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Press Release

## The Integrity of sport competition under threat

### Pari Mutuel/Tote system – a model securing the integrity of racing

While the European Parliament will start to debate on the European White Paper on Sports, the integrity of sporting events is threatened by the development of uncontrolled gambling.

“In the past two months, we have witnessed a race-fixing trial in UK and the beginning of enquiries on potentially corrupted tennis and football matches, threatening the integrity of sport and gaming at the same time” insists Mrs Florence Gras, General Delegate of the European Pari Mutuel Association.

Recent news will for sure influence the debate on the White Paper on Sports and the European decision makers cannot avoid discussing the way gambling is conducted. The leading European Pari Mutuel operators, gathered within EPMA are willing to take part in the ongoing debate by showing how their model contributes to the integrity of the equestrian sport.

### Pari Mutuel and the integrity of racing

Betting has accompanied horse racing from the beginning. The Pari Mutuel system of wagering, invented in France in the 1860s, spread all over the world and still accounts for **78% of the total turnover bet on horse racing**.

With Pari Mutuel betting, the amounts bet on all of the individual horses are totalled and distributed to the winners in proportion to the amount of each bet. This is done in complete **independence of the outcome of the race** and therefore the Pari Mutuel/Tote operator has absolutely no interest in fixing the race.

Moreover, the pari-mutuel model only enables **betting on successful outcomes**. This makes it far more difficult to fix a race as it would need the acceptance of all the participants whereas only one accomplice is necessary in other models.

Last but not least, **EPMA’s members are not-for-profit operators processing bets for the benefit of horseracing associations under a strong supervision of the State**.

Members of EPMA are present in 10 countries, traditionally active in developing the horse races and horse breeding (Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom). They wish to share their common concerns about developing efficient regulations taking into account the promotion of the equine sector and consumer’s fairness and protection.

**Members:** *Fintoto Oy – Finland, Société de la Loterie de la Suisse Romande, Unione Nazionale Incremento Razze Equine (U.N.I.R.E.) Switzerland - Italy, Wiener Trabrennverein - Austria, German Tote GmbH Cologne, Germany, Trab Renn Sport AG (TRS) - Essen, Germany, Pari Mutuel Urbain (P.M.U.), Paris, France, Amministrazione Autonoma Dei Monopoli Di Stato (A.A.M.S.) - Rome, Italy, AB Trav. Galopp (ATG), Sweden, Horserace Totalisator Board - Great Britain, Tote Ireland Limited - Ireland, Foundation Norsk Risktoto, Norway.*



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