

# CEV EuroVolley 2019

**Official Brochure  
Men**

[#EuroVolleyM](https://twitter.com/EuroVolleyM)



**France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands**



# Message from the CEV president

Dear friends,

with 4 host countries and 24 participating teams, CEV EuroVolley 2019 Men is literally breaking new ground for our sport.

The format of the continental showpiece event reflects our vision to provide opportunities to as many as possible of our stakeholders and members of the Volleyball family. Moreover, it accounts for a truly unprecedented show, which will be taking place on the court through the actions of the best players in Europe, and off the court as well – with entertainment and technology helping us deliver a truly unique experience for the fans at the venues and following the competition from home.

CEV EuroVolley 2019 Men also reflects the wish of our Confederation to take and play a leading role in the event delivery together with the hosting National Federations – working hand in hand as members of the very same team.

We are grateful for the help and support provided by the respective national authorities, as they have understood our wish to use EuroVolley as a platform for the growth of the game at all levels – and as a highlight to inspire the next generation of Volleyball players.

I am confident that EuroVolley 2019 will live up to everyone's expectations and that it will spark a true Volleyball fever, with the nine host cities spread across France, Belgium, Slovenia and the Netherlands as the shining spots of our Volleyball map for the coming weeks.

I wish all teams the best of luck and much fun to all fans,

Aleksandar BORIČIĆ  
CEV President



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Message from the President of the French Volleyball Federation

Dear Volleyball friends,

It is a great honour and pleasure to welcome EuroVolley 2019 as it shows France's commitment towards the development and the promotion of Volleyball in Europe.

I would like to thank the CEV and their President Aleksandar Boričić for the trust put in our ability to welcome such a historic event along with our friends from Belgium, Slovenia and the Netherlands.

It is a great opportunity for France to emphasise the fans' love for Volleyball while spreading a spirit of friendship and fair play.

I would like to thank all our partners, and more specifically our host cities and local authorities from Montpellier, Nantes and Paris. Finally, I would like to commend our volunteers as well. Their commitment as well as the teams' on the court will undoubtedly provide the experience of a lifetime for all involved!

Eric Tanguy  
President of the French Volleyball Federation



# Message from the President of the Belgian Volleyball Federation

Dear Volleyball friends,

We are very proud and honoured to host the CEV EuroVolley 2019 Men in Belgium.

Playing host to a championship at the highest level in the world is a real recognition of Belgium as organiser of prestigious Volleyball events. We have a great experience in the organisation and delivery of this kind of major events, always very appreciated by the participants.

As organising country, we have the pleasure to welcome two top teams in our country: with Serbia and Germany, our national team, the Red Dragons, has strong opponents in Pool B.

Without a strong support from our Flemish Government and Sport. Vlaanderen, the Belgium Olympic Committee (BOIC), the host cities of Brussels and Antwerp, Ethias, Top Volley Belgium and all our partners and volunteers, it would not be

possible for us to host this amazing event.

On behalf of Volley Belgium, I wish to all participants unforgettable moments in our Belgian host cities and above all, to feel the satisfaction resulting from belonging to the great international Volleyball family.

Sincerely yours,

Guy Juwet  
President of Volley Belgium



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



**OZS**

ODBOJKARSKA ZVEZA SLOVENIJE  
VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION OF SLOVENIA

# Message from the President of the Slovenian Volleyball Federation

Dear Participants,

As the President of the Volleyball Federation of Slovenia, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the CEV EuroVolley 2019 Men in Ljubljana. We are honoured that we will be hosting the European Volleyball elite in Slovenia for the first time.

Together with my coworkers, colleagues, and the whole Slovenian nation I am looking forward to some great volleyball action which will be delivered around a unique atmosphere in beautiful Arena Stožice.

I wish the best of luck to all the teams and a pleasant stay in our lively green capital.

Metod Ropret  
President of the Volleyball Federation of Slovenia



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



# Message from the President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation

Dear Volleyball fans,

Together with Belgium, France and Slovenia we proudly present you the 31st edition of the CEV Volleyball European Championship for Men! In the Netherlands, we cherish good memories on hosting continental championships. For the last men's edition, we go back to 1997. In Eindhoven, our heroes in orange defeated the former Yugoslavia in the final and thus became European champions for the very first time in history. Back in 2015, our women's national team conquered the silver medal in a sold-out, incredibly atmospheric Rotterdam Ahoy.

Yes, we Dutch fans know how to build a good Volleyball party. I wish you an incredible time participating in that!

Peter Sprenger  
President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

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CEV  
EuroVolleyTV



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# Pool A France

Bulgaria – France – Greece – Italy – Portugal – Romania



All info and tickets:  
<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

[#EuroVolleyM](#)  
[#WeAreEuroVolley](#)

# Bulgaria



Bulgaria competed in the first Olympic tournament at Tokyo 1964, finishing fifth. They took the silver medal at Moscow 1980 and came joint-fifth again at Beijing 2008, before securing a fourth place at London 2012.

In their first appearance in the World Championship in 1949, they won the bronze medal, a feat they repeated in 1952, before climbing to silver in 1970. They won two more bronze medals in 1986 and 2006. In addition, they have one bronze from the 2007 FIVB World Cup, as well as four bronze and a silver at the European Championship.

Historically, Bulgaria have a strong track record and they have been regular participants in the World League since 1994, when they finished fourth – a position they held four more times since (2004, 2006, 2012 and 2013).

Their 2018 record included an 11th place in the inaugural FIVB Volleyball Nations League on a 6–9 record, followed by 11th place in the FIVB World Championship, which they co-hosted together with Italy. They finished 12th in the last edition of the VNL.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

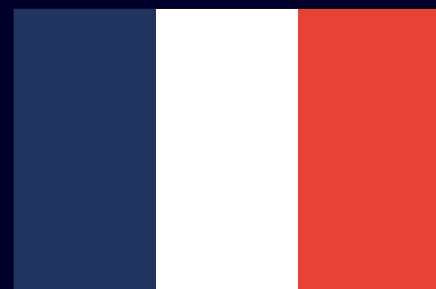
# Bulgaria

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
3	DIMITROV Dobromir	Setter	7/7/1991	89	197
4	ATANASOV Martin	Outside-spiker	27/9/1996	88	199
5	GOTSEV Svetoslav	Middle-blocker	31/8/1990	103	205
8	SKRIMOV Todor	Outside-spiker	9/1/1990	87	191
9	SEGANOV Georgi	Setter	10/6/1993	83	198
12	YOSIFOV Viktor (c)	Middle-blocker	16/10/1985	97	205
13	SALPAROV Teodor	Libero	16/8/1982	80	187
14	TODOROV Teodor	Middle-blocker	1/9/1989	108	208
15	KADANKOV Venelin	Opposite	31/8/1987	100	200
17	PENCHEV Nikolay	Outside-spiker	22/5/1992	85	196
19	SOKOLOV Tsvetan	Opposite	31/12/1989	113	206
20	GROZDANOV Aleks	Middle-blocker	28/3/1998	90	206
21	KARAKASHEV Petar	Libero	11/2/1991	75	183
30	PETROV Georgi	Outside-spiker	18/8/1999	80	195

Head Coach: PRANDI Silvano



# France



After an utterly amazing performance in 2015 when they captured the 2015 FIVB Volleyball World League title with an impressive sweep of their Group 2 matches and an even more striking appearance in the Group 1 Final Six in Rio de Janeiro, Team France capped their brilliant 2015 season with another gold medal at the European Championship in Sofia.

It was the first-ever European title of the national team even though they had been several times on the podium before, with silver in 1948, 1987, 2003 and 2009 and bronze medals captured in 1951 and 1985.

Since 2015, France have never left the podium of major international competitions, with the only exception of the Rio 2016 Olympics, winning a bronze medal in 2016 and gold again in 2017 from the FIVB World League.

Last year, France were top contenders again at the inaugural FIVB Volleyball Nations League, but after an incredible run finally fell to Russia in the gold medal match which they hosted at home in Lille.

Benjamin Toniutti, team captain of France: "We have always had a lot of fun playing at home in recent years, because the arenas are full and the support of the fans has been just great every time. We are anxiously waiting this EuroVolley, which will be an incredibly tough competition with most of the best teams of the world."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# France

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
2	GREBENNIKOV Jénia	Libero	13/8/1990	87	188
4	PATRY Jean	Opposite	27/12/1996	94	207
6	TONIUTTI Benjamin (c)	Setter	30/10/1989	72	183
7	TILLIE Kévin	Outside-spiker	2/11/1990	85	200
8	LYNEEL Julien	Outside-spiker	15/4/1990	88	192
9	NGAPETH Earvin	Libero	12/2/1991	93	194
10	LE ROUX Kevin	Middle-blocker	11/5/1989	95	209
11	BRIZARD Antoine Arthur Fabien	Setter	22/5/1994	96	196
12	BOYER Stephen	Opposite	10/4/1996	77	196
14	LE GOFF Nicolas	Middle-blocker	15/2/1992	114	206
16	BULTOR Daryl	Middle-blocker	17/11/1995	94	197
17	CLEVENOT Trévor	Outside-spiker	28/6/1994	89	199
18	ROSSARD Thibault	Outside-spiker	28/8/1993	85	194
21	CHINENYEZE Barthélémy	Middle-blocker	28/2/1998	82	202

Head Coach: TILLIE Laurent



# Greece



Since 1948, when the first-ever European Championship took place in Rome, Greece have participated 15 times in the final stage of #EuroVolleyM. The men's national team returns to the championship for the first time since 2009 and securing 8th place in Izmir. Its first appearance in a European Championship came in 1967 in Istanbul, where it took the 20th place. Greece's best result is the bronze medal they claimed in 1987 in Gent, Belgium.

