



# **EASG seminar on match-fixing "The balls out? Or?"**

**The helicopter view ... from Brussels**

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European  
Commission

# Match-fixing: nothing new ...



## .. but relatively recent challenge

### Examples of COM communications

- 'Developing the European dimension in sport' (2011)
- Green Paper on Online Gambling (2011)
- 'Fighting Corruption in the EU' (2011)
- Action Plan on Online Gambling (2012)

### Other EU institutions

- Council conclusions on match-fixing (2011 & 2012)
- EP resolutions (Schaldemose, Creutzmann and Fisas) between 2009 and 2012

# Commission initiatives on MF

## DG GROW / MARKT

- Follow-up to 2012 Commission Action Plan on Online gambling:
  - "Recommendation" on best practices in prevention and combatting of betting-related match fixing (in "2014")
  - Harmonisation is not a priority

## DG HOME:

- Pilot Project: New integrated mechanisms for cooperation between public and private actors to identify sports betting risks

# Council of Europe convention

- 1<sup>st</sup> Legally binding tool to fight match fixing
- Commission active negotiator
- EU signature?
  - Legal analysis / Political will
  - Process on-going
  - Priority of LV PRDY

# EU Expert Groups

- With Member States
- EU work plan for sport (2014-17)
  - **3 Key topics, incl. integrity of sport**
  - **5 Expert Groups**
- Match Fixing
  - **1st meeting in Milan on 29/9 (next on 24/3)**
  - **22 Member States, almost as many "observers"**
  - **Well known Chair**
  - **Best practises and state of play**

# Cooperation

- Dialogue:
  - IOC, UNESCO, FIFA-Interpol, CoE...
- Within Commission
  - **Strong inter-DG cooperation** (GROW, HOME, JUST etc.)
- Indirect, but important
  - E.g. Data protection
- Different actors involved:
  - **Sport movement, betting operators (online, lotteries), gambling regulators, law enforcement ...**

# Financing

- Preparatory Actions - Prevention
  - Five projects selected - Education and Training
- Studies
  - 2012: Match-fixing: A mapping of criminal law provisions
  - 2014: Two studies on betting-related match fixing
- In future? 2014-2020 Erasmus+
  - Funding for sports and physical activity projects
  - €265.9m / 7 years
  - Focus on grassroots sports





# Thank you

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