

CEV U16 Volleyball European Championship 2027

Men and Women

Official Communication Nr. 1

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1. Introduction

The European Volleyball Confederation is pleased to open the registration for the sixth edition of the CEV U16 Volleyball European Championships – the event specifically designed for the youngest players competing internationally, thereby providing the stars in the making of the sport with an opportunity to test their skills and to measure themselves up against their peers from other countries across Europe. The competition is organised in line with the FIVB and CEV Board of Administration decisions to align the age limits across both genders.

The organisation of the respective Final Phase has been granted as follows:

- Men U16 – in Prishtina (KOS) and Tirana (ALB) on 03-12/09/2027
- Women U16 – in Žilina (SVK) and Kecskemet (HUN) on 06-15/08/2027

This Championship will be managed and processed through the CEV database and therefore we ask all National Federations to apply the necessary accuracy while working with it.

It remains the sole responsibility of the NFs to respect all Communications, CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations, Guidelines, and institutional decisions to guarantee the delivery of correct, accurate and complete data at any time that these are required.

The regulations in force are the newly updated 'CEV Volleyball Competitions Regulations', these are available as an online PDF document here:

[Volleyball Documents | InsideCEV](#)

Through the same above link you can also access the subsequent 'Official Communications' that are available as an online PDF document, as well as the last version of the 'CEV Organisation Guidelines for National Team Competitions'.

If you have any questions at any time please contact the CEV Volleyball Department.

For this competition, those working on it while matches are being played have the support of the 'Competitions Hotline': +352 621 25 34 44

2. Registration procedure and deadline

The registration for this edition will be done through the CEV Database by using the CEV form 01CH (Team Registration).

The deadline for closing and submitting the above-mentioned form is:

May 4th, 2026, at 23:59 CEST

After closing the form online, National Federations must click on 'Print Form' and then sign the paper copy and send it by registered letter to the CEV Office.

This must also be sent with a postmark dated on or before the above-mentioned deadline for the registration to be valid.

On this form, there are boxes designed to inform CEV if the respective National Federation intends to apply to organise one of the 2nd Round qualifiers scheduled for the spring of 2027. However, the relevant application forms and detailed procedure for applying to organise such a tournament will be dispatched to all NFs after confirming the list of registered teams.

For any assistance on filling the registration form, please do not hesitate to contact the CEV Volleyball Department by emailing nationalteams@cev.eu.

3. Age limit

According to the Official Regulations, the CEV U16 Volleyball European Championships 2027 will be open to female and male players:

Born on 1st January 2012 or thereafter

4. Competition format and dates

The 2027 competition will include a Qualification phase and a Final Phase. The Qualification phase includes a 1st and a 2nd Round as follows:

1st Round Qualifiers (Zonal)

The 1st Round Qualifiers will be organised in each of the six CEV Zonal Associations. Following the registration, CEV will inform each zone about the exact number of their member National Federations who have registered for participation.

Moreover, further to a decision made by the CEV Board of Administration, **a minimum of 40%** of the respective member National Federations have to register for participation in order for the zonal event to count as a 1st Round Qualifier for the European Championship. The host(s) of the Final Phase are not allowed to participate in the qualification process.

If one or more Zonal Associations fail to fulfil this requirement, depending on the total number of teams registered for participation in the championship, their teams might:

- have to join those from another zone to compete in the first stage of the qualification process
- join a qualifying round including teams from different zones put together.

Each Zonal Association shall organise their qualification stage according to the calendar set by CEV for **this round starting earliest 1st September 2026 and completing it by latest by 17th January 2027.**

In each tournament, the first placed team from the respective zone qualifies directly to the Final Phase.

2nd Round Qualifiers

The 2nd Round Qualifiers are organised with a maximum of 20 National Federations who competed but did not qualify from the 1st Round Qualifiers to the Final Phase.

At this stage, the number of the granted vacancies per Zone (quotas) in the 2nd Round Qualifiers depends on the total number of registered teams. The team quota per Zone to qualify to 2nd Round is based on the percentage of overall European Ranking points per Zone calculated based on participating teams and will be communicated in the next Official Communications.

