



partments. Three times the OFB bid for the European Championship. Three times, most recently for the 2004 event, it was shot down in flames.

The spin-off from UEFA has now given the two partners this historic opportunity to take their place on the greatest stage of world sport. After the World Cup and the summer Olympic Games, the football World Cup is the third greatest global sporting festival. Events of comparable dimensions have not been held in either of the two countries for a very long time; in Austria the last time was in 1976 (the winner Olympic Games in Innsbruck) and in Switzerland, 1954 (the football World Cup). Fifty-four years on, it is our great hope that the Miracle of Bern, by which we mean Swiss football itself, happens all over again.



A
Fussballweltmeisterschaft 1954 in Lausanne: Viertelfinalspiel Schweiz-Osterreich. Coupe du monde de football 1954 à Lausanne: rencontre des quarts de finale entre la Suisse et l'Autriche.

Svizzera Austria ai quarti di finale del Mondiale di calcio del 1954 a Losanna. Quarter-final match between Switzerland and Austria in Lausanne at the 1954 World Cup.

B
Der Schweizer Spieler Jacky Faron (rechts) verfolgt beim Viertelfinalspiel Schweiz-Osterreich am 26. Juni 1954 in Lausanne einen österreichischen Spieler.

Le joueur suisse Jacky Faron à droite, tente de rattraper à un joueur autrichien lors de la rencontre des quarts de finale entre la Suisse et l'Autriche le 26 juin 1954.

Lo svizzero Jacky Faron a destra, insegue un giocatore austriaco al quarti di finale Svizzera-Austria del 26 giugno 1954 a Losanna.

Swiss player Jacky Faron (right) tracks an Austrian player in the World Cup quarter-final in Lausanne on 26 June 1954.



