

**Question for written answer E-003299/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Ignazio Corrao** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** Illegal and legal gambling in Europe: call for Commission to take action following Italy's football betting scandal

The investigation into footballers in Italy making illegal bets has highlighted the country's growing issue with gambling. An EGBA report<sup>1</sup> revealed that the sector made a turnover of EUR 108.5 billion in Europe in 2022 and expects to generate EUR 134 billion by 2027. Italy banned gambling ads in 2018<sup>2</sup>.

The sector needs a common framework to bring about regulatory convergence and for adequate consumer protection to be provided uniformly across the EU, but it is unlikely to be achieved without further action at EU level.

The Commission has decided to push gambling issues to side<sup>3</sup>, despite the fact that Recommendation 2014/478/EU failed to ensure regulatory uniformity and convergence.

The increased willingness and interest in administrative cooperation between the Member States compared to 2014 could bring more support for direct, compulsory and harmonised measures on gambling, thus allowing for the original objectives of the recommendation to be achieved more effectively.

In view of the above:

1. Will the Commission address the lack of regulatory convergence and consumer protection in the gambling sector?
2. On the whole, how well does it think that the principles of Recommendation 2014/478/EU have been implemented by the Member States, and what does it make of results?
3. What initiatives has it planned, or will it promote, with regard to the regulation of gambling and cooperation between Member States?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.egba.eu/uploads/2018/12/181206-Consumer-Protection-in-EU-Online-Gambling-EBGA-Report-December-2018.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://demografica.adnkronos.com/popolazione/scommesse-dei-calciatori-non-trema-solo-il-calcio-la-ludopatia-e-un-problema-sociale/>

<sup>3</sup> P-003545/2019(ASW); E-000405/2020(ASW); E-003682/2019(ASW)