

the 84th minute.^[11] On 22 April 2006, Kosovo achieved their biggest win, defeating Monaco 7–1. If one included matches played before Kosovo became a FIFA member, this scoreline is their best result yet.^[12]

After independence

First match

On 17 February 2010, for the first time since its declaration of independence, Kosovo played a friendly match against Albania (the match ended with a 2–3 home defeat for Kosovo). The starting line-up of that match was Kushtrim Mushica (GK), Anel Rashkaj, Dukagjin Gashi, Enis Zabërgja, Fisnik Papuçi, Ilir Nallbani, Liridon Kukaj, Robert Gjeraj, Shpëtim Hasani and Yll Hoxha. This match had a charity character as the profits gathered from this meeting went to those affected by floods in Shkodër.^[13]

Efforts for internationalization

On 6 May 2008, after its declaration of independence from Serbia, Kosovo applied for FIFA membership. On 24 October 2008, Kosovo's application was discussed at the FIFA Congress in Zürich and Kosovo's bid was rejected. At the occasion, FIFA's determined Kosovo could not even play friendly matches against FIFA members' national teams.^[14]

In September 2012, Albania international Lorik Cana, along with Swiss internationals Granit Xhaka, Valon Behrami and Xherdan Shaqiri, all of them with Kosovo Albanian origin, wrote a declaration to FIFA President Sepp Blatter, asking him to allow Kosovo to play friendly matches. The declaration was also signed by eight other Albanian footballers hailing from Kosovo as Ahmed Januzi, Alban Meha, Armend Dallku, Burim Kukeli, Etrit Berisha, Fatmire Bajramaj, Lorik Cana, Mërgim Mavraj and Samir Ujkani.^[15] Some players, especially Kosovo Serbs as Milan Biševac and Miloš Krsić, continued to play for Serbia.^{[16][17]}

Permission by FIFA to play friendlies

On 6 February 2013, FIFA decided to allow Kosovan club teams to play friendly games against clubs from countries whose national teams were members of FIFA.^[20] However, it was stipulated that Kosovan clubs and teams could not display national symbols such as the Kosovan flag, emblem, etc., or play the Kosovan anthem.^[20]

On 5 March 2014, the Kosovan football team was finally allowed by FIFA to play its first international friendly match, against Haiti; the match ended in a 0–0 draw.^{[21][22]} Before the match, some players of Kosovo posed with guns at a shooting range, causing a stir in Serbia.^[23] On the eve of the match, supporters of Kosovo burned the flag of Serbia.^[24] This incident prompted the Football Association of Serbia to request that FIFA revoked Kosovo's right to play international friendlies.^[25]

After the match against Haiti, six more matches were held in 2014, against Turkey, Senegal, Oman, Equatorial Guinea and Albania. The first win in these friendlies was against Oman, by 1–0,^[26] while the biggest defeat a 1–6 against Turkey.^[27]

Membership in UEFA and FIFA

In September 2015, at an UEFA Executive Committee meeting in Malta, the request from Kosovo for admission in UEFA was scheduled for deliberation in the next Ordinary Congress, to be held in Budapest.^[28] On 3 May 2016, at the Ordinary Congress, Kosovo was accepted into UEFA after members voted 28–24 in favor of Kosovo.^{[29][30]} Ten days later, Kosovo was accepted in FIFA during their 66th Congress in Mexico, with 141 votes in favour and 23 against.^[31]

First tournament

Debut in World Cup qualification and nearly successful first Euro attempt

Kosovo began to make their debut in the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualification, where Kosovo was assigned with Croatia, Finland, Iceland, Turkey and Ukraine.^{[32][33]} The Kosovars created its first major surprise, holding host Finland to a 1–1 draw,^[34] but it turned to be the lone point of Kosovo in the qualification, as the team lost the remaining games and finished last.

 Kosovo 5–0 Burkina Faso (Pristina, Kosovo; 24 March 2022)
Biggest defeat
 Kosovo 0–6 Croatia  (Shkodër, Albania; 6 October 2016)

"The reason of this friendly match is that we wanted to face with a team that has the same temperament and character as Albania national team."

—The reasoning of the then head coach of Yugoslavia, Rajko Mitić for the reason for organizing the Kosovo–Yugoslavia match.^[4]

"I am very pleased with the team's performance even though we had predicted a stronger opponent. However, I want to emphasize that our players have been fantastic. The fact that we do not play many international matches may have inspired the players to give it their all this time."

