

EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK NEWS

Equine Conference in the European Parliament 7th November 2017
Round Table chaired by Hilde Vautmans, MEP



Welcome to European Horse Network News

Dear readers,

Happy to start my 3rd mandate as Chairman of EHN with the same efficient team at the Board. The beginning of November was an intense week for EHN and EU institutions talked a lot about equines!

The legal group meeting was regarded as valuable for all. Topics such as EU future agricultural stats and data protection were added to the list of regulations with impact on the equine industry. We must be vigilant on identification as the EU is today discussing the system we will apply in a few years.

EHN Conference in the Parliament and our AGM were well attended and I want to thank all EHN members for their contributions and involvement.

Still on the same week, Equine Welfare was an important topic on the agenda of the European Animal Welfare Platform and the EU Commission agreed to

support an 'unofficial' equine sub-group to look at responsible ownership and end of life issues. We will report later on how this sub-group will be managed.

We can say that during 2017, EHN came to the fore many times to promote and defend the equine industry. It takes time and money to advocate our position and increase our network, that is why, I have asked to slightly increase our membership fee and add more professionalism to our activities.

We have also agreed to increase our resources by welcoming new members and categorise the membership fee.

The Board members meet on 22nd February to prepare the next steps and imagine future events.

Wishing you all a wonderful Winter Holiday Season!

Mark Wentein, Chairman

Valuable Publication – Please disseminate

EU's Animal Transport Best Practice Guides and fact sheets are available in many languages at:

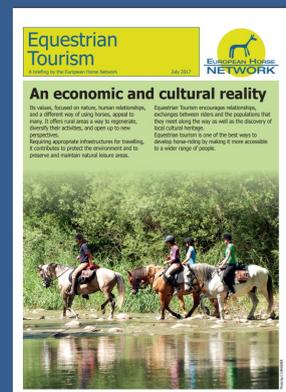
www.animaltransportguides.eu

Videos will also be available in 2018



December 2017

- Transport Guidelines publication
- EHN Equine Conference
- EHN AGM 2017
- EU Animal Welfare Platform meeting 10/11
- Next events



EHN leaflets are available

Horses and Sport (Update 2017),
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



Equine Conference in European Parliament – 7 November 2017 – Brussels



The conference was attended by more than 70 participants, 6 MEPs, French parliamentarians, agricultural attachés, officials of the European Commission and many representatives of the equine sector. The 2 Round Tables were chaired by our supportive MEPs, Hilde Vautmans and Jean Arthuis. Hilde showed the innovations of European equestrian sport, green events for FEI, new educational concepts and attractive popular events, Jean Arthuis looked at constraints and uncertainties related to Brexit which will impact the movement of horses, employment, and agricultural funding.

Articles in Belgium and French press related the conference.



EHN General Assembly – 7 November 2017 - Brussels

26 participants joined the meeting to review 2017 activities. Board members re-elected for one-year mandate to:

- Work on forward-looking communication messages: Horses are the Future, Horses and Welfare
- Continue our valuable collaboration with EU Commission and MEPs Horse Group meeting on Insurance topics, on Aftercare, on Identity/Passport (Topics TBC)

- Prepare a Manifesto/White Paper with messages for next EU election in 2019
- Position Equines in the future Agricultural Policy



EU Animal Welfare Platform – 10 November 2017 - Brussels

The platform is composed of 75 participants: Member States, stakeholders and independent experts. The meeting focused on transport and unwanted horses. The session was introduced by 3 presentations providing perspectives from an NGO (WHW, Roly Owers), a Member State (Ireland – Brid Farrell) and industry (Claire Cordilhac, IFCE/EHN). All called for setting up a sub-group on horses – EU Commission agreed on the establishment of informal sub-groups. The idea was taken forward by Denmark, industry and NGO representatives.



[Web streaming](#) of the meeting is available. Next meeting is scheduled on 21 June 2018.

Next Events

EHN Board meeting on 22nd February will prepare the next EHN events: Spring MEP Horse Group lunch and third Legal Group meeting.

WHW and FEI have launched a **World Horse Day on 17 September** – EHN will actively prepare the 2018 celebration