

# EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK NEWS



**EHN Annual Meeting  
9 October 2014**  
Afternoon Seminar with  
Julie Girling MEP UK,  
Phillippe De Backer  
MEP BE, Alf-Eckbert  
Füssel, DG SANCO,  
Andrea Gavinelli and  
Alexandra Kostorz DG  
SANCO, European  
Commission



**November 2014**

- Focus on New Member
- EHN Annual Meeting
- European issues
- Next Events

## Welcome to European Horse Network News

Dear readers,

Our 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly meeting was the best up to now with an important attendance and high-level speakers from European Institutions.

Members re-elected an efficient team for EHN Board. In the name of EHN, I would like to thank Cathy McGlynn who has left the thoroughbred breeders, for her work and support during her years in the EHN Board. The Network has greatly benefitted from her knowledge of EU topics and people. The "new" Board is already preparing the next Horse Group lunch with Members of the European Parliament and new publications:

Updated figures of the Horse Industry, leaflets on veterinarian medicines, Horses & Environment and a list of education and training centres in EU.

2015 will also be dedicated to strengthen the links with our partners in the horse sector, COPA the EU agriculture lobby, through joint meetings and hopefully joint statements and EAAP, the Animal Science structure with the organisation of a common workshop on research.

We will keep you informed about such plans inside our next EHN Newsletters.

*Stefan Johanson* Chairman,



### New Members

The **European Trainers Federation (ETF)** was established in 1998

The members of the E.T.F. are Gallop trainers' associations from 12 European countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great-Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Holland. Since 2002, ETF collaborates on a publication of a magazine with Giles Anderson: Trainer Magazine - distributed to ETF members + 3500 members of the Horse racing industry and 1500 trainers <http://trainermagazine.com/>

In 2015 ETF plans to create a web site and work on the harmonisation of rules (on medications) and VAT rates.

**British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA)** was established in 1978 to represent the interests of the equestrian trade in the UK and beyond: over 800 member companies covering retailing, manufacturing, wholesaling and the service industry from UK, Ireland, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Holland and Denmark.

BETA offers a range of benefits for its members. BETA logo on a product is a sign of quality and reliability. BETA is particularly influential in lobbying on issues connected to the production of equine feed. <http://www.beta-int.com/> is an exhibition/conference which takes place at Birmingham every February. BETA helps both individual companies and the wider industry to make the most of international opportunities.



**EHN leaflets are available**

Horses in Europe, Horses and CAP, Horses and Sport, Horses and welfare, Horses and research, Horses and Health, Education and Training

[www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu](http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu)



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## Horse Conference in Normandy – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014



**Mats Denninger**, Chairman of the Horse industry foundation in Sweden described the coherent model implemented in Sweden and showed that 5M Euros from betting are dedicated every year to equestrian activities. "EHN is today a dynamic structure with a small budget but important achievements and huge ambitions!" said its Chairman, **Stefan Johanson**. The aim from the beginning was to put the Horse on the EU agenda and after 4 years, EHN has become the platform of the Horse Industry, a tool that anybody can use to lobby the Institutions, a competence centre producing documents, position papers, organising events.



**Roly Owers**, explained how improved horse welfare could improve disease control, the transport and the keeping of horses in EU. He also announced the Equine Expert Project and the overview report on the EU Horse Sector. There is a need for more conferences like this one in order to develop cooperation and solidarity, It will help coherence in the sector to improve the dialogue with politicians, said **Ambroise Dupont**, senator and **Jean Arthuis**, Member of the European Parliament. The Conclusions asked to consider the sector as an economic one in order to develop investments and innovation. **Christian Vanier**, Director of the French Horse and Equestrian Institute suggests transforming the horse, the actor of leisure activities, into a societal actor, **Listen to the speech of Stefan and Roly during Round Table 4:** <http://bit.ly/1qOC7GU>

## EHN Annual Meeting – 9 October 2014 in Brussels

EHN Annual Meeting was the occasion to discuss horse related regulations with relevant EU decision makers. EHN confirmed his role of competence centre and noted the strong support of MEPs: **Philippe De Backer** declared himself to be listening to the actors of the horse industry

and ready to represent their interests by asking relevant questions to the Commission.

**Julie Girling** is looking to mobilise as large a number as possible of MEPs around questions relating to the treatment of horses and creating understanding that the equine sector involves many activities, agriculture, sport, education, health, all are important to preserve. **Mr Gavinelli and Fussel** from the Animal Welfare Unit made a precise update of legislation recently adopted. The meeting is a perfect example of how EHN can dialogue with Institutions and bring forward the specificities of the horse sector.



## European Issues: Equine Experts Meeting - 11 November in DG SANCO

**Denis Simonin** from the EU Commission opened the meeting and outlined the key objectives of the new Commission: Jobs, growth and investment, Digital single market, Energy union and Climate Change. He relayed that there was still no decision made whether horses would be part of a new Animal Welfare law.

The new Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, **Vytenis Andriukaitis**, Lithuanian is a former surgeon and Vice President of the World Health Assembly. He was previously Minister for Health in his country. Priorities and work programme of the Commissioner should be available soon [http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/andriukaitis\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/andriukaitis_en)

The meeting received an update on the joint World Horse Welfare/Eurogroup research report on equine welfare within the EU (covering the size of the horse sector, existing welfare legislation and a review of the key issues), which should be available in draft by the end of the year.

## Next Events

### MEP Horse Group meeting - 20/21 January 2015 (TBC)

Topic: Veterinary medicinal products (VPM) and medicated feed (adopted by EU Commission on 10/09/2014). The agenda could include availability of medicine for horses, use of antibiotics, VMPs and end of life for horses

**EAAP Annual Meeting in Warsaw – 30 August/4 September 2015** – EHN and EAAP Commission on Horses are preparing the programme for Equine practice in science: equitation science, human-horse relations, social importance and interest of the horse and funding equine research.

Read more about the event: <http://www.eaap2015.org/>