

RACING POST

EURO  VISION

BETTING
GUIDE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

PADDYPOWER.

You thought we were just about racing...

8.00 COPENHAGEN EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

EUROVISION



1 UKRAINE PADDYPOWER. 10-1*

Artist Mariya Yaremchuk – Song *Tick-Tock*
Last six years 2-12-10-4-15-3

Always there or thereabouts. Tick-Tock is a catchy pop tune with a strong stage show. A potential solidarity vote could help them but a desperate early draw ruins their chance of winning.



10 GREECE 20-1

Freaky Fortune feat. Riskykidd – *Rise Up*
3-7-8-7-17-6

Greece have finished in top ten in nine of the past ten years. This dance effort is a little different and has a terrific stage show. Has an outside chance.



19 SPAIN 50-1

Ruth Lorenzo – *Dancing in the Rain*
16-24-15-23-10-25

Boring Disney-esque ballad from a former UK X-factor performer (fifth in 2008). May do well with jurors due to strong vocals but mid-table looks likely.



2 BELARUS 200-1

Teo – *Cheesecake*
0-0-24-0-0-16

One top-ten finish in ten previous attempts in the competition. Cheesecake is an Estonian entry espousing the virtues of fatty desserts and Google maps. Not for us.



11 AUSTRIA 5-2

Conchita Wurst – *Rise Like a Phoenix*
21-0-0-18-0-0

Don't let the contest's most talked-about beard fool you, this Bond-style number is magnificently performed and it would be no surprise to see it triumph.



20 SWITZERLAND 66-1

Sebalter – *Hunter Of Stars*
0-0-0-25-0-0

Two-time winners (most recently in 1998 with Celine Dion). They rarely qualify these days. A whistling folk song with a fiddle solo may perform respectably.



3 AZERBAIJAN 40-1

Dilara Kazimova – *Start A Fire*
8-3-5-1-4-2

After six appearances their impressive form speaks for itself. This is a slow ballad with excellent vocals and a nice Azeri feel. They were moderate in the semi-final, however.



12 GERMANY 125-1

Elaiza – *Is it right*
23-20-1-10-8-21

Most recently victorious in 2010. This year's offering is an upbeat and likeable female-sung pop song but it falls flat at times. Also poorly drawn.



21 HUNGARY 14-1

András Kállay-Saunders – *Running*
0-0-0-22-24-10

Hungary has one top-five finish to show from their exploits in Eurovision. Running is an uptempo dance/pop tune which is well performed and well drawn.



4 ICELAND 100-1

Pollapönk – *No Prejudice*
14-2-19-20-20-17

The 2009 runners-up send a child-friendly colourful pop act which was a surprise qualifier. It's difficult to see the judges liking it enough for them to contend.



13 SWEDEN 11-4

Sanna Nielsen – *Undo*
18-21-0-3-1-14

The 2012 winners are always among the favourites. This dull ballad is saved by a polished and professional performance and has been number one in Sweden too.



22 MALTA 50-1

Firelight – *Coming Home*
0-22-0-0-21-8

Following a good eighth place last year Malta have stuck with a folk theme with this Mumford & Sons copycat act. Moderate stuff but a super draw.



5 NORWAY 40-1

Carl Espen – *Silent Storm*
5-1-20-0-26-4

A slow ballad and a powerful performance. The stage show lacks any substance and will need to blow viewers away to have top-five prospects.



14 FRANCE 150-1

TWIN TWIN – *Moustache*
19-8-12-15-22-23

Have finished down the field in recent years. Moustache is a bizarre mish-mash of a dance track with no chance and it deserves last place.



23 DENMARK 25-1

Basim – *Cliche Love Song*
15-13-4-5-23-1

Last year's winners offer up a Bruno Mars type who may do well with televoters but jurors probably won't have it high enough to compete.



6 ROMANIA 50-1

Paula Seling & OVI – *Miracle*
20-19-3-17-12-13

This duet finished third in 2010 and are back with a dreadful cheesy euro-dance effort. They need a miracle.