—Opinion of the then coach Muharrem Sahiti after the match against Monaco.^[9]



Kosovo starting line-up in first international friendly against Haiti (4–3–3)^{[18][19]}

Following the failure to qualify for 2018 FIFA World Cup, Kosovo participated in the 2018–19 UEFA Nations League D sharing group with Azerbaijan, Faroe Islands and Malta,^{[37][38]} where the Kosovars topped their group undefeated to reach the country's first-ever play-offs in its attempt to qualify for UEFA Euro 2020.^[39] After the successful Nations League, Kosovo entered the UEFA Euro 2020 qualifying, where they shared group A with Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Montenegro and 2018 World Cup fourth place finisher England.^[40] As the dark horse of the qualification, Kosovo however created a major phenomenon, managed to beat Bulgaria, Montenegro and especially, a shock home win over the Czechs to take the second place behind England, being 15 matches and on that time nearly two years without defeat winning 11 of these 15 matches. The game against England away even saw the Kosovars took an early lead in the surprise, even though they were unable to protect it and fell 3–5 away, ending the longest unbeaten run in the football history of Kosovo.^[41] In the decisive match against the Czechs away, which Kosovo needed a win to directly qualify for the first time, Kosovo gained a shock lead, but failed to protect it again as they lost 1–2 and could only participate in the play-off,^[42] but this remained to be Kosovo's greatest success up to date.

Setback

After successfully obtained a play-off position, Kosovo headed to the 2020–21 UEFA Nations League C, being drawn with Greece, Moldova and Slovenia.^[43] After impressive performance in the UEFA Euro 2020 qualifying, Kosovo was tipped favorably to promote to League B. Yet, Kosovo began the Nations League with a disappointing 1–1 away draw to Moldova,^[44] before the team which was halved due to the absences of key players suffered a 1–2 home loss against Greece.^[45]

In Kosovo's first ever competitive UEFA Euro play-offs, Kosovo was drawn against North Macedonia.^[42] However, Kosovo was eliminated after losing 1–2 to the Macedonians in Skopje.^[46] After the elimination in the play-off's semifinals, the Kosovo's setback continues and the year 2020 was ended six losses, two draws and a victory in the last match of the year against Moldova, a victory which secured the attitude even for another season in the League C of the UEFA Nations League.^[47]

Team image

Nicknames

The Kosovo national football team has been known or nicknamed as the "*Dardanët*" ("Dardanians"). In addition to the official nickname, the Kosovo national team had different nicknames in different periods as:

- "*Shqipëria B*" ("Albania B") — During the period before 2016, the national teams of Kosovo and Albania have exchanged players with each other, which influenced these two teams to be nicknamed reserve (B) teams of each other, the Kosovo national team was nicknamed Albania B due to many players came to play for Kosovo as they had no space to play for Albania, but the same thing happened with the Albanian national team which was nicknamed Kosovo B due to of the large number of players of Kosovo Albanian descent in its composition.^[48]
- "*Ekipi i Kosovës*" ("Team Kosovo") — The Kosovo national team during the 2009–10 period was introduced with the nickname that was used as an alternative name in order to avoid possible sanctions by UEFA and FIFA against Kosovo and the opponents that Kosovo played. After Kosovo was allowed on 6 February 2013 by FIFA to play against FIFA member associations in international friendlies,^[20] this alternative name was no longer used.
- "*Brazili i Ballkanit*" ("Brazil of the Balkans") — The Kosovo national team was nicknamed the Brazil of the Balkans during their fifteen-match unbeaten run during the 2018–19 season.^{[36][49][50]}

Kits and crest



The Kosovo kit has been mostly red and black before declaration of independence with few changes throughout the years and after the independence the kits are mostly blue and yellow. On 5 October 2016, Kosovo signed with Spanish sportswear company Kelme to a four-year contract and was the first official kit suppliers of Kosovo after membership in UEFA and FIFA.^[51] On 23 February 2022, Kosovo signed with Italian sportswear company Erreà to a three-year contract for it to the kit suppliers of Kosovo.^[52]

Kit sponsorship

Kit supplier	Period	Contract	
		Announcement	Duration
 <u>Legea</u>	2014	March 2014	
 <u>Puma</u>	2014	May 2014	
 <u>Legea</u>	2014	September 2014	
 <u>Umbro</u>	2015	October 2015	November 2015
 <u>Puma</u>	2016	June 2016	
 <u>Kelme</u>	2016–2018	5 October 2016	2016–2020 (4 years)
 <u>Fourteen</u>	2018–2022	16 June 2018	2018–2022 (4 years)
 <u>Erreà</u>	2023–present	23 February 2023	2023–2026 (3 years)

Home stadium



Fadil Vokrri Stadium



Loro Boriçi Stadium



Adem Jashari Olympic Stadium

Kosovo's home stadium is the Fadil Vokrri Stadium. The stadium capacity is 13,500, which makes it the second largest national stadium in Kosovo. Kosovo's previous national stadium was the Adem Jashari Olympic Stadium which is currently under renovation. Kosovo also used Loro Boriçi Stadium during the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign,^[53]^[54] and this happened after the two stadiums in Pristina and Mitrovica at that time were under renovation and do not meet UEFA standards.^[55] On 12 July 2019, the construction of Kosovo National Stadium began,^[56] and two days later the project of this stadium was presented which would have a capacity of 30,000 seats,^[57] but after the presentation, the construction was suspended for political reasons related to the location.^[58]

