

Multiple titles: Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 crews win World, European and national championships

- › **Estonians Robert Virves and Jakko Viilo power a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 from team Toksport WRT to the WRC2 title in the FIA World Rally Championship*.**
- › **Teemu Suninen/Antti Haapala from Finland take the FIA European Rally Championship with a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 from The Racing Factory*.**
- › **Dominik Stráteský and co-driver Ondřej Krajča are victorious in the Czech Rally Championship for the Auto Podbabská Škoda Team.**

Mladá Boleslav, 9 October 2026 – The 2026 rally season was another highly successful one for Škoda Motorsport and its customer teams. Three major titles were won by crews relying on the Škoda Fabia RS Rally2. They took the titles in WRC2, which is the main support category of the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC)*, the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC)* and the Czech Rally Championship (MČR).

With four victories and two second places across their seven nominated WRC events, Robert Virves and Jakko Viilo became WRC2 Champions*. The 26-year-old Estonian and his 31-year-old compatriot won the category on Safari Rally Kenya, Acropolis Rally Greece, Rally Estonia and Rally Finland. Sharing a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2, they added two second places in Chile and Italia. "I had an incredible season. Škoda Motorsport has provided me a car which was superfast and reliable. I would like to thank especially my co-driver Jakko and the whole Toksport WRT team. Without their support, it would not have been possible to win the title," emphasized Robert Virves at the finish of the WRC season finale on the Mediterranean island of Sardinia. His biggest success so far was winning the FIA Junior World Rally Championship in 2022.

Robert Virves is the eighth Škoda driver to win a WRC2/WRC2 Pro/WRC2 Open title. He and Jakko Viilo also took the title of the 2026 WRC2 Challenger category, which is reserved for drivers who have not yet won a major international title.

One of the main opponents for Robert Virves in the WRC2 category was Teemu Suninen from Finland. Together with co-driver Antti Haapala, the 32-year-old also competed in the FIA European Rally Championship. They drove a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 from The Racing Factory team to victory at Rally Poland, came second on Rally di Roma Capitale in Italy, Barum Czech Rally Zlín and Rali Ceredigion in Wales. They also scored valuable points in Spain, finishing fourth at the Andalusia Rally-Sierra Morena – Córdoba World Heritage Site. The results made Teemu Suninen and Antti Haapala the FIA European Rally Champions*. This is the first major title of the Finns' career.

Dominik Stříteský, on the other hand, claimed the Czech Rally Championship title for the second time: two years after his first overall triumph, he again became the 2026 Czech Rally Champion. Together with co-driver Ondřej Krajča, he competed for the Auto Podbabská Škoda Team. Out of six events, they won Rallye Český Krumlov, Agrotec Petronas Rally Hustopeče, Rally Bohemia and Rally Pačejov outright. This success puts 26-year-old Dominik Stříteský in the footsteps of record champion and local hero Jan Kopecký, who won the national title eleven times at the wheel of a Škoda.

"I'm really proud of our successful Škoda teams, their drivers and co-drivers. My special congratulations go to Robert, Jakko, Teemu and Antti for presenting Škoda Motorsport with two of the most important international titles to be won with a Rally2 car. Hats off also to Dominik and Ondřej, who achieved the sixth consecutive title for Škoda in our home championship. This gives our staff back at Mladá Boleslav even more motivation to further improve the Škoda Fabia for the 2027 season," says Michal Hrabánek, Head of Škoda Motorsport.

2026 is not the first year that Škoda drivers have secured these three titles in addition to winning multiple national and regional championships around the world. In 2019, Kalle Rovanperä from Finland, who would go on to become World Champion, was successful in the WRC2 Pro category, Chris Ingram from Britain won the FIA European Rally Championship and Jan Kopecký added another Czech title to his collection. In 2021, Norwegian Andreas Mikkelsen won both the WRC2 category and the FIA European Rally Championship, while Jan Kopecký dominated the Czech Rally Championship. He successfully defended his title in 2022, when Emil Lindholm from Finland became the WRC2 Champion and Efrén Llarena from Spain took the European title.

** Subject to confirmation of the results by the FIA*

Contact

Jan Hrbek

Communications Motorsport

P +420 730 867 534

jan.hrbek@skoda-auto.cz

<http://skoda-motorsport.com>

Škoda Motorsport:



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Championship-winning Škoda crews

WRC2 Champions* Robert Virves and Jakko Viilo drove team Toksport WRT's Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 to category victory at their home event Rally Estonia.

Source: Škoda Auto



Championship-winning Škoda crews

Robert Virves, co-driver Jakko Viilo, team Toksport WRT and Škoda Motorsport celebrate the WRC2 title*.

