Pontus Wernbloom, Marcus Berg and Johan Dahlin all featured in the second-leg defeat, goalkeeper Dahlin taken off at the break after conceding three first-half goals. Mikael Lustig, Mattias Bjärnsmyr and Ola Toivonen were unused substitutes.
- The lineups were:
Sweden: Johan Dahlin (Marcus Sahlman 46), Fredrik Stoor (Sebastian Larsson 81), Andreas Granqvist, Karl Svensson, Oscar Wendt, Rasmus Lindgren, Erkan Zengin, Pontus Wernblom (Marcus Berg 63), Dušan Djuric, Samuel Holmén, Henok Goitom.
Serbia: Damir Kahrman, Branislav Ivanović, Duško Tošić, Aleksandar Kolarov, Milan Smiljanić, Boško Janković, Dejan Milovanović, Antonio Rukavina, Stefan Babović (Djordje Ivelja 89), Miloš Krsić (Nikola Drinčić 76), Dragan Mrdja.
- The two sides also met in a friendly match on 10 September 2008 with Serbia again emerging victorious, Adem Ljajić scoring the only goal of the game on 85 minutes in Krusevac.
- The sides' other competitive encounter came in the semi-finals of the 2004 tournament in Germany when Serbia and Montenegro won 6-5 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in Oberhausen. Sweden looked on course to reach their first final when Babis Stefanidis fired them ahead on 36 minutes, but Miloš Marić struck back in the first minute of added time to force extra time. After Stefanidis had missed his spot-kick Nikola Mijailović stepped up to send Serbia through.
- Serbia captain Milan Smiljanić was an unused substitute when the sides played out a 2-2 draw in the UEFA European Under-19 Championship qualifying round in October 2003.
- At senior level the modern-day Serbia have not yet faced Sweden. As part of the former Yugoslavia, they faced the Scandinavians ten times with five wins, three defeats and two draws – the last of those meetings in September 1991 producing a 4-3 Swedish friendly victory in Solna.

Squad news

Serbia

- Against Belarus, Serbia coach Krčmarević made one change from the side that had drawn 0-0 with Italy in Helsingborg, bringing Marko Milinković into his front three, with Gojko Kačar dropping into midfield.
- Serbia still struggled to create opportunities, managing just ten goal attempts and three on target. Their troubles in front of goal are in marked contrast to the qualifying campaign where they finished as leading scorers alongside Germany with 26 goals from ten matches.
- Serbia's 8-0 success against Hungary on 7 September 2008 was the joint-biggest win in qualifying alongside the Czech Republic's victory over Liechtenstein by the same score. Kačar hit five goals against the Hungarians.
- Serbia's strike options were limited when Filip Djordjević was forced out of the squad after breaking a bone in his right foot in training two days before the tournament began.
- Krčmarević's squad has since been reduced to 22 after midfielder Nemanja Matić fractured the fifth metatarsal in his right foot against Italy.
- "We don't have ready-made solutions up front, having lost our first-choice forward Filip Djordjević and then another important attacking player, Matić, to injury," Krčmarević said.
- Ljubomir Fejsa and Ivan Obradović were booked against Italy and, like Nikola Petković, will be banned for one match should they see yellow against Sweden.
- Krčmarević took advantage of the extra day between games to put his players through a longer practice session at their training ground in Paarp on Sunday.
- Krčmarević, who has no injury worries, focused on preparing his players tactically to face Sweden.
- Serbia decided against having a training session at the Malmö New Stadium on the eve of the game – opting instead to train at their usual base in Paarp.
- Serbia are the only side yet to score in this competition and defender Nenad Tomović said: "It doesn't matter who scores the goal, even if it is our goalkeeper Željko Brkić – the most important thing is to see Serbia in the semi-finals."
- The Serbs have still to concede a goal but defender Nemanja Pejčinović warned that they faced a tough test against Sweden's attackers. "Sweden have a strong forward line with Marcus Berg, Ola Toivonen and Emir Bajrami," he said. "They are very good in the air and we must be 100 per cent concentrated at every moment."

