

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2016/18 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Croatia

Stadion HNK Rijeka - Rijeka

Friday 6 October 2017
20.45CET (20.45 local time)
Group I - Matchday 9



Finland

Last updated 04/10/2017 11:48CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



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Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
09/10/2016	QR (GS)	Finland - Croatia	0-1	Tampere	Mandžukić 18

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Total																		
Croatia	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	0	1	0
Finland	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	1	0	1

Head coach

Ante Čačić

Date of birth: 29 September 1953

Nationality: Croatian

Playing career: NK Prigorje Markuševac

Coaching career: NK Dubrava, NK Inter Zaprešić (three times), NK Osijek, NK Zadar, NK Slaven Belupo (twice), GNK Dinamo Zagreb, NK Radnik Sesvete, NK Maribor, NK Kamen Ingrad, NK Lokomotiva Zagreb (twice), NK Croatia Sesvete, Croatia Under-21 (assistant), Libya (assistant), Croatia

- A graduate of the University of Zagreb's coaching school, Čačić was among the first ten Croatian coaches to receive a UEFA Pro licence; he started his coaching career at lower-league Prigorje Markuševac, where he had also played.
- Spent the bulk of his career in the Croatian top division, also earning promotion to the First League with Dubrava and Inter Zaprešić.
- His highest-profile job was at Dinamo Zagreb; hired in December 2011, he won a domestic double and led the club into the 2012/13 UEFA Champions League group stage. Left in November 2012.
- From 1994 to 1998, he was assistant coach of Croatia's Under-21 team, and from 2003 to 2006 assisted countryman Ilija Lončarević during his time as Libya coach.
- In 2013, he took Maribor to the UEFA Europa League group stage; he was most recently in charge of Lokomotiva, whom he guided into 2015/16 UEFA Europa League qualifying. Took over the national side in September 2015, guiding them to UEFA EURO 2016 and subsequently the last 16 in France, losing in extra time to eventual winners Portugal.

Markku Kanerva

Date of birth: 24 May 1964

Nationality: Finnish

Playing career: HJK Helsinki (twice), IF Elfsborg, Finnairin Palloilijat

Coaching career: HJK Helsinki (assistant), FC Viikingit, Finland Under-21s, Finland (assistant), Finland (caretaker, twice), Finland

- A defender in his playing days, Markku Kanerva started out at home-town club HJK and won five Finnish titles and three Finnish Cups over two spells, returning for four years until his retirement in 1998 after an initial stay from 1983 to 1990.
- Contested five games in the 1998/99 UEFA Champions League with HJK, having rejoined after stints with Swedish side Elfsborg and Finnish outfit FinnPa; Kanerva also picked up 59 caps for his national team, scoring once.
- Began his coaching career as an assistant at HJK before briefly holding the reins at Viikingit in 2003 and entering the Football Association of Finland (SPL-FBF) coaching set-up the following year.
- Took charge of Finland's U21s between 2004 and 2009, earning recognition as Finland's coach of the year in 2008 after booking the side a historic maiden place at the 2009 UEFA European U21 Championship finals.
- Assistant coach of Finland's senior team between 2010 and 2016, Kanerva took over in an interim capacity in both 2011 and 2015 before being handed the role full time as Hans Backe's replacement in December 2016.

Match officials

Referee	Daniel Stefanski (POL)
Assistant referees	Krzysztof Myrmus (POL) , Dawid Igor Golis (POL)
Fourth official	Bartosz Frankowski (POL)
FIFA Match Commissioner	Bernd Barutta (GER)
Referee observer	Karen Nalbandyan (ARM)

Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Daniel Stefanski	02/07/1977	2	27

FIFA World Cup matches involving teams from 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
09/11/2016	U19	QR	Croatia	Cyprus	4-0	Podgorica
14/11/2016	U19	QR	Montenegro	Croatia	1-2	Budva
26/07/2017	UCL	3QR	FC Salzburg	HNK Rijeka	1-1	Salzburg

Competition facts

The Week of Football concept enables fans around the world to enjoy the very best action from the European Qualifiers – which will determine UEFA's representatives at the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia.