COMPETITION FORMAT:

- The 2nd Round Qualifiers will be played using the single round robin tournaments format (i.e. one tournament "one against each other").
- Each 2nd Round Qualifier will be played with minimum three and maximum four teams.
- The teams in each 2nd Round Qualifier will play one tournament over three competition days:
 - Tournament with 3 teams: each team will play 2 competition days,
 - Tournament with 4 teams: each team will play 3 competition days.
- Each of the National Federations involved has the right to apply for the organisation of the tournament.
- Should more than one National Federation apply for the organisation, the organisers will be drawn by the CEV. Or should no National Federation apply for the organisation, the organiser will be drawn by the CEV.

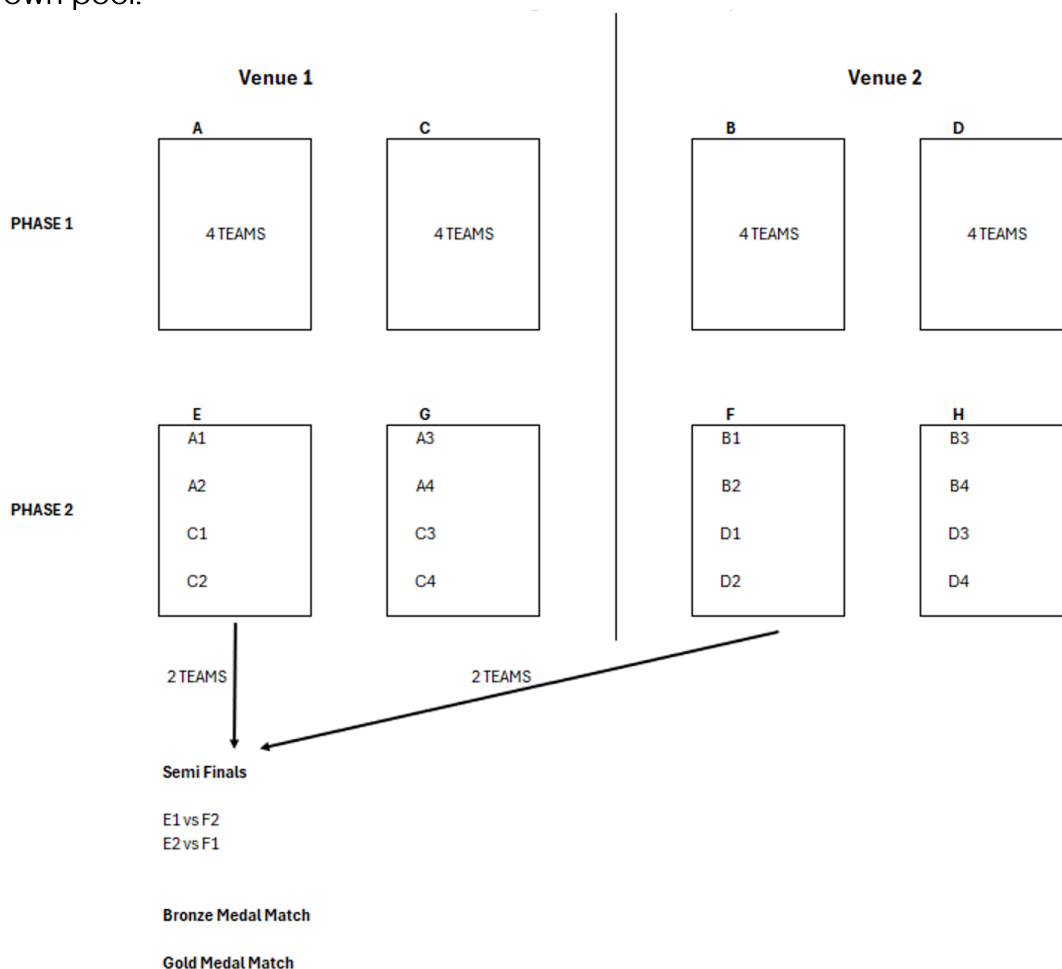
- In each pool, the first best placed team qualifies to the Final Phase. In case of a vacancy in the Final Phase, the next best placed teams across all pools not qualified yet will qualify to the Final Phase.

