

# 2023 DAVIS CUP

## WORLD GROUP I AND WORLD GROUP II

### 14-17 SEPTEMBER – PREVIEW NOTES

#### WORLD GROUP I

##### **Bosnia and Herzegovina (c)\* v Germany (1)**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Bulgaria (c)\* v Kazakhstan (2)**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Sofia, Bulgaria  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Belgium (3) (c)\* v Uzbekistan**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Hasselt, Belgium  
Surface: hard, indoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Argentina (4) (c)\* v Lithuania**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Ukraine (c)\* v Colombia (5)**

Dates: Thursday 14-Friday 15 September  
Venue: Kaspi, Georgia\*\*  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Hungary (6) (c)\* v Turkiye**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Keszthely, Hungary  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Israel (c) v Japan (7)**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Tel Aviv, Israel  
Surface: hard, indoors  
Head-to-head: Israel lead 1-0

##### **Austria (8) (c) v Portugal**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Schwechat, Austria  
Surface: hard, indoors  
Head-to-head: Austria lead 4-0

##### **Greece (c)\* v Slovakia (9)**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Athens, Greece  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Peru (c)\* v Norway (10)**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Lima, Peru  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Romania (11) (c)\* v Chinese Taipei**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Constanta, Romania  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

##### **Denmark (c)\* v Brazil (12)**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Hillerod, Denmark  
Surface: hard, indoors  
Head-to-head: Brazil lead 1-0

(#) = seed; (c) = choice of ground; \* choice of ground was decided by lot;

\*\* due to the conflict in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Tennis Federation has elected to host this tie in Georgia

#### WHAT'S AT STAKE IN WORLD GROUP I THIS WEEKEND?

Winning nations in World Group I this weekend will advance to the 2024 Qualifiers in February, where they will compete alongside the teams finishing in 3rd-16th place at the Davis Cup Finals this year. (NB 2 of those 26 teams will be selected as wild cards for the Davis Cup)

Losing nations in World Group I this weekend will compete in the 2024 World Group I Play-offs in February alongside the winning nations in World Group II.

## WORLD GROUP II

### **Monaco (c)\* v Ecuador (1)**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, France  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **India (2) (c)\* v Morocco**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Lucknow, India  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **New Zealand (3) (c) v Thailand**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Invercargill, New Zealand  
Surface: hard, indoors  
Head-to-head: New Zealand lead 3-0

### **Mexico (4) (c)\* v China, P.R.**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Merida, Mexico  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **Pakistan (5) (c) v Indonesia**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Islamabad, Pakistan  
Surface: grass, outdoors  
Head-to-head: tied 2-2

### **Uruguay (6) (c)\* v Egypt**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Montevideo, Uruguay  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **Lebanon (7) (c)\* v Jamaica**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Jounieh, Lebanon  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **Slovenia (8) (c) v Luxembourg**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: Luxembourg lead 1-0

### **Georgia (c)\* v Tunisia (9)**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Kaspi, Georgia  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: Georgia lead 2-0

### **El Salvador (10) (c)\* v Ireland**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Sonsonate, El Salvador  
Surface: clay, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **Hong Kong, China (11) (c)\* v Latvia**

Dates: Saturday 16-Sunday 17 September  
Venue: Hong Kong, China  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

### **Poland (12) (c)\* v Barbados**

Dates: Friday 15-Saturday 16 September  
Venue: Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Poland  
Surface: hard, outdoors  
Head-to-head: first meeting

(#) = seed; (c) = choice of ground; \* choice of ground was decided by lot

## WHAT'S AT STAKE IN WORLD GROUP II THIS WEEKEND?

Winning nations in World Group II this weekend will advance to the 2024 World Group I Play-offs in February, where they will compete alongside the losing nations in World Group I.

Losing nations in World Group II this weekend will compete in the 2024 World Group II Play-offs in February alongside the 12 best-performing nations in regional Group III events this year.

## ELSEWHERE IN DAVIS CUP THIS WEEK

The 2023 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage began on Tuesday, with 16 teams in action across 4 European cities – Bologna, Manchester, Split and Valencia. The top 8 teams in the group stage will advance to the Final 8 knockout stage in Malaga on 21-26 November.

