

UEFA EURO 2016 MATCH PRESS KITS



Cyprus

GSP - Nicosia
Sunday 24 March 2019 - 20.45CET
Group I - Matchday 2



Belgium

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EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



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Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
10/10/2017	QR (GS)	Belgium - Cyprus	4-0	Brussels	E. Hazard 12, 63 (P), T. Hazard 52, R. Lukaku 78
06/09/2016	QR (GS)	Cyprus - Belgium	0-3	Nicosia	R. Lukaku 13, 61, Carrasco 81

2016 UEFA European Championship

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
06/09/2015	QR (GS)	Cyprus - Belgium	0-1	Nicosia	E. Hazard 86
28/03/2015	QR (GS)	Belgium - Cyprus	5-0	Brussels	Fellaini 21, 66, Benteke 35, E. Hazard 67, Batshuayi 80

EURO '96

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
15/11/1995	PR (GS)	Cyprus - Belgium	1-1	Limassol	Agathocleous 20; De Bilde 65
26/04/1995	PR (GS)	Belgium - Cyprus	2-0	Brussels	De Bilde 20, Schepens 46

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
13/02/1993	QR (GS)	Cyprus - Belgium	0-3	Nicosia	Scifo 1, 4, Czerniatynski 87
22/04/1992	QR (GS)	Belgium - Cyprus	1-0	Brussels	Wilmots 24

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
18/02/1981	QR (GS)	Belgium - Cyprus	3-2	Brussels	Plessers 13, Vandenbergh 18, Ceulemans 67; Lysandrou 42, Vrahimis 60
21/12/1980	QR (GS)	Cyprus - Belgium	0-2	Nicosia	Vandenbergh 30, Ceulemans 68

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
EURO																		
Cyprus	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	2	-	-	-	-	4	0	1	3	1	9
Belgium	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	-	-	-	-	4	3	1	0	9	1
FIFA*																		
Cyprus	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	3	-	-	-	-	6	0	0	6	2	16
Belgium	3	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	-	-	-	-	6	6	0	0	16	2
Friendlies																		
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	1	0	1
Belgium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	1	0
Total																		
Cyprus	5	0	1	4	5	0	0	5	-	-	-	-	11	0	1	10	3	26
Belgium	5	5	0	0	5	4	1	0	-	-	-	-	11	10	1	0	26	3

* FIFA World Cup/FIFA Confederations Cup

Squad list

Cyprus

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Urko Pardo	28/01/1983	36	Alki Oroklini	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Kostas Panayi	08/10/1994	24	Omonia	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Neofytos Michael	16/12/1993	25	Giannina	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Georgios Vasiliou	12/06/1984	34	Apollon	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Giorgos Merkis	30/07/1984	34	APOEL	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Jason Demetriou	18/11/1987	31	Southend	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Margaça	17/07/1985	33	Nea Salamis	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dossa Júnior	28/07/1986	32	AEL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Christos Wheeler	29/06/1997	21	AEL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Nicholas Ioannou	10/11/1995	23	APOEL	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Ioannis Kousoulos	14/06/1996	22	Omonia	-	1	1	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Andreas Avraam	06/06/1987	31	AEL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	George Efrem	05/07/1989	29	APOEL	-	1	1	0	0		
-	Kostakis Artymatas	15/04/1993	25	APOEL	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Kostas Laifis	19/05/1993	25	Standard Liège	-	1	1	0	0		
-	Grigoris Kastanos	30/01/1998	21	Juventus	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Antreas Makris	27/11/1995	23	AEL	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Matija Špoljarić	02/04/1997	21	Alki Oroklini	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Anthony Georgiou	24/02/1997	22	Levante	-	1	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Pieros Sotiriou	13/01/1993	26	København	-	1	2	0	0		
-	Minas Antoniou	22/02/1994	25	Paralimni	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Nestor Mytidis	01/06/1991	27	AEL	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Fotis Papoulis	22/01/1985	34	Apollon	-	1	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Ran Ben Simon	28/11/1970	48		-	1	0	0	0		

