# AUTUMN CONFERENCE Lisbon, Portugal, 16-18 Sept, 2025

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MGL



t is my pleasure to invite you to Lisbon on the occasion of our 2025 autumn conference. The event looks set to be a memorable one and it is my hope that you will join us and benefit from the great learning and networking opportunities we have planned.

Leafing through this brochure will reveal an exciting education program which will feature expertise from around the world of gaming law. Our social program, as ever, plays a big part in what you will take away from this event. With the backgrop of the spectacular city of Lisbon, there are a plethora of experiences that await to make your trip unforgetable. Co-located with the SBC Summit, Lisbon this September will attract the largest audience of gaming professionals anywhere in the world. It will be an occasion to build your knowledge and professional network and make the most of the city's wealth of history and culture.

I invite you to take a moment to review what is in store within these pages. Our early-bird pricing is designed to encourage you to book early and spaces are also going fast in the conference hotel. Do act today and reserve your place and I look forward to welcoming you in Lisbon.

#### MARC DUNBAR, PRESIDENT, IMGL

## IMGL CONFERENCES

IMGL conferences are the crown jewels of gaming law education. Recognized as the world's pre-eminent gaming law events, they are created to provide the best gaming law content and best networking of any industry you'll attend this year.

Our Lisbon conference program features in-depth analysis and practical insights from award-winning gaming lawyers, international regulators, and industry executives. Between them, they will be your guide to the hottest topics and global legal issues we face today.

There will be no shortage of exclusive networking opportunities. Our Opening Ceremony and glittering Gala Dinner at historic local venues will showcase the best of Portuguese food and wine traditions. There will be wine tasting, an informal closing ceremony and the chance to visit local attraction, Sintra. These are the events where relationships and memories are made and both can last a lifetime. We encourage you to make the most of them.

We will be delighted if you can join us in Lisbon and look forward to sharing our 2025 autumn conference together.



**150+** delegates from regulators, lawyers, operators, suppliers & advisors

**50+** gaming law expert speakers, moderators & panellists over an exciting day education program





**QUALITY CONTENT** leading the industry in analysis, details & timeliness

**NETWORKING TO BUILD YOUR SUCCESS** at dedicated social events in iconic venues





**LEAVE WITH ACTIONABLE RESULTS** giving you the information and network to be more successful in your practice

## USEFUL INFORMATION FOR ATTENDEES

The International Masters of Gaming Law (IMGL) returns for its Autumn 2025 Conference, taking place in Lisbon, Portugal, from September 16–18, at the distinguished Altis Grand Hotel. This year's event is co-located with the SBC Summit, offering a unique opportunity for attendees to connect across both leading industry platforms.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

• Premier Global Programming

IMGL's signature conference sessions bring together top legal minds, regulators, operators, and other experts for fireside chats, in-depth panels and TED Talk-style presentations on the most pressing legal, regulatory, and business topics in gaming.

• TED-Style & Roundtable Innovation

Over 1.5 packed days, a future-looking program includes dynamic short-form talks followed by interactive roundtables – encouraging deeper engagement and practical takeaways.

Elite Networking

Enjoy intimate and exlcusive networking events with peers from across the global gaming legal community, including receptions, the IMGL gala dinner, and Lisbon cultural experiences.

Co-location with SBC Summit

By co-locating with one of gaming's largest global summits, IMGL expands its footprint to encompass C-suite operators, media and sports representatives. There will be over 30,000 people in Lisbon for the event providing a unique chance to create a program of meetings to run alongside the education and social program.

By joining the IMGL conference, attendees also get to access SBC's exhibition floors and networking sessions with policymakers, technology startups and the widest spectrum of business leaders in gaming.

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

One of the unique benefits of IMLG conferences is the chance to rub shoulders with some of the most senior people in gaming law. Our conferences are must-attend events for gaming attorneys, regulators, compliance officers, and C-level leaders looking for legal insight and strategic advantage in the evolving global gaming landscape.

Don't miss this chance to be part of the foremost legal and regulatory conference in gaming—set in one of Europe's most iconic cities.

#### **VENUE & LOGISTICS**

As we count down to the Autumn conference, we want to help you prepare for an unforgettable experience.

- Conference dates: September 16 18, 2025 starting with Opening Ceremony on the evening the Sept 16.
- IMGL Conference: Altis Grand Hotel,
  R. Castilho 11, 1269-072
  Lisboa, Portugal
  Subway: Rato (from airport), Avenida (to downtown)
- SBC Summit: Feira Internacional de Lisboa (FIL). R. do Bojador, 1998-010 Lisboa, Portugal Subway: Moscavide (from airport), Oriente (to downtown)

(Approx. 40 minutes apart – transportation planning recommended)



## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER

Day 1 of SBC Summit 4:00pm IMGL Member Meeting 6:30pm Opening Reception, Portas do Sol

#### WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER

8:00am Continental Breakfast

# BLOCK 1: SETTING THE STAGE FOR TOMORROW'S GAMING LAW: GLOBAL GROWTH

8:30am Welcome and Conference Overview *IMGL President, Marc Dunbar* 

#### 8:50am Developments in Lusophone Jurisdictions: Portugal, Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Brasil

Featuring gaming lawyers and/or regulators from key Lusophone jurisdictions, to discuss regulatory models, investment opportunities, and enforcement challenges. *Moderator – Pedro Cortes* 

#### 9:30am Regulating Without a Playbook: Legal Frameworks for Gaming in Transitional and Restrictive Markets – Lessons from Asia and the Middle East

In many jurisdictions, the regulation of gaming and betting is unfolding in real time – without precedent, without uniformity, and often without a clear legal playbook. This session will offer a comparative legal analysis of five influential and contrasting jurisdictions – India, Singapore, the UAE, the Philippines, and Japan –each at different stages of legal and regulatory evolution. *Moderator – Ranjana Adkihari* 

#### 10:15am Networking Break

# 10:30am From Sweepstakes to Skill: Product Evolution and Crossovers with Video Gaming

As the global gaming industry continues to evolve, new opportunities are emerging across jurisdictions, regions, and product verticals. This session will explore key growth areas, from expanding regulatory markets to innovative gaming formats, analyzing where operators, suppliers, and investors can expect the greatest potential. Panelists will also discuss the strategic, legal, and compliance considerations for entering and succeeding in these dynamic spaces.

Moderator – TBD

#### 11:10am Navigating Regulation in Africa's Gaming Industry: Tackling Black Markets, Strengthening Business-Government Relations, and Leveraging Mobile Money

As Africa's gaming industry continues to grow, regulators face challenges in maintaining a fair and sustainable market while addressing black-market operations and unlicensed gaming platforms. This panel brings together key stakeholders—regulators, gaming operators, financial experts, and policy analysts—to explore how African governments are shaping regulatory frameworks, enforcing compliance, and leveraging technology like mobile money to create a secure and transparent gaming environment.

Moderator – Diane Mullenex

#### 12:05pm Addressing the Costs of Compliance in Legalized Gaming – Evolution and Challenges

As the compliance burden multiplies for international operators, there is a risk of unintended consequences that conflict with the original purpose of regulation. The need to achieve scale to carry the cost of compliance can drive consolidation and reduce consumer choice. Taxing licensed operators more aggressively reduces their ability to innovate and provide competitive products, encouraging players into the black market. The gaming industry's use of player data is evolving rapidly for commercial and regulatory reasons but, strict data protection laws, like GDPR, create growing challenges in balancing innovation, personalization, and compliance. How can operators and regulators work together to create markets which balance protection of consumers with protection of commercial and treasury interests? Moderator – Corinne Valletta, General Counsel, Betsson Group

12:35pm IMGL Luncheon: Buffet

# BLOCK 2: CHALLENGING NORMS, NAVIGATING COMPLEXITIES

1:30pm RG-basics for the Youth

Numerous studies detail how gambling impacts the well-being and mental health of young people. No less numerous are the risks that youth face in this digital age.

• At what age should RG/PG education begin? Children, adolescents, young adults?

- Who should design/validate guardrail programs for our youth? Educators, mental health
- practitioners, regulators?
- How do we alert the parents to reach out to children?
- Distinguishing between the regulated market and black market
- Engagement and accountability from search engines, online advertising and social media
- How much gaming and gambling interfere?

Moderator – Alfredo Lazcano

#### 2:15pm The convergence of gaming and gambling

The lines between gaming and gambling are increasingly blurred, with loot boxes and similar mechanics raising concerns over their psychological impact on younger audiences. This session will explore how these features mirror gambling behaviours, the risks they pose to vulnerable demographics, and the evolving regulatory responses in Europe and other jurisdictions. The discussion will also examine industry practices, consumer protection strategies, and the challenges of regulating these converging sectors. *Moderator- Simon Planzer* 

### 2:55pm Networking Break

# 3:15pm The Crypto Gamble: Opportunities, Risks, and Regulatory Headaches

Cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology continue to challenge and disrupt the gambling industry, offering both opportunities for innovation and complex regulatory questions. This session will explore the evolving role of crypto as a payment method in regulated markets, the use of blockchain for transparency, compliance, and player protection, and the legal, financial, and reputational risks associated with these technologies. The discussion will also address how jurisdictions are adapting to crypto in gambling and the outlook for regulatory harmonization or fragmentation—across markets.

Moderator – Chris Elliott

3:55pm From Contracts to Claims: How European Consumer Law Is Reshaping the Player-Operator Relationship

Consumer law is becoming a key driver of player claims in Europe, challenging traditional industry practices around terms and conditions, customer restrictions, and dispute resolution. This session will examine recent developments where consumer protection rules are limiting operators' ability to impose restrictions, void bets, or enforce certain clauses, highlighting the legal, regulatory, and commercial risks for operators in increasingly consumer-centric markets.