QUALIFICATION DATES

Round	European Championships
1 st Round Qualifiers (organised by Zonal Associations)	Between September 1 st 2026 and 17 th January 2027
2 nd Round Qualifiers	22 nd – 25 th April 2027

FINAL PHASE NEW FORMAT

The Final Round will maintain a format with 16 participating teams, divided into 4 pools of 4 teams after a Drawing of Lots. This Final Round will include a two-phase pool stage, followed by a final phase featuring the semi-finals (1–4) and the Bronze and Gold Medal matches. In Phase 2, teams will carry over the results from the matches played against teams from their own pool.



5. 1st Round Qualifiers – format and dates

Following the receipt of the confirmed list of registered teams, each Zonal Association must confirm to CEV their competition structure and dates by 26th June 2026 regarding their respective 1st Round Qualifiers.

6. 1st Round Qualifiers – CEV financial support

CEV will continue to support the teams participating in the 1st Round Qualifiers as it did for previous editions, with such CEV contribution standing at 1,000 EUR per participant towards the host country and 3,000 EUR to each travelling team. This contribution will be paid only upon finalisation of the mentioned round, not in advance. Please note that this one-off allocation per gender will only be paid upon receipt of an invoice issued by the respective National Federation (organiser and / or participating team) for the relevant amount and competition.

7. 2nd Round Qualifiers – Allocation of teams

Following completion of the 1st Round Qualifiers, CEV will confirm the teams qualified to the 2nd Round. The composition of the 2nd Round Qualifiers will be defined according to the serpentine system, once the 2nd Round organisers are known and seeded as head of these 2nd Round pools.

8. 2nd Round Qualifiers – Organiser application

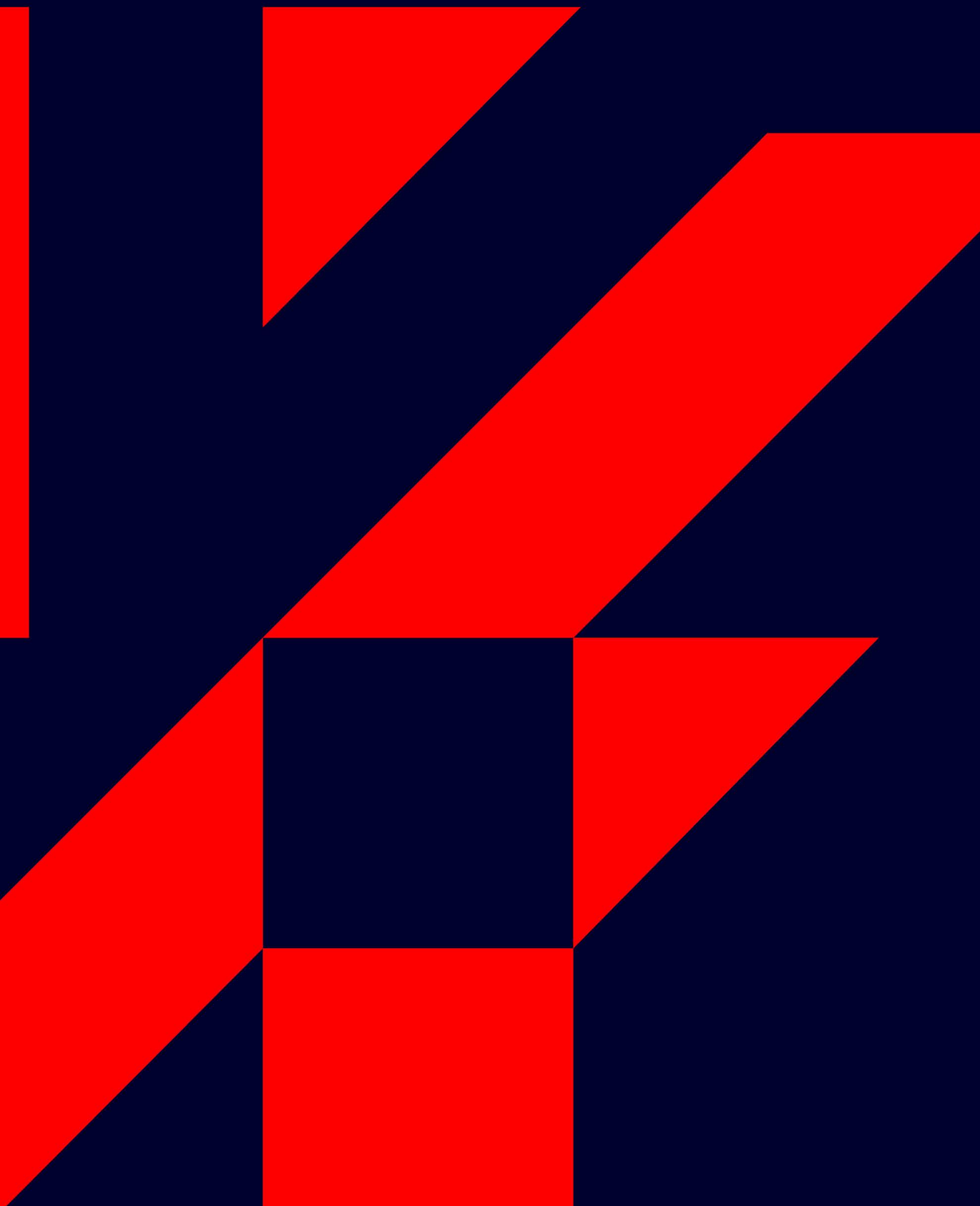
Forms to apply to organise the 2nd Round qualifiers will be sent to all participating teams in due time. The deadline to apply for the organisation of such tournaments will be shared through those same forms.