- Serbia have had impressive support in the stadiums with an estimated 2,500 fans at each of their games so far. There are more than 20,000 people from the former Yugoslavia living in the Malmö area and supporters have also travelled from Copenhagen and Germany as well as other Swedish cities.
- Pejićinović expects the Serbia fans to make themselves heard against the home nation. "We're playing against the host country so many supporters will be backing them, but don't forget we had great support from one part of the stand in the Malmö stadium and that will give us all additional motivation."

Sweden

- Bajrami, Berg, Rasmus Elm, Toivonen and Pontus Wernbloom are all one booking away from suspension. Bajrami was yellow-carded in the 5-1 curtain-raising win against Belarus, with the other four cautioned against Italy.
- After scoring five against Belarus, Sweden created numerous chances against Italy but were unable to take any until Toivonen struck after 89 minutes of the 2-1 Group A defeat. The Swedes had 21 shots of which only six were on target, compared with the Italian ratio of seven and three.
- "Mario Balotelli's sending-off greatly affected the game," Toivonen said. "They retreated into defence and we got to have most of the ball. We kept slogging away, but we were too weak inside the box."
- Sweden began with the same side in both matches. Coaches Tommy Söderberg and Jörgen Lennartsson made a double substitution on 66 minutes with Labinot Harbuzi and Martin Olsson replacing Gustav Svensson and Bajrami. In his 23 minutes of action, Olsson had three attempts on target, the same amount as the rest of the team combined.
- The squad took Sunday off with no scheduled training session or press activities. On Saturday the XI that had started against Italy recuperated while the rest of the players were put through an intense training session.
- Sweden should have a fully-fit squad available against Serbia despite several complaints affecting the group. Emil Johansson (finger) and Mikael Lustig (knee) have been nursing slight knocks; Harbuzi trained alone for the latter part of Saturday's session; and Denni Avdic left the same session early after suffering an allergic reaction to pollen.
- Berg's treble against Belarus was the first hat-trick in an U21 final tournament and Sweden's 5-1 win the second time a team had scored five or more in an U21 finals match. England hold the tournament record for their 6-0 triumph over Turkey in the group stage in 2000.

Team facts

Serbia

Serbia are 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)

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

19.11.2009 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: 28 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

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

Sweden

The only other time Sweden appeared in the Under-21 finals in their current eight-team format was the 2004 championship in Germany when a side featuring forwards Johan Elmander and Markus Rosenberg collected maximum points from the group stage, beating Portugal, Germany and Switzerland. In the semi-finals, however, Sweden lost a penalty shoot-out to Serbia and Montenegro, the match having finished 1-1 after both full time and extra time.

It was the Swedes' best showing in the competition since the early 1990s. Their most notable performance had come in 1992 when Tomas Brolin and Patrik Andersson played a big part in taking them to the final. Opponents Italy, led by Demetrio Albertini, proved too strong though in the last final to be decided over two legs, prevailing 2-1 on aggregate. Two years before, Sweden had again got to the last four where they fell to the eventual winners from the Soviet Union. The team also made a quarter-final appearance in 1986, knocking out West Germany, Czechoslovakia and Portugal before succumbing to Italy.