The coach who led the Greek team to the final phase of the European Championship after four missed opportunities, is Dimitrios Andreopoulos, who was a member of the legendary team that seized the bronze medal in 1987. Since May 2018, when Andreopoulos took over the reins of the team, he has taken his side to the bronze medal from the Mediterranean Games in Tarragona, to six straight wins in the EuroVolley qualifiers and to the final of the European Silver League in June 2019.

"We are very pleased about being one of the 24 teams that participate in the European Championship. Our opponents in the pool are extremely strong and their players are of high level. Our main goal is to fight for every point and give our best. Since May 2018, when I took over the Greek national team, I see my players playing with great enthusiasm in order to contribute to the results of the group and that is what I expect from them and myself in Montpellier as well," said Andreopoulos.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Greece

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	ZISIS Dimitrios	Libero	2/4/1994	72	183
3	ZOUPANI Nikos	Opposite	18/3/1989	80	202
4	PAPADOPOULOS Iraklis	Opposite	2/9/1991	90	202
5	FILIPPOV Dmytro	Setter	4/12/1990	84	198
6	STIVACHTIS Konstantinos	Setter	22/5/1980	80	186
7	PETREAS Georgios (c)	Middle-blocker	19/11/1986	92	201
9	KOKKINAKIS Menelaos	Libero	21/1/1993	79	193
10	KOUMENTAKIS Rafail	Outside-spiker	5/5/1993	84	203
11	RAPTIS Alexandros	Outside-spiker	16/2/2000	78	190
12	VOULKIDIS Theodoros	Middle-blocker	30/3/1996	83	201
14	PELEKOUDAS Panagiotis	Middle-blocker	8/11/1989	97	202
15	FRAGKOS Andreas-Dimitrios	Outside-spiker	21/12/1989	93	200
17	PROTOPSALTIS Athanasios	Outside-spiker	12/9/1993	73	185
19	PAPALEXIOU Georgios	Middle-blocker	28/8/1999	82	205

Head Coach: ANDREOPOULOS Dimitrios



# Italy



Team Italy will compete at EuroVolley 2019 after an already very busy season, including the Olympic qualifying tournament in Bari (9-11 August). However, a European Championship always has a special value, for the prestige of the participating teams and consequently of the whole event as well. Italy, who have a truly impressive record in this competition, with six titles (1989, 1993, 1995, 1999, 2003, and 2005), four silver medals and three bronzes to their name, will surely have the intention to leave their mark on the competition once more.

Ivan Zaytsev, team captain: "The European Championship is a tournament that we care a lot about, also because historically Italy has always done well and therefore we want to continue with this trend. The current season sees us involved in many important events; we will have to remain focused in order to be always ready to perform to the best of our abilities. However, the group is united and pursuing the same goal, so we have to be confident."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



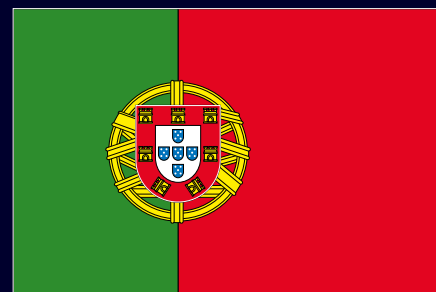
## Italy

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	CANDELLARO Davide	Middle-blocker	7/6/1989	95	200
2	SBERTOLI Riccardo	Setter	23/5/1998	80	190
5	JUANTORENA PORTUONDO Osmany	Outside-spiker	12/8/1985	95	200
6	GIANNELLI Simone	Setter	9/8/1996	90	199
9	ZAYTSEV Ivan (c)	Opposite	2/10/1988	102	202
10	LANZA Filippo	Outside-spiker	3/3/1991	96	196
11	BALASO Fabio	Libero	20/10/1995	70	175
13	COLACI Massimo Vito	Libero	21/2/1985	78	180
14	PIANO Matteo	Middle-blocker	24/10/1990	102	207
15	RUSSO Roberto	Middle-blocker	23/2/1997	91	205
16	ANTONOV Oleg	Outside-spiker	28/7/1988	90	198
17	ANZANI Simone	Middle-blocker	24/2/1992	102	204
19	LAVIA Daniele	Outside-spiker	4/11/1999	88	200
20	NELLI Gabriele	Opposite	4/12/1993	110	208

Head Coach: BLENGINI Gianlorenzo



# Portugal



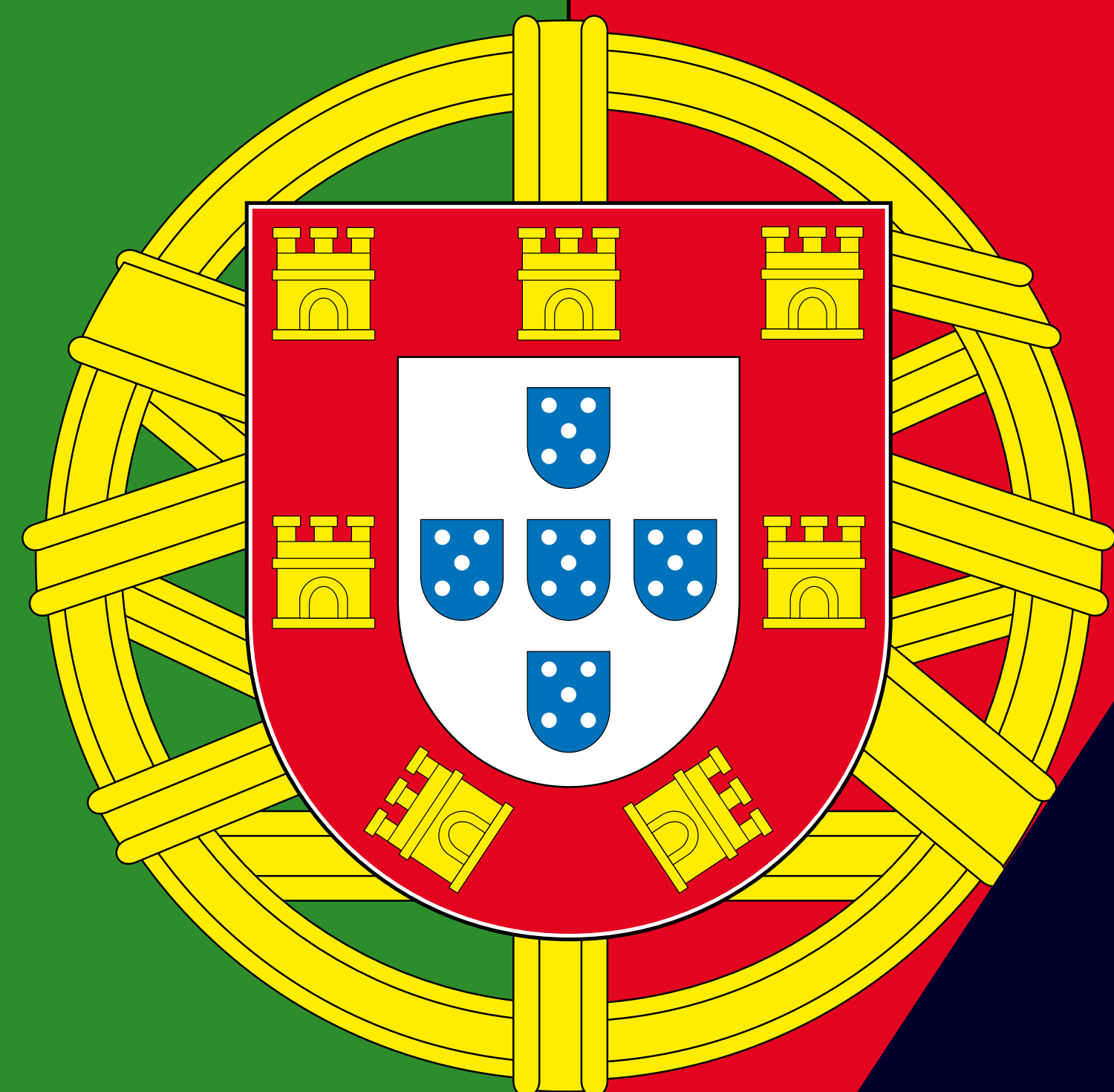
Portugal have competed in the FIVB World Championship only twice - their best result an 8th place in 2002. They have yet to qualify for an Olympic Games. Their best ever ranking in the European Championship remains a fourth place from the inaugural edition of 1948 amongst six participants in a round-robin pool. Last time Portugal qualified to a European Championship was in 2011. In 2007, Portugal hosted the Final Four of the European League and the team came close to claiming a first international trophy before losing 2-3 in a dramatic final against Spain. They finally managed to claim their first title three years later, when they beat rivals Spain in the final of the European League at Guadalajara. The Portuguese first qualified for the World League in 1999. The team's best performance in the competition was the fifth place they achieved in 2005. Most recently, Portugal won the 2018 Challenger Cup that granted them a place in this year's edition of the FIVB Volleyball Nations League.