Qualifying for the 2018 FIFA World Cup comprises nine groups of six teams, with matches played on a home-and-away basis.

Qualifying takes place under the 'Week of Football' concept, introduced ahead of the UEFA EURO 2016 qualifying campaign, in which games are spread out from Thursday to Tuesday, shining the spotlight on more teams on the road to the finals in Russia. Moreover, thanks to the Week of Football, at least 43% of matches will be played on weekends, giving fans a better chance to follow the action on television, in the stadiums and on UEFA.com.

Kick-off times will be set mainly at 18:00CET and 20:45CET on Saturdays and Sundays and at 20:45CET for Thursdays, Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays. In double-header matchweeks, sides will play on Thursday/Sunday, Friday/Monday or Saturday/Tuesday. Each day of the Week of Football will feature eight to ten games.

The nine group winners will qualify directly for the final tournament. The eight best runners-up will contest play-offs to decide the last four qualifiers for the finals.

The 13 qualifiers then join hosts Russia in the finals to make it 14 UEFA member associations represented.

How qualification works

The other confederations have the following qualifying berths:

Africa: 5

Asia: 4.5

North and Central America and Caribbean: 3.5

Oceania: 0.5

South America: 4.5

Match-by-match lineups

Croatia

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Group I

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Croatia	8	5	1	2	12	3	16
Iceland	8	5	1	2	11	7	16
Turkey	8	4	2	2	12	8	14
Ukraine	8	4	2	2	11	7	14
Finland	8	2	1	5	6	10	7
Kosovo	8	0	1	7	3	20	1

Matchday 1 (05/09/2016)

Croatia 1-1 Turkey

Goals: 1-0 Rakitić 44 (P) , 1-1 Hakan Çalhanoğlu 45+2

Croatia: Kalinić, Vrsaljko, Strinić, Perišić, Ćorluka, Rakitić (64 Brozović), Modrić, Mandžukić (85 Kramarić), Badelj, Pjaca (80 N. Kalinić), Vida

Matchday 2 (06/10/2016)

Kosovo 0-6 Croatia

Goals: 0-1 Mandžukić 6, 0-2 Mandžukić 24, 0-3 Mandžukić 35, 0-4 Mitrović 68, 0-5 Perišić 83, 0-6 N. Kalinić 90+2

Croatia: Subašić, Vrsaljko, Perišić, Ćorluka (46 Mitrović), Kovačić, Kramarić (71 Rog), Brozović, Mandžukić (59 N. Kalinić), Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 3 (09/10/2016)

Finland 0-1 Croatia

Goals: 0-1 Mandžukić 18

Croatia: Subašić, Vrsaljko, Perišić, Mitrović, Kovačić, Kramarić (81 Rog), Brozović (71 Ćop), Mandžukić (87 N. Kalinić), Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 4 (12/11/2016)

Croatia 2-0 Iceland

Goals: 1-0 Brozović 15, 2-0 Brozović 90+1

Croatia: Subašić, Vrsaljko, Perišić, Ćorluka, Rakitić (85 Kramarić), Kovačić (46 Modrić), Brozović, Mandžukić (92 Ćop), Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 5 (24/03/2017)

Croatia 1-0 Ukraine

Goals: 1-0 N. Kalinić 38

Croatia: Subašić, Mitrović, Rakitić (79 Kovačić), Modrić, Brozović (91 Rog), Jedvaj, N. Kalinić (87 Kramarić), Mandžukić, Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 6 (11/06/2017)

Iceland 1-0 Croatia

Goals: 1-0 H. Magnússon 90

Croatia: Kalinić, Perišić, Lovren, Kovačić, Modrić, Jedvaj, N. Kalinić (63 Brozović), Mandžukić (88 Santini), Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 8 (03/09/2017)

