INSTITUTE FOR GAMBLING REGULATION

NEWSLETTER
February 2019

WHAT'S UP IN THE INSTITUTE

MAIN NEWS – ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE REPORTING DECREE ON PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION



IFGR continues to resolve the **potential inconsistency of the Reporting Decree and GDPR**. At the MoF and IFGR meeting, it was agreed that the IFGR would send the MoF a **material for the Assessment of impact of the Reporting Decree on personal data protection**, a document in which the essential elements of the assessment will be proposed. The material was sent to the MoF on 18th February 2019. It will be sent to IFGR members to view in a separate e-mail and is accessible in the Members section of the Website under Právní předpisy, formuláře a metodiky. We will continue to keep you informed about the progress of the matter.

WHAT ELSE

- On 11th February 2019, **the second meeting of IFGR representatives and the General Financial Directorate** took place. The main topics were the presentation of IFGR goals, set up of cooperation between the entities and the impact of adoption of the tax package. The meeting minutes were sent to you in a separate e-mail and can be found in the events members section of the IFGR website.
- On 13th February 2019, **a meeting of IFGR representatives with the second highest-ranking man of the customs administration, 1st Deputy General Director of the GDC, Col. Ing. Lumír Šatran** took place. The main topics were the presentation of IFGR goals and current issues. These meeting minutes were also sent to you in a separate e-mail and can be found in the events members section of the IFGR website.

WHAT'S NEXT

- IFGR representatives will participate in **MoF's Workshops to the Reporting Decree** on 25th February and 11th March 2019. Minutes of the Workshops will be prepared and be sent to you in special emails and will also be available in the members section of the website. If you have a specific question or request for IFGR, please, do not hesitate to contact us.

IFGR'S OPINION ON THE FLAWS OF THE REPORTING DECREE WAS STRENGTHENED BY THE METHODOLOGY OF THE OPDP



On 8th February 2019, the Office for Personal Data Protection published a methodology concerning the **obligation of data administrators to conduct the Assessment of impact on personal data protection**. The methodology has 10 conditions and if 2 of them are met to the sufficient extent, **a data administrator must prepare the said document** (including the state administration authority). At first glance, it is obvious that in the case of the Reporting Decree, at least 4 conditions were fulfilled, **so according to the OPDP document, the MoF has the obligation to prepare the Assessment of impact on personal data protection**. To this date, this has not been done despite IFGR warnings and suggestions. As can be seen from the main news of this Newsletter and from the information in the members section of our website, the Institute is working hard to rectify the current state and to clarify how public authorities protect gamblers' data.

WHAT'S UP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- **Press conference of the Minister of Finance**
  On Wednesday, 6th February 2019, a press conference of the Minister of Finance, JUDr. Alena Schillerová PhD., and her team was held. The Minister commented on the effects of current gambling regulation, MoF's consideration of higher taxation of gambling, blocking of illegal operators' websites, the Register of Excluded Persons and on several other issues. The entire press conference record is available in the member section, current articles. **The entire recording of the press conference is available in the members section in current articles.**

- **GDC statement on live game operation**
  On 19th February 2019, GDC published its statement on live game operation on its website. You can find out the content of the statement in the members section on the IFGR website under Právní předpisy, formuláře a metodiky. This statement goes beyond the original statement of the MoF on this issue. The IFGR will continue to monitor and solve the situation.

- **Authorized director of 73rd Division has been confirmed permanently**
  In our previous Newsletter, we informed you about the open competition for the post of Director of the 73rd Division of MoF - Process Agendas and Regulation of Gambling. On 15th February 2019, the current authorized director of the division, Ing. Martin Šabo, was confirmed in this post. The official meeting of the director and representatives took place on 4th February 2019. The meeting minutes can be found in the events members section of the IFGR.

EXPRESS NEWS FROM ABROAD

- **Italy**
  The Italian IT gaming system faced an investigation by the government Commission of Inquiry. The Commission began its check in connection with the investigation of illegally operated online bets when it noticed that the system could not alert to them. The investigation was closed by stating that majority of illegal websites is operated abroad, so it is not the fault of the system when it does not alert to them. **The full article as well as the unpublished statistics from a special investigation of interconnection of gambling and organized crime can be found in the news members section of the IFGR.**

EXPRESS NEWS FROM ABROAD

- **Germany**
  The 16 federal states of our western neighbour have not yet been able to agree on the form of the gambling convention that would allow the **harmonization of future gambling regulation across Germany**. In addition, the government in Schleswig-Holstein is completely reluctant to join the regulation. Frustration in the country, which is the second largest market in Europe, is already on the rise as the preparation of the regulation has been dragging on for a long time. The points in question concern the regime of gambling operation, gambling taxation and distribution of tax revenue between the federal states and the country. You can read more about it on our website.

- **The Netherlands**
  In the previous Newsletters, we informed you that another opening market is the Dutch market. The most up-to-date information is that **on Tuesday, 19th February 2019, the Dutch Parliament finally passed the law regulating online gambling**.
  IFGR was interested in a statement of the Minister of Justice, who told that the **main objective for the future would be to completely eliminate illegal foreign operators and threatened that if such operators subsequently apply for a license in the Netherlands, it may not be granted to them,** or they would have to be patient and prove that they will respect all the statutory provisions in the future. On our website, we will publish the entire article about the regulation in the Netherlands soon.

- **Sweden**
  In the January Newsletter, we informed you about the fact that **the Swedish market became regulated on 1st January 2019**. Since this date, 69 gambling operators have been granted a license to operate gambling. All legal operators were invited to a meeting by the Swedish Minister of Consumer Protection Affairs Ardalan Shekarabi, who **threatened the gambling market with stricter regulation of advertisement.** In his public speech, the Minister said **he would require gambling operators to limit the range of gambling advertisements while at the same time threatening that, if they do not do this, it can result in unwanted consequences for them**. We will soon publish an article on the new gambling regulation and the advertisement of gambling.

- **France**
  French regulator Arjel published a study on the development of the gambling sector in France. It confirmed that **the sector has been growing for the second year**, which is satisfactory, but also added that the growth is fragile and is related to the betting fever connected with the Football World Cup that France won. At the same time, according to **Arjel, the tax reform of gambling is necessary, on the grounds of which the amount of tax paid would be calculated from GGR**. We will also publish the full article about the Arjel report on our website.