

PRESS RELEASE

EL reiterates its commitment to grassroots sport in Europe by renewing its partnership with ENGSO

Lausanne/Brussels, 14 December 2015: Following a long fruitful cooperation over the last 7 years, the European Lotteries (EL) and the European Non-Governmental Sport Organisation (ENGSO) have renewed their partnership.



In the years 2016–2017 the two associations will continue to cooperate towards the promotion of grassroots sport in Europe, address social issues and will also deal with the on-going fight against match-fixing. The two associations will furthermore support each other's events and raise topics of common interest.

ENGSO President Carlos Paula Cardoso and EL President Hansjörg Höltkemeier.

Both associations are happy for this continuous positive relationship and are looking forward to more years of constructive collaboration.

EL President, Hansjörg Höltkemeier: *"EL Members are part of a sustainable model that is based on principles, like integrity, solidarity, precaution and subsidiarity. The partnership with ENGSO and the joint achievements so far display in a very concrete way our core values and principles. In the coming two years, we are planning to go even further and take the partnership onto a higher level. As modern European society is facing many challenges, we will be also looking at sport as a tool for social change and as a means to address current societal challenges. We are looking forward to the further strengthening of this fruitful partnership, for the benefit of sport and society"*.

ENGSO President, Carlos Paula Cardoso has also highlighted the importance of the cooperation over the years. *"For ENGSO, the cooperation with the European Lotteries is something very natural as we share same values both in sport and in the wider society. Looking into the sports ambit we are aware of the key role played, over the last decades, by the EL Members at national level. They have been supporting sport at different levels, especially in what concerns grassroots sport. We recognize that without that support hundreds of clubs, which are the basic units of the European sports, would not have survived. We are very delighted to continue our cooperation at the European level to safeguard the sustainable financing of grassroots sport and integrity of sports."*

ENDS

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European Lotteries (EL) is the European umbrella organisation of national lotteries operating games of chance for the public benefit. EL has members from 45 European countries including all 28 EU Member States. The association's EU members contribute more than 20 billion € p.a. to the state budgets and the funding of sport, culture, social projects, research and other causes of general interest. Unlike many commercial online gambling operators, EL members only offer gambling and betting services in the jurisdictions in which they are licensed by the respective national government.