

## PRESS RELEASE

### ESV Neuaubing receives the European Lotteries (EL) Sport Award for its project “Sports United”

**Krakow, 8 June 2017:** In a ceremony held yesterday in Krakow, as part of the EL Congress, the first edition of the EL Sport Award was handed to the Bavarian sports club ESV Neuaubing for its “Sports United” project. Established in 2012 with the objective to offer real integration opportunities to refugees and asylum seekers in and through sport, the project – first of its kind in Germany – empowers and integrates numerous refugees of all sexes, ages and abilities through different sports. Under the roof of sports club ESV Neuaubing players are also competing in the regular league of the Bavarian Soccer Association – as the very first team of refugees in the state.



Torbjørn Almlid, outgoing Chairman of the EL Sports Committee, handing the Award to the ESV Neuaubing representatives

EL Secretary General, Arjan van't Veer, states: *“We congratulate ESV Neuaubing for winning this first edition of the EL Sport Award and we look forward to providing support to similar sport projects through future editions of the EL Sport Award. This Award is fully in line with the EL Members’ strong commitment to society, sport values and integrity”.* Olaf Butterbrod, Head of Football of ESV Neuaubing added *“We are delighted to win the 2017 edition of the EL Sport Award and we are grateful to the European Lotteries for having selected us. This Award gives us strength to continue our activities, whereas the financial contribution which accompanies it will give us additional means to bring to life our ideas to further enhance the impact.”*

Open to any initiative seeking to tackle negative phenomena in/through sport or to support societal causes through sport, the European Lotteries’ Sport Award was launched through a call for submissions/nominations in September 2016. Among the 16 submissions/nominations received, the selection was based on a set of criteria, including the quality of application, relevance of project, inspirational value and impact. The call for nominations/submissions for the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the EL Sport Award will be launched in September 2017.

ENDS

Links:

- ESV Neuaubing website can be accessed [here](#).
- More information on the EL Sport Award can be found [here](#)

- Related press release: ASPIRE Project on the social integration of refugees through sport: available [here](#)

**EL contacts:**

**Evangelos Alexandrakis**, EL Sport Executive Secretary

Tel: + 41(0)21 311 30 25, [el-sport@european-lotteries.org](mailto:el-sport@european-lotteries.org)

*European Lotteries (EL) is the European umbrella organisation of national lotteries operating games of chance for the public benefit. EL has members from 43 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.*