Croatia 1-0 Kosovo

Goals: 1-0 Vida 74

Croatia: Subašić, Vrsaljko, Perišić, Lovren, Rakitić (55 Kramarić), Kovačić (55 Badelj), Modrić, Brozović (72 N. Kalinić), Mandžukić, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 8 (05/09/2017)

Turkey 1-0 Croatia

Goals: 1-0 Cenk Tosun 75

Croatia: Subašić, Vrsaljko (84 Čop), Perišić, Lovren, Kovačić (70 Kramarić), Modrić, Brozović, N. Kalinić (62 Mandžukić), Badelj, Vida, Pivarić

Matchday 9 (06/10/2017)

Croatia-Finland

Matchday 10 (09/10/2017)

Ukraine-Croatia

Finland

FIFA World Cup - Qualifying round

Matchday 1 (05/09/2016)

Finland 1-1 Kosovo

Goals: 1-0 Arajuuri 18, 1-1 V. Berisha 60 (P)

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Moisander, Eremenko, Lod (88 Schüller), Pukki (73 Hämäläinen), Lam (65 Ring), Halsti, Uronen, Pohjanpalo, Raitala

Matchday 2 (06/10/2016)

Iceland 3-2 Finland

Goals: 0-1 Pukki 21, 1-1 Árnason 37, 1-2 Lod 39, 2-2 Finnbogason 90+1, 3-2 R. Sigurdsson 90+6

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Moisander, Väisänen, Ring (94 Schüller), P. Hetemaj, Pukki, Arkivuo, Halsti, Lod, Hämäläinen (56 Markkanen)

Matchday 3 (09/10/2016)

Finland 0-1 Croatia

Goals: 0-1 Mandžukić 18

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Moisander, Väisänen (87 Riski), Ojala, Ring (67 Lam), Pukki, Arkivuo (46 Schüller), Lod, Saksela, Raitala

Matchday 4 (12/11/2016)

Ukraine 1-0 Finland

Goals: 1-0 Kravets 25

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Väisänen (83 Saksela), Toivio, Ring (46 Markkanen), Lod, Pukki, Arkivuo, Halsti (63 Lam), Mattila, Raitala

Matchday 5 (24/03/2017)

Turkey 2-0 Finland

Goals: 1-0 Cenk Tosun 9, 2-0 Cenk Tosun 13

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Moisander, Ring (84 Forsell), Lod, P. Hetemaj, Pukki, Arkivuo, Mattila (67 Yaghoubi), Uronen, Pohjanpalo (72 Markkanen)

Matchday 6 (11/06/2017)

Finland 1-2 Ukraine

Goals: 0-1 Konoplyanka 51, 1-1 Pohjanpalo 72, 1-2 Besedin 75

Finland: Hradecky, Moisander, Ojala, Lod (68 Jensen), Pukki (68 Pohjanpalo), Arkivuo, Yaghoubi, Uronen (84 Markkanen), Lam, Hämäläinen, Raitala

Matchday 7 (02/09/2017)

Finland 1-0 Iceland

Goals: 1-0 Ring 8

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Toivio (70 Granlund), Ojala (33 Väisänen), Ring, Lod, P. Hetemaj (83 Lam), Markkanen, Sparv, Uronen, Hämäläinen

Matchday 8 (05/09/2017)

Kosovo 0-1 Finland

Goals: 0-1 Pukki 83

Finland: Hradecky, Arajuuri, Väisänen, Lod (93 Tuominen), Pukki, Arkivuo (64 Pirinen), Sparv, Lam, Jensen (54 Skrabb), Hämäläinen, Granlund

Matchday 9 (06/10/2017)

Croatia-Finland

Matchday 10 (09/10/2017)

Finland-Turkey

Legend

Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup
UEL: UEFA Europa 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: FIFA Confederations 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
WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup
WEURO: UEFA European Women's Championship

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

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

Statistics

-: Denotes player substituted
*****: Denotes player sent off

+: Denotes player introduced
+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

Squad list

D: Disciplinary
*****: Misses next match if booked
S: Suspended

Overall: Total appearances in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament only

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