Alexandre Ferreira, team captain of Portugal: "I think we should go to the European Championship thinking match by match! Ours is a very difficult pool, but I think we can move on to the 8th Finals. We knew from the beginning that the qualification was within our reach. It was a sort of pressure that we put on ourselves and our mission was successful! It had a special taste for the group itself. I think we have reached a good level and stability! This makes it worth all the efforts and all the 'failed' attempts of the last few years."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Portugal



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
3	TEIXEIRA Nuno	Middle-blocker	24/9/1998	89	211
4	CVETICANIN Filip	Middle-blocker	19/6/1996	90	199
6	FERREIRA Alexandre (c)	Outside-spiker	13/11/1991	87	202
7	FERREIRA Marco Evan	Opposite	4/10/1987	94	202
8	DA SILVA VIOLAS Tiago	Setter	27/3/1989	82	193
9	SIMÕES Joao	Outside-spiker	11/6/1986	85	194
10	MARTINS Phelipe	Middle-blocker	2/3/1991	91	202
11	CUNHA Bruno	Opposite	18/8/1997	90	194
12	MARTINS Lourenco	Outside-spiker	30/4/1997	78	195
14	MENEZES Guilherme	Middle-blocker	20/12/2000	93	196
15	TAVARES RODRIGUES Miguel	Setter	2/3/1993	68	192
17	FIDALGO Joao	Libero	2/11/1986	67	172
18	ALVAR Januario Ramos Figueiredo Silva	Libero	5/7/1984	90	196
19	CUNHA Miguel	Outside-spiker	18/8/1997	93	198

Head Coach: SILVA Hugo



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Romania



The Romanian men's Volleyball team has a great history. Back in 1963, Romania claimed their only continental title to this date when the event took place in Bucharest. Their last medal from the European Championship came in 1977, when Romania won bronze in Finland. However, Romania's moment of real glory came at the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, when they beat Poland 3-1 in the bronze medal match. Romania return to compete at EuroVolley for the first time in 25 years.

Laurentiu Lica, captain of Romania: "For us the days until the start of the European Championship are the longest ones in our lives. After winning the European Silver League, our confidence has grown to the next level. EuroVolley will be our most important challenge. We beat Greece two times in the European League, and I think we can repeat those matches in Montpellier. Now I believe in our chances to qualify among the top four teams from our pool more than I did three months ago. After a short holiday, we came back for the preparations and if all the boys remain healthy and stay injury-free, the Romanian team competing in France will be stronger than the one you saw in the Silver League. EuroVolley 2019 can be a fresh new start for Romania's national team."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Romania

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	MATEI Ciprian	Opposite	24/4/1989	86	200
2	CRISTUDOR Liviu	Libero	24/9/1987	100	196
5	MIHALCEA Razvan Florentin	Middle-blocker	25/2/1988	105	207
6	DUMITRU Claudiu	Setter	29/3/1995	70	191
8	GHEORGHITA Mihai	Middle-blocker	3/7/1985	88	215
9	ACIOBANITEI Robert Adrian	Outside-spiker	24/8/1997	80	195
10	BARTHA Cristian	Setter	29/11/1985	80	191
11	LICA Laurentiu (c)	Opposite	11/2/1980	84	200
12	BALA Marian Iulian	Outside-spiker	12/3/1990	77	190
15	SUSON Silviu-Ioan	Outside-spiker	29/4/1989	78	194
16	BALEAN Rares Ionut	Outside-spiker	8/7/1997	80	196
17	KANTOR Vlad Alexandru	Libero	3/5/1995	68	178
18	OLTEANU Razvan	Middle-blocker	29/4/1991	88	204
19	SPINU Andrei	Middle-blocker	24/1/1987	90	210

Head Coach: PASCU Danut



## Earvin Ngapeth

Earvin Ngapeth is incontestably the superstar of the French national team. He is capable of offensive and defensive actions that nobody else can make, like the incredible match point from the EuroVolley 2015 Final against Slovenia, which has become his signature move.

He started playing football as a kid in Fréjus (where he played with current Paris Saint Germain star Layvin Kurzawa) before moving to Poitiers with his father Eric who was a great player of the French national team back in the 80's together with current coach Laurent Tillie. This is when and where Earvin switched to Volleyball and his great skills made him contest his first professional game in Tours at the age of 17!

He has played for some of the best clubs in Europe, including those from Cuneo, Modena (where he claimed the national league, national cup and Supercup titles in 2016), and in 2018 he joined the six-time CEV Champions League winners, Zenit KAZAN of Russia. A 2015 European champion and gold medal winner from the 2015 and 2017 editions of the FIVB World League, Ngapeth claimed U19 European crowns in 2007 and 2009 as well as the U20 title in 2008, receiving the MVP award at a number of such competitions as well.

"We are excited to welcome this EuroVolley! The French women's handball national team showed us the way when they claimed the European title at home last year and we want to live the same experience on home soil! We cannot afford to fail. We really want to share our 2015 experience with our fans. Montpellier is a place where we like to play because many of us have grown and trained there, since it is a Volleyball city. Nantes will provide us with the opportunity to discover something new and Paris is just the icing on the cake for the Finals," says Earvin.

### All info and tickets:

<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

[#EuroVolleyM](#)

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# Pool B

# Belgium

Austria – Belgium – Germany –  
Serbia – Slovakia – Spain



**All info and tickets:**  
<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

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# Austria



Austria made it to the Final Round of EuroVolley for the first time through qualification and for the eighth time overall. Their best result in the competition was an eighth place when they hosted the event in 1999. They were co-hosts (with the Czech Republic) of the European Championship in 2011, but only finished 16th after losing all of their matches. Austria's national team is a regular participant of the European League, with their best result in the competition a third place in 2016. The following year they participated in the 2017 FIVB World League Group 3 and were able to surprise with victories over Germany and Mexico. It was Austria's first exposure to world Volleyball since their last participation in the FIVB World Championship in 1962.

Head coach Michael Warm's team finished their 2019 European Silver League campaign in third place with a 5-1 win-loss record, missing the final by just one set. Austria's stars Alexander Berger and Paul Buchegger made their comebacks to the national team after long breaks due to injury.

German 51-year-old Michael Warm started coaching the men's national team of Austria in 2010: "My team had to overcome some hurdles in the past few years to chase a spot at the EuroVolley for the first time through the qualifiers. In Belgium, we have to prove ourselves against very tough opponents. It is about trying everything to reach the knockout stage. We are looking forward to celebrating the next milestone in Austria's Volleyball history."

Austria's team captain Peter Wohlfahrtstätter: "For me coming back to Belgium is very special. I was under contract with Topvolley ANTWERP for two seasons some years ago. We are going to face extraordinary opponents. Serbia are the strongest team in Pool B. I think for us, it is possible to progress from the group stage and to claim a spot in the Round of 16."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



# Austria

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	KROISS Philipp	Libero	2/3/1988	76	184
2	LANDFAHRER Maximilian	Outside-spiker	18/11/1993	88	192
3	WOHLFAHRTSTÄTTER Peter (c)	Middle-blocker	10/3/1989	94	204
4	KRONTHALER Niklas	Outside-spiker	14/5/1994	87	194
5	TRÖTHANN Thomas	Opposite	4/5/1992	95	203
6	MENNER Anton Lukas	Outside-spiker	25/7/1994	87	194
8	TUSCH Alexander	Setter	19/11/1992	84	188
9	ZASS Thomas	Opposite	27/11/1989	88	194
12	BERGER Alexander	Outside-spiker	27/9/1988	86	193
13	THALLER Maximilian	Setter	13/12/1993	84	188
14	RINGSEIS Florian Georg	Libero	9/7/1992	84	187
15	GRABMÜLLER Nicolai	Middle-blocker	18/4/1996	96	197
17	JURKOVICS Mathäus	Middle-blocker	27/4/1998	91	212
21	IBRAHIMOVIC Edin	Outside-spiker	11/7/1998	86	192

Head Coach: WARM Michael



# Belgium



This EuroVolley will be Belgium's 16th participation in the continental showpiece event – and the fifth in a row. Belgium achieved their best result to date at the previous EuroVolley hosted by Poland. With a historic fourth place from the 2017 edition, the team is looking to maintain their high quality of playing and to confirm they belong to the top of European Volleyball. Besides that, the 'Red Dragons' finished tenth at the last World Championship, an unprecedented feat in that competition. During the European Golden League, head coach Brecht Van Kerckhove chose to give some new and young players a chance to taste what it feels to be playing for the Red Dragons. With EuroVolley, the more experienced players are back again after enjoying some rest. Belgium currently sit in seventh and 12th place in the latest CEV and FIVB rankings, respectively.

