Lotteries in Europe have demonstrated over time a strong commitment to sport. The Members of EL have been the prime partners of sport for decades, providing sustainable funding of more than 2 BILLION EUR to European sport each year. In the EU, grassroots sport is the main beneficiary of funding from lottery revenue, generated from the sale of various lottery games, as well as sports betting. Our Members in the EU offer sports betting in 23 out of 27 EU Member States and confine their activities to the national jurisdictions in which they are licensed and strictly controlled.

Overall, in Europe, approximately one tenth of all the revenue generated from lotteries is allocated to sport – a percentage unmatched by any other sector and an essential contribution to the survival of sport, in particular grassroots sport.

GRASSROOTS SPORT: A PRIORITY

While the way in which lottery revenue is allocated to specific public interest causes varies from Member State to Member State, the characteristic of redistribution of lottery revenue for sport is common to almost all EU countries, as the following examples show:

HOW EL MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE

In Austria, Austrian Lotteries offer around 80 million Euros to grassroots sport every year.

In Finland, the Ministry of Education is charged with distributing the revenue from our Member

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SPORT

Today, we are more than ever committed to help defending the values of sport wherever we can. We feel that it is our mission to safeguard the sustainability of grassroots sport, elite sport and also sport for all.
Veikkaus and allocates a substantial part of it to grassroots sport projects. Veikkaus contributed 147 million Euros of the Finnish state’s total contribution to sport in 2014.

In France, our Member La Française des Jeux (LFDJ) contributes 80% of the annual budget of the CNDS, the National Centre for the Development of Sports, which is the national organisation for grassroots sport in the country.

In Slovenia, our Member Sportna Loterija offered 7.5 million Euros to the Slovenian Sports Foundation in 2011. This money was allocated to various sports clubs, unions and associations.

In Portugal, our Member Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa, provided sport with around 60 million Euros, of which a considerable amount concerned grassroots sport.

WE SUPPORT THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

Having a strong commitment to the Olympic values and an appreciation for the history of the Olympic Games, EL Members support materially the Olympic movement.

In the UK, our Member Camelot contributed approximately one quarter of the total cost of staging the 2012 London Olympics (2.185 bn pounds in total).

In Italy, part of the revenue of EL’s Members Lottomatica and Sisal is allocated to CONI, the National Olympic Committee, through the mandatory payments of our Members to the national budget under their licence requirement.

In Switzerland, 65% of the National Olympic Committee’s budget derives from contributions from our Members Loterie Romande and SwissLos and in Iceland our Member Getspa offered nearly 2.5 million Euros to the Icelandic Olympic Committee in 2011.

In Spain, our Member Sociedad Estatal Loterías y Apuestas del Estado offered almost 3.5 million Euros to the Olympic Sports Association over the period of the last 4 years and 1 million Euros to Paralympic sports.

PROMOTING DIVERSITY

EL perceives sport as an activity everybody should have access to. EL believes in the societal role of sport, it perceives it as a tool for social inclusion, integration and empowerment.

This is why throughout Europe, Lotteries also provide funding destined to making sport accessible to disabled persons. Paralympic sport is funded by a number of state Lotteries in Europe and our Member Camelot was one of the main funders of the 2012 London Paralympics.

Moreover, the Austrian Paralympic Committee (ÖPC) has been funded with about 900,000 Euros since 1996 by the Austrian Lotteries and, in Greece, our Member OPAP was the major sponsor of the Hellenic Paralympic team. Thanks to OPAP’s support the Hellenic Paralympic team managed to have a successful participation in the London Paralympics.

In France, our Member LFDJ 20 years ago created the LFDJ Foundation of which the main aim is to support sport for all activities throughout the country. Over these 20 years LFDJ has offered more that 4 bn Euros to the Foundation.

WE WILL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR SPORT

Funding and serving sport, and in particular grassroots sport, was, is and will remain the most important mission of the EL Members. We perceive this support as a duty towards society and we will never stop standing by sport. Sport is our most valuable ally, partner and friend.