

EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK NEWS



EHN General Assembly online – 8 December 2020

Welcome to European Horse Network News

Dear readers,

The strangest year is coming to an end. Most of us are still under a semi-lockdown situation and the impact on the Equine industry is huge.

This will be the unique Newsletter of 2020 but it was important to come back on what we have managed to achieve despite the circumstances.

The newly elected Board has the mission to make the most of 2021. A crucial year for our industry to manage Brexit, new identity regulation, future regional plan in agriculture.

It is probably going to be very difficult to cope with all that and EHN must be supportive with useful documents, efficient lobbying activities and financial support to future projects.

In February, Board members will set up an increased budget proposal with liquidities not spent in 2020. We will inform you then. Until we 'really' meet again in 2021, I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New year!

Keep well

Mark Wentein, Chairman

New Member



Equin'Institut is an association dedicated to information and education in equine health for all kind of people working or living with horses.

<https://www.equinstitut.org/>



December 2020

- EHN Meetings
- Publications
- Update on EU legislation
- Next Meetings



EHN leaflets and Manifesto 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 (update June 2018), Equestrian Tourism

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EHN Meetings

Online meeting - 13 October 2020 - Impact of Covid crisis

Unfortunately, the planned Conference chaired by MEP Hilde Vautmans and EU Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen could not take place because of new restrictive measures in Belgium. However, EHN members were able to meet online on the same day and send messages to EU Commission and Parliament to address the impact of the Covid pandemic on the European Equine industry.

A meeting with Mrs von der Leyen has been accepted and should be confirmed in the coming weeks.

EHN General Assembly – 8 December 2020

The meeting was opened by Hilde Vautmans, MEP, Chair of the Horse Group. She was positive on the future and renewed its total support and availability to defend and promote the equine industry.

12 members of the Board were elected for a 3-year mandate and will present a reviewed budget proposal and work programme in February 2021.

Members attended a **Webinar organised by the IHSC task Force (Joint FEI/IFHA structure)**. The aim was to create awareness on new rules on identification and movement of equines in 2021. Göran Akerström, FEI Veterinary Director, listed the key tasks and engagement which should take place at Member State's level to minimise any disruption to the European Equine Industry resulting from Brexit and the new Animal Health Law.



EU Projects to push forward in 2021

EHN plans to support the framing of 2 EU projects of great importance to position our industry in terms of integrity, knowledge, innovation.

Erasmus+ Sport - Horseracing Integrity

The project seeks to address and tackle attempts to undermine the integrity of horseracing, including through race-fixing and doping. It seeks to support good governance of horseracing, sharing best practices in the rules and sanctions to be applied and the educational resources to be provided to stakeholders and the general public. *The Call for proposals could be launched in May/June 2021*

Horizon Europe - Equine Thematic Network

The Equine Thematic Network proposal on "roles and assets of horses for a sustainable rural development" is under preparation at the French Equine Institute to reply to a future Horizon Europe call in April 2021 (could be delayed). Thematic networks are multi-actor projects which collect existing knowledge and best practices to make it available in easily understandable formats for end users such as farmers, foresters, breeders.

Please contact EHN Secretariat if you wish to contribute

EU Legislation Update

19 June 2020 – creation of the EP Committee of inquiry on the protection of animals during transport – 30 MEPs will investigate a suspected lack of implementation and enforcement of EU provisions on space allowance and headroom for transported animals, on their watering, feeding and bedding, and on temperature and ventilation system during transport. ANIT organised a public hearing on 10/12 to get a comprehensive overview of the enforcement of Regulation 01/2005 to tackle the different responsibilities of the Member States and the Commission <https://bit.ly/3mBYSkR>

EHN will contact the MEPs and contribute to the inquiry. Final report in June 2021.

15 June 2020 – New EU Reference Centre on welfare of ruminants and equines

Reference centres act as initiatives aiming at improving the enforcement of the EU animal welfare legislation. They provide coordinated assistance and technical support to Member-States performing official controls on animal welfare. Such centres also disseminate good practices and research findings and organise training courses and they carry out studies on animal welfare.

Location and first activities to be designated by Q1 2021

New EHN Headquarters in Zaventem

The Belgian Equestrian Federation welcomes us in their modern premises in Zaventem where EEF and CBC, members of EHN are already based.



Belgicastraat 9 B 2 – 1980 Zaventem

EHN Publications

Green Assets and Green Deal



The objectives of the Green Assets Fact sheets and the Green Deal infographic are to create awareness on Equines' unique impacts on the environment: use of equine as alternative energy in numerous fields (agriculture, transport...) as well as landscape managers, social mediator, food-producing animals...

<http://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/position-statements/>

Next meetings

EHN newly elected Board members meet in February 2021
EHN MEP Horse Group meeting in March 2021 (TBC).