Sam Deroo, captain of Belgium: "We are very excited to host and welcome other nations from across Europe to our stunning venues. EuroVolley is a major event and the whole of Belgium is proud to be a part of it. Pool B will be full of hard games so we can expect a lot of tension and excitement on court. The whole team is highly motivated to show our best level for our home fans."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Belgium

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	VAN DEN DRIES Bram	Opposite	14/8/1989	99	208
2	TUERLINCKX Hendrik	Opposite	1/12/1987	86	195
3	DEROO Sam (c)	Outside-spiker	29/4/1992	105	203
4	D'HULST Stijn	Setter	24/4/1991	75	187
5	GROBELNY Igor Oskar	Outside-spiker	8/6/1993	85	194
6	STUER Lowie	Libero	24/11/1995	80	194
8	VAN DE VELDE Arno	Middle-blocker	30/12/1995	93	210
10	VAN DE VOORDE Simon	Middle-blocker	19/12/1989	100	208
14	RIBBENS Jelle	Libero	17/3/1992	79	185
15	COSEMANS Lienert	Setter	20/10/1993	93	203
16	VALKIERS Matthias	Setter	8/4/1990	92	194
17	ROUSSEAUX Tomas	Outside-spiker	31/3/1994	90	199
18	BAETENS Seppe	Outside-spiker	13/2/1989	87	191
22	COOLMAN Pieter	Middle-blocker	24/4/1989	90	200

Head Coach: VAN KERCKHOVE Brecht



# Germany



Germany have made two appearances at the Olympic Games so far, finishing ninth in Beijing in 2008 and fifth at London 2012. Before reunification, the former East Germany had finished 4th in Mexico City 1968 followed by the silver medal they won in Munich 1972. The former East Germany were crowned world champions in 1970 and clinched the FIVB World Cup title a year earlier.

Germany had one of their most successful periods in the last years, finishing fifth at the Olympic Games in London and winning two medals at the World Championship 2014 in Poland (bronze) as well as at the European Championship 2017 (silver). Germany claimed gold at the inaugural European Games held in Baku in 2015 as well.

Andrea Giani, coach of Germany: "We are the current vice-European champions, so the expectations are high. We will go to EuroVolley with a lot of confidence, but also with humility. Of course, we will play in a very tough group, but the European Championship is the most important tournament in 2019. Our sense of anticipation is enormous."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Germany

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	FROMM Christian	Outside-spiker	15/8/1990	113	207
2	KRICK Tobias	Middle-blocker	22/10/1998	104	211
3	SCHOTT Ruben	Outside-spiker	8/7/1994	85	192
5	REICHERT Moritz	Libero	15/3/1995	89	195
6	KALIBERDA Denys Viktorovic	Outside-spiker	24/6/1990	95	193
8	BÖHME Marcus	Middle-blocker	25/8/1985	116	212
9	GROZER György	Opposite	27/11/1984	105	200
10	ZENGER Julian	Libero	26/8/1997	80	188
11	KAMPA Lukas Immanuel (c)	Setter	29/11/1986	90	193
12	BREHME Anton	Middle-blocker	10/8/1999	96	205
13	HIRSCH Simon	Opposite	3/4/1992	96	204
14	KARLITZEK Moritz	Outside-spiker	12/8/1996	85	191
15	BAXPÖHLER Noah	Middle-blocker	13/8/1993	95	208
17	ZIMMERMANN Jan	Setter	12/2/1993	82	190

Head Coach: GIANI Andrea



# Serbia



The men's senior national team of Serbia (formerly Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro) have featured in 26 editions of the European Championship – out of 30 held this far since 1948. Serbia did not participate only in 1948, 1950, 1983, and 1993. The national team of Serbia have an impressive record of 11 medals this far, including two gold (2001 and 2011), one silver (1997) and eight bronze (1975, 1979, 1995, 1999, 2005, 2007, 2013 and 2017). Serbia have played 190 matches at the European Championship, recording 105 wins and 85 losses in the process.

Slobodan Kovač, head coach: "It really sounds great to hear your name associated with the position of the head coach of the Serbian Volleyball team. There is a lot of history here. However, it is a great responsibility as well and I am obliged to continue the good work of my predecessors. It will not be easy, for sure, but we possess quality in the team, and the atmosphere is great. We have had several friendly matches before the start of the European Championship to see where we stand. I have worked with some players, some of them I still had to be acquainted with, but the major obstacle in this process has been the way of communicating my thoughts, because every coach has different manners of speaking and conducting the training process. Therefore, they have had to get familiar with my style, and I have had to find a way of presenting my ideas to them in a suitable fashion."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Serbia

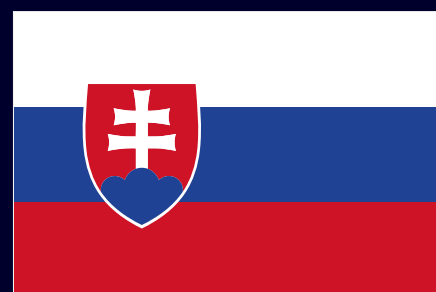


Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	OKOLIC Aleksandar	Middle-blocker	26/6/1993	93	205
2	KOVACEVIC Uros	Outside-spiker	6/5/1993	90	197
4	PETRIC Nemanja (c)	Outside-spiker	28/7/1987	96	203
5	CIROVIC Lazar	Outside-spiker	26/2/1992	88	201
6	PEKOVIC Nikola	Libero	6/3/1990	77	176
7	KRSMANOVIĆ Petar	Middle-blocker	1/6/1990	101	205
8	IVOVIC Marko	Outside-spiker	22/12/1990	89	194
9	JOVOVIC Nikola	Setter	13/2/1992	82	197
14	ATANASIJEVIC Aleksandar	Opposite	4/9/1991	99	202
16	LUBURIC Drazen	Opposite	2/11/1993	90	202
17	MAJSTOROVIC Neven	Libero	17/3/1989	90	193
18	PODRASCANIN Marko	Middle-blocker	29/8/1987	101	204
20	LISINAC Srecko	Middle-blocker	17/5/1992	90	205
21	TODOROVIC Vuk	Setter	23/4/1998	80	190

Head Coach: KOVAČ Slobodan



# Slovakia



Since the breakup of the former Czechoslovakia in 1993, Slovakia have not competed at a World Championship or Olympic Games, but they have been regular competitors in continental tournaments. They won the CEV European League twice in 2008 and 2011. Their best finish at the European Championship was a fifth place in 2011. This year they will make their 10th appearance at EuroVolley. The team competed also in the FIVB World League from 2014 - 2017. Head coach of the team is former star player Andrej Kravárik, who has been at the helm of the group since June 2017.

Andrej Kravárik, coach of Slovakia: "We know what is at stake this autumn. Our goal at EuroVolley is to be successful and we will try to advance from the pool. Some of our key players took a bit of rest to recharge the batteries after a long club season and they did not participate in the European Golden League, but we will be in full power for EuroVolley. We need to focus from the very start of our pool in Belgium."

Tomáš Kriško, captain of Slovakia: "We are looking forward to EuroVolley; our goal will be to advance from the pool to the later stages. It will be definitely a major highlight for all of us and I hope that we will be successful. Our group is fine; we need to be concentrated from the start, because the first two matches against Spain and Austria will probably be the most important ones. It will be my second EuroVolley, but the first as a captain. I feel the honour, but on the other hand, it is a big responsibility as well."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



# Slovakia



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	MICHALOVIC Peter	Opposite	26/5/1990	98	200
2	KRISKO Tomas (c)	Outside-spiker	19/12/1988	91	202
3	MACUHA Filip	Middle-blocker	19/7/1999	90	204
6	PALGUT Filip	Setter	23/9/1991	90	202
8	ONDROVIC Peter	Middle-blocker	28/3/1995	98	200
10	LUX Marcel	Outside-spiker	27/7/1994	93	200
11	VITKO Marian	Libero	10/2/1994	80	181
12	PATAK Matej	Outside-spiker	8/6/1990	86	197
13	IHNAT Jakub	Libero	22/10/1996	79	192
14	KRAJCOVIC Simon	Middle-blocker	28/6/1996	102	209
15	ZATKO Juraj	Setter	5/6/1987	87	192
16	KOVAC Jakub	Middle-blocker	13/5/1997	82	200
19	GAVENDA Filip	Opposite	13/1/1996	88	200
22	FIRKAL Julius	Outside-spiker	14/1/1998	86	195