For full preview notes from the Davis Cup Finals group stage, visit the [Davis Cup website](#).

## PAST CHAMPIONS

In total, 16 nations have won the Davis Cup, 12 of whom are competing at the Finals this year.

- USA	32
- Australia	28
- France, Great Britain	10
- Sweden	7
- Spain	6
- Germany, Czechia, Russia	3
- Croatia	2
- Argentina, Italy, Serbia, South Africa, Switzerland, Canada	1

## NATIONS AND PLAYERS

A record 155 nations entered the Davis Cup in 2023. A total of 727 players have been nominated to represent their nations so far this season.

## DAVIS CUP NATIONS RANKING

The Davis Cup Nations Ranking was launched at the end of 2001. It measures success over the preceding 4-year period, with recent performances weighted more heavily. [The full ranking list can be found on the Davis Cup website](#).

**Latest Davis Cup Nations Ranking (6 February 2023)**

1	Canada	26	Norway
2	Spain	27	Romania
3	Australia	28	Brazil
4	Croatia	29	Bosnia and Herzegovina
5	Germany	30	Portugal
6	Italy	31	Israel
7	Great Britain	32	Ecuador
8	Serbia	33	Uzbekistan
9	Netherlands	34	Peru
10	USA	35	Turkiye
11	France	36	Ukraine
12	Sweden	37	Chinese Taipei
13	Czechia	38	Denmark
14	Kazakhstan	39	Lithuania
15	Korea, Republic	40	India
16	Belgium	41	Bulgaria
17	Chile	42	Greece
18	Argentina	43	New Zealand
19	Colombia	44	Mexico
20	Switzerland	45=	Pakistan
21	Finland		Uruguay
22	Hungary	47	Lebanon
23	Japan	48	Slovenia
24	Austria	49	Tunisia
25	Slovakia	50	El Salvador

## WORLD GROUP I NOTES

Click the link for each tie to see full details of nominated players, captains, head-to-heads and matches once the draws are made.

### [Bosnia and Herzegovina v Germany](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA** are bidding to return to the Davis Cup Qualifiers for the 3rd time, after slipping to defeat against Sweden in the Qualifiers earlier this year. The team has never appeared at the Davis Cup Finals, and will be keen to give themselves a chance to reach the Finals for the first time in 2024. Damir Dzumhur will be competing in his 22nd Davis Cup tie as he looks to extend his lead atop the list for most Davis Cup singles match-wins for his nation, while overall wins leader Mirza Basic and appearances leader Tomislav Brkic will take charge in doubles.
- **GERMANY** are bidding to bounce back after falling to Switzerland 3-2 in the Qualifiers in February, despite leading the tie 2-1 as they failed to qualify for the Davis Cup Finals for the first time. They are the highest-ranked team in this session of World Group I ties, at No. 5 in the Davis Cup Nations Rankings. World No. 10 Alexander Zverev leads the line as he looks to build on his 9-6 win-loss record in the competition, including winning 5 of his last 6 singles matches, while regular ATP tour pairing Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz have doubles covered.

### [Bulgaria v Kazakhstan](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **BULGARIA** are bidding to continue the momentum from victories against South Africa in September 2022 and against New Zealand in February this year and reach the Qualifiers for the first time. That victory against New Zealand secured their place in World Group I for the first time since 1988. Their No. 1 player, Dimitar Kuzmanov, will be hoping to sustain his good recent form in Davis Cup having won 7 of his last 8 Davis Cup matches stretching back to March 2020.
- **KAZAKHSTAN** are bidding to turn their fortunes around after four consecutive tie defeats, losing to Netherlands, USA and Great Britain in last year's Davis Cup Finals and to Chile in the Qualifiers in February this year. This is the first time Kazakhstan have not qualified for the Davis Cup Finals, and captain Yuriy Schukin will be hoping his players can take their nation back to the highest level of the competition.

