



No. 07/2025

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference	Date
		FNTC/kl/all	4 February 2025

### **2025-27 UEFA European Under-21 Championship – Host appointment and competition regulations**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that the UEFA Executive Committee on 4 February 2025 appointed Albania and Serbia as the hosts for the UEFA Under-21 2027 Final Tournament.

In addition, the Regulations of the 2025-27 UEFA European Under-21 Championship were approved at the same meeting and are now available in the [UEFA Documents portal](#).

Most of the changes are related to updates to UEFA standard clauses, applied consistently across all UEFA competitions, and the material amendments are due to the need of aligning the format to two final tournament hosts. It is worth mentioning the following article updates:

- Article 5.01. b – Duties of the association  
No changes in these regulations but we would like to inform you that in the next Under-21 competition regulations (edition 2027-29), and in alignment with other competition regulations, the coaching qualification requirements could be revised.

The head coach would be requested to hold a valid UEFA Pro licence or, subject to domestic regulations, must have at least started the UEFA Pro diploma course (registration alone for the required diploma course is not sufficient to meet this criterion), or must hold a valid UEFA A licence if the UEFA Pro licence is not available in the association by which the coach is employed (see UEFA Coaching Convention membership status). The assistant coach would be requested to hold at least a valid UEFA A licence or must have at least started the UEFA A diploma course (registration alone for the required diploma course is not sufficient to meet this criterion).

- Article 13 – Group formation and match system – qualifying competition  
51 teams will take part in the qualifying phase as Liechtenstein will not enter the competition, the 2 hosts are automatically qualified for the final tournament and Russia is currently suspended until further notice.

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The 51 teams will be split into 6 groups of 6 teams and 3 groups of 5 teams.

The 9 group winners and the best runner-up will directly qualify for the final tournament and the 8 other runners-up will contest play-offs to determine the 4 remaining finalists.

- Article 17 - Match system – final tournament  
All teams play their matches in the same host country until the semi-finals. The same model was used in the previous editions hosted in two countries and entails that teams may play each other again in the semi-final. One winning semi-finalist has to move to the other country for the final.
- Article 19 - Extra time, penalty shoot-out and Olympic play-off match  
Two paragraphs (19.05 & 19.06) have been added to define the procedure for a potential Olympic play-off match.
- Article 57.03 - Video assistant refereeing and goal-line technology  
VAR may be used in all matches of the final tournament which was not the case in the past.

We kindly ask you to share this information with the relevant persons within your association and if you have any questions concerning these regulations, please contact [Sylvain.Boisot@uefa.ch](mailto:Sylvain.Boisot@uefa.ch).

Yours faithfully,

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Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

cc

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA National Team Competitions Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich