

# TIME Law News

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### Content

i. Brief commentary on the statement by the Federal Ministry of Finance on the draft bill of the Upper House (Bundesrat) on taxation of sports gaming (E 15) _	2
ii. Brussels stops revision of German gaming law _____	5
iii. Skill games: Will skill games be regulated in France? _____	8
iv. TÜV TRUST IT - Press Release: Scientific study proves that Texas Hold'em online poker – like sports betting – poses only a moderate addiction risk. _____	11
v. Awards 2012 – Hambach & Hambach: Leaders in their field _____	14
vi. Guest Authors in this issue _____	15
vii. In-house news _____	17
viii. Editorial Details _____	20



**i. Brief commentary on the statement by the Federal Ministry of Finance on the draft bill of the Upper House (Bundesrat) on taxation of sports gaming (E 15)**

*By German Lawyer Dr. Bremer, WIRTSCHAFTSRAT GmbH and Prof. Dr. Englisch, University of Münster*

With date on 26 March 2012, the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) presented the chairman of the Finance Committee of the Lower House (Bundestag) with its assessment of the state aid problem in the draft bill of the Upper House on taxation of sports gaming. The starting point of the legal review was merely the reduction of the tax rate with regard to horse racing bets. What at first glance appears unproblematic, though, will almost certainly prove to be an insurmountable obstacle based on the legal standpoint of the BMF for the draft bill supported by the 15 federal states (E 15 - Glücksspieländerungsstaatsvertrag). In particular, the following arguments in terms of state aid law are definitive:

As is generally known, a refund of the proceeds from the taxation on horse racing bets on a scale of 96% is paid to the equine associations in order to finance horse breeding. As this tax rebate benefits only equine associations, but not bookmakers, this procedure can in principle be classified as selective state aid in contravention of European law. As in the conviction of the BMF it is almost certainly ineligible for permits too, it actually represents a contravention of European law if only on the basis of the law as it stands. The European Commission has thus far not objected to the ruling, only because it has been in place unchanged since 1922. The state aid associated with it, therefore, meanwhile enjoys a privileged status; it no longer needs to be notified to the Commission, nor can it be demanded back from the equine associations anymore for the past. Its examination under state aid law thus has no priority for the Commission; like the BMF one can almost certainly assume that the existence of this benefit is not even present with the Commission units responsible. Nonetheless, the Commission could at any time open a state aid control procedure in this regard, and it might demand the abolition of these state contributions to the equine associations in the future. The amendment under substantive law of the tax regime being sought with the E15, though, could in fact deliver the grounds for such a procedure, because it has implications for the volume of state aid and thus, in the conviction of the BMF, must be notified to the Commission. This is derived in particular from the following aspects:

The draft bill of the Upper House calls for a reduction of the tax rate from  $16 \frac{2}{3} \%$  to  $5 \%$  and thus an adjustment of the tax rebate of max.  $96 \%$ . The implications of these changes for tax revenues overall, and thus also for the amount of the state aid for the equine associations, are unclear because the lower tax rate might be overcompensated for by an increase in legal gaming products. Moreover, the plan is to introduce the possibility via the "Totalisator" to offer betting on horse races also taking place abroad. This change, in any event, can be expected to result in an increase in tax revenues and thus also the volume of state aid in favour of the equine associations. By doing so, the state financing of the equine associations in place unchanged since 1922 will change to such an extent that a presumption of a "new" form of state aid is inevitable. Accordingly, a formal notification procedure would have to be initiated with the risk of "awaking sleeping dogs" at the Commission. Apart from that, any such notification procedure can stretch out for years, and until its completion by the Commission, there is a stay of execution in place, i.e. any application of the new ruling is prohibited under European law. This rules out any adjustment of the tax rate this year.