9. FIVB U17 World Championships 2028

Teams will qualify through the CEV U16 Volleyball European Championships 2027 Final Phase to the FIVB U17 Volleyball World Championships scheduled for 2028. FIVB will define the number of teams qualified through the respective continental championships at a later stage. This information will be shared with all National Federations as soon as it becomes available.



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CEV U16 Volleyball European Championship 2027

Men and Women

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1. Teams Registered

The teams listed below have been registered (by 04/05/2026) for participation in the CEV U16 Volleyball European Championship 2027 (Men/Women).

STATUS OF TEAMS REGISTERED	U16 WOMEN			U16 MEN		
	Level where the team will start the Championship	Country/ NF	↓ CEV European Ranking List as per 19/08/2025 Position/Total points (Zone)	Country/ NF	↓ CEV European Ranking List as per 19/08/2025 Position/Total points (Zone)	
① The organisers are directly qualified to the Final Round	1	HUN	9/162 (MEVZA)+ ORG.	1	ALB	NP./0 (BVA)+ ORG.
	2	SVK	19/112 (MEVZA)+ ORG.	2	KOS	NP./0 (BVA)+ ORG.
② Teams starting competition from the 1 st Round	3	RUS*	1*/196 (EEVZA)	3	ITA	1/200 (WEVZA)
	4	TUR	1/196 (BVA)	4	ESP	2/194 (WEVZA)
	5	ITA	1/196 (WEVZA)	5	POL	3/186 (EEVZA)
	6	POL	3/190 (EEVZA)	6	RUS*	4*/184 (EEVZA)
	7	CRO	4/188 (MEVZA)	7	FRA	4/180 (WEVZA)
	8	GRE	5/180 (BVA)	8	BUL	4/180 (BVA)
	9	BUL	6/168 (BVA)	9	TUR	6/178 (BVA)
	10	SLO	6/168 (MEVZA)	10	GRE	7/166 (BVA)
	11	FRA	8/166 (WEVZA)	11	CZE	8/164 (MEVZA)
	12	CZE	10/148 (MEVZA)	12	AUT	9/162 (MEVZA)
	13	ESP	11/146 (WEVZA)	13	SLO	10/156 (MEVZA)
	14	SRB	12/136 (BVA)	14	SRB	11/152 (BVA)
	15	UKR	13/134 (EEVZA)	15	ROU	12/146 (BVA)
	16	EST	14/128 (EEVZA)	16	BLR*	10*/144 (EEVZA)
	17	ROU	15/126 (BVA)	17	FIN	13/144 (NEVZA)
	18	GEO	16/124 (EEVZA)	18	LAT	14/140 (EEVZA)
	19	MNE	18/118 (BVA)	19	EST	15/136 (EEVZA)
	20	BLR*	18*/114 (EEVZA)	20	UKR	16/134 (EEVZA)
	21	FIN	21/110 (NEVZA)	21	HUN	17/126 (MEVZA)
	22	LTU	22/108 (EEVZA)	22	CRO	18/110 (MEVZA)
	23	AUT	22/108 (MEVZA)	23	ISR	19/108 (MEVZA)
	24	CYP	22/108 (MEVZA)	24	AZE	22/88 (EEVZA)
	25	ISR	27/76 (MEVZA)	25	SVK	22/88 (MEVZA)
	26	POR	30/34 (WEVZA)	26	CYP	24/86 (MEVZA)
	27	AZE	33/22 (EEVZA)	27	MNE	26/70 (BVA)
				28	POR	28/56 (WEVZA)

