

Georgia v Portugal Match Report - UEFA Euro 2024

Georgia stunned Portugal with a 2-0 victory and secured historic qualification to the EURO 2024 round of 16 in their first participation in a major tournament. Georgia were patient and resilient despite Portugal's constant threat, waited for their chances, and when they eventually came, were clinical enough to score them.

An early goal after 94 seconds from Georgia's star Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, who in a counterattack caused by a mistaken pass from Antonio Silva, shocked a heavily rotated Portuguese team, having already secured their spot at the last 16 after victories against Czech Republic and Turkey.

Portugal did not give up and throughout the first half and forced an impressive performance from Georgian goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili. The Valencia CF goalkeeper saved a tremendous free kick from Cristiano Ronaldo, and outside-of-the-box shots from Joao Palhinha and Joao Felix.

Within ten minutes of the second half, VAR called referee Sandro Schärer to check for a penalty kick after Antonio Silva committed a foul on Luka Lochoshvili. Schärer confirmed the penalty kick, and Georges Mikataudze, the leading scorer of the tournament, scored.

Willy Sagnol's Georgian team continued to defend in a low block and looked to counter-attack through long balls after the break, with Kvaratskhelia impressing with his ball control and quick transitions. While Portugal continued their domination in Georgia's half without creating much danger, as they only managed to get two shots on target in the second half.

Group F finishes with Portugal in first place with six points, Turkey in second with six points but a smaller goal difference, and Georgia in third with four points. Czech Republic is eliminated with only one point.