A further consequence is that any adjustment of the tax rate with regard to sports gaming will almost certainly not be possible either. This is because there is no inherent reason apparent as to why horse racing betting should be taxed differently – higher – than any other sports gaming. That would be very questionable not only under equality law, but as such could also represent a (further) breach of the ban on state aid under the European Treaties. Constitutional and European law, therefore, permits only a ruling that provides for equal taxation of  $16 \frac{2}{3} \%$  for as long as the refunding of tax revenues to the equine associations is retained. In the case of sports gaming, though, any such tax burden means that any competitive product is impossible. Rather, any such burden would have a choking effect. From that, the legislator can draw only two consequences:

1. The tax refund to the equine associations is deleted from the law without substitution and the turnover tax is adjusted to the  $5\%$  sought. This ruling, though, would cause a collapse in the present financing of horse breeding.
2. The content of the rulings as they presently exist is left untouched and the legislator develops a legal system compatible with European law.

In other words: The Federal Ministry of Finance regards the adjustment that the E15 provides for as in contravention of European law. With that, the levy system of the E15 has failed. Any remedy can only be achieved at the expense of the collapse in the financing of horse breeding.

It once again transpires that the E15 consists of a plethora of breaches of constitutional and European law, which after all the clear pointers to that condition should actually contribute to the Federal States seeking a ruling in harmony with higher-ranking law. One model could to that extent be the ruling in Schleswig-Holstein, which also takes the interests of the federal states, but also of the providers, into account in a balanced manner.

## ii. Brussels stops revision of German gaming law

By [Dr. Wulf Hambach](#) and [Maximilian Riege](#), Hambach & Hambach Law Firm

The EU Commission continues to block the planned revision of gaming law. The first draft for a new inter-state treaty had already fallen through with a big bang and, in its reaction to the revised draft which was published on Tuesday, Brussels does not hold back with its criticism either – in spite of the diplomatic tone. “The example of Schleswig-Holstein could now become the way out of the mess”, say Wulf Hambach and Maximilian Riege.

Rhineland-Palatinate’s minister president Beck especially would have certainly welcomed a different answer from Brussels, as the ratification of the new draft for an inter-state treaty on gambling – also referred to as the “E-15 Draft” – when signed in mid-December 2011, had been made subject to a “concluding positive statement from the EU Commission” by his conservative colleagues in other federal states.

Accordingly, the pressure imposed by the E-15 representatives during their numerous trips to Brussels had been significant. However, the EU Commission was unimpressed and holds in its new statement: “On the basis of the information provided by the German authorities, the Commission services are not yet in a position to assess the extent of the problems identified or the suitability and proportionality of the measure proposed.”

The accusation that the gaming regulation lacks scientific foundation is the leitmotif of the Commission letter. At numerous points, Brussels criticises that the assumptions made by the 15 federal states cannot be verified, as scientific surveys for alleged risks and economic considerations are lacking. These are also demanded by the European Court of Justice.

### No convincing bans without evidence and data

It seems that the [15 minister presidents and their gaming law advisors](#) have failed to grasp the decisive points of the letter of warning sent by the Commission last summer. Even then, the different treatment of [sports bets, online casino games](#) and poker, the arbitrary limitation to seven sports betting licences, and the high tax rate imposed on gaming providers had been criticised.

However, the second attempt at a new regulation of gaming has not lifted the ban on [online casino games and online poker](#). Now, twenty sports betting licenses are planned to be issued instead of the previous number of seven – the 21<sup>st</sup> interested party would be left in the lurch with its application for a betting licence, and would be discriminated against in comparison with the other twenty.

This not only constitutes a violation of the European fundamental freedoms, but furthermore is to be seen as an unjustified encroachment upon the freedom of occupation guaranteed by Art. 12 of the German Constitution, a fact pointed out only recently by the former president of the German federal constitutional court (BVerfG), Hans-Jürgen Papier, in an expertise on the new inter-state treaty on gambling. The same applies with regard to the planned taxation.

Finally, the unsubstantiated different treatment of games of chance with similar addiction potential, such as online sports bets and online poker, also constitutes a violation of the principle of a consistent and coherent gaming law regime.

