

Jude Bellingham is prime contender for award (Image from Getty)

Besides renowned veterans like Cristiano Ronaldo. Thomas Muller. And Robert Lewandowski Euro 2024 will also spotlight new crop of supremely talented youngsters. They have already emerged as stars for clubs.

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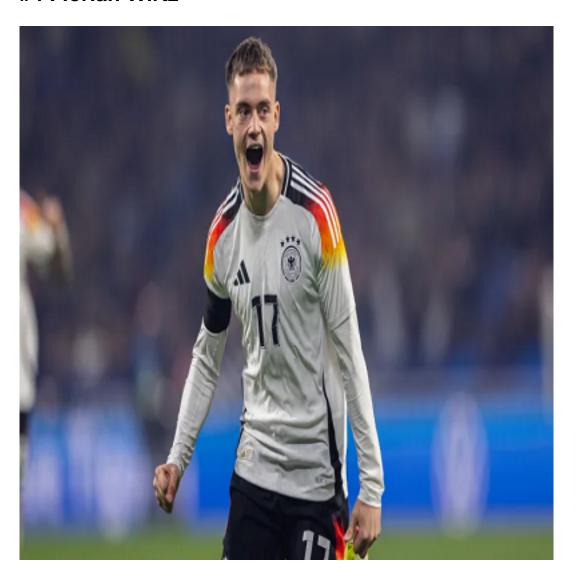
Let us have a look at top 5 favourites. To win Best Young Player Award at 2024 UEFA European Championships.

# **#5 Xavi Simons**

Xavi Simons is only 21 years of age. His talent has been topic of discussion for many years. When he was just 16 Paris Saint-Germain moved heaven and earth to lure him from Barcelona's La Masia academy. Since then he has not been able to get into PSG's main squad. He has done well for every other team he has represented. After an excellent 2022-23 season for PSV Eindhoven scoring 22 goals, the Dutch attacker represented RB Leipzig.

Across four competitions he had a whopping 25 goal contributions in 43 matches. This includes 10 goals and 15 assists. Recently he also scored his maiden international goal for Oranje. He got into the scoresheet during a 4-0 win against Iceland.

### #4 Florian Wirtz



Florian Wirtz is among main reasons behind Bayer Leverkusen's Bundesliga win in 2023-24 season. With his performance in Euro 2024 opener against Scotland German attacker has proved that he's not merely a one-season wonder. He's a generational talent.

Last season for Xabi Alonso's team, Wirtz had 38 goal contributions in 49 matches. This included 18 goals and 20 assists. Not only was he influential in Bundesliga campaign. He also scored 4 goals and got 4 assists in Europa League.

For national team Wirtz has scored 2 goals so far. The first of those came in friendly against France earlier this year. Second goal came in this tournament.

#### #3 Lamine Yamal

While every other player we will talk about is above age of 20 Lamine Yamal is only 16 years old. He is already being considered among hot prospects. This speaks volumes about potential.

Another La Masia graduate Yamal had 17 goal contributions for Barcelona last year. This comprised 7 goals and 10 assists. One of those assists even came in a quarter-final tie against PSG.

For Spain, the youngster had an amazing start. He has scored 2 goals and got 5 assists. This was in only 8 matches so far. He scored in debut against Georgia in the Euro 2024 qualifiers. Then he scored against Cyprus. By assisting in Spain's season opener against Croatia he became youngest player to get an assist in continental competition.

## #2 Jamal Musiala

Jamal Musiala has already scored thrice for Germany (Image from Getty) Like Wirtz and Yamal Jamal Musiala is another player who has already shown his talent in this tournament. The 21-year-old German winger scored a superb goal He was impressive throughout the 5-1 win against Scotland.

He blossomed in Chelsea's Cobham academy and represented England till U-21 level. Musiala moved to Germany when he was 16. Since then, he has been vital cog in Bayern Munich's team. The Bavarians could not win Bundesliga last season. Musiala scored 12 goals and got 8 assists.

For national team he has scored 3 goals and got 5 assists so far. He scored last goal against Scotland. He has also scored against North Macedonia in FIFA World Cup qualifier match and against United States of America in international friendly.

# #1 Jude Bellingham

Jude Bellingham might still be placed on these lists. Truth be told he is already a level above every one of his age. At only 20 years of age the English midfielder is already considered among best footballers in the world. He is also likely to be among frontrunners to win Ballon d'Or this year.

Despite playing in midfield. Bellingham scored 23 goals and got 13 assists for Real Madrid last season. He helped Los Blancos lift both UEFA Champions League and La Liga.

That being said, he is yet to unlock his best version in England shirt. In 29 matches for Three Lions. Bellingham has got 5 assists and scored 3 goals. They have come against Iran Scotland and Belgium.