Head Coach: KRAVARIK Andrej



# Spain



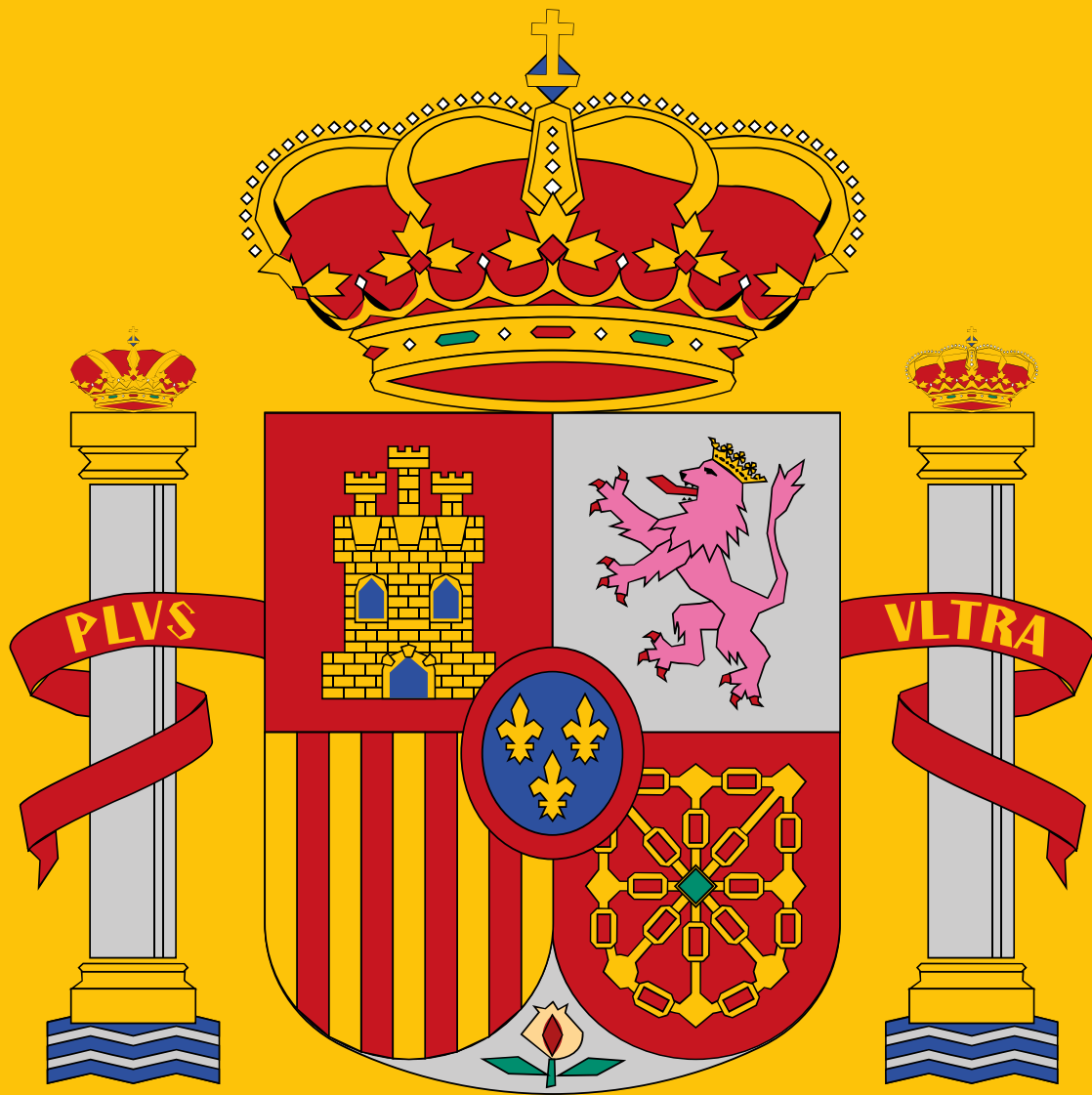
Spain's goal is to regain their status on the international stage. After a glorious past, including a historic gold medal from the 2007 edition of the European Championship in Moscow, the Red Lynxes experienced an important generational change and they are now starting to reap the fruits of their hard work. Spain have featured nine times in the Final Round of the European Championship, three times at the World Championship and twice at the Olympic Games. Spain returned to compete at EuroVolley in 2017, doing so after six years of absence. EuroVolley 2019 should further cement their comeback to the international elite after they finished the FIVB World League Group 3 in second place in 2017 and their silver-medal winning performance at the Mediterranean Games last year.

Jorge Fernández, captain of Spain: "We will travel to EuroVolley with great enthusiasm and the ambition to continue improving as a team. We are in a strong group with big teams, but I think we can fight for the victory with each of them. The main goal of my team has to be to play each game to the maximum and try to achieve the qualification for the next round, which would be a further step in our goal of being closer to the best teams, and an improvement from the previous European Championship. If we qualify for the knockout round, we do not have to settle for that and we have to fight to get as far as possible, being aware of the difficulty of the task, but without ruling anything out."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Spain



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	COLITO Augusto Renato	Opposite	23/1/1997	81	190
2	TRINIDAD DE HARO Angel	Setter	27/3/1993	78	195
3	RODRÍGUEZ PÉREZ Victor	Outside-spiker	21/9/1998	85	201
7	RAMÓN FERRAGUT Jordi	Outside-spiker	9/7/1999	81	191
9	VIGIL Alejandro	Middle-blocker	11/2/1993	93	210
10	FERNANDEZ VALCARCEL Jorge (c)	Middle-blocker	4/5/1989	91	201
11	DE AMO FERNANDEZ-ECHEVARRIA Miguel Angel	Setter	16/9/1985	78	183
13	VILLENA Andres Jesus	Opposite	27/2/1993	87	195
14	FORNES Miguel Angel	Middle-blocker	6/9/1993	94	204
15	PIRIS GUISCAFRÉ Antoni	Libero	1/4/2001	72	181
16	GONZALEZ Juan Manuel	Outside-spiker	11/1/1994	82	193
18	GAMIZ Aaron	Libero	13/5/1989	71	179
19	FERRÁNDEZ MOLES Emilio	Outside-spiker	3/7/2001	78	192
23	FERRERA Mario	Outside-spiker	18/1/1987	79	187

Head Coach: MUÑOZ BENITEZ Fernando



## Sam Deroo

"As captain of the Belgian Red Dragons, I am very proud to be a part of this event. We are eager to defend our pride against the European top teams," says Sam Deroo. "With our two first games in Brussels, we will take Volleyball of the highest level to the European Capital."

Deroo is confident that Belgium have what it takes to be successful at EuroVolley. "Our team consists of players who are part of clubs that perform at the highest level on the international stage. Moreover, we can count on our fans to support us and take this EuroVolley experience to the next level. Our Federation is doing everything they can to give them an unforgettable experience and we will try to do the same, while standing on the court. With Serbia and Germany, we have two very strong opponents but we will give everything to ensure we can win those matches."

EuroVolley is going to stop in Antwerp as well. "After Brussels, we will move to Antwerp and one of our goals is to play the quarterfinal in the Sportpaleis venue. That will be one of the highlights for me if we could reach this point in the tournament. Our main goal always stays the same, which is to bring attractive Volleyball to the crowd and show as a team what we are capable of," Deroo concludes.

### All info and tickets:

<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

[#EuroVolleyM](#)

[#WeAreEuroVolley](#)



# Pool C

# Slovenia

Belarus – Finland – North Macedonia –  
Russia – Slovenia – Turkey



All info and tickets:  
<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

[#EuroVolleyM](#)  
[#WeAreEuroVolley](#)

# Belarus



Viktar Beksha, who used to play as a middle-blocker before embarking on a coaching career, has been at the helm of Team Belarus since early 2017. Under his tenure, Belarus have claimed silver from the 2018 and 2019 editions of the European Silver and Golden League, respectively. This is the first European Championship for Viktar Beksha and he is looking forward to this event.

Belarus achieved their best result in the continental showpiece event when they finished 15th in 2013 at their maiden EuroVolley appearance when Denmark and Poland co-hosted the European Championship.

“I think this is a big step for my team to make it to the European Championship Final Round this year. We are preparing for the tournament and in the Golden League, I tried to see and use some new players. Sadly, some players from our main roster have injuries, but I hope they will be back in time for EuroVolley,” Beksha said.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Belarus

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	RADZIUK Andrei	Outside-spiker	23/3/1990	94	192
4	ANTANOVICH Siarhei	Outside-spiker	21/4/1986	97	195
5	BUSEL Siarhei (c)	Middle-blocker	30/5/1989	88	207
8	SHMAT Viachaslau	Middle-blocker	6/1/1997	90	205
11	ZABAROUSKI Stanislau	Libero	4/1/1988	75	182
13	BURAU Ilya	Middle-blocker	3/8/1996	90	202
15	TSIUSHKEVICH Kanstantsin	Setter	8/2/1999	72	190
17	MISKEVICH Radzivon	Opposite	22/4/1995	85	198
19	CHARAPOVICH Viachaslau	Opposite	8/2/1992	95	199
20	KUKLINSKI Pavel	Outside-spiker	18/12/1989	92	194
21	KURASH Aliaksei	Setter	1/6/1988	88	189
22	MAROZAU Maksim	Middle-blocker	29/5/1989	95	204
23	UDRYS Artur	Opposite	18/10/1990	99	211
61	APLEVICH Raman	Libero	19/3/1986	89	185

Head Coach: BEKSHA Viktor



# Finland



Finland have played 17 times in the European Championship and their best achievement so far is the 4th place they claimed in 2007 in Moscow. After that, Finland played in all subsequent European Championship tournaments placing either 8th or 12th. As for the World Championship, Finland have made eight appearances at the global showpiece event, with 9th place in 2014 as their best result to this date. Moreover, Finland played 13 times in the FIVB World League, finishing as high as 7th in 2007. As for the European League, Finland boast four appearances and a silver medal from the 2005 edition.

Joel Banks, head coach of Finland: "We want to come to the European Championship well prepared physically and mentally. We have a full squad now since the more experienced players are back with the group that played the European Golden League. The goals are going to be to perform well in the European Championship and trying to get as high a placing as possible in our pool where Russia are the clear favourites. Obviously, there is also a link with Tuomas Sammelvuo, previous coach from Finland, coaching now Russia. They have played well in the VNL this year. After Russia, there will be established teams like Slovenia, which won the FIVB Challenger Cup and will play next year in VNL. Belarus we know from the same pool in the Golden League, so it is a familiar team to us. Turkey had also a great performance in the Golden League. North Macedonia is a team against which we will prepare well. It is an important game for us because it is the opening match in our pool. It is important that we come to the tournament in the best possible shape. It is going to be an exciting pool and I hope that we can finish as high as possible to get the best possible place in the knockout phase. The higher we get in our own pool gives better chances against a team from another pool. We are looking forward to the Championship."