Tournament record

Winners: –

Runners-up: 1992

Semi-finalists: 1990, 2004

Quarter-finalists: 1986, 1998

Final tournament appearances: 1998, 2004, 2009

Friendly results since finals draw

19.11.2008 Netherlands 0-3 Sweden

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11.02.2009 Italy 1-1 Sweden
27.03.2009 Finland 1-0 Sweden
31.03.2009 Spain 0-0 Sweden
05.06.2009 Sweden 2-1 Poland
09.06.2009 Sweden 2-1 Estonia

Capped at senior level: Denni Avdic, Rasmus Bengtsson, Marcus Berg, Mattias Bjärnsmyr, Johan Dahlin, Andreas Landgren, Gustav Svensson, Mikael Lustig, Ola Toivonen, Pontus Wernbloom

Players with previous U21 final tournament experience: None

Most capped player

All-time: 35 Alexander Farnerud
Current: 29 Mattias Bjärnsmyr

Leading scorer

All-time: 12 Alexander Farnerud, Johan Elmander
Current: 10 Ola Toivonen

Biggest wins

Final tournament: 5-1 Sweden v Belarus 16.06.09
2009 group stage, Malmö New Stadium, Malmö

Qualifying: 6-0 Sweden v Malta 03.06.2005
2006 qualifying group stage, Öljans vall, Halmstad

Sweden v Bulgaria 06.10.1992
1994 qualifying group stage, Öljans vall, Halmstad

Sweden v Cyprus 01.05.1991
1992 qualifying group stage, Olympia, Helsingborg

Heaviest defeats

Final tournament: 0-1 Sweden v Norway 24.05.98
1998 quarter-finals, Steaua Stadium, Bucharest

Qualifying: 0-5 Sweden v Serbia 10.10.2006
2007 play-off, Edsberg Stadium, Trollhattan

Squad list

Serbia

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

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	BL	Current season				Overall U21	
						a Qual. Pld	Gls	a FT Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers											
1	Johan Dahlin	08.09.1986	22	FC Lyn Oslo	-	-	-	2	-	6	-
12	Pär Hansson	22.06.1986	23	Helsingborgs IF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Kristoffer Nordfeldt	23.06.1989	19	Brommapojkarna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders											
2	Mikael Lustig	13.12.1986	22	Rosenborg BK	-	-	-	2	-	4	-
3	Mattias Bjärnsmyr	03.01.1986	23	IFK Göteborg	-	-	-	2	-	4	-
4	Rasmus Bengtsson	26.06.1986	22	Trelleborgs FF	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
5	Emil Johansson	11.08.1986	22	Hammarby	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
6	Per Karlsson	02.01.1986	23	AIK Solna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Andreas Landgren	17.03.1989	20	Helsingborgs IF	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
17	Martin Olsson	17.05.1988	21	Blackburn Rovers FC	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
22	Joel Ekstrand	04.02.1989	20	Helsingborgs IF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders											
11	Robin Söder	01.04.1991	18	IFK Göteborg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Gustav Svensson	07.02.1987	22	IFK Göteborg	-	-	-	2	1	2	1
14	Guillermo Molins	26.09.1988	20	Malmö FF	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
15	Labinot Harbuzi	04.04.1986	23	Malmö FF	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
16	Pierre Bengtsson	12.04.1988	21	AIK Solna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Rasmus Elm	17.03.1988	21	Kalmar FF	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
20	Emir Bajrami	07.03.1988	21	IF Elfsborg	*	-	-	2	-	2	-
21	Gabriel Özkan	23.05.1986	23	AIK Solna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards											
7	Ola Toivonen	03.07.1986	22	PSV Eindhoven	*	-	-	2	1	2	1
9	Marcus Berg	17.08.1986	22	FC Groningen	*	-	-	2	3	4	3
10	Denni Avdic	05.09.1988	20	IF Elfsborg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Pontus Wernbloom	25.06.1986	22	IFK Göteborg	*	-	-	2	-	6	-
Coach											
-	Tommy Söderberg	19.08.1948	60	SWE	-	-	-	2	-	12	-
-	Jörgen Lennartsson	10.04.1965	44	SWE	-	-	-	2	-	2	-

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

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Match-by-match lineups - Group A

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Italy	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Sweden	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
Serbia	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Belarus	2	0	1	1	1	5	1

