

# Overview of the results of the previous Presidencies

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# French Presidency (second semester 2008)

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- ▶ Kick-off Council WG
- ▶ Discussed the differences and similarities in the national policies
- ▶ **Identified development of online gambling as most important common challenge**
  
- ▶ **Common themes** for discussion:
  - ▶ Protection of public order
  - ▶ Social and consumer protection (preventing and combating problem gambling, protection of minors and vulnerable persons, consumer protection, advertising)
  - ▶ Combatting illegal gambling



# French Presidency (second semester 2008) (II)

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## ▶ **Recommendations re. future possibilities:**

- ▶ Seeking common approaches in certain areas
- ▶ Which could lead to policy tools
- ▶ Commission: conduct detailed studies and consultations – in due course make proposals



# Swedish Presidency (second semester 2009)

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- ▶ **Socio-economical problems related to gambling:**
  - ▶ Cost for society
  - ▶ Risk factors (problem gambling)
    - ▶ Accessibility of gambling
    - ▶ Effect of alcohol
    - ▶ Reaction to losses and occasional financial gains
    - ▶ Tension, excitement and mood
    - ▶ Advertising
    - ▶ Social environment
    - ▶ Ideas of luck and control



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- ▶ **Importance of responsible gaming measures:** list of examples
  - ▶ Age limits
  - ▶ Online registration
  - ▶ Prohibition betting on credit
  - ▶ Healthy gaming environment
  - ▶ Special provisions for gambling machines
  - ▶ Relevant contact information for support
  - ▶ Registration cards
  - ▶ Self-test and self-exclusion
  - ▶ Limiting stakes



# Swedish Presidency (second semester 2009) (III)

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- ▶ List of practices that should be forbidden (f.e. free games)
- ▶ Guidelines for marketing and socially responsible advertising
- ▶ **Ban of promotion and abetting of crimes related to gambling and betting:** discretion of Member States to regulate their market to protect consumers against addiction, fraud, money-laundering and match fixing



# Conclusions Progress report Spanish Presidency!!

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- ▶ Common understanding on shared definition of illegal gambling: *gambling in which operators do not comply with the national law of the country where services are offered, provided those national laws are in compliance with the EU Treaty principles.*
  - ▶ Declaration Malta not to support shared definition
  - ▶ Implementing measures such as sanctions or IP blocking could be effective in the fight against illegal gambling
  - ▶ MS agree that effective coordinated actions should be implemented
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# Conclusions Progress report Spanish Presidency!! (II)

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- ▶ Public campaigns on illegal gambling will ensure better protection of players – sharing info
- ▶ Encourages COM to start consultations with MS and stakeholders in the context of the Green Paper and to follow up with specific proposals regarding the issue of illegal gambling