As of 9 September 2023^[59]

Kosovo national football team home stadiums													
Stadium	Capacity	Location	Pld	W	D	L	Win. %	First match		Last match		UEFA category	Ref.
								Opponent	Date	Opponent	Date		
<u>Fadil Vokrri Stadium</u>	13,500	<u>Pristina, Kosovo</u>	35	15	10	10	42.86	 <u>Yugoslavia</u>	8 November 1967	 <u>Israel</u>	12 November 2023	★★★★	^[60]
<u>Loro Boriçi Stadium</u>	16,000	<u>Shkodër, Albania</u>	5	0	0	5	0.00	 <u>Croatia</u>	6 October 2016	 <u>Ukraine</u>	6 October 2017	★★★★	^[61]
<u>Adem Jashari Olympic Stadium</u>	18,500	<u>Mitrovica, Kosovo</u>	3	1	1	1	33.33	 <u>Haiti</u>	5 March 2014	 <u>Latvia</u>	13 November 2017	★★★☆☆	^[62]

Rivalries

Albania

This derby is otherwise known as Brotherly derby (Albanian: *Derbi vëllazëror*), also known as the Brotherly (Albanian: *Vëllazërorja*). The documented beginnings of this derby date back to the time during the World War II, respectively on 29 November 1942, where they played a friendly match as part of the celebrations for 30th Anniversary of the Independence of Albania and the match ended with a 2–0 win for

Tirana,^[a]^[5]^[6]^[4] this derby is back 50 years after the first match, when the Football Federation of Kosovo signed a cooperation protocol with the Albanian Football Association and in the framework of this protocol it was decided to play on 14 February a friendly match between these two national teams,^[7] and this match ended with a 3–1 win for Albania.^[8]

Media coverage

Current

Broadcaster	Television channel	Period	Broadcast matches	
			Qualifying	Friendly
SuperSport Albania	 SuperSport 1	2014–present ^[63]		
	 SuperSport 3			
ArtMotion	ArtSport 1	2022–present ^[64]		
	Klan Kosova			

Previous

Broadcaster	Television channel	Period
Radio Television of Kosovo	RTK 1	2014–2022
	RTK 2	2016–2022

Results and fixtures

The following is a list of match results in the last 12 months, as well as any future matches that have been scheduled.

☐ Win ☐ Draw ☐ Loss ☐ Fixture

2023

Euro 2024 qualifying	25 March 18:00 (20:00 UTC+3)	Israel  <u>Peretz</u>  56'	1–1 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036308/)	Kosovo  <u>Dasa</u>  36' (o.g.)	Tel Aviv, Israel [show] Stadium: Bloomfield Stadium Attendance: 28,935 Referee: <u>Willie Collum</u> (Scotland)
Euro 2024 qualifying	28 March 20:45	Kosovo  <u>Zhegrova</u>  59'	1–1 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036332/)	Andorra  <u>Rosas</u>  61'	Pristina, Kosovo [show] Stadium: Fadil Vokrri Stadium Attendance: 12,600 Referee: Sebastian Gishamer (Austria)
Euro 2024 qualifying	16 June 20:45	Kosovo  Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036355/)	0–0 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036355/)	Romania 	Pristina, Kosovo [show] Stadium: Fadil Vokrri Stadium Attendance: 12,600 Referee: <u>Danny Makkelie</u> (Netherlands)
Euro 2024 qualifying	19 June 20:45	Belarus  <u>Morozov</u>  73' <u>Ebong</u>  75'	2–1 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036378/)	Kosovo  <u>Muriqi</u>  87' (pen.)	Budapest, Hungary ^[c] [show] Stadium: Szusza Ferenc Stadion ^[c] Attendance: 0 ^[c] Referee: Julian Weinberger (Austria)
Euro 2024 qualifying	9 September 20:45	Kosovo  <u>Muriqi</u>  65', 90+4'	2–2 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036401/)	Switzerland  <u>Freuler</u>  14' <u>Am. Rrahmani</u>  79' (o.g.)	Pristina, Kosovo [show] Stadium: Fadil Vokrri Stadium Attendance: 12,700 Referee: <u>Jakob Kehlet</u> (Denmark)
Euro 2024 qualifying	12 September 20:45	Romania  <u>Stanciu</u>  83' <u>Mihăilă</u>  90+3'	2–0 Report (http s://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036424/)	Kosovo 	Bucharest, Romania [show] Stadium: Arena Națională Attendance: 29,982 Referee: <u>Willy Delajod</u> (France)
Euro 2024 qualifying	12 October	Andorra 	0–3	Kosovo 	Andorra la Vella, Andorra [show]

