

# ASOCIATIA ORGANIZATORILOR SI PRODUCATORILOR DE JOCURI DE NOROC DIN ROMANIA (A.O.P.J.N.R.)

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## ROMANIA Country report 2006

### Novelties about the association

In the year 2006 our association has co-opted 4 new members who increase the number of actual members at 35 with 4484 gambling machines and 5 bingo halls.

The E-mail of the association is: [aopjnr@yahoo.com](mailto:aopjnr@yahoo.com)

### Dynamics of the gambling activity

The total number of gambling machines :

2005 – 23.106 units

2006 – 25.649 units

The growth rate of the sector was 11%.

The number of public operators in the field of lotteries: 1 (National Lottery)

The number of private operators in the field of gambling:

Betting – 26 operators

Bingo – 15 operators

Casino – 20 operators

Gambling machines – 918 operators

### Dates regarding gambling legislation

In 2006 the new draft gambling law was elaborated, which has been in discussion until now. This new law will bring a series of novelties, such as:

- A new classification of gambling activities;
- The introduction of the License for gambling activities (with a validity of 5 years) simultaneously with the obligation of having Authorizations of exploitation (with a validity of 1 year), granted for each type of game or location, as the case may be;
- The establishment of a compulsory minimum number of gambling machines exploited by an organizer and of the minimum number of gambling machines placed within a location;

**Our association proposal for the minimum number of gambling machines/organizer is 50-100 units and for the minimum number of gambling machines/location is 5-10 units.**

**Our proposals will have beneficial effects for the medium-sized organiser activities.**

- The obligation for organisers to have a minimum value of the subscribed and paid-up share capital at the date when they apply for the license and constitution of some money guaranties;
- The increase of the authorization fees;

**Our association proposes an increase of the authorization fee for the gambling machines not greater than 1,7 from the actual fee.**

- The inclusion as offences of some facts and the growth of the applied penalties;
- The obligation of the organizers to pay the authorization fees in advance or in four equal quarterly installments, from which the first installment will be paid in advance;
- The exploitation of gambling machines only with the organizers' own personnel ;
- The betting organizers are obliged to use a unique computer program at the level of the company;
- The technical control of the gambling machines, installations, devices, gambling table and of other means of game is exercised by the Romanian Office of Legal Metrology. The technical norms of verification used, as well as the tariffs charged for the activities of technical control are approved annually by the Minister of Public Finance.
- The prohibition of on-line games organized by internet-type or intranet-type communication systems, of the games organized through the telephony communication systems, of the ones organized through the television, through the radio stations or other assimilated transmission means, of the betting that have as technical support the results of some clandestine contests, of the white-black-type games, which results can be influenced by the dexterity of the game organizers or of the handler of the means of game, as well as of the games, regardless their naming, through which a proposition is made to some persons to depose or to collect money or to enter their names on a list, making them hoping to financial gains resulted from the increase of the number of recruited or entered persons, regardless how this collection or entering on a list is made ("pyramidal"-type games).

The enforcement of the new legal provisions will have as effect an estimated reduction by 50% of the number of gambling organizers, an extension of the market for the medium-sized organizers and a more efficient control of the authorities upon this field with benefic effects regarding the control of unfair competition.

**For our association the major objectives at the legislative level for the year 2007 are the finalization of the negotiations regarding the new law, the replacement of the social stamp percentage fee with a fixed fee and the elimination of the gaming organizers compulsoriness to use in this activity the fiscal electronic machines.**

Regarding the social problems connected with the gambling we mention the fight of the authorities for the reduction of the dependence towards the gambling by introduction of some restrictions in connection with the location placement, interdiction of the access of the minors in the gaming sites and of the participation to credit-based games. Besides these measures, there is also the interdiction of gamblings transmitted through the television networks except the extractions of the National Lottery.

## **Fees**

The licenses having a validity of one year are granted against of some annual fees as follows:

1. For each mechanical or electronic gambling machine : RON 1.669,5;
2. For each gambling table from the casino:
  - a) in Bucharest:
    - roulette-type table: RON 99.124,4;
    - table of game of cards or dice: RON 66.800;
  - b) in province:
    - roulette-type table: RON 53.200;
    - table of game of cards or dice: RON 33.400;
3. For a gambling hall BINGO-type, KENO-type and other alike:
  - RON 20.870;
  - 7% from the nominal value of the game cards acquired from the Public Corporation Imprimeria Nationala [*National Printing Office*].
4. For sports betting: 5% from the estimated receipts, but no less than RON 10.400;
5. For prognostics, lotteries, tombola, contest - games and others organized through telephone lines or other means of telecommunication:
  - 15% from the annual estimated receipts but no less than RON 33.400;
6. For the media gambling transmitted through television networks or other assimilated mean of transmission: 18% from annual estimated receipts but no less than RON 53.200.

In addition to the authorization fees, the gambling organizers pay :

I. A monthly fee "Social stamp", as follows:

1. Mechanical and electronic gambling machines : 10% from the monthly balance of the machine(GGR), representing the difference between the gambling credit and the prize granted by the same machine;
2. Casino: USD 1.000 for each gambling table;
3. Bingo: 10% applied over the total sale of game cards.

(EUR 1=RON 3,40)

II. An annual fee of 4% from the profit for the National Movies Center.

III.A monthly fee of 2% from the incomes for the National Historic Monuments Office.

The increase of the fees together with the compulsoriness of owning a higher share capital and of some money guarantees will lead to a more rigorous selection of the organizers operating on the gambling market.