15 RUSSIA 100-1

Tolmachevy Sisters – *Shine*
1-11-11-16-2-5

Not the most popular country with voters (or the semi-final audience). A diabolical cheesy pop duet that adds nothing to the competition.



24 NETHERLANDS 3-1

The Common Linnets – *Calm After The Storm*
0-0-0-0-0-9

Failed to qualify in eight of last nine years. This slow country duet is a snooze-fest but has been subject of a big gamble this week



7 ARMENIA 6-1

Aram MP3 – *Not Alone*
4-10-7-0-0-18

Yet to win but have had five top-ten efforts in past decade. This slow builder is powerful but the singer may not be to everyone's taste. Poor draw is another negative.



16 ITALY 80-1

Emma – *La Mia Città*
0-0-0-2-9-7

Did not compete from 1998 to 2010 but they have returned in style with three top-ten finishes. This polished pop effort from an established artist is a contender.



25 SAN MARINO 200-1

Valentina Monetta – *Maybe (Forse)*
0-0-0-0-0-0

First-time qualifiers enter the fray with a kitsch effort that is cringingly bad and should finish close to last despite a plum late draw.



8 MONTENEGRO 200-1

Sergej Cetkovic – *Moj Svijet*
0-0-0-0-0-0

First-time qualifiers and this Serbo-Croat ballad may do well in the Balkans but is likely to have little appeal elsewhere. A mid-table finish awaits.



17 SLOVENIA 150-1

Tinkara Kovac – *Round and round*
0-0-0-13-0-0

They have a poor overall record and failed to qualify for the final in eight of last ten years. This one struggles to get going despite a likeable act.



26 UK 10-1

Molly – *Children of the Universe*
25-5-25-11-25-19

Likeable uplifting pop number with terrific vocals. Drawn in prime slot. Has the UK's poor recent record to overcome but may be good enough to do it.



9 POLAND 80-1

Donatan & Cleo – *My Słowianie - We Are Slavic*
0-0-24-0-0-0

This song has had 42 million YouTube hits but sadly not for its musical quality. It's a Polish folk hip-hop act that juries will hate. No hope of a high showing.



18 FINLAND 66-1

Softengine – *Something Better*
22-25-0-21-0-24

The infamous Lordi aside, Finland has a desperate record. This song is moderate indie rock. They could have sent something better.

RACING POST SPOTLIGHT

Austria's impossible-to-ignore Conchita Wurst stole the show in the semi-final and looks a potential winner but a mediocre draw means they can be taken on. Polished favourites Sweden also have a moderate starting stall and all the acts at single-figure prices are opposable on value grounds. It's hard to get away from a strong run by the **UNITED KINGDOM**. This upbeat act nailed rehearsals and will stand out from the crowd. **Stephen Cass**

RACING POST

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

SWEEPSTAKE KIT

PLAYER'S NAME		PLAYER'S NAME	
 UKRAINE	.....	FRANCE	.....
 BELARUS	.....	RUSSIA	.....
 AZERBAIJAN	.....	ITALY	.....
 ICELAND	.....	SLOVENIA	.....
 NORWAY	.....	FINLAND	.....
 ROMANIA	.....	SPAIN	.....
 ARMENIA	.....	SWITZERLAND	.....
 MONTENEGRO	.....	HUNGARY	.....
 POLAND	.....	MALTA	.....
 GREECE	.....	DENMARK	.....
 AUSTRIA	.....	NETHERLANDS	.....
 GERMANY	.....	SAN MARINO	.....
 SWEDEN	.....	UK	.....

IT'S EASY AS 1,2,3

- 1 Gather your friends and colleagues. You choose the stake (e.g. £2 per person).
- 2 Print off and cut out the first sheet of contestants. Ask your players to pick out an entry at random.
- 3 On this sheet, write each player's name against their chosen entry. Winner takes all!

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