### [Belgium v Uzbekistan](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **BELGIUM** are bidding to turn their fortunes around after four consecutive tie defeats, losing to Australia, Germany and France in last year's Davis Cup Finals and to Korea, Republic 3-2 in the Qualifiers in February this year, despite leading the tie 2-0. Former world No. 7 David Goffin leads the team under captain Steve Darcis, both men having reached the 2015 Davis Cup final before ultimately falling to Great Britain. All three of Belgium's nominated singles players, Goffin, Kimmer Coppejans and Joris De Loore, are ranked higher than Uzbekistan's No. 1 player. Meanwhile doubles pairing Sander Gile and Joran Vliegen are Grand Slam finalists, having reached the final at 2023 Roland Garros.
- **UZBEKISTAN** are bidding to reach the Qualifiers for the 3rd time after appearances in 2020 and 2023. In February the Uzbeks were beaten straightforwardly 4-0 by the USA without winning a set, and will hope to bounce back against Belgium. Davis Cup veteran Denis Istomin, once a Top 100 star who recorded a famous win against Novak Djokovic at the 2017 Australian Open, is on the cusp of equalling Oleg Ogorodov atop the list of Uzbekistani players with the most Davis Cup wins (53), requiring just one win from this tie to do so. Meanwhile the Uzbeks will hope that 24-year-old Khumoyun Sultanov, now the team's No. 1 player, can inspire them to a win this weekend.

### Argentina v Lithuania

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **ARGENTINA** are bidding to end a 4-tie Davis Cup losing streak and return to the Qualifiers next year for the first time since 2022. The team Qualified for last year's Finals after defeating Czechia in March 2022, but lost all three group stage ties against Sweden, Italy and Croatia, winning just 2 of 9 matches. They then fell to Finland in the Qualifiers in February this year. Argentina look far stronger on paper than their opponents, as Francisco Cerundolo, Sebastian Baez, and potential Davis Cup debutant Tomas Martin Etcheverry all sit inside the world's Top 40, while Lithuania's No. 1 Ricardas Berankis is ranked outside the Top 200. In doubles, Andres Molteni and Maximo Gonzalez regularly play together on the ATP tour, and are thriving this season, with 5 titles together already including a Masters-1000 trophy in Cincinnati and three titles on outdoor clay, the surface on which this tie will be played.
- **LITHUANIA** are bidding to ride momentum after consecutive wins in the competition, defeating Egypt 4-1 in World Group II in September last year, before dominating Pakistan 4-0 in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year to earn their place here. Ricardas Berankis, a former Wimbledon junior champion who has had an admirable professional career, leads the Lithuanian team once again – and he will record his 45th Davis Cup match-win should he claim two victories this weekend.

### Ukraine v Colombia

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **UKRAINE** are bidding to reach the Davis Cup Qualifiers for the first time – as well as continue the momentum from a victory over Lebanon in challenging circumstances in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. That tie took place in Leszno, Poland, due to the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine – and Ukraine will once again host a tie outside their country this weekend, with this clash against Colombia taking place in Kaspi, Georgia. The team have won 4 of their last 6 Davis Cup ties and captain Orest Tereshchuk will hope his squad can continue their recent good form.
- **COLOMBIA** are bidding to return to the Davis Cup Qualifiers for the 5th time, after slipping to defeat against Great Britain in the Qualifiers earlier this year. The team had previously appeared at the Davis Cup Finals in both 2019 and 2021, and will be keen to give themselves a chance to reach the Finals once again in 2024. World No. 71 Daniel Elahi Galan, who reached the round of 16 at Wimbledon this year, will lead the team in singles, with the ever-reliable duo of Juan-Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah providing support in doubles in what will be their penultimate event before retirement.

### Hungary v Turkiye

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **HUNGARY** are bidding to bounce back from defeat to France in the Qualifiers earlier this year and ensure that they make their 5th consecutive appearance in the Qualifiers next year. A win over Turkiye would set them on track to reaching the Davis Cup Finals for a 2nd time after reaching the 2021 Finals. The team are led by Top 100 talent Fabian Marozsan, who famously defeated Carlos Alcaraz in Rome in May, with Zsombor Piros alongside and potential debutant Matyas Fule also named in the squad.
- **TURKIYE** are bidding to continue the momentum from a convincing victory against Slovenia in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year and reach the Qualifiers for the first time. The team had a shot at the Qualifiers at this same stage last year, but lost 4-0 to Colombia, and will be hoping they do not suffer the same result at the hands of Hungary.