**France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands**



# Finland

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
2	TERVAPORTTI Eemi (c)	Setter	26/7/1989	80	193
3	SILTALA Antti	Outside-spiker	14/3/1984	90	193
4	KERMINEN Lauri	Libero	18/1/1993	80	182
6	RONKAINEN Antti	Outside-spiker	11/8/1996	80	189
7	SUIHKONEN Niko	Outside-spiker	11/4/1999	86	190
8	KRASTINS Elviss	Outside-spiker	15/9/1994	84	192
9	SIIRILÄ Tommi	Middle-blocker	5/8/1993	102	203
10	SIVULA Urpo	Opposite	15/3/1988	100	195
11	SINKKONEN Sauli	Middle-blocker	14/9/1989	94	201
12	KAISLASALO Samuli	Opposite	3/8/1995	98	205
14	KAURTO Markus	Middle-blocker	31/8/1993	85	196
15	PORKKA Henrik	Libero	14/1/1998	85	202
18	LANKINEN Akseli	Setter	31/8/1997	77	194
21	IVANOV Fedor	Setter	1/12/2000	78	192

Head Coach: BANKS Joel



# North Macedonia



The North Macedonian national team will play at the European Championship for the first time in their history. With the success achieved in the qualifications for CEV EuroVolley 2019, the group could eventually fulfil the wishes of several generations of Volleyball players that have worn the red and yellow jersey. The current team led by Nikola Gjorgiev finished as runners-up in three consecutive editions of the European League (2015, 2016 and 2017). In addition to these silver medals, winning bronze in the same competition in 2014 is one of the major successes of a national team that has not yet participated in major international tournaments such as World Championships or the Olympics. Hence, the whole country is awaiting with much curiosity and impatience for North Macedonia to make their maiden EuroVolley appearance.

Nikola Gjorgiev, captain: "I think that the first match of the European Championship for us will be 'the final before the final'. Finland will give us some indications about our performance in Ljubljana. As rookies, we need to play without pressure, but we have qualified for the European Championship and we deserve to be there. We need to be on the European stage more often, to make it more of a routine and only then we will be able to think about qualifying for the knockout phase. However, I must admit that even now I wish to play in the last eight, although the opponents are strong. Belarus and Turkey play well, for Slovenia and Russia we should not even discuss about their quality at all, and we respect Finland, no matter if they went through negative results this summer. The group is tough, but we will try our best."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# North Macedonia

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	ANGELOVSKI Darko	Libero	4/2/1994	76	180
2	GJORGIEV Gjorgji	Setter	22/5/1992	88	197
3	NIKOLOV Risto	Middle-blocker	5/10/1990	90	200
4	GJORGIEV Nikola (c)	Opposite	23/7/1988	93	195
5	MILEV Vlado	Outside-spiker	9/5/1987	90	195
7	NAKOV Slave	Middle-blocker	25/8/1994	85	194
8	LJAFTOV Aleksandar	Outside-spiker	15/8/1990	102	198
10	MILKOV Aleksandar	Outside-spiker	12/5/1982	92	198
11	DESPOTOVSKI Filip	Setter	2/7/1986	89	194
12	NIKOLOVSKI Filip	Libero	9/11/1997	79	185
14	ANDONOV Ivan	Middle-blocker	22/10/1989	91	198
15	MADJUNKOV Filip	Middle-blocker	18/3/1996	95	199
16	ILIEV Stojan	Outside-spiker	3/3/1999	85	189
18	MIHAILOV Vase	Outside-spiker	15/9/1986	98	199

Head Coach: MATIJASEVIC Nikola



# Russia



Russia, who have inherited the results of the former Soviet Union, are the most successful team in EuroVolley history. Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, Russia claimed EuroVolley gold in 2013 and 2017.

Moreover, they are the gold medal winners from the London 2012 Olympics, of the FIVB World Cup in 1999 and 2011, to go with World League titles in 2002, 2011, 2013 and two consecutive VNL crowns won in 2018 and 2019. Russia return to EuroVolley as the defending champions following their gold medal performance in Krakow two years ago where they beat Germany in the final.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

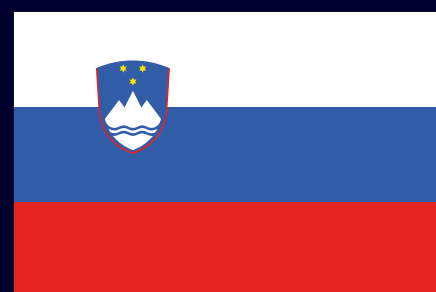
# Russia

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
4	VOLVICH Artem	Middle-blocker	22/1/1990	97	211
6	KARPUKHOV Anton	Outside-spiker	23/4/1988	90	198
7	VOLKOV Dmitrii	Outside-spiker	25/5/1995	93	201
8	SEMYSHEV Anton	Outside-spiker	22/8/1997	82	204
9	IAKOVLEV Ivan	Middle-blocker	17/4/1995	86	205
12	BUTKO Alexander	Setter	18/3/1986	87	198
13	MUSERSKIY Dmitriy	Middle-blocker	29/10/1988	115	218
15	POLETAEV Victor	Outside-spiker	27/7/1995	86	197
16	ANDREEV Evgenii	Libero	6/1/1995	66	180
17	MIKHAILOV Maxim	Opposite	19/3/1988	98	202
18	KLIUKA Egor	Outside-spiker	15/6/1995	96	208
20	KURKAEV Iliyas	Middle-blocker	18/1/1994	96	208
24	KOBZAR Igor (c)	Setter	13/4/1991	86	196
27	GOLUBEV Valentin	Libero	3/5/1992	79	188

Head Coach: SAMMELVUO Tuomas



# Slovenia



The Slovenian men's Volleyball team played their first official match on April 24, 1992 and in 2001, the Slovenians made their first EuroVolley appearance and claimed a respectable twelfth place. Since 2007, Slovenia have participated at all European Championships, but the historic result came in 2015 in Bulgaria and Italy, where the team coached by Andrea Giani won the first medal – a silver – for the country at any major international competition. One of the greatest achievements of Slovenian team sport was followed by wins in the FIVB World League Groups 3 and 2. In 2018, Slovenia achieved another milestone by participating at their first ever FIVB World Championship, where they finished 12th.

Alberto Giuliani, head coach: "Positive feelings are present from the beginning. We are working well and I believe the players will give their best to be able to enjoy this great opportunity to play the European Championship in our hall, in front of our supporters and our nation. I think this is an occasion when one does not have to think, just enjoy and experience it."

Tine Urnaut, captain: "The European Championship will be a peak of this generation of players and Slovenian Volleyball as a whole. We have never hosted such an important Volleyball competition in Slovenia before. When I look back to my beginnings in the national team so many years ago, I can see how many important steps forward we have made until today, and the EuroVolley in front of our fans and supporters will in some way be a reward for our hard work during all these years."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Slovenia



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	STERN Tonček	Opposite	14/11/1995	93	200
2	PAJENK Alen	Middle-blocker	23/4/1986	93	203
4	KOZAMERNIK Jan	Middle-blocker	24/12/1995	100	205
5	SKET Alen	Outside-spiker	28/3/1988	90	205
6	GASPARINI Mitja	Opposite	26/6/1984	93	202
9	VINCIC Dejan	Setter	15/9/1986	93	200
10	ŠTALEKAR Sašo	Middle-blocker	3/5/1996	102	214
11	STERN Ziga	Outside-spiker	2/1/1994	86	193
12	KLOBUCAR Jan	Libero	11/12/1992	89	195
13	KOVAČIČ Jani	Libero	14/6/1992	83	186
15	VIDEČNIK Matic	Middle-blocker	31/7/1993	90	203
16	ROPRET Gregor	Setter	1/3/1989	91	191
17	URNAUT Tine (c)	Outside-spiker	3/9/1988	90	200
18	CEBULJ Klemen	Outside-spiker	21/2/1992	94	202

Head Coach: GIULIANI Alberto



# Turkey



The nickname of the Turkish men's national team is 'Filenin Efeleri', aka Braves of Nets. Currently ranked no. 15 in Europe, Turkey competed at the 1958, 1963, 1967 and 1971 European Championships before a break of 36 years until they celebrated their next appearance in 2007. Turkey's best result in the continental showpiece event is the 11th place they achieved in the 1963, 2011 and 2017 editions. Turkey just claimed their first major international title by sweeping aside Belarus 3-0 in the gold medal match of the CEV Volleyball European Golden League 2019.

Turkey head coach Nedim Özbey, who has been working with the team since 2008: "We started this season well, especially by winning the title of the European Golden League. EuroVolley will be a very important event for us. We will face tough opponents but our first and primary goal is to qualify to the next round from the group stage."