Date	Match	Result	Stadium/Venue
16.06.2009	Sweden - Belarus	5-1	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
Goals: 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			
Sweden: Dahlin, Lustig, Bjärnsmyr, R.Bengtsson, Johansson, Toivonen (Harbuzi 84), Berg, Svensson (Landgren 89), Elm, Wernbloom, Bajrami (Molins 71)			
Belarus: 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
Goals: -			
Italy: Consigli, Motta (Pisano 78), Andreolli, Criscito, Marchisio, Acquafresca, Giovinco, De Ceglie, Bocchetti, Balotelli (Abate 67), Cigarini			
Serbia: Brkić, Fejsa, Kačar, Petković, Smiljanić, Sulejmani, Z. Tošić, Tomović, Pejčinović, Vuković, Matić (Tomić 85)			
19.06.2009	Sweden - Italy	1-2	Olympia, Helsingborg
Goals: 0-1 Balotelli 23, 0-2 Acquafresca 53, 1-2 Toivonen 89			
Sweden: Dahlin, Lustig, Bjärnsmyr, R.Bengtsson, Johansson, Toivonen, Berg, Svensson (Harbuzi 66), Elm, Wernbloom, Bajrami (Olsson 66)			
Italy: Consigli, Motta, Andreolli, Criscito, Marchisio (Dessena 89), Acquafresca (Ranocchia 76), Giovinco (Abate 62), De Ceglie, Bocchetti, Balotelli, Cigarini			
19.06.2009	Belarus - Serbia	0-0	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
Goals: -			
Belarus: Chesnovski, Osipovich, Shitov, Bordachov, Krivets, Kovel, Afanasiev (Chukhlei 69), Kislyak (Volodko 82), Verkhovtsov, Yurchenko (Putilo 76), Sivakov			
Serbia: Brkić, Fejsa (Veljović 82), Kačar, Petković (Tomić 63), Smiljanić, Sulejmani, Z. Tošić, Tomović, Pejčinović, Vuković, Milinković (Obradović 46)			
23.06.2009	Serbia - Sweden	-	Malmö New Stadium, Malmö
23.06.2009	Belarus - Italy	-	Olympia, Helsingborg

Match officials

Referee	Pedro Proença Oliveira Alves Garcia (POR)
Assistant referees	György Ring (HUN), Jaanus Mutli (EST)
Fourth official	Cüneyt Çakir (TUR)
UEFA Delegate	Pat Quigley (IRL)
UEFA Referee observer	Marc Batta (FRA)

Referees

Name	Nat.	Date of birth	U21	UEFA
Pedro Proença Oliveira Alves Garcia	POR	03.11.1970	3	21

Pedro Proença

- Pedro Proença has been on the rise in European refereeing circles since making his continental bow at the UEFA Regions' Cup in 2002. Within two years he was taking charge of the UEFA European Under-19 Championship final.
- Proença achieved UEFA Premier referee status in January 2007 but had been a fixture on the international scene for some time, enjoying regular outings in UEFA's two high-profile club competitions. He has also been responsible for UEFA European Under-21 Championship qualifying matches and took charge of two games in qualifying for UEFA EURO 2008™.
- A financial director from Pinhal Novo, Proença enjoys skiing in his spare time along with a love of reading and writing. His most notable match has been the 2006/07 Portuguese Cup final, when Sporting Clube de Portugal were 1-0 winners against CF Os Belenenses. He also ran the rule over two FC Porto successes in the domestic Super Cup in August 2003 and 2006.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
16.06.2009	U21	GS - FT	Italy - Serbia	0-0	Helsingborg

Head coach

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 though 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 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 for possessing 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 Under-21s following Serbia's run to the final of the 2007 UEFA European U21 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.