Correspondingly, the EU Commission criticises above all that the legislators failed to do their homework, which would have been to provide evidence and data justifying a ban. To merely continuously keep repeating the addiction argument, without providing any kind of evidence, will not suffice, neither to justify the lottery monopoly nor the ban on online casino games and poker.

### **Schleswig-Holstein has done its homework**

As therefore the route taken up to now by the 15 minister presidents has not led to the correct legislative answers, it would be high time to take a step in a different direction – for instance to the north: [In contrast to the E-15 Draft, Schleswig-Holstein actually can rely on "data and evidence"](#) – with the result that Brussels' reply to the draft from northern Germany one year ago was as brief as it was positive in conclusion.

For instance, a study by the gaming and betting research institution Bonner Forschungsinstitut für Glücksspiel und Wetten from 2011 showed that online poker does not have a higher addiction factor than online sports bets. Due to this scientific evidence, the Schleswig-Holstein expert politician for economic affairs, Hans-Jörn Arp, CDU, finds it hard to understand why the representatives of the other federal states advocate the licensing of online sports bets, whilst at the same time propagating the ban on online

poker for reasons of addiction prevention. Arp says that this cannot be explained by points of logic, but probably rather had ideological reasoning behind it.

A position which the other 15 German federal states should maybe take into consideration once more – in particular as they now seem to have understood that the route taken up to now has not led in the right direction. Jörg Bode (FDP), minister for economic affairs in Lower Saxony, for instance, said directly after the Commission's statement was published: "The treaty in its present form has failed".

What will the next steps be? Joining the Schleswig-Holstein regulatory model is possible at any time. The Schleswig-Holstein minister president and the parliamentary party leaders of CDU and FDP in the Kiel parliament have always emphasised that the door remains open for the other federal states to endorse the Schleswig-Holstein model. It would serve legal certainty in Germany in the area of gaming law.

**See German version of the article at**

**[www.lto.de/recht/hintergruende/h/gluecksspielstaatsvertrag-eu-kommission-schleswig-holstein-sportwetten/](http://www.lto.de/recht/hintergruende/h/gluecksspielstaatsvertrag-eu-kommission-schleswig-holstein-sportwetten/)**

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### iii. Skill games: Will skill games be regulated in France?

By [Thibault Verbiest](#), member of the Bars of Paris and Brussels, founding-partner of the Law Firm ULYS and [Deborah Modiano](#), member of the Bar of Paris, with a foreword by [Dr. Stefan Bolay](#), Hambach & Hambach Law Firm

*France having deregulated online games of chance in 2010, the debate is now about whether and how online games of skill are allowed in France. The positions extend from "possible without a permit" up to "not eligible for a permit and prohibited". The following article deals with the developments and the current situation in the area of online games of skill in France. This is interesting partly because there are no clear legal rulings in Germany either, and thus different opinions on the question of legal permissibility of online games of skill, see for example [http://www.timelaw.de/cms/front\\_content.php?idart=675](http://www.timelaw.de/cms/front_content.php?idart=675)*

On February, 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the French online gambling regulator, ARJEL, submitted a set of four reports to the Ministry of Budget, Public Accounts and State Reform, including one relating to online skill games. This report was drafted at the request of the Ministry of Budget in order to regulate the online skill games industry and to increase French tax revenues. This report has not been published yet.

Historically, the French government limited gambling to a lottery, run by state-owned operation Groupe Française des Jeux (FDJ), and horse racing, run by state-owned operation Pari-Mutuel Urbain (PMU). All other forms of gambling were deemed illegal. However, this all changed with new legislation enacted in 2010.

After operating a state-run monopoly for online gaming for almost three years and under pressure from the European Commission (EC), the French Parliament passed the Law No. 2010-476 of May, 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 relating to the opening up to competition and the regulation of online gambling (hereinafter, the Act). The French government realized that by legalizing and regulating online gambling in France, it could better control underage and problem gambling, as well as unlicensed and disreputable online gambling sites, while increasing tax revenues. The purpose of this law was to thwart gambling addiction and money laundering, and to shelter existing French operators' market share, including the government-owned monopolies.