	20:45		Report (https://www.uefa.com/european-qualifiers/match/2036446/)	Rashica 🟡 26', 71' Zeqiri 🟡 83'	Stadium: Estadi Nacional Attendance: 1,207 Referee: Nick Walsh (Scotland)
Euro 2024 qualifying	12 November ^[d] 20:45	Kosovo 🇰🇲	1–0	Israel 🇮🇱	Pristina, Kosovo [show] Stadium: Fadil Vokrri Stadium Attendance: 5,245 Referee: Ivan Kružliak (Slovakia)
Euro 2024 qualifying	18 November 20:45	Switzerland 🇨🇭	1–1	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Basel, Switzerland [show] Stadium: St. Jakob-Park Attendance: 33,000 Referee: António Nobre (Portugal)
Euro 2024 qualifying	21 November 20:45	Kosovo 🇰🇲	0–1	Belarus 🇧🇪	Pristina, Kosovo [show] Stadium: Fadil Vokrri Stadium Attendance: 5,026 Referee: Georgi Kabakov (Bulgaria)

2024

Friendly	22 March	Armenia 🇦🇲	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Yerevan, Armenia [show] Stadium: Vazgen Sargsyan Republican Stadium
Friendly	26 March	Hungary 🇭🇺	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Budapest, Hungary [show] Stadium: Puskás Aréna
Friendly	5 June	Norway 🇳🇴	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Oslo, Norway [show] Stadium: Ullevaal Stadion
2024–25 Nations League	6 September 20:45	Kosovo 🇰🇲	v	Romania 🇷🇴	TBD [show]
2024–25 Nations League	9 September 20:45 (21:45 UTC+3)	Cyprus 🇨🇾	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Cyprus [show]
2024–25 Nations League	12 October 15:00	TBD ?	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	TBD [show]
2024–25 Nations League	15 October 20:45	Kosovo 🇰🇲	v	Cyprus 🇨🇾	TBD [show]
2024–25 Nations League	15 November 20:45 (21:45 UTC+2)	Romania 🇷🇴	v	Kosovo 🇰🇲	Romania [show]

Coaching staff

Current coaching staff

Position	Name
Head coach	 Franco Foda
Assistant coach(es)	 Thomas Kristl
	 Robert Ibertsberger
Goalkeeping coach	 Ahmet Beselica
Team manager	 Bajram Shala
Sports director	 Muharrem Sahiti
	 Samir Ujkani



[Franco Foda](#), the current head coach of Kosovo national football team.

Manager history

No.	Name	Period	Record				
			G	W	D	L	Win %
1	 Ajet Shosholli	1993–2002	1	0	0	1	0.00
2	 Bylbyl Sokoli	2002–2005	1	0	0	1	0.00
3	 Muharrem Sahiti	2005–2006	3	2	0	1	66.67
4	 Edmond Rugova	2006–2009	1	1	0	0	100.00
5	 Albert Bunjaki	2009–2017	18	3	3	12	16.67
6	 Muharrem Sahiti	2017–2018	1	1	0	0	100.00
	 Bernard Challandes	2018–2021	40	17	8	15	42.50
	→  Muharrem Sahiti ^[e]	2020					
7	 Primož Gliha	2021–2022	2	0	1	1	0.00
8	 Alain Giresse	2022–2023	14	4	6	4	28.57
9	 Primož Gliha	2023	6	2	2	2	33.33
	 Franco Foda	2024–present	0	0	0	0	—



[Muharrem Sahiti](#) has been the manager of the national team in three separate stints.

Players

Current squad

- The following players were called up for the [UEFA Euro 2024 qualifying matches](#) against [Israel](#), [Switzerland](#) and [Belarus](#), on 12, 18, and 21 November 2023.^[72]
- Caps and goals are correct as of 21 November 2023 after the match against [Belarus](#).*^[73]

No.	Pos.	Player	Date of birth (age)	Caps	Goals	Club
1	GK	Visar Bekaj	24 May 1997	7	0	 Hatayspor
16	GK	Kenan Haxhihamza	28 December 1996	0	0	 Dukagjini
15	DF	Mërgim Vojvoda	1 February 1995	53	2	 Torino
3	DF	Fidan Aliti (<i>captain</i>)	3 October 1993	52	1	 Alanyaspor
2	DF	Florent Hadergjonaj	31 July 1994	32	1	 Alanyaspor
4	DF	Lirim Kastrati	2 February 1999	15	0	 Widzew Łódź
13	DF	Lumbardh Dellova	1 January 1999	7	0	 Ballkani
5	DF	Ilir Krasniqi	2 April 2000	5	0	 Llapi
6	DF	Kreshnik Hajrizi	28 May 1999	4	0	 Lugano
23	MF	Bernard Berisha	21 October 1991	26	1	 Akhmat Grozny
8	MF	Florent Muslija	6 July 1998	23	1	 SC Freiburg
19	MF	Florian Loshaj	13 August 1996	22	0	 İstanbulspor
10	MF	Zymer Bytyqi	11 September 1996	22	1	 Antalyaspor
20	MF	Meriton Korenica	15 December 1996	5	0	 Ballkani
17	MF	Qëndrim Zyba	3 February 2001	4	0	 Legia Warsaw
22	MF	Altin Zeqiri	18 July 2000	3	1	 Çaykur Rizespor
18	MF	Alban Ajdini	9 July 1999	1	0	 Stade Lausanne Ouchy
11	FW	Elbasan Rashani	9 May 1993	27	5	 Clermont
21	FW	Ermal Krasniqi	7 September 1998	4	0	 Rapid București
14	FW	Muhamet Hyseni	6 February 2001	2	1	 Llapi

