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Greeks going to Luxembourg

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17.02.2008



Team Greece qualified for the 2008 IIHF World Championship Division III. Photo: icehockey.gr

SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina - Greece won the World Championship Division III Qualification after just two days. After a 10-1 against host Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Greeks also defeated Armenia, 8-5.

It is a great comeback for Greece after a nine-year absence from international ice hockey events and problems building a rink. The Greeks, held a camp in the Czech Republic prior to the qualifier tournament, will be the sixth team at the World Championship Division III in Luxembourg where DPR Korea, Mongolia, South Africa and Turkey and the host nation will compete from March 31 to April 6.

It was a close game against Armenia, which was ultimately decided by a strong second period for Greece. Igor Apostolidis scored twice for Greece in the first period, but Manuk Balyan and John Ghazanchyan equalised both times for the Armenians. Two Greek goals 75 seconds apart in the opening minutes of the second period gave the squad a 4-2 lead. Another pair of tallies midway through the period made it a four-goal lead. Armenia fought back in the third period and eventually cut the lead to 6-5. But a goaltender change for Greece calmed the team down as they scored two more goals in the last 65 seconds for the 8-5 win.

The tournament will close with today's game between host Bosnia and Herzegovina and Armenia. [Click here for the tournament's coverage.](#)

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