

PRESS RELEASE



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Remote Operators Lay Out Regulatory and Tax Objectives

The Remote Gambling Association (RGA), the largest trade association for online gambling operators in the world, has today published a remote gambling policy guidance booklet entitled '*Online Gambling: key objectives for a successful regulatory and tax framework*'. The document, launched at the prestigious EiG Conference in Milan, sets out the headline issues that governments and regulators should consider when seeking to establish internationally viable regimes for the private online gambling industry.

Explaining the genesis of the document, Clive Hawkswood, RGA CEO, said that: 'We are seeing an increasing number of jurisdictions, both inside and outside of the EU, moving towards the introduction of licensing and regulatory regimes for online gambling. The RGA's members include some of the foremost authorities on remote gambling regulation and taxation issues and disseminating that experience and expertise can only help the production and delivery of viable remote gambling frameworks, in what is a relatively new area for many policymakers.'

Expanding on that message, Mr. Hawkswood further stated that: 'The target audience is that important group of people in the wider world, such as politicians, policy officials and regulators, who are only just beginning to think about how they might accommodate the private sector gambling industry within their jurisdictions. Our message to them is that working in partnership with responsible operators and building modern remote gambling regimes that balance consumer interests and commercial opportunities presents the greatest prospect for new remote frameworks to be successful from a social and fiscal perspective.'

The document's key objectives are to create an online gambling market that is: fair and competitive; protects the young and vulnerable; crime-free; and attractive to consumers. These core principles have been the basis of the RGA's discussions with regulators since its inception in 2005 (following the merger of ARGO and IGGBA), and during which time the organisation has engaged with a large number of regulators and policymakers on the detail of remote legislation.

‘Delivering a modern and stable remote gambling environment which creates fiscal opportunities within a socially responsible framework has always been central to the RGA’s approach. We hope that by detailing our experience in this manner we can assist governments create a viable and successful remote gambling framework for licensed private operators,’ Mr. Hawkswood concluded.

The booklet also contains introductory information about the different forms of online gambling and the business models that might be associated with them. The association is also exploring the potential benefits from the production of similar documentation covering other issues relating to remote gambling.

Notes for Editors

1. A copy of the RGA’s regulatory and tax document can be downloaded from: <http://www.rga.eu.com/pages/en/online-gambling-key-objectives-for-a-successful-regulatory-and-tax-framework.html>
2. The RGA is the largest online gambling trade association in the world representing the world’s largest licensed and stock market-listed remote gambling operators and software provider’s .The organisation provides the remote gambling industry with a single voice on all issues of importance to regulators, legislators, and key decision-makers.
3. Its members include: 888; Ash Gaming; bet365; Betfair; bwin.party; Danoptra; Gamesys; IGT; JAXX, Ladbrokes; Microgaming; Paddy Power; PKR; Playtech; Rank Group; SBOBET; Skybet; Sportingbet; Sportech; Stan James; Stanleybet; Talarius; Unibet; Viaden; Victor Chandler; Virgin; William Hill; and WMS.

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