Recent call-ups

The following players have been called up for the team within the last 12 months and are still available for selection.

Pos.	Player	Date of birth (age)	Caps	Goals	Club	Latest call-up
<u>GK</u>	<u>Arijanet Muric</u>	7 November 1998	36	0	 <u>Burnley</u>	v. <u>Switzerland</u> , 18 November 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Lart Paqarada</u>	10 August 1994	30	1	 <u>1. FC Köln</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Betim Fazliji</u>	25 April 1999	22	0	 <u>St. Gallen</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023
<u>DF</u>	<u>Ismajl Beka</u>	31 October 1999	1	0	 <u>Luzern</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Amir Rrahmani</u>	24 February 1994	55	6	 <u>Napoli</u>	v. <u>Romania</u> , 12 September 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Ibrahim Drešević</u>	24 January 1997	25	0	 <u>Machida Zelvia</u>	v. <u>Romania</u> , 12 September 2023
<u>DF</u>	<u>Valon Zumberi</u>	24 November 2002	0	0	 <u>Schaffhausen</u>	v. <u>Switzerland</u> , 9 September 2023 ^{U21}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Andi Hoti</u>	2 March 2003	0	0	 <u>1. FC Magdeburg</u>	v. <u>Switzerland</u> , 9 September 2023 ^{U21}
<u>DF</u>	<u>Mirlind Kryeziu</u>	26 January 1997	11	0	 <u>Zürich</u>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023
<u>DF</u>	<u>Amar Gërxhaliu</u>	26 April 2002	0	0	 <u>Antalyaspor</u>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023 ^{U21}
<u>MF</u>	<u>Milot Rashica</u>	28 June 1996	53	11	 <u>Beşiktaş</u>	v. <u>Switzerland</u> , 18 November 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>MF</u>	<u>Edon Zhegrova</u>	31 March 1999	34	4	 <u>Lille</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>MF</u>	<u>Valon Berisha</u>	7 February 1993	40	4	 <u>LASK</u>	v. <u>Romania</u> , 12 September 2023
<u>MF</u>	<u>Arbër Zeneli</u>	25 February 1995	33	9	<i>Unattached</i>	v. <u>Romania</u> , 12 September 2023
<u>MF</u>	<u>Bersant Celina</u>	9 September 1996	37	2	 <u>AIK</u>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023
<u>MF</u>	<u>Hekuran Kryeziu</u>	12 February 1993	29	0	<i>Unattached</i>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023
<u>MF</u>	<u>Donat Rudhani</u>	2 May 1999	10	2	 <u>Lausanne-Sport</u>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023
<u>MF</u>	<u>Blendi Idrizi</u>	2 May 1998	6	0	 <u>Schalke 04</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 28 March 2023
<u>FW</u>	<u>Vedat Muriqi</u>	24 April 1994	51	26	 <u>Mallorca</u>	v. <u>Switzerland</u> , 18 November 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>FW</u>	<u>Albion Rrahmani</u>	31 August 2000	2	0	 <u>Rapid București</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>FW</u>	<u>Shkelqim Vladi</u>	21 September 2000	0	0	 <u>Lugano</u>	v. <u>Andorra</u> , 12 October 2023 ^{INJ}
<u>FW</u>	<u>Jetmir Topalli</u>	7 February 1998	6	0	 <u>Manisa</u>	v. <u>Belarus</u> , 19 June 2023
Notes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ^{INJ} = Not part of the <u>current squad</u> due to injury. ^{U21} = Was called up from national <u>U21</u> squad. 						

Records

As of 21 November 2023^{[74][75]}

Players in **bold** are still active with Kosovo.

