



Mister Michel BARNIER
Director
Head of Task Force for
Relations with the United Kingdom
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Boulogne, 23 June 2020

Ref. / LR 20-06-023

Sent by email: tf50-contact@ec.europa.eu

Dear Michel Barnier,

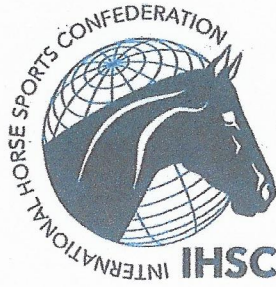
We are writing to you to inform you of the proposed solution of the International Horse Sport Confederation¹, together with the International Thoroughbred Breeders' Federation, to overcome difficulties the sport horse and race horse industries across Europe (value at €52.1 billion per annum) will encounter as a result of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

The breeding, competition and racing activities of EU Member States have been integrated, and remain interdependent, with British activities for more than 50 years.

Any measures that would reduce the fluidity of breeding, competition and race horse movements with the United Kingdom would cause immediate economic losses, not only in Ireland and France but also other Member States such as Germany, Spain, The Netherlands, Belgium and Italy. For example, the sale of Thoroughbreds by Irish vendors is worth approximately €438m per annum (public and private sales), of which 76% were exported to Great Britain in 2019.

The technical solutions we propose bring together EU Member States and the UK, through an **immediately available, simple consensus solution, which enables European interests to be fully safeguarded.**

¹ *Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA)*



Digital equine passports, comprising identity, vaccinations and medical records, movement, and ownership (including change of ownership), have been developed by both the sport horse and race horse industries. They deliver secure, real time traceability and high health in accordance with EU Animal Health Law with data transfer to the EU Competent Authorities.

They allow us to preserve the high level of biosecurity that is characteristic of our activity and give EU Competent Authorities improved information and health guarantees without it being necessary to introduce new requirements or carry out systematic checks on equines at EU entry points.

You will find attached a dossier explaining in more detail our challenges and our proposed solutions.

We look forward to your support of these solutions.

THE PRESIDENT

Ingmar DE VOS

THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Louis ROMANET