



14.2.2011

0007/2011

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure
on combating corruption in European Sport

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Lapse date: 16.5.2011

0007/2011

Written declaration on combating corruption in European Sport

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the seventh indent of Article 165(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which states that Union action shall be aimed at developing the European dimension in sport, by promoting fairness and openness in sporting competitions,
 - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. recognising the very important social and financial impact of European sport on citizens and enterprises in the Union,
- B. whereas according to the White Paper on Sport (COM(2007)0391) corruption problems with a European dimension need to be tackled at European level and the Commission will continue to monitor the implementation of EU anti-money laundering legislation in the Member States with regard to the sport sector,
1. Calls on the Commission to coordinate, together with Member States, a large-scale study on corruption incidents in European sport, consulting all relevant stakeholders;
 2. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to highlight specifically links between organised crime activity and legal and illegal betting, sport agents, referees, club officials and sportsmen and women, that aim to fix the results of European sport matches in advance;
 3. Calls on the Commission to regulate online betting, in the interests of the integrity and sustainable development of European sport, through licensed operators, specific measures to combat match-fixing and ensuring a fair return to grassroots sport through the recognition of a betting right to sports competition organisers;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Parliaments of the Member States.