



FIFA World Cup 2026 | Group Qualification Report

Group K

Teams

- Colombia
- DR Congo
- Portugal
- Uzbekistan

Group K features European powerhouse Portugal alongside an emerging Colombia side, a dangerous DR Congo squad, and Uzbekistan making their World Cup debut. While Portugal enter as favourites, the race for the second qualification spot appears far more competitive than markets may initially suggest.

1 Group Overview

✓ Group Difficulty: Moderate-High

✓ Market Narrative: Portugal are expected to win the group.

✓ Potential Market Inefficiency: Colombia may be undervalued given their recent international performances and tournament pedigree.

✓ Key Question: Can DR Congo spring a surprise and challenge Colombia for second place, or will the South Americans prove too strong?

2 Team Profiles

Portugal

Estimated Qualification Probability: 90%

Positives

- ✓ One of the strongest squads in the tournament
- ✓ Elite technical quality throughout the squad
- ✓ Exceptional attacking depth
- ✓ Strong recent tournament pedigree

Concerns

- ✓ High expectations create pressure
- ✓ Can occasionally struggle against compact defensive teams

Assessment

Portugal are deserved favourites and should qualify comfortably, with first place strongly expected.

Colombia

Estimated Qualification Probability: 68%

Positives

- ✓ Strong blend of technical quality and physicality
- ✓ Experienced squad with proven tournament performers
- ✓ Dangerous attacking options

✓ Excellent recent competitive results

Concerns

✓ Can occasionally be inconsistent away from South American opposition

✓ Defensive concentration sometimes fluctuates

Assessment

Colombia appear to be the strongest candidate for second place and may have enough quality to challenge Portugal in isolated matches.

DR Congo

Estimated Qualification Probability: 40%

Positives

✓ Athletic and physically powerful squad

✓ Increasing international competitiveness

✓ Dangerous in transition

✓ Potential to upset higher-ranked opponents

Concerns

✓ Limited World Cup experience

✓ Squad depth below Portugal and Colombia

✓ Consistency remains a concern

Assessment

DR Congo are capable of competing for second place but likely require a positive result against Colombia.

Uzbekistan

Estimated Qualification Probability: 22%

Positives

- ✓ Well-organised and disciplined structure
- ✓ Strong collective spirit
- ✓ Nothing to lose as group outsiders
- ✓ Growing confidence following qualification

Concerns

- ✓ Lowest-rated side in the group
- ✓ Limited experience against elite opposition
- ✓ Lack of proven tournament pedigree

Assessment

Uzbekistan are outsiders but could play a significant spoiler role in the battle for qualification.

3 Group Qualification Model

Team	Qualification Probability
Portugal	90%
Colombia	68%

Team	Qualification Probability
DR Congo	40%
Uzbekistan	22%

4 Key Group Dynamics

Portugal vs Colombia

Likely to determine top spot. Portugal possess superior squad depth, but Colombia have the quality to remain competitive.

Colombia vs DR Congo

Potentially the decisive fixture in the race for second place. The winner could gain a major qualification advantage.

DR Congo vs Uzbekistan

A match neither side can afford to lose if qualification ambitions are to remain realistic.

5 Qualification Summary

Most Likely Outcome

- 1** Portugal
 - 2** Colombia
 - 3** DR Congo
 - 4** Uzbekistan
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6 Ante-Post Betting Recommendations

Primary Selection

✓ Market: To Qualify From Group K

✓ Selection: Colombia

✓ Estimated Probability: 68%

✓ Fair Price: 1.47

Rationale: Colombia possess the strongest combination of tournament experience, attacking quality and squad depth behind Portugal.

Secondary Value Angle

✓ Market: To Qualify From Group K

✓ Selection: DR Congo

✓ Estimated Probability: 40%

✓ Fair Price: 2.50

Rationale: DR Congo's athleticism and physical profile could make them a dangerous outsider if Colombia fail to perform at expected levels.

7 Value Assessment

Team	Est. Probability	Fair Price
Portugal	90%	1.11
Colombia	68%	1.47
DR Congo	40%	2.50
Uzbekistan	22%	4.55

Early View

- Portugal should top the group and are among the strongest favourites to progress from the group stage.

- Colombia currently look the strongest candidate for second place and may represent one of the stronger qualification selections across the tournament.
- DR Congo have the tools to challenge for qualification and could emerge as a dangerous outsider.
- Uzbekistan remain outsiders but could influence qualification outcomes by taking points from one of the leading contenders.