

EUROPEAN HORSE NETWORK NEWS



Mrs. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission and Mrs. Hilde Vautmans, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the MEP Horse Group
Brussels
16 November
2021



December 2021

- EHN Annual Conference
- EU Projects
- EU legislations update

Welcome to European Horse Network News

Dear readers,

It was wonderful to meet in Brussels and to gain the support of “powerful” ladies such as Mrs. von der Leyen and Mrs. Vautmans as well as the Finnish MEP, Mrs. Henna Virkunnen. All three are constant support to our industry as we have seen during the antimicrobial debate in the Parliament in September. Further reforms of EU regulations are planned in 2022 such as the reform of transport and animal welfare and EHN, with specific working groups and experts can coordinate position papers and plan actions to reach decision makers.

I hope we will have more opportunities to

meet in 2022 and organize events in the coming year to increase the visibility and strength of our network. I also realize that hybrid events with online facilities will continue. EHN will adapt.

A new survey will be launched in January to collect your ideas and concerns and work efficiently. Spoga Horse Show in Koln in February could be our next possibility to network and prepare future actions.

Enjoy the winter holiday period!

Mark Wentein, Chairman



Next meetings :

18 January 2022 – EquiGala in Brussels

5 February 2022 – Board meeting at Spoga in Koln

Webinar on transport issues online (date to be defined)

<https://www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu/>

EHN Meetings

MEP Horse Group - EHN Conference



“While stepping out of the pandemic, Europeans have **rediscovered the importance of nature and animals in their lives**. We should take this trend to our advantage to come closer to the animal and nature” said the President of the European Commission.

Mrs. von der Leyen is open to listen the needs of the horse sector. Moreover, her support to the industry is here to stay.

The CAP, NextGenerationEU and the European Green Deal could benefit the equine Industry. Even though there are no specific EU measures taken for the horse sector, many measures in the big policy packages will have a positive impact on the horse sector.

Mrs. Hilde Vautmans, as chair of the MEP Horse Group demonstrated the excellence and importance of the equine sector and Stephan Conter, Belgian entrepreneur and trainer asked decision makers to support the superiority of the European Equine excellence by editing simple and clear rules for movements and sales of equines.

Roly Owers, Julius Peters and Paull Khan explained how and why the equine sector needed support and compatible rules.

EHN demands were included in the flyer printed for the occasion as well as an updated Manifesto.

Around 60 participants from the EU Commission, Parliament and equine industry attended the event.



EU Projects supported by EHN

EHIP – European Horseracing Integrity Project has been submitted for Erasmus+ funding on June 17. News about the submission will be in December or even in January 2022. If successful, the project will last 2 years and include many events linked to EHN and its members (EMHF, UET, Hippolia, IFCE).

EUNetHorse– Equine Thematic Network Deadline to submit (Horizon Europe Research Programme) is 15 February 2022. This project will work on the resilience of the equine industry taking into account socioeconomic performance of farms, horse health and welfare and the environment sustainability of the sector. If successful, the four years project could obtain €3 million and involve around 9 countries and several EHN members.

NUTRITION – Evaluate the energy in feed stuffs to help farmers and breeders. Appropriate labelling of the energy and protein content of feed will help owners with their feeding management of horses. The project gave its first results in November 2021 that were sent to all members. Final results will be published on EHN website.

EU legislation Update

Antimicrobial criteria

The EU Commission is in the process of the implementation of the Veterinary medicinal products Act. [The Delegated Regulation 2021/1760](#) is to find criteria to set up a list of antimicrobial reserved to humans pursuant to the requirements of the World Health Organisation and in accordance to the One Health concept. The text was published in October 2021.

Reform on Transport - ANIT EP Committee on animal welfare in transport

MEPs have drafted a report on infringements to transport regulation and a resolution with recommendations to the Commission. EHN working group made comments on those two reports and amendments. Our main areas of concern are the requirement of veterinary presence at loading, the ban for transportation of live animals to/from third countries, restrictions on transport by RO/RO vessels and the registered / nonregistered categorization. Compromise amendments have been available on 26/11 and voted in December. The final report does not call for a ban on export to third countries or for movements of unweaned animals. MEPs include equines in species that are not adequately covered by the current legislation. This report will be voted on in plenary session in January.

Agreement of EU governments on a new list for low VAT rate – 7 December 2021

The Council reached agreement on a proposal to update EU rules on rates of value added tax (VAT). The agreement aims to modernise and update the list (Annex III) of goods and services eligible for reduced rates.

Member States may apply the reduced rates to a maximum of twenty-four points of supplies of goods and services listed in Annex III.

Included in the list: (11a) Live equines and the supply of services related to live equines;

The European Parliament should adopt a position on the text before mid-March. The text will then be definitively adopted by the Council and must be implemented in the different Member States. This agreement could be a great opportunity for countries where a low VAT could apply and promote equine activities.