



Paris, The 6th of January 2016

IRIS AND PARTNERS START A NEW EU PROGRAM FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

“Preventing criminal risks linked to the sports betting market” (#PreCrimBet)

On January 5th 2016, the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) launched a program intending to create consistent and authoritative knowledge on the criminal risks linked to the sports betting market (money laundering, infiltration, corruption and cybercrime), assist national authorities in protecting betting integrity and building networks of concerned public and private stakeholders at national level (betting operators, betting regulators, sports organisations, ministries in charge of sport, law-enforcement, FIU, relevant experts).

This project is financed by the European Commission, through a call for proposal issued by DG Migration and Home Affairs.

The IRIS partners involved in this project are the University of Liverpool (represented by Professor David Forrest), the University of Hamburg, the Danish Gambling Authority (Birgitte Sand) and experts Christian Kalb (CK Consulting), Ingo Fiedler (Academicon) and Laurent Vidal (Academic and Clairance Avocats).

The 18-months-long program will start by conducting a pioneer risk-assessment analysis of the betting market, the results of which will be published under the form of a first report on the criminal risks linked to betting (phase 1), containing concrete and policy-oriented recommendations. 12 national seminars will then be organised to inform and assist EU national authorities in keeping their betting activity clean and innocuous to society and sport (phase 2). At the end of this second phase, a White book will be published on “Preventing criminal risks linked to the sports betting market”.

[MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT](#)

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The French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS) is one of the main independent European Think Tanks on geopolitical and strategic issues. IRIS addresses a very large range of geostrategic issues and works for public bodies (ministries, European institutions, Parliament, international organisations) and for private companies, for which it conducts studies, writes notes and sets up trainings. In addition to this, it organises around fifty events a year (seminars, colloquia, conferences, breakfasts, etc.).

IRIS is now acknowledged as an expert in the sports field and the associated governance issues. For more than five years, the institute has been increasing its contribution in the sports field: a White Paper called "Paris sportifs et corruption, comment préserver l'intégrité du sport" ("Sports betting and corruption: how to preserve the integrity of sports") was published at the beginning of 2012; a study program, the theme of which was "the strategies of sports diplomacy as new influence tools for the states" (known as "DIPLOSPORT"), has been set up in cooperation with the support of the CSFRS; a program "What National Network to Fight Against Match Fixing" sponsored by the European Commission; membership to the Permanent Consultative Council of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport of UNESCO; reference books have been published by the institute, and so on.