Ben Grounds

World Cup European qualifying group round-up: Finland shock Iceland as Ukraine beat Turkey to take top spot

Чемпіонат світу з футболу зібрав європейську кваліфікаційну групу: Фінляндія постраждала від Ісландії, бо Україна перемогла Туреччину

Україна перемогла збірну Туреччини із рахунком 2:0 та на деякий час навіть очолила європейську кваліфікаційну групу. Перемогла Україна завдяки дублю у виконанні Андрія Ярмоленка. Таким чином, після 7 проведених матчів в активі української команди 14 набраних балів та перша позиція.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-4847602/World-Cup-qualifying-group-round-Finland-shock-Iceland.html#ixzz4taJFVQrl

Finland landed an upset by defeating Iceland 1-0 to win their first match in the 2018 World Cup qualifying campaign.

The Finns earned just a single point from the previous six qualifiers - a draw against Kosovo - while Iceland had kept momentum from their inspiring run to the Euro 2016 quarter-finals to lead Group I with Croatia.

But Alexander Ring netted a free kick nine minutes into the game to inflict a surprise defeat on Iceland, who were reduced to 10 men after Rurik Gislasson picked up a second yellow card.

Elsewhere, Adriy Yarmolenko celebrated his 70th international appearance with two excellent first-half goals to move Ukraine to the top of Group I with a 2-0 victory over Turkey.

Ukraine tops the group after Finland beat Iceland 1-0, and Croatia's game against Kosovo was postponed due to a torrential downpour.

The home victory gave Albania 12 points, four behind the Italians. Albania trail Spain by seven points and look likely to struggle for World Cup qualification.

Last-place Liechtenstein have lost all of their seven matches, being outscored 26-1.

Israel missed a chance to move within four points of Italy after a 1-0 home loss to Macedonia in the same group.

Macedonia, second-to-last in the group, got the winner with a goal by Goran Pandev midway through the second half. The veteran striker took his national record tally of international goals to 30.

Elsewhere, Serbia remain the team to catch in Wales and the Republic of Ireland's group after they recorded a routine 3-0 win over Moldova.

Mijat Gacinovic netted from a cross provided by Aleksandar Kolarov from the left flank to open the scoring in the 20th minute.

Just 10 minutes later, it was Gacinovic from the right who did the same for Kolarov to tap in from close range.

Aleksandar Mitrovic finished the scoring for Serbia nine minutes from time.