### Israel v Japan

- Head-to-head: Israel lead 1-0
- Last meeting: 2012 World Group Play-offs, Israel defeated Japan 3-2 in Tokyo, Japan
- **ISRAEL** came close to reaching the 2022 Qualifiers, falling to Ukraine in a decisive 5th match at this stage last year, and will bid to record a 2nd Davis Cup victory over Czech Republic en route to the 2023 Qualifiers this year. Israel's sole meeting with Japan came in the World Group Play-offs 11 years ago, as they defeated the Japanese 3-2 in Tokyo. Captain Jonathan Erlich may well look to Yshai Oliel, a former Australian Open boys' singles finalist, to take the fight to the Japanese this weekend.
- **JAPAN** are bidding to record a victory this weekend which would ensure a return to the Davis Cup Qualifiers after their run of consecutive appearances in the Qualifiers ended at 3 with a loss to Uzbekistan at this stage last year. The team defeated Poland convincingly 4-0 in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. Shimabukuro is the team's top player this weekend, while 20-year-old former Wimbledon boys' singles champion Shintaro Mochizuki – one of Japan's great hopes for the future – will also hope to gain more Davis Cup experience.

### Austria v Portugal

- Head-to-head: Austria lead 4-0
- Last meeting: 2016 Europe/Africa Group I, Austria defeated Portugal 4-1 in Giumaraes, Portugal
- **AUSTRIA** are bidding to rejuvenate their form after losing 4 of their last 5 ties in the competition, including a 3-1 defeat to Croatia in the Qualifiers in February this year. Austria competed at the Davis Cup Finals for the first time in 2021, and are fighting for the chance to get to the Qualifiers and play on the biggest stage of the event again in 2024. While former world No. 3 Dominic Thiem is unavailable, Top 60 pro Sebastian Ofner is supported by Dennis Novak, who returns to the squad after competing for Austria in the Qualifiers in February. Top 40 doubles talents Erler and Miedler have been an exclusive pairing in 2023, and will hope to harness their familiarity as a team to help turn the result Austria's way.
- **PORTUGAL** are bidding to reach the Qualifiers for the 3rd time after reaching that stage for a 2nd time earlier this year, ultimately falling to Czechia 3-1. The team's No. 1 player is Nuno Borges, while Portuguese Davis Cup great Joao Sousa returns for his 33rd tie. Sousa holds the outright record for most Davis Cup ties played by a Portuguese player (32), most total Davis Cup matches won (40) and most Davis Cup singles matches won by a Portuguese player (29).

### Greece v Slovakia

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **GREECE** are bidding to continue the momentum from 3 consecutive victories in the competition, most recently over Ecuador 3-1 in a World Group I Play-off in February. World No. 5 Stefanos Tsitsipas returns for a third consecutive appearance, with the 25-year-old unbeaten in all 10 Davis Cup singles matches he has contested. Alexandros Skorilas is likely to be the support act in singles, while Petros Tsitsipas, Stefanos' younger brother, is steadily improving his doubles ranking and looks a solid option alongside his older sibling for the doubles match.
- **SLOVAKIA** are bidding to bounce back after a chastening 4-0 defeat to Netherlands in the Qualifiers in February. The team's last 4 Davis Cup seasons have all looked very similar, with a defeat in the Qualifiers followed by a victory at Group I-level. A win this weekend will ensure a 5th consecutive appearance in the Qualifiers for the Slovaks – though they will have to contend with unfamiliar surroundings. After playing 10 consecutive home ties between 2017 and 2022, their tie with Netherlands was away, as is this tie with Greece. World No. 115 Alex Molcan will be their No. 1 player this weekend, supported by fellow Top 200 pro Lukas Klein.