*Since RUS and BLR rankings have been frozen since their latest participation in this age group, their ranking points have been taken from the respective CEV European National Team Ranking as of 01.09.2021.

2. Vacancies 2nd Round

The 2nd Round is organised with participation of maximum 20 National Federations, whose teams have not managed to progress to the Final Round via the 1st Round qualifiers run by the respective Zonal Associations.

The winners of the zonal qualifiers organised by BVA, EEVZA, MEVZA, WEVZA will claim a spot in the Final Round of the competition.

In the 2nd Round, National Federations are allocated to pools comprising of four teams. **The five 2nd Round pool winners and four or five* runners-ups will all progress to the Final Round in the respective U16 women's and U16 men's competition.**

The number of vacancies per Zonal Association in the 2nd Round qualifiers reflects each Zone's contribution (%) to the total number of registered teams and their cumulative ranking points. Therefore, the vacancies per Zonal Association are as follows:

	BVA	EEVZA	MEVZA	NEVZA	WEVZA	SCA	
U16 Women	6	4	5	1	3	0	19*)
U16 Men	6	4	6	1	3	0	20

*Following the decision of the CEV Board of Administration on 16 May 2026, RUS and BLR entry and ranking points are moved to another zone than EEVZA, and the quota calculations have been adjusted accordingly.

If either Russia or Belarus wins the BVA tournament, both the winner and the best BVA team will qualify directly for the Final Phase, resulting in two direct qualifiers from the zone instead of one. Consequently, the total number of teams qualifying from the First Round would increase from four to five.

If this happens, to maintain the overall competition structure, the number of teams advancing from the Second Round is reduced from ten to nine, while the number of available spots within the Second Round itself (20 teams) remains unchanged. As a result, in the Final Round, the two organisers and five teams from the First Round will be joined by the five Second Round pool winners and the four best runners-up.

*) Theoretically, as per the above criteria, MEVZA should have six vacancies in the women's second round – but as their 1st Round zonal qualifier features 6 teams (as two of their member Federations are hosting the Final Round) and the winner will qualify directly to the Final Round, only five teams remain – and these will all continue their journey in the competition in the 2nd Round. The vacancy not taken by MEVZA will eventually go to the team not yet qualified for the 2nd Round with the highest position in the U16 Women's European Ranking (as of 19/08/2025) across all zones. This will be defined after completion of all 1st Round qualifiers.

3. 1st Round Qualifiers – Format and dates

Each Zonal Association must confirm to CEV their competition structure and dates by 26th June 2026 regarding the 1st Round Qualifiers.

4. Media Rights & Streaming Production (1st Round)

Should the Organiser wish to produce and live stream matches of the CEV Competition, please reach out to tv@cev.eu and digital@cev.eu to receive further information on media rights granting and broadcasting/streaming requirements.



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