



Fédération Algérienne de Football

Region: Confédération Africaine de Football (CAF)

World Cup appearances: 2 (1982, '86)

Best World Cup finish: First Round **Current FIFA Ranking:** 30th

Continental titles: African Cup of Nations (190)

Country's population: 34,586,184 **GDP (per inhabitant):** \$7,000 **Life expectancy:** 74.26



Group C	Pts	W	D	L	GF	GA
England						
United States						
Slovenia						
Algeria						

Name	Pos	No.	Club (league)	Caps	G
Lounès Gaouaoui	G	1	ASO Chlef (Algeria)	48	0
Faouzi Chaouchi	G	16	ES Sétif (Algeria)	10	0
Raïs M'Bohli	G	23	Slavia Sofia (Hungary)	1	0

Name	Pos	Club (league)	Caps	G
Madjid Bougherra	D	2 Rangers (Scotland)	41	3
Nadir Belhadj	D	3 Portsmouth (England)	45	5
Anta Yahia	D	4 Bochum (Germany)	44	5
Rafik Halliche	D	5 Nacional (Portugal)	16	1
Habib Bellaid	D	12 Eintracht Frankfurt (Germany)	1	0
Carl Medjani	D	14 AC Ajaccio (France)	0	0
Adbelkader Laïfaoui	D	18 ES Sétif (Algeria)	6	0
Djamel Mesbah	D	20 Lecce (Italy)	1	0
Yazid Mansouri	M	6 Lorient (France)	67	0
Ryad Boudebouz	M	7 FC Sochaux (France)	2	0
Mehdi Lacen	M	8 Racing Santander (Spain)	3	0
Karim Ziani	M	15 Wolfsburg (Germany)	55	5
Adlène Guedioura	M	17 Wolverhampton (England)	2	0
Hassan Yebda	M	19 Benfica (Portugal)	9	0
Foued Kadir	M	21 Valenciennes (France)	2	0
Djamel Abdoun	M	22 Nantes (France)	7	0
Abdelkader Ghezzal	F	9 (Siena)	19	3
Rafik Saïfi	F	10 Istres (France)	60	18
Rafik Djebbour	F	11 AEK Athens (Greece)	16	3
Karim Matmour	F	13 Borussia Monchengladbach (Ger.)	22	2

TEAM NOTES

Top players:

One of the squad's few world class players, there aren't many clubs in the world for whom **Nedir Beldaj** would not play. Unfortunately for Algeria, suspension will leave him out of their match with Slovenia.

Madjid Bougherra is the other elite player on this team. The strong central defender can also be a threat in the air on set pieces - defending or attacking.

Karim Ziani is one of the few creative presences in an otherwise stoic group. His quickness could give England and Slovenia problems.

Keys to success:

Algeria seems to have a problem with focus. In January's Cup of Nations, they combined remarkable performances (defeating Cote d'Ivoire) with huge losses (Malawi, Egypt) that saw them come-apart mid-match. In a tough group that portends three close matches for the Desert Foxes, they'll need 270 minutes of focus.

Outlook:

It's difficult to see the Foxes breaking-down Slovenia or stopping England. By their third match (against the United States), they could be playing for pride.