### Peru v Norway

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **PERU** are bidding to continue their momentum from a 4-0 victory over Ireland in the World Group I Play-offs in February, having bounced back from a disappointing 3-2 defeat to Chile at this stage last year. Key to their recent Davis Cup success has been the performances of Juan Pablo Varillas. The 27-year-old, who has remained within the world's Top 100 since February this year, has won 10 of the last 11 Davis Cup matches he has contested, and will hope for more success against Norway this weekend.
- **NORWAY** are bidding to resume their ascent up the Davis Cup pyramid, after their progress towards the top of the competition was halted by Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers in 2022 and by Serbia in the Qualifiers earlier this year. The team had previously won 5 consecutive ties to advance from Group II-level to the brink of the Davis Cup Finals. After 8 straight Davis Cup ties at home, the Norwegians will now have to contend with the altitude in Lima, and are without world No. 9 and clay specialist Casper Ruud. World No. 352 Viktor Durasovic leads the way for his nation.

### Romania v Chinese Taipei

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **ROMANIA** are bidding to continue momentum after a 3-2 victory Thailand in the World Group I Play-offs in February, one where they came back from 2-1 down, saw them bounce back from consecutive Davis Cup tie defeats. The team had previously recorded consecutive victories against Zimbabwe, Portugal and Peru to ensure their first appearance in the Qualifiers last year. Captain Gabriel Trifu must try to blend youth and experience this weekend, with 20-year-old Nicholas David Ionel, Romania's No. 1 player for this tie, plays his 3rd tie ever, while Marius Copil, a veteran of 23 Davis Cup ties, will also compete for his nation again.
- **CHINESE TAIPEI** are bidding to record a 4th consecutive Davis cup victory, winning performances against Guatemala in the World Group II Play-offs in March 2022, against Kong Hong in World Group II in September 2022, and against Mexico in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. World No. 182 Wu Tung-Lin leads the way for Chinese Taipei as they look to reach the Qualifiers for the first time.

### Denmark v Brazil

- Head-to-head: Brazil lead 1-0
- Last meeting: 1966 Europe Zone A first round, Brazil defeated Denmark 5-0 in Copenhagen, Denmark
- **DENMARK** are bidding to maintain momentum after back-to-back victories in the competition, defeating El Salvador in World Group II in September 2022 before avenging their March 2022 World Group I Play-offs defeat to India by defeating them 3-2 in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year to reach Group I-level for the first time since 2015. World No. 4 Holger Rune stars again and will hope to continue his Davis Cup win-streak of 5 matches, having won 7 of the 8 matches he has contested in the competition.
- **BRAZIL** are bidding to win this weekend and secure a place in the Davis Cup Qualifiers for the 4th time and give themselves a chance of reaching the Finals for the first time next year. Thiago Seyboth Wild, who broke into the Top 100 for the first time this week, is the Brazilian No. 1, and the 23-year-old will be keen for a victory in the competition this weekend as he returns to Davis Cup competition for the first time since March 2022.

For more information on each team, visit the [team profile pages](#) on the Davis Cup website. For information on individual players' Davis Cup records, use the [player search tool](#) on the Davis Cup website.

## WORLD GROUP II NOTES

Click the link for each tie to see full details of nominated players, captains, head-to-heads and matches once the draws are made.

### [Monaco v Ecuador](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **MONACO** are bidding to consolidate their position in World Group II having bounced back from defeat to Lebanon in World Group II last September by defeating Dominican Republic 4-0 in the World Group II Play-offs in February this year. Valentin Vacherot and Lucas Catarina lead the line in singles, while in 2023 Australian Open finalist Hugo Nys and doubles world No. 52 Romain Arneodo the team boasts an extremely strong doubles pair at this level.
- **ECUADOR** are bidding to end a 5-tie Davis Cup losing streak, with the team having not recorded a victory in the competition since defeating Japan in the 2020 Qualifiers. Since then, the team performed admirably in a tough group at the 2021 Finals, falling to both Spain and eventual champions Russian Tennis Federation. They then lost to France in the Qualifiers in March 2022, and then Switzerland in World Group I in September. In the World Group I Play-offs in February this year, they fell to Greece, seeing them drop to World Group II. The team has relied on a consistent core of Emilio Gomez and Roberto Quiroz in singles and Gonzalo Escobar and Diego Hidalgo in doubles. Long-serving captain Raul Viver has selected Alvaro Guillen Meza, making just his 2nd Davis Cup appearance, on top of that usual quartet, as Ecuador bid to give themselves a chance to return to World Group I in 2024.

