

Moldovan police and ESSA sign sports betting integrity agreement

Brussels, 18 September 2018: The General Police Inspectorate of the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs has signed an information sharing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with leading international sports betting integrity body ESSA (Sports Betting Integrity), which represents many of the largest regulated retail and online betting operators in the world.

The agreement establishes mutually beneficial cooperation framework protocols which will allow both parties to exchange information relating to potentially corrupt betting activity and the associated manipulation of sporting events in Moldova. ESSA will work with the Moldovan authorities employing its monitoring and alert platform to assist those authorities in the detection, investigation and prosecution of any betting related match-fixing occurring on its members' markets.

Alexandru Pinzari, Head of the General Police Inspectorate stated: "Engagement with regulated and responsible betting operators is a central part of our strategy to address and deter match-fixing in Moldova. This agreement with ESSA and its members brings with it important benefits for our information gathering and investigative activities. It will greatly assist our ability to protect both sporting events and consumers from criminals intent on corrupting sport and betting markets for financial gain."

Khalid Ali, Secretary General of ESSA, stated: "This agreement continues the important development of an international network of information sharing between ESSA and its members and regulatory and law enforcement bodies around the world. Cooperation and partnership working is a key facet in the global fight against match-fixing and the corruption of regulated betting markets. ESSA is therefore delighted to formalise our positive working relationship with the Moldovan authorities."

ESSA holds positions on high-level betting policy forums at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the IOC. It is driving a number of important [initiatives](#) aimed at addressing match-fixing and hosted an international betting integrity conference at Lords Cricket Ground (see [here](#)) at the end of last year, attended by over 150 senior officials from sports bodies, regulators and other key stakeholders. A copy of ESSA's Q2 integrity report can be accessed [here](#), along with previous reports.

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About ESSA:

ESSA represents many of the world's biggest regulated sports betting operators, serving over 40 million consumers in the EU alone. Concerned regulated bookmakers created ESSA in 2005 to monitor betting markets and alert sporting bodies and national regulators to suspicious betting patterns. The goal was, and is, to protect consumers from potential fraud caused by manipulating

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sporting events. ESSA helps to combat this with evidence-based intelligence it provides to sporting bodies and regulators.

Every year, our members invest over €50m in compliance and internal security systems in order to help combat fraud. They also give back to sport and society by spending €400m on sponsorship around the world - €250m of that in Europe alone. This increases substantially when advertising and photo and video-streaming rights are taken into consideration. ESSA and its members also co-fund an education programme on gambling with EU Athletes that reaches out to 15,000 athletes/players across at least ten different sports in 13 EU countries.

ESSA continues to play a key role as the regulated betting sector's representative body at national and international match-fixing policy forums and holds positions on working groups at the European Commission, Council of Europe and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The organisation is continually reassessing and improving its alert and reporting systems and has established information sharing arrangements with a range of sports bodies and regulatory authorities.

ESSA members include: 888sport, ABB, Bet-at-Home, Betclix, Betdaq, Betfred, Betsson, BetStars, BetVictor, Betway, bet365, bwin, Cashpoint, Expekt, Fonbet, Gamesys, Interwetten, Ladbrokes Coral, Paddy Power Betfair, Perform Group (affiliate), Sky Bet, Sportingbet, Sporting Index, Sportium, Stanleybet, Stoiximan, Unibet and William Hill. For more information see ESSA's website at <http://www.eu-ssa.org/> or visit us on twitter: [@ESSA_Betting](https://twitter.com/ESSA_Betting)

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