The Autorité de régulation des jeux en ligne (ARJEL) was created to regulate the online gaming industry and opened its doors to foreign operators with the stipulation that operators adhere to a strict set of guidelines. On June 1, 2010 ARJEL began offering licenses for online poker, online sports betting, and online horse betting.

However, the Act of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, shall not apply to online skill games since Article 2 of the Act sets its scope, as follows: *“a game of chance is a game played for money in which chance predominates over skill and over combinations of intelligence in view of winnings”*.

During the parliamentary debates prior to the Act, legality of online pure skill games was expressly recognized by the French Government. For instance, the Minister of Budget, Public Accounts, Eric Woerth, said during a parliamentary session held October, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, that *“when it’s only a matter of skill, as it is in the case of checkers or chess, the game falls within a category that is not prohibited by law”*.

More recently, French public authorities changed their perspective and purposely and unlawfully declared that the regime of skill games should be subjected to the general prohibition of Lottery and gambling. The aim of French authorities was to define skill games and prepare legislation on skill games similar to the Act of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 relating to online gambling.

As part of an information report of May, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, pertaining to the implementation of the gambling Act, MP Jean-François Lamour proposed to *“subject online skill games played for money to the regulation of ARJEL and to a special tax regime”*. In the same report, his counterpart, MP Aurélie Filippetti said she would prefer *“an outright prohibition of these games”*.

Lamour’s standpoint was corroborated by Senator François Trucy in his information report of October, 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 relating to the evaluation of the gambling Act. Trucy actually called for *“providing insights as to the integration of online skill games within the licensing regime of the Act of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and the supervision of ARJEL”* (5<sup>th</sup> proposal).

The French Government took into consideration Lamour’s and Trucy’s recommendations while drafting its evaluation report that was released by the end of October 2011. The French Government recommended studying the impact of skill games in terms of addictive behavior, public demand and problem gambling, in order to determine whether it is possible to extent the scope of online gambling to skill games. The ARJEL was requested the submission of a report relating to skill games.

During the 2012's greeting ceremony of the ARJEL of January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the President of the ARJEL Jean-François Vilotte provided few details about the study of online skill games.

He said that the French legal framework of gambling does not enable to offer online skill games on the French territory.

Besides the fact that the criminalization of skill games in France is not proven, the President of the ARJEL builds on a second argument, just as questionable as the previous one, in favor of regulating online skill games. He considers that *"the sincerity of online pure skill games is impossible given bots software that is easy to create"*. It is important to note that the same problem applies to online gambling and French regulation of online gambling has not prevented such bots used on games that are much more harmful than skill games.

The President of the ARJEL gives an outline of the legal framework of online skill games which is under review by French public authorities:

*"Of course, in order to ensure a protection of public and social policies, operators would be subject to general requirements of the Act of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, especially in the opening of players' accounts and the approval of gaming software."*

Consequently, France is heading towards the introduction of a legal framework of online skill games, based on an exception to the general prohibition of gambling and that would be aligned to the provisions of the Act of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Doing so, we consider that the potential regulation of skill games by French authorities would be inconsistent with the provisions of the European Union law, notably the Directive relating to electronic commerce. This Directive prevents any national regulation related to information society services, such as online skill games, from subjecting these to a prior authorization system, such as a licensing regime, or from controlling the activity of online gambling operators located in a Member State other than France.

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**iv. TÜV TRUST IT - Press Release: Scientific study proves that Texas Hold'em online poker – like sports betting – poses only a moderate addiction risk. TÜV defines new measuring and evaluation system for online gambling products.**

**Cologne, 22 March 2012 – The risk factor of gambling is measurable and can be evaluated for the first time ever. TÜV TRUST IT GmbH, a TÜV AUSTRIA Group company, has published a study that evaluates online gambling.**

To this day, online poker is not regulated in Germany (except in Schleswig-Holstein) or, especially, in eastern European parts of the EU. Indeed, it is banned. Yet despite the ban, the German online poker market is the world's second-largest. About 10% of the world's online poker players are from Germany. This is one of the findings of a scientific study commissioned by TÜV TRUST IT GmbH, a TÜV AUSTRIA Group company, from the International Research Institute for Gambling and Gaming. The study investigated the addiction risk potential of the most popular form of online poker, Texas Hold'em No-Limit.