Most appearances

Rank	Player	Caps	Goals	Pos.	Career
1	Amir Rrahmani	55	6	<u>DF</u>	2014–present
2	Milot Rashica	53	11	<u>MF</u>	2016–present
	Mërgim Vojvoda	53	2	<u>DF</u>	2017–present
4	Fidan Aliti	52	1	<u>DF</u>	2017–present
5	Vedat Muriqi	51	26	<u>FW</u>	2016–present
6	Valon Berisha	40	4	<u>MF</u>	2016–present
7	Bersant Celina	37	2	<u>MF</u>	2014–present
8	<u>Samir Ujkani</u>	36	0	<u>GK</u>	2014–2022
	Arijanet Muric	36	0	<u>GK</u>	2018–present
10	Besar Halimi	34	3	<u>MF</u>	2015–present
	Edon Zhegrova	34	4	<u>FW</u>	2018–present

Top goalscorers

Rank	Player	Goals	Caps	Ratio	Career
1	Vedat Muriqi	26	51	0.51	2016–present
2	Milot Rashica	11	53	0.21	2016–present
3	Arbër Zeneli	9	33	0.27	2016–present
4	Amir Rrahmani	6	55	0.11	2014–present
5	Elbasan Rashani	5	27	0.19	2015–present
6	Benjamin Kololli	4	24	0.17	2016–present
	Edon Zhegrova	4	34	0.12	2018–present
	Valon Berisha	4	40	0.1	2016–present
9	<u>Albert Bunjaku</u>	3	6	0.5	2014–2016
	<u>Atdhe NuhIU</u>	3	19	0.16	2017–2020
	Besar Halimi	3	34	0.09	2015–2021

Captains

As of 21 November 2023^[76]



Milot Rashica is the joint second-most capped player in the history of Kosovo with 53 appearances.



Vedat Muriqi is the top scorer in the history of Kosovo with 26 goals.



Samir Ujkani is the joint-most capped player as captain in the history of Kosovo, with 30 appearances.



Anel Rashkaj is the first captain who led Kosovo in the first international match against Haiti.

Rank	Pos.	Player	As captain		Total	
			Career	Caps	Career	Caps
1	GK	Samir Ujkani	2015–2022	30	2014–2022	36
	DF	Amir Rrahmani	2019–present	30	2014–present	55
3	DF	Fidan Aliti	2020–present	3	2017–present	52
	MF	Valon Berisha	2018–present	3	2016–present	40
	MF	Anel Rashkaj	2014	3	2014–2020	14
6	FW	Vedat Muriqi	2022–present	2	2016–present	51
	MF	Herolind Shala	2019–2020	2	2016–2021	27
	GK	Visar Bekaj	2021–present	2	2015–present	7
9	MF	Hekuran Kryeziu	2019–present	1	2015–present	30
	MF	Florian Loshaj	2021–present	1	2020–present	22
	DF	Lirim R. Kastrati	2022–present	1	2017–present	15
	MF	Enis Alushi	2014	1	2014–2017	10
	MF	Besnik Hasi	2007	1	2007	1
	MF	Genc Hoxha	1993	1	1993	1

Competitive record

FIFA World Cup

On 9 June 2016, the UEFA Emergency Panel decided that Kosovo would join Croatia, Finland, Iceland, Turkey and Ukraine in Group I, and also decided that Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia should not play against Kosovo for security reasons.^{[32][33]} On 5 September 2016, Kosovo made its debut in FIFA World Cup qualification with a 1–1 away draw against Finland, with Kosovo's equalizing goal being scored by newcomer Valon Berisha from a penalty kick in the 60th minute.^[34] On 2 September 2021, Kosovo achieved their first win in the FIFA World Cup qualifications a 1–0 away win against Georgia.^[77]

FIFA World Cup record										Qualification record						
Year	Round	Pos	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Squad	Pos.	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
 1930 to 1938	Part of Kingdom of Yugoslavia									Part of Kingdom of Yugoslavia						
 1950 to 1990	Part of SFR Yugoslavia									Part of SFR Yugoslavia						
 1994 to 2002	Part of Yugoslavia									Part of Yugoslavia						
 2006	Part of Serbia and Montenegro									Part of Serbia and Montenegro						
 2010	Not a FIFA member									Not a FIFA member						
 2014																
 2018	Did not qualify									6th	10	0	1	9	3	24
 2022										5th	8	1	2	5	5	15
 2026	To be determined									To be determined						
 2030 ^[f]																
 2034																
Total	—	0/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	2/2	18	1	3	14	8	39

- Draws include knockout matches decided on penalty kicks; correct as of 14 November 2021 after the match against Greece.^[79]

UEFA European Championship

On 2 December 2018, in Dublin, it was decided that Kosovo should be part in Group A of the UEFA Euro 2020 qualifying, together with Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Montenegro and 2018 World Cup fourth place finisher England.^[40] On 25 March 2019, Kosovo made their debut on UEFA European Championship qualifying with a 1–1 home draw against Bulgaria and the draw goal was scored by Arbër Zeneli on the 61st minute.^[80] On 11 June 2019, Kosovo won their first ever qualifying match for a major tournament by defeating Bulgaria 3–2.^[81]