Belgium

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Simon Mignolet	06/03/1988	31	Liverpool	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Koen Casteels	25/06/1992	26	Wolfsburg	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Thibaut Courtois	11/05/1992	26	Real Madrid	-	1	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Thomas Vermaelen	14/11/1985	33	Barcelona	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Toby Alderweireld	02/03/1989	30	Tottenham	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Jan Vertonghen	24/04/1987	31	Tottenham	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Brandon Mechele	28/01/1993	26	Club Brugge	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Timothy Castagne	05/12/1995	23	Atalanta	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Jason Denayer	28/06/1995	23	Lyon	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Eden Hazard	07/01/1991	28	Chelsea	-	1	2	0	0		
-	Thorgan Hazard	29/03/1993	25	Mönchengladbach	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Nacer Chadli	02/08/1989	29	Monaco	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Dennis Praet	14/05/1994	24	Sampdoria	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Leander Dendoncker	15/04/1995	23	Wolves	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Youri Tielemans	07/05/1997	21	Leicester	-	1	1	0	0		
-	Hans Vanaken	24/08/1992	26	Club Brugge	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Adnan Januzaj	05/02/1995	24	Real Sociedad	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Christian Benteke	03/12/1990	28	Crystal Palace	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Dries Mertens	06/05/1987	31	Napoli	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Leandro Trossard	04/12/1994	24	Genk	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Michy Batshuayi	02/10/1993	25	Crystal Palace	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Yannick Carrasco	04/09/1993	25	Dalian Yifang	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Divock Origi	18/04/1995	23	Liverpool	-	0	0	0	0		
Coach											
-	Roberto Martínez	13/07/1973	45		-	1	0	0	0		

Head coach

Ran Ben Shimon

Date of birth: 28 November 1970

Nationality: Israeli

Playing career: Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Hapoel Haifa, Hapoel Petach-Tikva, Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv

Coaching career: Hapoel Haifa, Hapoel Kiryat Shmona (twice), Maccabi Tel-Aviv, AEK Larnaca, Hapoel Tel-Aviv, Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Beitar Jerusalem, Ashdod, Cyprus

- Capped 34 times as a defender for Israel, Ben Shimon spent much of his career with home-town clubs Maccabi Petach-Tikva and Hapoel Petach-Tikva, but was perhaps in his prime during a six-year spell at Hapoel Haifa, during which he won the 1998/99 Israeli championship – the club's first league title.
- After hanging up his boots in 2003 following a stint at Bnei Yehuda, Ben Shimon was in charge of Maccabi Tel-Aviv's youth teams, taking his first senior jobs in the second tier with Hapoel Haifa and then Kiryat Shmona, whom he led to promotion in his first campaign at the helm.
- Briefly in the Maccabi Tel-Aviv hot seat in 2008, he guided Kiryat Shmona to another promotion after rejoining them in 2009, then masterminded their shock title success of 2011/12. He moved abroad for the first time in 2012 to coach Cypriot club AEK Larnaca, earning a third-placed finish in his sole season in command.
- Returning to Israel in 2013, he subsequently held the reins at Hapoel Tel-Aviv, Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Beitar Jerusalem and – in 2016/17 – Ashdod.
- Ben Shimon accepted the Cyprus post in July 2017, filling the void left by Christakis Christoforou's departure, and the following month oversaw a memorable 3-2 home win against Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying.

Roberto Martínez

Date of birth: 13 July 1973

Nationality: Spanish

Playing career: Real Zaragoza, Balaguer, Wigan, Motherwell, Walsall, Swansea, Chester City

Coaching career: Swansea, Wigan, Everton, Belgium

- Born in Catalonia, Martínez started out at youth level with home-town club Balaguer before joining Zaragoza aged 16. The bulk of his three years there were spent in the youth and B teams, with a solitary appearance for the senior side before he returned to Balaguer in 1994, also running the club's football school.
- Moved to England and Wigan in 1995, forming the 'Three Amigos' with fellow Spaniards Jesús Seba and Isidro Díaz; over the next six years, helped the club win the third division title in 1997 and the Football League trophy two years later. A year with both Motherwell and Walsall preceded a lengthier spell at Swansea between 2003 and 2006, Martínez helping the club to promotion to the third tier. After a season with Chester, he returned to south Wales in 2007, initially as player-manager before quickly hanging up his boots.
- Guided Swansea to the League One championship in 2008 before leaving for Premier League Wigan the following year. Inspired an unlikely escape from relegation in 2011/12 and landed the Latics' first major trophy with victory against Manchester City FC in the FA Cup final 12 months later – although three days after that landmark triumph, Wigan were relegated.
- Martínez remained a man in demand and was appointed Everton manager in June 2013, steering the club to fifth place with their record Premier League points tally in his first term. Everton reached the 2014/15 UEFA Europa League round of 16 and both domestic cup semi-finals in the next campaign, but indifferent league form meant Martínez was dismissed in May 2016.
- Appointed Belgium coach three months later in the wake of Marc Wilmots' departure and led the side to the semi-finals of the 2018 FIFA World Cup, Belgium ultimately finishing third in Russia – their highest ever placing.