The draft for a new German interstate treaty on gambling that provides for a different treatment of online poker and online sports betting has been strongly criticised by the EU Commission for failing to provide sufficient documentary evidence in support of this unequal treatment of games of chance with a similar addiction risk potential.<sup>1</sup> Research scientists also find fault with the lack of fixed regulations governing online poker. They include Professor Franz W. Peren, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Council of the International Research Institute for Gambling and Gaming in Bonn. "If the market for online poker in Germany and other parts of the EU were to remain unregulated," he says, "many people would continue to be pushed into the black market and, in the final analysis, to be criminalised. That would also result in it not being possible to identify pathological gamblers and to treat them for their addiction". Findings of the study show that pathological gamblers currently generate lasting damage, that this damage is caused by a black market the existence of which cannot be disputed and that it is totally unregulated and at the expense of the entire economy. What is more, gamblers cannot be given effective protection with the law as it stands.

The German state of Schleswig-Holstein passed gambling legislation of its own to start regulating the (online) gambling market. The law on gambling in Germany has since been

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ito.de//recht/hintergruende/h/gluecksspielstaatsvertrag-eu-kommission-schleswig-holstein-sportwetten/>  
[http://www.welt.de/print/die\\_welt/wirtschaft/article13934383/Bruessel-verweigert-gruenes-Licht-fuer-deutsches-Gluecksspiel.html](http://www.welt.de/print/die_welt/wirtschaft/article13934383/Bruessel-verweigert-gruenes-Licht-fuer-deutsches-Gluecksspiel.html)

an issue that is in the throes of change. Possible new provisions have brought issues such as protection for gamblers and young people, addiction prevention and money laundering further to the fore.

While clear criteria and standards exist in established areas of TÜV activity that can be used for testing, until now no such fixed criteria have existed in the areas of preventing addiction and protecting gamblers.

TÜV TRUST IT as an impartial and independent body that conducts tests based solely on recognised, relevant standards was not satisfied with this state of affairs. In order to take initial steps toward developing clearly testable criteria, TÜV TRUST IT commissioned from international scientists a study to evaluate online gambling. In undertaking this project, TÜV TRUST IT took up a call by the European Parliament's Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee for regulation or harmonisation of the European market for online gambling by means of minimum standards.<sup>2</sup>

The subject of the study is the definition of an evaluation system for gambling offerings to enable impartial tests to be conducted and certifications to be issued. Furthermore, the testing system defined and described in the study was used on the Texas Hold'em version of online poker. Online poker was clearly shown to pose only a moderate risk and thereby to be in the same risk category as sports betting. Well-known scientific experts specialising in addiction research from Germany, the UK, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands and Switzerland took part in validating the addiction risk potential assessment of Texas Hold'em No-Limit online poker. Their findings also confirmed the results of a study undertaken in the Netherlands in 2010.<sup>3</sup>

In the study the TÜV has a clear basis for testing at its disposal. "This basic research lays the foundation for defining impartial criteria for preventing addiction and protecting gamblers that can be tested and evaluated and, in addition, to assess online and offline gambling offerings for the addiction risk that they may pose," says Detlev Henze, Managing Director of TÜV TRUST IT. Furthermore, the regulatory authorities in the German *Länder* are now able to have the specific addiction risk of gambling measured and evaluated.

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.europarl.de/ressource/static/files/pressemitteilungen/pm\\_online-gluecksspiele\\_15.09.2011.pdf](http://www.europarl.de/ressource/static/files/pressemitteilungen/pm_online-gluecksspiele_15.09.2011.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Meerkerk, G.J., Risselada, A., Schrijvers, C. (2010): The cards on the table. Report of a survey carried out into the nature, severity and extent of poker addiction in the Netherlands, Rotterdam. The study is based on an analysis of literature on addiction to gambling, on talks by experts with addiction care organisation employees, social workers, psychologists, casino employees and gambling addicts along with a representative survey of members of the general public. The English translation states explicitly on page 21 that "the risk of addiction to poker is slight".

