

EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK LEGAL UPDATE

N°1 - March 2016

Dear readers,

EHN is presenting the first issue of a Newsletter looking at EU Regulation. Every 3 months, we will update you on figures and legal issues impacting the Horse industry. It will come as a supplement from the usual Newsletter relating EHN activities.

A special focus will look at one or two current legal proposal and its impact on the horse sector.

Of course, we will also look at other regulation or debate of interest for our industry and we will leave the last paragraph for members if they wish to contribute and point out a specific topic or event.

So, for the efficiency of our network and to improve our communication and visibility, we count on your regular contribution.

Mark Wentein
EHN Chairman

HORSES IN EUROPE

European Equestrian Federation's SURVEY 2015 – released on 15 October 2015

- Total Economic impact of the Equestrian sector in 10 EU Countries: **€34 billion**
- Directly registered persons in the sport in 27 countries : **1.9 million**
- Estimated total number of horses : **4.5 million**
- Every 5 horses creating one full-time employment: **900,000 jobs**

What are the challenges that your Federation face today (19 national Equestrian Federations) In terms of frequency

1. Financial challenges
2. Animal Welfare
3. Attracting new riders to horse sport
4. Education/Training (athlete ,coach, judge...)
5. Border difficulties
6. Show invitation/entry difficulties
7. VAT rate in EU
8. Decrease of volunteers



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- *Horses in Europe – A look on recent surveys, studies*
- *Update on ongoing EU Regulation*
- *Also on the EU agenda*
- *Opinion Column*



EHN leaflets are available

www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu



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EHN has created a [Equine Data Group](#) gathering experts from European countries with the objective to improve the collection of data and publish professional and relevant economic and social figures of the equine sector

First meeting on 2nd March 2016 in Brussels
ENH is collecting 4 key figures from 15 European countries
Minutes soon available

Ongoing European Regulation

Animal Health/Welfare

Proposal for a regulation on the zootechnical and genealogical conditions for the breeding, the trade in and entry into Europe of purebred breeding animals – COM (2014)0005

The proposals gathered various pieces of previous legislation and aim at providing the principles and rules governing the breeding of bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species, and those governing the official controls and other official activities carried out by the Commission and the States' (authorities in this area.

Impact on Horse sector

- Although the document is not changing the previous legislation, it forces countries who did not implement to harmonise and centralize the information on the breeding certificate and registration document. Moreover, as it is a regulation and not a Directive, it will be implemented without any further interpretation or delay.
- The ID document (identification, zootechnical certificate, performance test is to be discussed inside the delegated act of the Animal Health Regulation
- The important amount of breeding society makes it difficult to centralize the information and follow equines
- Derogation exists for equines to enter breeding books that are not located in the country where the horse is active.
- Cross-breeding and lineage is specified in the document

Agenda

Agreement by EU institutions on a common text on 16 December 2015

New version is circulating and was adopted on 11/01 by the AGRI Committee of the European Parliament.

Final adoption by the European Parliament scheduled on 12 April 2016.

Also on the agenda

Proposal for Regulation on veterinary medicines COM

The proposal includes provisions to stimulate innovation while also addressing concerns over antimicrobial resistance. More than 900 amendments have been tabled in total, addressing, the antimicrobial resistance, the prophylactic and metaphylactic use of antimicrobials, the marketing authorisation process, the environmental risk assessment as well as the clinical trials, animal testing and the protection of technical documentation.

Impact on the horse sector

- Ban antimicrobial treatment for better performance
- Delay to re-introduce equines in the food chain
- Register all treatments in a health document by the owner

Agenda

289 amendments have been adopted on first reading by the European Parliament on 10 March 2016. A new version is now available for a discussion between Institutions.

Table on EHN members' challenges

	Challenges
Racing	Availability and cost of medicines
Sport	
Food	Possibility to re-introduce equines in the food chain

Opinion Column

Success and missed opportunity

2 recent reports from the European Parliament in which the horse industry has its place:

New challenges and concepts for the promotion of Tourism in Europe (rapporteur Isabella de Monte, S&D, Italy) which, among other issues, aims to highlight some of the new challenges facing the sector, including digitalisation and the rise of the sharing economy.

Report was voted at the end of October 2015 and in the chapter on Sustainable and Responsible Tourism, calls on the authorities and local operators to make a stronger effort to promote non-vehicular networks such as European bridledways, walking routes, pilgrimage routes and cycle tracks, recommends eliminating increased fares on border stretches.

Thanks to the lobbying from FITE, Equestrian Tourism Federation, the Parliament's report takes into account horses' activities.

Enhancing innovation and economic development in future European farm management - This AGRI own initiative report aims to address the key elements needed to enhance innovation and economic development in future European farm management.

It was voted in December and unfortunately EHN could not contact the rapporteur to explain how horse breeding activities is fully in line with practices that are innovative, and protecting our environment.