

Policy Statement

Committee: GA2

Delegation: The Netherlands

Delegate: Sarah Annamária Kuipers

The Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning the issue: The question of legalising gambling for economic purposes

For centuries, the Netherlands has been a big player in the international trade and it is the 10th largest exporter on Earth. Gambling in the Netherlands is a state monopoly. There are several land-based casinos in operation here and they are run by the Holland Casino Group. All proceeds go directly to the Dutch Treasury.

The Netherlands is aware of the fact that in many countries gambling is not legalized because of the awareness of the addiction, mental health issues, poverty and more.

The Netherlands is also aware of the disadvantages mentioned above, but the Netherlands would like to mention the fact that we cannot abandon gambling for the exact same reasons.

We should take advantage of it and try to overcome this kind of issues even though we are still aware of the problems caused by it. The Netherlands has not only strictly secured casinos but as the internet gambling is developing we are trying to make it as safe as possible. We have already accomplished some significant changes as we established new regulations which will ban all foreign iGaming operators from offering their services to Dutch players or using Dutch symbols when advertising their iGaming products. The agency has also instructed all gambling companies to block Dutch IP addresses and prevent Dutch players from registering on their platforms to reduce the addiction and increase safety for our citizens.

Another advantage is that the Netherlands is certain of the tax paid by regulated gambling operators. Regulated gambling operators currently pay a 29% tax. Under the recently emerged proposal, the current tax rate will be increased by 1.1% to 30.1% within a year. The delegation of the Netherlands deeply believes that the profits from the gambling industry will increase as we hope to establish more websites and more state gambling facilities.

We can with satisfaction say that the gambling provides the government with an accessible amount of profits which are only increasing our own economic status.

That is why the Kingdom of the Netherlands is willing to cooperate to reduce all threats and make the taxes acceptable for the citizens whilst making profits for the government.