When we open the website, we see its source code. From that we understand 2 things:

- 1. If the start parameter is not set, the website returns its source code and finishes executing the php code.
- 2. If we use post, the website will display the contents of the file indicated by the start variable.

After understanding that we need both the start parameter AND the start variable, we can get the flag with curl -X POST -d "start=flag.php" <a href="http://<IP>:<PORT>/index.php?start">http://<IP>:<PORT>/index.php?start

Made with love by: AndreiCat