

EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK NEWS



MEP Horse Group in the European Parliament
3rd May 2017

Hilde Vautmans, MEP
Jean Arthuis, MEP
Lieve Wierink, MEP



July 2017

- IFCE publication in partnership with EHN
- MEP Horse Group 3rd May
- EHN Legal Group meeting 21st June
- Update on EU topics
- Next events

Welcome to European Horse Network News

Dear readers,

The involvement of EHN members is growing and we had to add seats during our MEP Horse Group lunches and find bigger rooms for our events! I am also impressed by the growing professionalism of EHN when promoting and defending the horse industry. It is a real Team work and EHN Legal Group will greatly help.

I am very happy to have gained the support of eminent MEPs that are making our events even more

valuable.

When asking EHN Presidents to meet in July, my aim was to increase the cohesion and validate priorities for the future. Members will work on the future communication on equines and also find ways to enhance the horse value chain. Thank you for your participation!

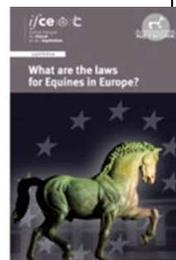
Enjoy summer!
Mark Wentein, Chairman

Publication

Resulting from a partnership between the French Horse and Riding Institute (IFCE) and the European Horse Network (EHN), this detailed study on equidae-related legislation is the first project attempting to understand the specific equine legal issues faced by 12 European countries.

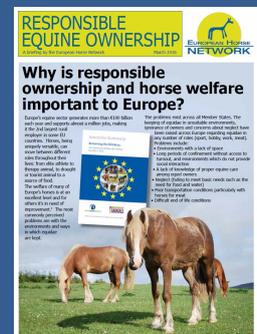
The comparative publication focuses on 5 main issues:

- Legal status of horses (animal for production or pet animal)
- Identification of the equidae;
- tax rules applicable to equine activities;
- Betting regulations;
- Welfare standards.



The document reviews existing rules and potential reforms in France, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Spain, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom, Sweden.

<http://www.ifce.fr/produit/lawsforequineineurope/>



EHN leaflets are available

Horses and Sport, Horses and welfare, Horses and research, Horses and Health, Education and Training, Veterinary products, Growth & Environment, Responsible Ownership, Horses in future Agriculture policy, Equestrian Tourism

www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu

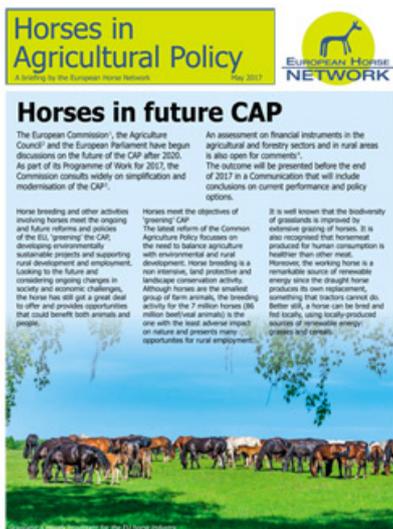


@euhorsenetwork

MEP Horse Group – Brussels 3rd May 2017

Future CAP and sustainable financing of the European Horse sector hosted by Jean Arthuis, MEP

At this beginning of consultation for the future Common Agricultural Policy, CAP, the objective of the meeting was to show the place of the horse in agriculture and its numerous benefits. The equine activities correspond perfectly to the criteria of the CAP such as expressed in the previous reform and could bring much more after 2020.



In support of that, coherent financial tools and tax system are necessary to support this sector which presents benefits for the rural employment and the European environment. Jean Arthuis reminded that last October, during a Conference that he had initiated with the European Horse Network, had been raised multiple weaknesses in the European policies as

regards equines. The horse has no specific status, and according to its affectation, it is protected and taxed in various ways. "It is extremely problematic for the future of this sector and for the maintenance or the disappearance of the horse from our territories. Nevertheless 7 million Equidae, it is 400 000 jobs in Europe, on more than 6 million hectares of pastures without pesticides" concluded Jean Arthuis.

The first debates on the CAP after 2020, are a new opportunity to highlight the position of the animal in agriculture. Agricultural financial support, in numerous countries are nevertheless forgotten as reminded by James Murphy, President of the Horse Working Party in the COPA. The horse meets the criteria for a green CAP, farming is not an intensive activity, land and landscapes are protected, maintained and James Murphy, added that "the implementation of agricultural rules should be done consistently, the farmers should be rewarded for their efforts in low environment impact activities". Equines must remain an agricultural product and be supported by Pillar 1 of the CAP as well as benefit from the many opportunities on social and environmental values of Pillar 2.

First EHN Legal Group meeting – Brussels 21st June 2017



Because of the increasing number of legislative proposals impacting the Equine industry, EHN, has taken the decision to create a specific working group.

EHN Legal Group gathers at least twice a year, legal experts working inside various EHN members' structures to exchange information, draft positions and detect early, potential articles or proposals relevant for our sector.

Objectives and methodology:

- Be mutually informed on topics (legislative proposal, action plan, event) with an impact on the horse industry
- Work upstream/Early Identification of problems
- Nominate a pilot for each topic to update note, inform the group, lead EHN action
- A note made for each topic explaining the content/procedure and impact/updated after institutional activities and EHN action
- Draft recommendations and joint position (the most difficult part but necessary to demonstrate EHN strength and good governance).

7 Topics to watch and report:

- Consumers' Sales
- Veterinary Products
- Identification – exchange of views on National Central Database – work with Traces
- Animal Health Law - Adopt a methodology to follow the delegated and implementing acts
- CAP2020 – the future agricultural policy
- Taxation – VAT and SMEs
- Ethics – Welfare, Responsible ownership and training, transportation, Movements, Insurance for riders and owners (end of life)

Update on Horse topics in EU Institutions

EHN contributes to the Consultation on Future CAP Agriculture policy after 2020

More than 322 916 submissions. Learn all about it <http://bit.ly/2k31ZVs>

EHN amendments submitted to rapporteur on Consumers' sales

EU Directive on consumers' sales (1999) is causing a lot of trouble for European horse breeders/trainers when selling a horse from business to consumer. A proposal for online sales have been released by the EU Commission in 2015 and is now discussed in the Parliament. Pascal Arimont, MEP, rapporteur suggests to enlarge the scope to all sales replacing the previous Directive from 1999. Mr Arimont received EHN amendments proposals in April 2017. Text will be discussed and adopted in October/November 2017.

Next Events

EHN Presidents meeting and MEP Horse Group on Equestrian Tourism 12, 13 July in Brussels

Annual Horse Conference of Ouest France

on 18 October in Angers: How can we reinvent equestrian activities?

<http://bit.ly/2sLoss7>

EHN General Assembly and Equine Conference in European Parliament: **7 November 2017**