Turkey setter Arslan Eksi: "We started this season well and I am very happy to be with such brave players and staff. We want to show a great performance at EuroVolley, just as we did in the European Golden League."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



# Turkey



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	KESKIN Selçuk (c)	Setter	15/1/1982	93	193
2	AVCI Batuhan	Outside-spiker	2/8/2000	89	203
4	GÜNGÖR Baturalp Burak	Outside-spiker	28/7/1993	85	190
6	ÜNVER İzzet	Outside-spiker	1/1/1992	85	195
7	SAVAŞ Vahit Emre	Middle-blocker	7/3/1995	96	203
10	EKŞİ Arslan	Setter	17/7/1985	92	196
11	GÜLMEZOĞLU Yiğit	Outside-spiker	28/12/1995	87	196
12	LAGUMDZİJA Adis	Opposite	29/3/1999	108	211
13	KARASU Oğuzhan	Middle-blocker	16/6/1995	104	205
14	GÜNEŞ Faik Samed	Middle-blocker	27/5/1993	103	205
15	TOY Metin	Opposite	3/5/1994	104	203
16	MERT Burak	Libero	23/10/1990	82	185
17	ULU Doğukan	Middle-blocker	30/10/1995	94	205
53	DÖNE Volkan	Libero	19/2/1987	80	186

Head Coach: ÖZBEY Nedim



## Tine Urnaut

Team Slovenia definitely has a busy summer. After qualifying for the 2020 FIVB Volleyball Nations League and participating at the Tokyo Volleyball Qualification tournament, Urnaut and his teammates will get a chance to play at the European Championship in front of their home crowd for the first time.

The 30-year-old outside hitter, who has spent most of his international career in Italy, is one of the most experienced players in Alberto Giuliani's squad. In his last season he was a member of Azimut Leo Shoes MODENA, while he has celebrated his biggest achievement wearing the national team uniform, when finishing second at the 2015 CEV European Championship.

He believes that with such good team spirit Slovenia can get really far at this year's edition as well: "We get along very well and since we have spent so much time together we have become good friends. It is important that more experienced players, such as me, try to maintain a good atmosphere, especially during difficult times. We are here with one goal, which is winning. This is what we strive for every day. We all want to achieve a top result, but we have to go step by step and match by match, to get there."

Urnaut is aware that Slovenia will have to beat some excellent teams to finish the tournament in the top positions. He relies on the support from the stands: "Playing on home soil is a great advantage! I hope that we will play in front of full stands."



### All info and tickets:

<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

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[#WeAreEuroVolley](#)

# Pool D

# The Netherlands

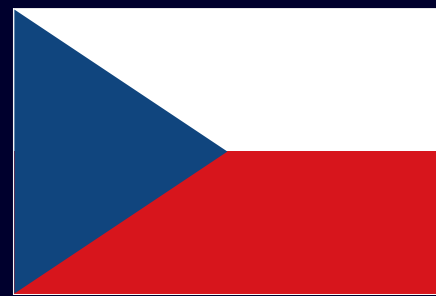
Czech Republic – Estonia – Montenegro –  
Poland – The Netherlands – Ukraine



**All info and tickets:**  
<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

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# Czech Republic



The Czech Republic is looking to revive the glory days of the team that played as a united Czechoslovakia in the last century.

Although as Czechoslovakia they amassed two gold and four silver medals at the FIVB World Championships in the 1950s and 1960s, and three gold and four silver medals at the CEV European Championships, the Czech Republic has not been on the podium of any top level competitions since the breakup with Slovakia (last podium in 1985 European Championship in Netherlands – 2nd place). Their best finish at the FIVB World Championship was 10th in 2010, though they failed to qualify for the 2014 and 2018 editions.

At the continental level the Czechs' best finish at the CEV European Championships was 4th in 1999 and 2001. Since 1993, the Czech Republic only missed the CEV European Championship final round only once, in 2007. Czechoslovakia also took silver at the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo when volleyball made its Olympic debut and followed that with a bronze four years later in Mexico City.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Czech Republic

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	MONIK Milan	Libero	15/3/1988	92	190
2	HADRAVA Jan	Opposite	3/6/1991	101	199
4	DZAVORONOK Donovan	Outside-spiker	23/7/1997	98	202
5	ZAJICEK Adam	Middle-blocker	25/2/1993	92	201
6	FINGER Michal	Opposite	2/9/1993	89	201
8	KUNC Tomas	Libero	18/10/1997	80	184
9	PATOCKA Vojtech	Middle-blocker	2/3/1993	93	197
10	BARTOS Pavel	Setter	20/4/1994	84	191
13	GALABOV Jan	Outside-spiker	12/6/1996	89	191
14	BARTOS Adam	Outside-spiker	27/4/1992	85	198
15	SOBOTKA Vladimir	Middle-blocker	7/5/1985	96	203
17	JANKU David	Outside-spiker	16/6/1995	90	193
18	JANOUCHEK Jakub (c)	Setter	13/6/1990	88	194
22	SEDLACEK Oliver	Middle-blocker	27/4/1998	88	201

Head Coach: NEKOLA Michal



# Estonia



Estonia have claimed the European Golden League title twice – their first triumph came in 2016 and second in 2018. In 2017, Estonia seized top honours from the FIVB World League Group 3. Earlier this year, the Baltic country hosted the Final Four of the Golden League and ended the competition in fourth place.

Estonia will be making their fifth appearance at EuroVolley this year. Gheorghe Cretu – the head coach of the national team – has received the award for the “Coach of the Year” across all sports (awarded by the National Olympic Committee of Estonia) for two years in a row – in 2017 and 2018, which is a truly unique achievement for a foreign-born coach.

A fun fact – Kert Toobal, Ardo Kreek and Oliver Venno were already in the team when Estonia made their EuroVolley debut in 2009 in Turkey and they are still playing for Estonia in 2019.

Kert Toobal, captain of Estonia: “For a small country like Estonia it is always a huge achievement to make it to the European Championship. This coming tournament will be different, as the format has changed and it is a new situation for all of the players. We have some experience now from playing the tournament before and our goals have risen with the years. We hope to show our best volleyball and in order to do that all main players must be healthy and playing. If we manage to make that happen, we are hoping to advance from the group stage and then look forward. This tournament is not just a big thing for the team, but also for the whole country as we have always thousands of fans who travel to support us. Moreover, the team we have is a little bit special and it is possible this is our big chance to achieve something extraordinary. Our players play in strong leagues and these are the golden years for Estonian Volleyball. We have worked so hard for this to happen, and the players and the fans are all expecting something bigger.”



**France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands**

# Estonia

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
4	KREEK Ardo	Middle-blocker	7/8/1986	99	203
5	TOOBAL Kert (c)	Setter	3/6/1979	78	189
6	JUHKAMI Martti	Outside-spiker	6/6/1988	94	195
7	TEPPAN Renee	Opposite	26/9/1993	89	197
9	TÄHT Robert	Outside-spiker	15/8/1993	84	191
10	MAAR Silver	Libero	11/2/1999	84	185
12	KOLLO Kristo	Outside-spiker	17/1/1990	89	190
14	RIKBERG Rait	Libero	30/8/1982	79	174
15	RAADIK Andrus	Outside-spiker	19/10/1986	100	199
17	TAMMEMAA Timo	Middle-blocker	18/11/1991	93	202
18	TAMME Rauno	Outside-spiker	7/4/1992	82	188
19	AGANITS Andri	Middle-blocker	7/9/1993	100	207
22	KEEL Markkus	Setter	18/8/1995	86	191
23	PULK Hindrek	Opposite	7/11/1990	87	194

Head Coach: CRETU Gheorghe



# Montenegro



Qualifying for EuroVolley 2019 Men is the greatest success achieved by the national team of Montenegro in their still young history. They previously claimed the European League title in 2014 and finished the FIVB World League Group 3 in third place in 2015. Montenegro have gold medals from the 2011 and 2019 editions of the Games of the Small States of Europe (GSSE) to their name as well.

Veljko Bašić, head coach: "It is clear that I feel great pleasure and pride in this historic success, primarily because of the Montenegrin sports fans, who supported us throughout the qualifications, as well as for the people of the Volleyball Federation of Montenegro, who did everything to help us succeed. Of course, because of my players as well, who did their best to achieve the result that we had set as a target when I took over the team. The success in these qualifications is also the result of a two-year strategy, investment and the good attitude of the Volleyball Federation towards the players, myself as a coach and the competition as well."

Vojin Ćaćić, captain: "Qualifying for EuroVolley is a huge success for us. We deserved it. Maybe we should have achieved it a few years back already. At EuroVolley, we will fight until the last breath in every match. Our team never gives up, and I am glad because of that. In that case, the victories will come as a result. If they do not, we will not complain, because we will do our best anyway."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands



# Montenegro



Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	MINIC Aleksandar	Opposite	9/11/1986	100	205
3	BABIC Luka	Middle-blocker	7/7/1994	103	211
4	CUK Gojko	Middle-blocker	10/10/1988	105	209
5	STRUGAR Rajko	Setter	11/4/1995	85	193
6	CACIC Vojin (c)	Outside-spiker	31/3/1990	101	203
7	RADONIC Nikola	Setter	30/7/1994	76	190
8	LAKCEVIC Nikola	Libero	14/7/1995	86	190
9	BOJIC Marko	Outside-spiker	13/11/1988	95	201
11	CUK Bozidar	Outside-spiker	13/6/1992	97	200
13	MILIC Blazo	Middle-blocker	22/11/1987	88	210
16	VUKASINOVIC Marko	Outside-spiker	30/7/1993	88	196
17	JECMENICA Ivan	Middle-blocker	17/3/1990	90	202
18	CULAFIC Milos	Opposite	13/8/1986	100	205
19	PERUNICIC Nemanja	Libero	9/2/2001	86	198

Head Coach: BASIC Veljko



# Poland



Poland men's national Volleyball team are the reigning double world champions and, overall, three-time winners of the World Championship (1974, 2014, 2018) and the 1976 Olympic champions. They are thus members of an elite group, as only two more countries – Brazil and Italy – can currently boast three gold medals from the World Championship to their names (Russia's all six titles were won by the former USSR). The White-and-Reds also have a showcase of other world competition medals including World Championship silver (2006) and World Cup silver (1965, 2011) and bronze (2015). At the European level, Poland has reached for the crown once, in 2009, came in second at each of the five editions held between 1975 and 1983 and finished third in 1967 and, most recently, in 2011.

