

## Gaming Regulation Update No. 9

This week's Gaming Regulation Update shows some very different attitudes to online gaming, from Bulgaria's light-touch regulatory approach, targeting a European player base, to Singapore's total ban on all online gaming.

### **Caribbean**

[The Bahaman Parliament this week tabled its new gaming bill](#). Among the beneficiaries would be soon-to-be built mega-resort Baha Mar, giving it and the country "[a sustainable competitive advantage, which is vital for an economy driven by international tourism](#)".

### **Asia Pacific**

While many countries are opening up to online gaming, land-based gaming giant Singapore has [this week introduced a draft bill to Parliament to ban all online gaming](#). The bill also [allows authorities to block access to websites and shut down their e-commerce capabilities](#).

### **Africa**

As a result of rising complaints about the horse racing industry in South Africa being resistant to transformation, [the SA government will regulate the industry if it "fails to do so itself"](#).

### **Americas**

[New gaming legislation could be passed into law as early as this month](#) according to Fernando Zárate Salgado, President of the Commission of Gaming in the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico. Many experts see this new legislation as an important event in the gaming industry since it will [offer gaming to a population of 120 million, making Mexico North America's second largest online gambling market](#).

[A major new proposal to change gaming law in Honduras has been put forward by Deputy Augusto Cruz](#). The proposal is based around the tax rates for slot machines, and some fear that an increase in taxes would close businesses and shrink an already small gaming market.

### **Europe**

[Bulgaria is enjoying a rise in revenues after legalising online gaming](#). The Bulgarian system, which differs from highly-regulated European systems like France or Italy, has allowed the industry to [grow under low taxes and allows Bulgarians to compete against a worldwide player base](#). An interesting case which we will continue to monitor.

### **Gaming Regulation Forum, Miami – Date Change**

A reminder that [the dates for the Americas and Caribbean Gaming Regulation Forum in Miami have changed to the 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014](#). We hope that this will make things easier for those of you attending both the Forum and the Florida Gaming Congress.

### **Thank you**

Please continue to send your articles, suggestions and feedback to [gamingregulationupdate@govrisk.org](mailto:gamingregulationupdate@govrisk.org) and pass on the links to friends and colleagues.