### [India v Morocco](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **INDIA** are bidding to bounce back after consecutive defeats in the competition, to Norway in World Group I in September last year, and against Denmark in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. The team will look to the relatively inexperienced duo of Sumit Nagal and Mukund Sasikumar in singles, and can rely on the doubles expertise of the evergreen Rohan Bopanna, who remains the world No. 7 in doubles despite having reached the age of 43 this year, and enters this Davis Cup session off the back of reaching the US Open men's doubles final.
- **MOROCCO** are bidding to consolidate their position in World Group II after 5 consecutive Davis Cup tie wins. Having won promotion from Africa Group III in August with 4 wins from 4 against Algeria, Kenya, Namibia and Cote D'Ivoire, all without losing a match, they defeated Cote D'Ivoire again, this time 3-1, in the World Group II Play-offs in February this year. Captain Mehdi Tahiri has named a relatively inexperienced team, with Adam Moundir boasting the most Davis Cup appearances among those nominated with 7, the 28-year-old having won the last 4 matches he has contested in the competition.

### [New Zealand v Thailand](#)

- Head-to-head: New Zealand lead 3-0
- Last meeting: 2010 Asia/Oceania Group II 3rd round, New Zealand defeated Thailand 3-2 in Nonthaburi, Thailand
- **NEW ZEALAND** are bidding bounce back after consecutive defeats in the competition. In September last year, the team faced Finland for a chance to reach the Qualifiers for the first time – which would have represented the team's best Davis Cup performance since reaching the 1999 World Group play-offs, when they fell to Spain. Instead, they lost to 5-0 to Finland, before losing in the World Group I Play-offs to Bulgaria in February this year. Ajeet Rai and Rubin Statham are their 2 highest-ranked singles options, and the team is without doubles world No. 24 Michael Venus among their ranks, while Artem Sitak is another doubles specialist who will post a formidable challenge to the Thai team.
- **THAILAND** are bidding rebound after defeat to Romania in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. The team is led in singles by youngsters Kasidit Samrej, 22, and Maximus Jones, 19, and will be keen to avoid another defeat this weekend, as it would leave them just one tie away from regional Group III – a level that Thailand have never played at.

### Mexico v China, P.R.

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **MEXICO** are bidding to secure a chance to return to World Group I after dropping to World Group II. After a walkover win against Belarus in the World Group I Play-offs of March 2022, Mexico suffered consecutive defeats to Bosnia and Herzegovina in World Group I in September 2022 and to Chinese Taipei in World Group I Play-offs in February this year. Davis Cup newcomers Ernesto Escobedo and Rodrigo Pacheco Mendez will lead the way in singles. 27-year-old Escobedo previously represented USA but never made a Davis Cup appearance for them, and has switched to representing Mexico from this year, while 18-year-old Rodrigo Pacheco Mendez is making his way after turning professional just last year. In Santiago Gonzalez the team have an elite-level doubles specialist who will pose a threat to the Chinese team in the crucial doubles match this weekend.
- **CHINA, P.R.** are bidding to ascend back up the Davis Cup ladder, having been forced to give walkovers in their 3 ties from March 2020 to September 2022 due to travel restrictions relating to the Covid-19 pandemic. The team defeated Uruguay 3-2 in their first tie back competing at this stage last year, before falling to Brazil 4-0 as they missed the opportunity to climb to World Group I. Top 100 talents Zhang Zhizhen and Wu Yibing are not competing this week, as competition debutant Fajing Sun and Rigele Te lead the team.