UEFA European Championship record										Qualification record						
Year	Round	Pos	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Squad	Pos	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
 1960 to 1992	Part of SFR Yugoslavia									Part of SFR Yugoslavia						
 1996 to 2000	Part of Yugoslavia									Part of Yugoslavia						
 2004	Part of Serbia and Montenegro									Part of Serbia and Montenegro						
 2008	Part of Serbia									Part of Serbia						
 2012	Not a UEFA member									Not a UEFA member						
 2016																
 2020	Did not qualify									3rd (PO)	9	3	2	4	14	18
 2024										5th	10	2	5	3	10	10
 2028	To be determined									To be determined						
 2032																
Total	—	0/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	2/2	19	5	7	7	24	28

■ Draws include knockout matches decided via penalty shoot-out; correct as of 21 November 2023 after match against Belarus.^[82]

UEFA Nations League

On 24 January 2018, in Lausanne, it was decided that Kosovo should be part of League D in Group 3 of the 2018–19 UEFA Nations League, together with Azerbaijan, Faroe Islands and Malta.^{[37][38]} On 7 September 2018, Kosovo made their debut in the UEFA Nations League with a 0–0 away draw against Azerbaijan.^[83] On 10 September 2018, Kosovo achieved their first win in the UEFA Nations League, which was also the team's first-ever competitive win, a 2–0 home win against the Faroe Islands.^[84] Kosovo finished the league unbeaten (with four wins and two draws) and will be promoted to the next tier (C league) for the next edition.^[39]

Kosovo's Nations League record	
First match	 Azerbaijan 0–0 Kosovo (Baku, Azerbaijan; 7 September 2018)
Biggest win	 Malta 0–5 Kosovo (Ta' Qali, Malta; 17 November 2018)
Biggest defeat	Three matches [show] <div> Kosovo 1–2 Greece (Pristina, Kosovo; 6 September 2020)</div> <div> Slovenia 2–1 Kosovo (Ljubljana, Slovenia; 15 November 2020)</div> <div> Northern Ireland 2–1 Kosovo (Belfast, Northern Ireland; 24 September 2022)</div>
Best result	39th place in <u>2022–23</u>
Worst result	44th place in <u>2020–21</u>

UEFA Nations League record																				
League phase												Finals								
Season	LG	Grp	Pos.	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	P/R	RK	Year	Pos.	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Squad
2018–19	D	3	1st	6	4	2	0	15	2	▲	42nd	 2019	Did not qualify							
2020–21	C	3	3rd	6	1	2	3	4	6	▬	44th	 2021								
2022–23	C	2	2nd	6	3	0	3	11	8	▬	39th	 2023								
2024–25	C	2	To be determined									 2025								
Total				18	8	4	7	30	16	39th		Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	—

■ Draws include knockout matches decided via penalty shoot-out; correct as of 27 September 2022 after match against Cyprus.^[85]

Non-FIFA Tournament

Kosovo for first time after the Kosovo War participated in a tournament held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Cyprus Turkish Football Association. Kosovo lost against the host with result 1–0 and won against Sàpmi with result 4–1.^[86]

Year	Round	Pos.	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Squad
 KTFF 50th Anniversary Cup	Runners-up	2nd	2	1	0	1	4	2	Squad
Total	Runners-up	1/1	2	1	0	1	4	2	—

FIFA ranking history












































As of 29 October 2023^[3]

☐ Best ranking ☐ Worst ranking ☐ Best mover ☐ Worst mover

Rank		Year	Pld	W	D	L	Win %	Ranking		Move	
								Best	Worst	Best (+)	Worst (–)
<input type="checkbox"/>	101	2023	10	2	5	3	20.00	101	111	30 (November)	21 (September)
<input type="checkbox"/>	107	2022	10	4	3	3	40.00	106	109	2 (February)	1 (October)
<input type="checkbox"/>	111	2021	14	5	2	7	35.71	109	120	6 (September)	4 (October)
	117	2020	9	1	2	6	11.11	115	117	0 (February)	1 (October)
	115	2019	10	4	3	3	40.00	114	130	6 (June)	1 (November)
<input type="checkbox"/>	131	2018	9	7	2	0	77.78	131	178	24 (August)	1 (January)
	177	2017	7	1	0	6	14.29	164	184	9 (November)	6 (April)
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	165	2016	5	1	1	3	20.00	164	190	22 (September)	190 (July)

Head-to-head record

As of 21 November 2023 after the match against [Belarus](#).^[73]