When taking over the team in 2018, Vital Heynen promised to win an Olympic medal. Before they fight for it, his men first went through the Olympic qualifiers at home in Gdansk and then prove themselves against the best teams of the continent at the EuroVolley 2019.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Poland

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	NOWAKOWSKI Piotr	Middle-blocker	18/12/1987	103	205
2	MUZAJ Maciej	Opposite	21/5/1994	92	207
3	KONARSKI Dawid	Opposite	31/8/1989	90	198
4	KOMENDA Marcin	Setter	24/5/1996	91	198
7	SZALPUK Artur	Outside-spiker	20/3/1995	91	202
9	LEON VENERO Wilfredo	Outside-spiker	31/7/1993	95	201
10	WOJTASZEK Damian	Libero	7/9/1988	78	180
11	DRZYZGA Fabian	Setter	3/1/1990	90	197
13	KUBIAK Michał (c)	Outside-spiker	23/2/1988	87	193
14	ŚLIWKA Aleksander	Outside-spiker	24/5/1995	83	196
15	KOCHANOWSKI Jakub	Middle-blocker	17/7/1997	85	199
17	ZATORSKI Paweł	Libero	21/6/1990	72	183
20	BIENIEK Mateusz	Middle-blocker	5/4/1994	103	210
77	KLOS Karol	Middle-blocker	8/8/1989	85	201

Head Coach: HEYNEN Vital



# The Netherlands



For the third time in history, the Netherlands will host a European Championship. Back in 1985, the team ended in tenth place only, while in 1997 the 'Lange Mannen' became champions of Europe following their amazing feat of winning gold in the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. In the two editions previous to that (1993 and 1995) the Dutch lost the final to arch rival Italy. In the run up to the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, where the 'Oranjes' won silver, the team from the Netherlands won a bronze medal twice (1989 and 1991). After the disappointing 2017 edition of EuroVolley, when the Dutchmen did not survive the group stage, the team now coached by Italian Roberto Piazza have set their eyes on reaching at least the quarterfinals, which will be played in their own country, and more specifically in Apeldoorn.

Gijs Jorna, player of the Netherlands: "We have seen the Dutch women playing in Rotterdam Ahoy in 2015 when they won silver in EuroVolley at home in front of almost 11,000 people. We are hoping for a magical moment like that. This will be a unique experience for us and an additional reason for us to pull out all the stops."



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# The Netherlands

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
2	KEEMINK Wessel	Setter	29/5/1993	81	197
3	VAN GARDEREN Maarten	Outside-spiker	24/1/1990	89	200
4	TER HORST Thijs	Outside-spiker	18/9/1991	94	204
5	VAN DER ENT Luuc	Middle-blocker	27/7/1998	97	208
6	DRONKERS Just	Libero	7/6/1993	78	187
7	JORNA Gijs	Outside-spiker	30/5/1989	86	196
8	PLAK Fabian	Middle-blocker	23/7/1997	92	198
9	GOMMANS Ewoud	Outside-spiker	17/11/1990	93	202
10	HOOGENDOORN Sjoerd	Opposite	17/2/1991	90	199
14	ABDEL-AZIZ Nimir (c)	Opposite	5/2/1992	86	201
15	VAN SOLKEMA Gijs	Setter	21/5/1998	88	193
16	TER MAAT Wouter	Opposite	7/5/1991	90	200
17	PARKINSON Michael	Middle-blocker	23/11/1991	102	203
18	ANDRINGA Robbert	Libero	28/4/1990	85	192

Head Coach: PIAZZA Roberto



# Ukraine



Team Ukraine played their first international match on October 24, 1992 – beating Estonia 3-0. This will be Ukraine's fifth appearance in a European Championship – after finishing sixth in 1993, ninth in 1995, seventh in 1997 and 12th in 2005.

Ukraine are the gold medal winners from the 2017 edition of the European League.



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# Ukraine

Shirt N°	Surname and Name	Position	Date of Birth	Weight (kgs)	Height (cm)
1	POLUIAN Timofii	Outside-spiker	10/1/1998	88	198
3	VIIETSKYI Dmytro	Opposite	19/2/1998	91	201
5	PLOTNYTSKYI Oleh (c)	Outside-spiker	5/6/1997	97	195
6	DROZD Maksym	Middle-blocker	5/8/1991	93	208
7	BROVA Horden	Libero	8/4/1991	82	190
8	TERYOMENKO Dmytro	Middle-blocker	1/2/1987	90	199
9	KOVALCHUK Volodymyr	Setter	22/4/1984	95	195
10	SEMENIUK Yurii	Middle-blocker	12/5/1994	95	195
11	DIDENKO Vladyslav	Setter	29/9/1992	80	190
12	FOMIN Denys	Libero	21/7/1986	72	177
16	SHEVCHENKO Oleh	Outside-spiker	8/1/1993	90	195
17	TOMYN Yuriy	Outside-spiker	23/12/1988	100	198
18	IERESHCHENKO Ian	Outside-spiker	6/4/1990	82	197
20	HLADENKO Oleksandr	Middle-blocker	3/12/1991	96	203

Head Coach: KRASTINS Uģis



## Wouter ter Maat: his way to the top

“To play EuroVolley in your own country, that’s amazing,” says Dutch opposite Wouter ter Maat. In just five years, he has made the transition from being a part-time truck mechanic to playing Champions League and becoming champion of Turkey with his team Fenerbahce. While climbing up the ladder in club teams, he has been very successful in the national team as well.

In only five years, he has made his way from playing Dutch first division to the elite Turkish league. In between, he became Dutch champions with Landstede ZWOLLE, and was the MVP of Belgium for Gent in 2016. He first played Champions League with the BERLIN Recycling Volleys, went to PARIS Volley and now he will go for his second season with Fenerbahce. In the 2019-2020 season, he will play for Fenerbahce in the elite CEV Champions League.

“I never played for youth teams of the Netherlands, but after my first season with Gent I was asked by then head coach Gido Vermeulen to train with them.” Vermeulen gave Ter Maat the chance to play and he was not disappointed. At 2017 EuroVolley in Poland, TerMaat was one of the highest scoring players of the ‘Lange Mannen’.

The high point of his career came one year later at the World Championship in Bulgaria, playing against Olympic champions Brazil and beating them 3-1. “That’s a match I sometimes replay for myself,” he admits.

### All info and tickets:

<https://eurovolley.cev.eu>

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# Men's European Volleyball Championships

1948 - 2017

Year	Host Country	Finals	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
1948	Italy	Rome	Czechoslovakia	France	Italy
1950	Bulgaria	Sofia	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Hungary
1951	France	Paris	Soviet Union	Bulgaria	France
1955	Romania	Bucharest	Czechoslovakia	Romania	Bulgaria
1958	Czechoslovakia	Prague	Czechoslovakia	Romania	Soviet Union
1963	Romania	Bucharest	Romania	Hungary	Soviet Union
1967	Turkey	Istanbul	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Poland
1971	Italy	Milano	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Romania
1975	Yugoslavia	Belgrade	Soviet Union	Poland	Yugoslavia
1977	Finland	Helsinki	Soviet Union	Poland	Romania
1979	France	Paris	Soviet Union	Poland	Yugoslavia
1981	Bulgaria	Varna	Soviet Union	Poland	Bulgaria
1983	East Germany	Berlin	Soviet Union	Poland	Bulgaria
1985	the Netherlands	Amsterdam	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	France
1987	Belgium	Gent	Soviet Union	France	Greece
1989	Sweden	Stockholm	Italy	Sweden	the Netherlands
1991	Germany	Berlin	Russia	Italy	the Netherlands
1993	Finland	Turku	Italy	the Netherlands	Russia
1995	Greece	Athens	Italy	the Netherlands	Yugoslavia
1997	the Netherlands	Eindhoven	the Netherlands	Yugoslavia	Italy
1999	Austria	Vienna	Italy	Russia	Yugoslavia
2001	Czech Republic	Ostrava	Yugoslavia	Italy	Russia
2003	Germany	Berlin	Italy	France	Russia
2005	Italy /  Serbia and Montenegro	Rome	Italy	Russia	Serbia and Montenegro
2007	Russia	Moscow	Spain	Russia	Serbia
2009	Turkey	Izmir	Poland	France	Bulgaria
2011	Austria /  Czech Republic	Vienna	Serbia	Italy	Poland
2013	Denmark /  Poland	Copenhaged	Russia	Italy	Serbia
2015	Bulgaria /  Italy	Sofia	France	Slovenia	Italy
2017	Poland	Kraków	Russia	Germany	Serbia
2019	France /  Slovenia /  Belgium /  the Netherlands	Paris			



France, Slovenia  
Belgium, The Netherlands

# CEV EuroVolley 2019

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