### Pakistan v Indonesia

- Head-to-head: tied 2-2
- Last meeting: 2015 Asia/Oceania Group II, Pakistan defeated Indonesia 3-1 in Jakarta, Indonesia
- **PAKISTAN** are bidding to bounce back from consecutive Davis Cup defeats to secure their place in World Group II. Pakistan had the chance to reach the Qualifiers for the first time in World Group I in September 2022, but fell to Austria 4-0, before a 4-0 loss to Lithuania in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year saw them fall to World Group II. Playing captain Aisam Qureshi, the world No. 108 in doubles, is the only member of the team to hold an ATP ranking in either singles or doubles. He also holds the all-time records for most Davis Cup match-wins by a Pakistani player in singles, doubles and overall.
- **INDONESIA** are bidding to record back-to-back Davis Cup victories for the first time since 2012 as they continue their campaign to reach Group I-level for the first time since 2013. The team defeated Vietnam 3-2 in February and will hope to carry that form into this weekend's tricky away tie against Pakistan. Christopher Rungkat, who holds a number of Indonesian Davis Cup records, including most total match-wins and most singles match-wins by an Indonesian player, is once again in the squad.

### Uruguay v Egypt

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **URUGUAY** are bidding to build on their momentum after victory against Zimbabwe in the World Group II Play-offs in February ended a 4-tie Davis Cup losing streak. The team are without Pablo Cuevas this weekend, but still have his brother Martin in the squad as the younger Cuevas brother is set to contest his 25th Davis Cup tie. The team can also rely on doubles specialist Ariel Behar, world No. 59 in doubles, to hopefully get the win in the crucial doubles match of the tie.
- **EGYPT** are bidding to continue their rise towards World Group I level, having won 3 ties to claim promotion from Africa Group III in 2021 before defeating Cyprus 4-1 in the World Group II Play-offs in March 2022 to reach World Group II. They lost to Lithuania at this stage last year before defeating Paraguay in February this year to give themselves a chance at reaching the World Group I Play-offs. The Egyptians have never played at Group I-level since the current format was introduced in 1980s, meaning that a victory this weekend and another in the World Group I Play-offs next year would see them compete at the highest-level since they played alongside the world's elite teams in the 1970s. Playing captain Mohamed Safwat leads the way in the team and as the record-holder for most total match-wins, most singles match-wins and joint most ties played by an Egyptian player, as he is set to contest his 32nd Davis Cup tie this weekend.

### Lebanon v Jamaica

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **LEBANON** are bidding to bounce back from defeat to Ukraine in the World Group I Play-offs in February. The team are more broadly looking to continue their climb up the Davis Cup pyramid, after an impressive rise from Asia/Oceania Group III to World Group I between 2017 and 2020. Benjamin Hassan, who has won 11 of the 16 Davis Cup singles matches he has played, leads the team this weekend.
- **JAMAICA** are bidding to continue their rise up the Davis Cup pyramid after a 3-2 victory over Estonia in the World Group II Play-offs in February this year. The Jamaicans have never played at Group I-level since the current format was introduced in the 1980s, meaning that a victory this weekend and another in the World Group I Play-offs next year would see them compete at the highest level in their team's history. Blaise Bicknell leads the team as he looks to build on his record of 11 wins in 14 Davis Cup singles matches contested.

### Slovenia v Luxembourg

- Head-to-head: Luxembourg lead 1-0
- Last meeting: 2002 Europe/Africa Group II semifinal, Luxembourg defeated Slovenia 3-2 in Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg
- **SLOVENIA** are bidding to recover from a heavy defeat to Turkey in the World Group I Play-offs in February, as they aim to return to Group I-level for the first time since 2015. They have performed well in home ties in recent years, having won 5 of their last 6 Davis Cup clashes on home soil. The team is spearheaded by Blaz Rola.
- **LUXEMBOURG** are bidding to continue their momentum after winning 5 of their last 6 Davis Cup ties, winning all 3 of their ties in the Europe Zone Group III round robin before a loss to Georgia in June 2022, then securing an impressive 4-1 victory against South Africa in the World Group II Play-offs in February this year. Luxembourg have never played at Group I-level since the current format was introduced in the 1980s, meaning that a victory this weekend and another in the World Group I Play-offs next year would see them compete at the highest level in their team's history.

