

Medal Muddle ***

Thirteen nations competed in a sports tournament. Unfortunately, the order of the final medal table has been lost. However, we have the following pieces of information:

1. Turkey and Mexico both finished above Italy and New Zealand.
2. Portugal finished above Venezuela, Mexico, Spain and Romania.
3. Romania finished below Algeria, Greece, Spain and Serbia.
4. Serbia finished above Turkey and Portugal, both of whom finished below Algeria and Russia.
5. Russia finished above France and Algeria.
6. Algeria finished below France but above Serbia and Spain.
7. Italy finished below Greece and Venezuela, but above New Zealand.
8. Venezuela finished above New Zealand but below Greece.
9. Greece finished below Turkey, who came below France.
10. Portugal finished below Greece and France.
11. France finished above Serbia, who came above Mexico.
12. Venezuela finished below Mexico, and New Zealand came above Spain.

Can you recreate the medal table from this information?

What strategy will you use to compile the correct order?

Although there are twelve statements above, there are more than twelve pieces of information, because some sentences compare more than one pair of teams.

What is the minimum number of pieces of information needed to order the teams?

Which information, if any, is redundant?