Match officials

Referee	François Letexier (FRA)
Assistant referees	Cyril Mugnier (FRA) , Mehdi Rahmouni (FRA)
Fourth official	Jérôme Brisard (FRA)
UEFA Delegate	Geir Thorsteinsson (ISL)
UEFA Referee observer	Nicolae Grigorescu (ROU)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEFA EURO matches	UEFA matches
François Letexier	23/04/1989	0	13

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

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
23/03/2017	U19	ELITE	Sweden	Belgium	1-2	Beveren
13/07/2017	UEL	2QR	Cork City FC	AEK Larnaca FC	0-1	Cork
13/12/2018	UEL	GS	AEK Larnaca FC	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	1-5	Nicosia

Match-by-match lineups

Cyprus

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group I

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	4	4	0	0	11	1	12
Russia	4	3	0	1	15	3	9
Kazakhstan	4	2	0	2	7	7	6
Scotland	4	2	0	2	4	7	6
Cyprus	4	1	0	3	6	5	3
San Marino	4	0	0	4	0	20	0

(21/03/2019)

Cyprus 5-0 San Marino

Goals: 1-0 Sotiriou 19 (P) , 2-0 Sotiriou 23 (P) , 3-0 Kousoulos 26, 4-0 Efrem 31, 5-0 Laifis 56

Cyprus: Panayi, N. Ioannou, Demetriou (65 Merkis), Efrem, Mytidis, Sotiriou (27 Makris), Kousoulos, Papoulis (54 Špoljarić), Artymatas, Laifis, Georgiou

(24/03/2019)

Cyprus-Belgium

(08/06/2019)

Scotland-Cyprus

(11/06/2019)

Russia-Cyprus

(06/09/2019)

Cyprus-Kazakhstan

(09/09/2019)

San Marino-Cyprus

(10/10/2019)

Kazakhstan-Cyprus

(13/10/2019)

Cyprus-Russia

(16/11/2019)

Cyprus-Scotland

(19/11/2019)

Belgium-Cyprus

Belgium

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group I

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Belgium	4	4	0	0	11	1	12
Russia	4	3	0	1	15	3	9
Kazakhstan	4	2	0	2	7	7	6
Scotland	4	2	0	2	4	7	6
Cyprus	4	1	0	3	6	5	3
San Marino	4	0	0	4	0	20	0

(21/03/2019)

Belgium 3-1 Russia

Goals: 1-0 Tielemans 14, 1-1 Cheryshev 16, 2-1 E. Hazard 45 (P) , 3-1 E. Hazard 88

Belgium: Courtois, Alderweireld, Vertonghen, Dendoncker, Tielemans, E. Hazard, Mertens, T. Hazard (84 Chadli), Boyata, Castagne, Batshuayi

(24/03/2019)

Cyprus-Belgium

(08/06/2019)

Belgium-Kazakhstan

(11/06/2019)

Belgium-Scotland

(06/09/2019)

San Marino-Belgium

(09/09/2019)

Scotland-Belgium

(10/10/2019)

Belgium-San Marino

(13/10/2019)

Kazakhstan-Belgium

(16/11/2019)

Russia-Belgium

(19/11/2019)

Belgium-Cyprus

Legend

:: Previous meetings

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

:: Squad list

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

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

Overall: Total international appearances/goals.

DoB: Date of birth

Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated

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

:: Team facts

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

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

Records of inactive countries

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

Abandoned/forfeited matches

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

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time

No.: Number

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

ET: Extra Time

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

gg: Match decided by golden goal

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

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pens: Penalties

og: Own goal

P: Penalty

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (straight red card)

Res.: Result

sg: Match decided by silver goal

t: Match decided by toss of a coin

W: Won

Y: Booked

Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)

N/A: Not applicable