### Georgia v Tunisia

- Head-to-head: Georgia lead 2-0
- Last meeting: 1996 Europe/Africa Group III first round, Georgia defeated Tunisia 2-1 in Istanbul, Turkey
- **GEORGIA** are bidding to continue a 5-tie Davis Cup winning streak. In June 2022, the Georgians recorded victories against Armenia, Liechtenstein and Cyprus in the Europe Zone Group III round robin before another victory against Luxembourg saw them finish first overall and qualify for the World Group II Play-offs, comfortably defeating Bolivia there 4-0. Georgia have never played at Group I-level, since the current format was introduced in the 1980s, meaning that a victory this weekend and another in the World Group I Play-offs next year would see them compete at the highest level in their team's history. Aleksandre Metreveli is in the squad again as he is set to make his 24th appearance and with one win can move to claim sole ownership of 3rd place on the list of most wins by a Georgian player in Davis Cup history.
- **TUNISIA** are bidding to build on momentum from their World Group II Play-off victory in February against Cyprus. The Tunisians were competing in Africa Group III just 4 years ago, winning promotion in 2019 before recording 3 victories during the 2020-21 season. 39-year-old playing captain Malek Jaziri could contest his 49th Davis Cup tie this weekend and will bid to inspire his team to victory, especially since Tunisia's Top 3 players are all ranked higher than Georgia's No. 1 player.

### [El Salvador v Ireland](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **EL SALVADOR** are bidding to record a 2nd Davis Cup victory this season as they aim to reach Group I-level for the first time in their history. A win this weekend would leave the team just one more victory away from Group I status – and should they defeat Ireland this weekend, Marcelo Arevalo is likely to be at the heart of it. The 2022 Roland Garros men’s doubles champion has been ever-present in his nation’s Davis Cup team since 2005 and could record his 54th Davis Cup match-win this weekend, moving clear of brother Rafael to claim sole ownership of first place on the list for most Davis Cup match-wins by a Salvadorian player.
- **IRELAND** are bidding to complete a rapid rise up the Davis Cup pyramid, having been competing in Europe Group IV as recently as 2019. The team defeated Barbados 3-2 at this stage last year, but then fell 4-0 to Peru in the World Group I Play-offs in February this year. Osgar O’Hoisin is the Irish team’s leading player this weekend.

### [Hong Kong v Latvia](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **HONG KONG, CHINA** are bidding continue their good recent Davis Cup form after winning 5 of their last 6 Davis Cup ties. Having won promotion from Asia/Oceania Group III in 2021 before defeating Benin in the World Group II Play-offs in March 2022, they then lost to Chinese Taipei 3-1 at this stage last year, before victory over Venezuela in the World Group II Play-offs in February this year. Victory here and again in the World Group I Play-offs next year would see the team rise to Group I-level for the first time since 1995. Their No. 1 player this weekend is 19-year-old Coleman Wong, who after a strong final season on the junior tour in 2022 is making his way up the rankings after claiming 2 ITF World Tennis Tour titles so far in 2023.
- **LATVIA** are bidding to continue their journey towards World Group I, having last competed at that level in 2014. The team defeated Dominica Republic 3-2 at this stage last year to reach the World Group I Play-offs, and came agonisingly close to securing their place in World Group I as they went 2-0 up on Israel before eventually falling 3-2 and returning to World Group II-level.

### [Poland v Barbados](#)

- Head-to-head: first meeting
- **POLAND** are bidding to bounce back from a heavy defeat to Japan in the World Group I Play-offs in February after previously winning 9 of their last 11 Davis Cup ties. The team this weekend includes Top 20 talent Hubert Hurkacz alongside potential debutants Karol Drzewiecki and 17-year-old Tomasz Berkiet, who are both edging towards the top of the game, while Australian Open men’s doubles finalist and doubles world No. 18 Jan Zielinski will bring plenty of strength in doubles.
- **BARBADOS** are bidding to continue momentum from a 3-2 victory against Pacific Oceania in February and ensure their place in the World Group I Play-offs for the 3rd time in the last 4 seasons. Darian King once again leads the team this weekend as he looks to record a 47th Davis Cup match-win and move ahead of Haydn Lewis to claim sole ownership of first place on the list for most Davis Cup match-wins by a Barbadian player.

For more information on each team, visit the [team profile pages](#) on the Davis Cup website. For information on individual players’ Davis Cup records, use the [player search tool](#) on the Davis Cup website.