

England beat world champions Spain 3-2 in Madrid to top their Nations League group

Description

default watermark

England finished top of Nations League Group A3 after beating Spain 3-2 at the Metropolitano in Madrid on Sunday 15 November 2026, ending the world championsâ?? long unbeaten run. Harry Kane, Ezri Konsa and Ben White put Thomas Tuchelâ??s side three goals up inside the hour, and they then held on with 10 men after Elliot Anderson was sent off.

The game kicked off at 3.45am on Monday in Singapore, in front of 63,788. Both teams were already through to the quarter-finals, but the group was still on the line: Spain led England by three points going in, and the win lifts England level on 15 points with a goal difference of +13 to Spainâ??s +8. It also squares the two meetings this autumn, after Spain won 3-2 at Wembley in September.



Ezri Konsa celebrates after heading in Declan Riceâ??s corner for Englandâ??s second goal in the 3-2 win over Spain in Madrid, 15 November 2026. Photo: England (X)

Three goals before the hour

England were on top from the first whistle and wasted several chances before the break. The opener came on the stroke of half-time, when Pau CubarsÃ fouled Kane and the captain scored from the spot. Three days earlier he had scored the winning penalty against Croatia on his record 126th cap.

The second half started the same way. Konsa headed in Declan Riceâ??s corner after 53 minutes. Four minutes later England went the length of the pitch, Jude Bellingham fed White, and the defender finished from an angle past Unai SimÃ³n for 3-0.

Ten men and a late siege

default watermark

The night turned just past the hour. Jarell Quansah was caught in possession, Anderson, the last man, pulled back Lamine Yamal and was shown a red card. Mikel Oyarzabal scored the penalty on 65 minutes.

Spain, quiet for so long, came alive with Yamal at the centre of it. Substitute Nico Williams turned in his cross on 75 minutes, and England spent the last quarter of an hour defending their own box. Tuchel took off Kane for Myles Lewis-Skelly, replaced Anthony Gordon and Bellingham with Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Djed Spence, and sent on Dan Burn for White in the closing minutes.

The save that won it came in stoppage time. James Trafford, who had little to do in the first hour, denied FermÃn LÃ³pez and then the follow-up in the space of two seconds, and moments later held a Pedri shot from the edge of the area.


BG
15
ENG

James Trafford, whose stoppage-time double save protected the lead, with Ezri Konsa after Englandâ??s 3-2 win over Spain in Madrid, 15 November 2026. Photo: England (X)

What Rice said

â??Overall 10 men for half an hour, winning 3-2 against a team unbeaten in 43 is massive,â?• Rice told ITV Sport. â??Everything happened so quick so for him [James Trafford] to make two in the space of two seconds is massive.â?•

How the group finished

England and Spain each won five of their six group games, and both lost only to each other. England scored 19 and conceded six; Spain scored 16 and let in eight. Croatia beat Czechia 2-1 on the same night to finish third on six points, and Czechia end the group without a point.

Date Created
16/11/2026
Author
jadeyeo

default watermark