Opponent	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Win. %	Reference
1993–present									
 Albania	6	1	1	4	9	11	−2	16.67	H2H results ^[6] ^[87] ^[88]
 Andorra	2	1	1	0	4	1	+3	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=5)
 Armenia	1	0	1	0	2	2	+0	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=9)
 Azerbaijan	2	1	1	0	4	0	+4	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=15)
 Bulgaria	2	1	1	0	4	3	+1	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=32)
 Belarus	2	0	0	2	1	3	−2	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=36)
 Burkina Faso	2	2	0	0	7	0	+7	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=306)
 Croatia	2	0	0	2	0	7	−7	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=47)
 Cyprus	2	2	0	0	7	1	+6	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=49)
 Czech Republic	2	1	0	1	3	3	+0	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=95)
 Denmark	1	0	1	0	2	2	+0	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=56)
 England	2	0	0	2	3	9	−6	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=60)
 Equatorial Guinea	1	1	0	0	2	0	+2	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=300)
 Faroe Islands	4	2	2	0	5	1	+4	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=129)
 Finland	2	0	1	1	1	2	−1	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=70)
 Gambia	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=158)
 Georgia	2	1	0	1	2	2	+0	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=85)
 Gibraltar	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=90)
 Greece	6	0	3	3	3	7	−4	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=175)
 Guinea	1	0	0	1	1	2	−1	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=184)
 Haiti	1	0	1	0	0	0	+0	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=96)
 Iceland	2	0	0	2	1	4	−3	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=103)
 Israel	2	1	1	0	2	1	+1	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=210)
 Jordan	1	0	0	1	0	2	−2	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=118)
 Latvia	1	1	0	0	4	3	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=231)
 Lithuania	1	1	0	0	4	0	+4	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=234)
 Madagascar	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=362)
 Malta	3	3	0	0	10	2	+8	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=136)
 Moldova	2	1	1	0	2	1	+1	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=138)
 Monaco	1	1	0	0	7	1	+6	100.00	H2H results (https://www.national-football-teams.com/encounter/teams/219/259/Monaco_vs_Kosovo.html)
 Montenegro	2	1	1	0	3	1	+2	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=140)
 North Macedonia	1	0	0	1	1	2	−1	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=236)
 Northern Ireland	2	1	0	1	4	4	+0	50.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=148)
 Northern Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	1	−1	0.00	H2H results (https://www.national-football-teams.com/encounter/teams/259/239/Kosovo_vs_Northern_Cyprus.html)
 Oman	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=151)
 Romania	2	0	1	1	0	2	−2	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=165)
 San Marino	1	1	0	0	4	1	+3	100.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=173)
 Sápmi	1	1	0	0	4	1	+3	100.00	
 Saudi Arabia	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	100.00	H2H results (https://www.national-football-teams.com/encounter/coach/161/259/58250/Saudi_Arabia_vs_Kosovo_under_Helio_Dos_Anjos.html)
 Senegal	1	0	0	1	1	3	−2	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=255)
 Slovenia	2	0	0	2	1	3	−2	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_match.php?id=17024)
 Spain	2	0	0	2	1	5	−4	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=185)
 Sweden	3	0	0	3	0	7	−7	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=191)
Switzerland	3	0	3	0	4	4	+0	0.00	H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=194)

Opponent	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Win %	Reference
1993–present									
🇹🇷 Turkey	3	0	0	3	2	12	−10	0.00	<div>H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=203)</div> <div>H2H results* (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=204)</div>
🇺🇦 Ukraine	2	0	0	2	0	5	−5	0.00	<div>H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&oppo=265)</div>
46 countries	87	30	20	37	120	121	−1	34.48	All H2H results (https://eu-football.info/_matches.php?id=122&data=1)

See also

Men's

- Under-21
- Under-19
- Under-17
- Under-15
- Futsal

Women's

- National team
- Under-19
- Under-17

Notes and references

Notes

- ↑ The alternative name of the Albania national team that was used during this match.^[4]
- ↑ Dobrica Barbaroga was the Albanianized full name of Dobrica Barbarogić by the media of that time, which seems to be expression of peaceful coexistence with national minorities even in Kosovo at that time.^[5]
- ↑ Due to the country's involvement in the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Belarus are required to play their home matches at neutral venues and behind closed doors until further notice.^[65]
- ↑ The Kosovo v Israel match, originally scheduled to be played on 15 October 2023, was postponed to 12 November 2023 due to the Israel–Hamas war.^{[66][67]}
- ↑ On 11 November 2020, Bernard Challandes tested positive with COVID-19 and Muharrem Sahiti was named as his replacement for the November 2020 matches,^[68] against Albania (2–1 away defeat),^[69] Slovenia (2–1 away defeat),^[70] and Moldova (1–0 home win).^[71]
- ↑ Additional matches are scheduled to be played in Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the first world cup, however they are not considered to be official hosts of the tournament.^[78]

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External links

- Official website (<http://www.ffk-kosova.com/>) (in Albanian and English)
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 - Kosovo (<https://www.uefa.com/insideuefa/national-associations/KOS/>) at UEFA
 - Kosovo (<http://www.national-football-teams.com/country/259/Kosovo.html>) at National-Football-Teams.com
 - Kosovo (<https://www.rsssf.org/tables/k/kosovo-intres.html>) at RSSSF
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