### **International Research Institute for Gambling and Gaming**

The International Research Institute for Gambling and Gaming, based in Sankt Augustin, Germany, conducts interdisciplinary research into scientific questions and expert reports on gaming, gambling and sports betting from economic, legal medical, psychological, social science and mathematical points of view.

For further information visit [www.forschung-gluecksspiel.com](http://www.forschung-gluecksspiel.com).

### **About TÜV TRUST IT GmbH**

The TÜV has for 140 years been an impartial and independent testing and expert organisation that issues certificates of conformity to and compliance with standards and regulations. TÜV TRUST IT GmbH has been active for many years in the area of online gaming and gambling, providing Trusted Online Gaming certification, for example. In the past, experts in this field have concentrated on the areas of law (compliance) and IT security (technical and organisational/process security).

For further information visit <http://www.it-tuv.com>

Please request a copy of the study; we will be happy to e-mail you one without delay.

It is available on the Internet at <http://www.it-tuv.com>.

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**v. Awards 2012 – Hambach & Hambach: Leaders in their field**

Hambach & Hambach's lawyer receives as only German law firm in Germany a Chambers Global BAND 1 ranking and a recommendation for Gaming law in CorporateINTL in the year 2012.

**Chambers and Partners**

Dr. Wulf Hambach preserved a band 1 ranking - leading individual - in the category "Gaming and Gambling" in **Chambers Global Edition 2012** for the fifth consecutive year

His international work is recognized by Chambers Global (list the top lawyers in 175 countries):

*"Wulf Hambach of Hambach & Hambach is omnipresent across Europe as well as being influential in the development of German law, in both lobbying and legal terms. Sources commend him for being "extremely qualified, reliable and practised."*

**CorporateINTL**

Dr. Wulf Hambach is the only lawyer representing Gaming law in Germany for 2012

*"Members of The Find an Expert directory carry the official CorpINTL accreditation. The selection process is by invitation only; featured attorneys must be recommended either by our research team or externally, and then approved by our applications panel. We are very happy to welcome Dr. Wulf Hambach of Hambach & Hambach Rechtsanwälte." (CorporateINTL)*

**vi. Guest Authors in this issue**

**Dr. Henrik Bremer** is German lawyer, accountant, tax lawyer and certified accountant (WIRTSCHAFTSRAT GmbH). He studied in Kiel, Hamburg and Paris.

Firstly he worked for a big international tax consultancy and auditing company and earned a doctorate in the field of law regarding fiscal offences and procedural law.

Dr. Bremer advises national and international companies concerning Commercial Law, Corporation Law, law on securities as well as tax law (especially also with reference to international tax law).

Alongside one focus is on the consultation and conceptual design of PPP models as well as their support during the implementation phase including financing strategy and consulting. This contains in addition the European law on state aid.



**Prof. Dr. Joachim Englisch** started out as a Research Assistant at the University of Koln, working his way up to an Associate Professor level in 2006. He currently is a University Professor Chair for Tax and Public Law at the University of Münster. Since August 2011 Prof Englisch has also held the position of Managing director of the Tax Law institute.





**Deborah Modiano** serves as a member of Ulys Law Firm, qualified as an attorney at the Paris Bar and as an MBA graduate from Tel Aviv University.

After practicing business law in France for five years, Deborah relocated in Israel and completed an MBA at the Recanati Business School of Tel Aviv University specializing in the Internet industry. She was responsible of the High Tech Department of Ubifrance Israel before joining in 2011 Ulys Law Firm and managing Ulys' Israeli branch.

The Law Firm ULYS is one of the leading gaming law firms in Europe, representing major European casino groups and bookmakers. The firm also co-founded the EU Groupment [www.gaminglaw.eu](http://www.gaminglaw.eu).

