



EHF NEWS 93 – 04.07.2007

**2009 Men's World Championship in Croatia
(16 January to 1 February 2009)
QUALIFICATION EUROPE**



Procedure for the draw of the qualification round

Date: 6 July 2007 **Time:** 19:15 hrs. **Venue:** Bratislava / Slovakia

Total entries: 37 teams
Total teams at final tournament: 24 teams
Places Europe at final tournament: 14 teams

Qualified for final tournament: 5 teams: **GER** (defending champion), **CRO** (organizer), and 3 teams from EURO 2008 in Norway

Qualified for Play Off (from ECh NOR): BLR, CZE, DEN, ESP, FRA, HUN, ISL, MNE, NOR, POL, RUS, SLO, SVK, SWE (11 out of 16 as CRO and GER are already qualified).

The three best ranked teams at the EURO 2008 in Norway qualify directly for the final tournament in Croatia. Therefore a total of 11 teams from the EURO 2008 will qualify directly for the play off matches.

QUALIFICATION ROUND

➤ The qualification round will be played in the format of a group system among the following national teams:

**AUT, BEL, BIH, BUL, CYP, EST, FAR, FIN, GRE, ISR, ITA,
LAT, LTU, MKD, NED, POR, ROU, SRB, SUI, TUR, UKR (21 in total)**

1. The qualification matches will be played in 7 (seven) groups of 3 (three) teams.
2. The winner of each group **qualifies for the play-off matches, which will be played on 7/8 June and 14/15 June 2008.**

DRAW QUALIFICATION GROUPS:

5 Teams in pot 1: UKR, SRB, ROU, SUI, POR
4 Teams in pot 2: MKD, LAT, NED, LTU
5 Teams in pot 3: GRE, BIH, ISR, AUT, ITA
7 Teams in pot 4: CYP, BUL, EST, BEL, FIN, TUR, FAR

Procedure:

1. Five teams of pot 1 are drawn to row 1
2. Two teams of pot 2 are drawn to row 1
3. Two teams of pot 2 are drawn to row 2
4. Five teams of pot 3 are drawn to row 2
5. Seven teams of pot 4 are drawn to row 3

Playing dates for the qualification round:

Round 1/2: 2 to 6 January 2008
Round 3/4: 9 to 13 January 2008
Round 5/6: 16 to 20 January 2008

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7