Source: Škoda Auto



Championship-winning Škoda crews

Competing with a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 from team The Racing Factory, title winners* Teemu Suninen and Antti Haapala scored one victory, three second places and one fourth position across the 2026 FIA European Rally Championship.

Source: Škoda Auto



Championship-winning Škoda crews

Teemu Suninen (right) and co-driver Antti Haapala from Finland secured the FIA European Rally Championship title* already at Rali Ceredigion, the season's penultimate round.

Source: Škoda Auto



Škoda crew wins Czech title in 2026

Czech Champions Dominik Stříteský/Ondřej Krajča shared a Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 from the Auto Podbabská Škoda Team.

Source: Škoda Auto



Škoda crew wins Czech title in 2026

Dominik Stříteský and co-driver Ondřej Krajča won Rally Český Krumlov on their way to becoming the 2026 Czech Rally Champions.

Source: Škoda Auto

Škoda Motorsport

- › Škoda celebrates 125 years of Motorsport since the first efforts in 1901, garnering success in rallies as well as in circuit racing.
- › Highlights include winning the 1981 European Touring Car Championship (ETCC) with the Škoda 130 RS.
- › Since 2009, the Škoda Fabia celebrated numerous successes for the Czech manufacturer on rally stages worldwide.
- › Until 2014, the Škoda Fabia S2000 (2.0 naturally aspirated engine, four-wheel drive) secured 50 international titles and national rally championships. The Škoda Fabia S2000 also helped to win the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC) and the Intercontinental Rally Challenge (IRC) three times each.
- › The successor model Škoda Fabia R5 (1.6 turbo engine, four-wheel drive) entered the scene in 2015. Later renamed to Škoda Fabia Rally2 and followed by the further developed Škoda Fabia Rally2 evo, the model collected nearly 2,000 victories in 68 countries until the end of the 2022 season.
- › During this period, Škoda Motorsport factory drivers Jan Kopecký (CZE), Esapekka Lappi (FIN), Pontus Tidemand (SWE) and Kalle Rovanperä (FIN) won the FIA World Rally Championship's support category WRC2/WRC2 Pro. Škoda Motorsport also took the WRC2/WRC2 Pro Manufacturers' title five times in a row from 2015 to 2019.
- › Beginning with the 2020 season, Škoda Motorsport changed its strategy to supporting private teams. The success story continued: Driving a Škoda Fabia Rally2 evo run by Toksport WRT, Andreas Mikkelsen (NOR) and Emil Lindholm (FIN) became WRC2 Champions in 2021 and 2022. Mikkelsen became WRC2 Champion again in 2023 with team Toksport WRT, when the all-new Škoda Fabia RS Rally2 entered the scene. The Škoda Motorsport supported team Toksport WRT also won the WRC2 Teams' title three times in 2020, 2022 and 2023. In 2025 Toksport WRT took another WRC2 Teams' title and Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov of Toksport WRT became WRC2 Challenger drivers' and co-drivers' champions respectively.
- › Škoda Motorsport customer teams have also won titles in the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC), FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), the FIA African Rally Championship (ARC), the FIA North American and Central American Rally Championship (NACAM), the FIA South American Rally Championship (CODASUR) and the FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC).

Škoda Auto

- › is successfully steering through the new decade with the Next Level Škoda Strategy;
- › aims to become one of the top three best-selling brands in Europe by the end of the decade by offering its customers the best of both worlds through a range of attractive BEV, hybrid & ICE products;
- › effectively exploits the potential in important growth markets such as India, Vietnam and the ASEAN region;
- › currently offers customers 14 passenger car model ranges: Fabia, Scala, Octavia, Superb, Kamiq, Karoq, Kodiaq, Epiq, Elroq, Enyaq, Peaq, Slavia, Kylaq and Kushaq;
- › delivered more than 1,040,000 vehicles to customers worldwide in 2025;
- › has been part of the Volkswagen Group, one of the world's most successful car manufacturers, for more than 30 years;
- › is part of Brand Group CORE, an organisational merger of the Volkswagen Group's volume brands, with the aim of achieving joint growth and significantly increasing the overall efficiency of all five volume brands;
- › independently develops and produces components such as MEB battery systems, engines and transmissions for other Volkswagen Group brands;
- › operates three production plants in the Czech Republic; has production capacities in Spain, Slovakia, Kazakhstan and India, mostly through group partnerships, as well as in Vietnam and Ukraine in cooperation with a local partner;
- › employs around 40,000 people worldwide and is active in almost 100 markets.