Deborah Modiano is part of the Gambling Department headed by Thibault Verbiest, founding partner of Ulys Law Firm, and assists online gambling operators in France, in Europe and in Israel to address the gaming market.

Deborah Modiano can be reached at [deborah.modiano@uly.net](mailto:deborah.modiano@uly.net).



**Thibault Verbiest**, Senior Partner ULYS LawFirm, France & Belgium

Thibault Verbiest is a founding partner of the Law Firm ULYS ([www.uly.net](http://www.uly.net)). He is a member of the Bars of Paris and Brussels specialised in gaming, media and IP law. In 2006, he was elected as best gaming lawyer by the World Online Gambling Law Report.

He is professor at the University of Paris I Sorbonne, former chairman of the federal agency Internet Rights Observatory, and General Member for France of "International Masters of Gaming Law".

The Law Firm ULYS is one of the leading gaming law firms in Europe, representing major European casino groups and bookmakers. The firm also co-founded the EU Groupment [www.gaminglaw.eu](http://www.gaminglaw.eu). Thibault Verbiest can be reached at [thibault.verbiest@uly.net](mailto:thibault.verbiest@uly.net).

**vii. In-house news*****Hambach & Hambach expands its gambling law team with two brilliant lawyers***

**Bettina Brenner** studied law at the University of Tübingen with specialisation in public economy, infrastructure and environmental law. During her studies she worked as a scientific assistant at the law library of the University of Tübingen. After finishing her Law degree, she obtained her Master of Law at the University of Otago in New Zealand. She passed her bar examen (Zweites Staatsexamen) in the German federal state of Baden-Württemberg and subsequently practiced law at

Hambach & Hambach in Munich.

Her professional experience also includes work as a legal trainee and scientific assistant for a renowned German law firm in Stuttgart, Oppenländer.

Her areas of expertise include: public procurement law, European law, Betting and gambling law, Regulatory & License Affairs.



**Alexander Pfütze** studied law at the University of Bayreuth and the University of Victoria, BC, Canada, with a focus on European law and with additional training in economic sciences. He graduated with honours from his LL.M. course in the field of European media studies (Hans-Werner-Osthoff-Prize for excellent scientific achievements). Alexander Pfütze is a trained mediator (CVM) with a focus on commercial mediation.

In addition to his work experience with a Canadian law firm and the Ministry of Justice of British Columbia, Alexander Pfütze worked for a renowned law firm in Brussels during his legal traineeship at the OLG (higher regional court) of Bamberg. As part of his doctorate

thesis project in the area of European economic law, he worked for the chair for European law and European public law at the Europa-Institut of Saarland University.

Alexander is a lecturer for institutional and substantive European law at the [Europa-Institut of Saarland University](#).

He complements the Hambach & Hambach team with focus on the following fields of law: gaming and gambling law, European and administrative law.



***Dr. Wulf Hambach will speak on the following conferences:***

10 - 12 July 2012 | Barcelona, Spain

[World Gaming Executive Summit \(GES\)](#)

Terrapinn

16 – 18 October 2012 | Barcelona, Spain

[European iGaming Congress and Expo](#)

Clarion Gaming



***Publication announcement:***



Hambach & Hambach is delighted to announce that by end of this year a leading publication for gaming and gambling law in the media will be released. Editors will be aside from Dr. Wulf Hambach one of the leading experts for european law Prof. Dr. Rudolf Streinz (University of Munich) and Dr. Marc Liesching (probably the leading expert in the field of youth protection law). The publishing house C. H. Beck announced this publication as usefull guideline and handbook for judges, gambling authorities and official prosecutors as well as for media companies and lawyers. For more information in German please click [here](#).

**viii. Editorial Details**

TIME Law News offers gratuitous information on current events in European and international gaming law. Hambach & Hambach do not accept any liability for the accuracy of the contents of TIME Law News. Please note that TIME Law News is only meant to serve as a source of information and can under no circumstances replace legal advice by a lawyer.

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