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## 2008 Women's European Championship 2 to 14 December 2008 in FYR Macedonia

### DRAW PLAY-OFF MATCHES

1<sup>st</sup> leg 31 May/1 June 2008, 2<sup>nd</sup> leg 7/8 June 2008

The qualification tournaments as the first phase of the qualification for the 2008 Women's European Championship in FYR Macedonia are completed. The next step in the qualification process for the 2008 Women's European Championship are the play-off matches which will take place on 31 May/1 June and 7/8 June 2008.

The draw for the play-offs will be carried out on the occasion of the EHF EURO 2008 in Lillehammer, Norway (venue: Officials Hotel "Radisson SAS") after the completion of the 9<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary EHF Congress 2008 on Saturday 26 January 2008. Please find below more details regarding the draw:

### Procedure for the draw of the play-off matches

**Date:** 26 January 2008      **Time:** 12:00 hrs.      **Venue:** Lillehammer, Norway  
 (Officials Hotel "Radisson SAS")

Altogether 16 teams will participate in the final tournament of the 2008 Women's European Championship in FYR Macedonia.

**NOR** (defending champion), **RUS**, **FRA**, **GER**, **HUN** (ranked 2 to 5 at the EURO 2006 in Sweden) and the organiser **MKD** – altogether 6 teams – are already qualified directly for the Final Tournament in FYR Macedonia.

The remaining ten places will be decided via play-off matches in May/June 2008; the participants are:

#### Qualified for Play-off

- from WCh FRA:      **6 teams:** AUT, CRO, ESP, POL, ROU, UKR
- from ECh SWE:      **5 teams:** SWE (6<sup>th</sup>), DEN (11<sup>th</sup>), SRB (14<sup>th</sup>), NED (15<sup>th</sup>), SLO (16<sup>th</sup>)
- by qualification tournaments:      **9 teams:** BLR, CZE, ISL, ITA, LTU, MNE, POR, SVK, TUR

#### DRAW:

6 Teams in pot 1 (yellow balls): AUT, CRO, ESP, POL, ROU, UKR  
 5 Teams in pot 2 (yellow balls): DEN, NED, SLO, SRB, SWE  
 9 Teams in pot 3 (yellow balls): BLR, CZE, ISL, ITA, LTU, MNE, POR, SVK, TUR

#### Procedure:

- First step: One team of pot 3 is drawn against one team of pot 1. (6 times)
- Second step: One team of pot 3 is drawn against one team of pot 2. (3 times)
- Third step: Remaining two teams of pot 2 are drawn against each other.

For each pairing the home and away right will be drawn.

#### Playing dates for the play-off matches:

- First leg: 31 May/1 June 2008
- Second leg: 7/8 June 2008

The winners of the play-off matches will qualify for the EHF EURO 2008 in FYR Macedonia from 2 to 14 December 2008.