Sweden: Tommy Söderberg and Jörgen Lennartsson

Tommy Söderberg

Date of birth: 19 August 1948

Playing career: Ängby IF, Continental

Coaching career: BK Väster (1972), IF Brommapojkarna youth team (1973-77), Spånga IS (1980-81), IF Brommapojkarna (1982-85), Djurgårdens IF FF (1986-89), Djurgården youth team (1990), AIK Solna (1991-93), Sweden U21 (1994-1997), Sweden (1998-2004), Sweden U21 (2004-)

Jörgen Lennartsson

Date of birth: 10 April 1965

Playing career: Växjö Norra IF, FK Växjö

Coaching career: Växjö Norra youth team (1979-88), Vederslöv/Dänningelanda 1989, Östers IF youth team (1990-93), Helsingborgs IF youth team (1994-99), Helsingborg assistant coach (2000-01), BK Häcken (2002-04), Sweden U21 assistant coach (2004-05), Sweden U17 (2005-06), Sweden U21 (2006-)

The coaching team of Tommy Söderberg and Jörgen Lennartsson have been in joint command of the Under-21 side since 2006. Both coaches have a wealth of experience at club and international level.

Stockholm-native Söderberg first occupied the U21 helm in the mid-1990 before stepping up to the seniors in 1998. He passed his first serious test with flying colours, defeating England 2-1 in a UEFA EURO 2000™ qualifier en route to qualifying for the tournament. Working with young players has always been Söderberg's passion, and he chose to return to the U21 post when his contract with the full squad expired. By then he had taken Sweden to the 2002 FIFA World Cup and to UEFA EURO 2004™, together with Lars Lagerbäck. Söderberg returned to the concept of joint leadership when he asked Jörgen Lennartsson to join him in guiding Sweden's next generation.

Lennartsson started coaching in his home town of Vaxjo, deciding at the age of 23 that he had greater potential as a coach than a player. In 1995, Helsingborgs IF handpicked Lennartsson to oversee their youth team and five years later he had his first taste of managing senior players when he was promoted to assistant coach. Lennartsson helped steer Helsingborg into the UEFA Champions League, knocking out FC Internazionale Milan along the way, and then got the chance to become a head coach at BK Häcken in 2002, steering the small Gothenburg outfit to promotion to the Allsvenskan two years later before taking up his current post.

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

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.

• **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 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	2 - 0	Finland	Halmstad
18.06.2009	Grp B	Spain	0 - 2	England	Gothenburg
19.06.2009	Grp A	Sweden	1 - 2	Italy	Helsingborg
19.06.2009	Grp A	Belarus	0 - 0	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	Italy	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
2	Sweden	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
3	Serbia	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
4	Belarus	2	0	1	1	1	5	1

Group B

Pos.	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	England	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
2	Germany	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
3	Spain	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
4	Finland	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

Top scorers - Final tournament

- 3** - Marcus Berg (SWE)
- 1** - Ola Toivonen (SWE)
- 1** - Gustav Svensson (SWE)
- 1** - Sergei Kislyak (BLR)
- 1** - James Milner (ENG)
- 1** - Fraizer Campbell (ENG)
- 1** - Lee Cattermole (ENG)
- 1** - Micah Richards (ENG)
- 1** - Tim Sparv (FIN)
- 1** - Ashkan Dejagah (GER)

Legend

:: Squad list

No: number
DoB: date of birth
Qual: qualifying
FT: final tournament
Pld: played
Gls: goals
Overall U21: final tournament only

:: Match officials

Nat: nationality
DoB: date of birth

Under-21: Total matches officiated in the UEFA European U21 Championship including all qualifying round matches. Matches 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.

:: Competitions

Club competitions

ECCL: 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	QR3: Third qualifying round
GS: Group stage	R1: First round
GS1: First group stage	R2: Second round
GS2: Second group stage	R3: Third round
KO1: First knockout round	R4: Fourth round
PR: Preliminary round	SF: Semi-finals
QF: Quarter-finals	1/8: Eighth-finals
QR: Qualifying round	1/16: Sixteenth-finals
QR1: First qualifying round	1st: first leg
QR2: Second qualifying round	2nd: second leg
FT: Final tournament	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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