Moderator - Anna Soilleux-Mills

6:30pm – 10:00pm IMGL Gala Dinner, Patio da Gale

#### THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER

9:00am Continental Breakfast

# BLOCK 3: SPORTS, AI, AND THE NEW INTEGRITY FRONTIER

#### 9:30am Fireside chat with a seasoned insider

#### 10:10am AI Clinics

In two dynamic TED-style talks (20 minutes each), AI industry experts will showcase how AI-driven solutions are addressing real-world challenges in the gaming sector, from AML and responsible gambling to fraud prevention and player protection. The session will also explore the legal, regulatory, and ethical considerations of deploying AI in gaming, offering the audience practical insights into how these technologies can enhance compliance, safety, and operational efficiency.

11:00am Networking Break

# 11:15am Ted talk style presentations followed by roundtables

Topic 1 – The Not So Invisible Threat: Match-Fixing, Organized Crime, and the Future of Sports Integrity Topic 2 – The Regulatory Pendulum: Striking the Right Balance in Gambling Markets Topic 3 – The Game Changer: How AI Is Transforming Sports, Betting, and Fan Engagement Topic 4 – Global Rules, Local Realities: Compliance Across Cultures and Jurisdictions

12:45pm IMGL Luncheon Buffet followed by wine tasting experience featuring Portuguese Wine

#### 5:30pm – 7:00pm IMGL Closing Reception, Altis Hotel Rooftop



## SOCIAL PROGRAM

#### Tuesday, 16 September, 6.30pm, Opening Reception: Portas do Sol

Located in the shadow of Lisbon's historic Castelo de São Jorge, this informal balcony bar offers all the buzz of the city. With views over the the Alfama rooftops and the Tagus River, Portas do Sol is a place where you can truly appreciate the unique atmosphere of Lisbon in the company of friends old and new.

The IMGL opening reception sets the tone for the forthcoming conference. Registration will be available from 6pm offering an opportunity to get ahead of the rush on Wednesday morning.





#### Wednesday, 17 September, 6.30pm – 10.00pm, IMGL Gala Dinner, Pátio da Galé\*

Pátio da Galé is located in one of Lisbon's most iconic squares, flanked by the country's parliamentary buildings in the heart of Lisbon. It overlooks the Tagus River and boasts impressive architecture that blends old and new, with expansive limestone cloisters. The hospitality will be unashamedly Portuguese with cocktails and canapes on arrival and a menu of local delicacies, washed down by some of the country's best wines.

\*Coaches will transport attendees from the hotel, leaving from 6:00pm.

# Thursday, 18 September, 12.45pm buffet lunch with wine tasting experience

Portugal is renound for its wine from light, fruity whites tempered by Atlantic breezes to world-class reds and of course its famous fortified red and white Porto.

#### Thursday, 18 September, 5.30pm – 7.00pm, Closing Ceremony, Roof Garden, Hotel Altis Rooftop

Closing out our time together under sunny skies, this will be the chance to toast your success with a glass of Portuguese fizz.



## NOT ALREADY AN IMGL MEMBER?

The International Masters of Gaming Law (IMGL) is an invitation-only, non-profit corporation dedicated to education and the advancement of the gaming law profession, and to establishing an exchange of professional information about the local and global practice and development of gaming law.

When you join the IMGL you become part an exclusive network of the world's leading gaming lawyers, regulators, advisors and educators. Members benefit from biennial conferences in North America, Europe and elsewhere, regular receptions and other networking events at leading industry events and the opportunity to participate in regular Masterclass events and to read and contribute to our in-house publication, the IMGL Magazine.

IMGL membership brings benefits to members and to their professional practice



**A NETWORK:** 300+ private practice and in-house gaming lawyers, regulators, industry advisors and academics from every major gaming jurisdiction globally



**A RESOURCE:** Access some of the top minds in gaming law with long experience and practical expertise through our member magazine, conference and masterclass events



**A PLATFORM:** Extend your professional reputation along with IMGL through the member directory of our website, contributing to the IMGL magazine and taking part as a speaker or panelist at events.

Applications to join may be made by individuals in the following categories:

- General Member
- Affiliated Member Regulator
- Affiliated Member Executive In The Corporation
- Affiliated Member Educator
- Affiliated Member Advisor
- Affiliated Member New Gaming Attorney

The good news is, by joining us in Lisbon you already meet one of the main qualification criteria to become an IMGL member. Reach out to Brien@IMGL.org to be introduced to a sponsor, walk through the simple application form and start reaping the rewards of IMGL membership.

We look forward to welcoming you to the world's leading association of gaming lawyers.



## ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS

Lisbon offers a wide range of accommodation options to suit different preferences and budgets. If you haven't already booked somewhere, we suggest you do so as soon as possible as it is a very busy season for Lisbon during the summer months.

We recommend booking your stay at the host hotel or close to the conference venue and we've collated some options within walking distance below.

Please note that the Altis Grand Hotel, the official host hotel for the IMGL Autumn Conference in Lisbon, is approximately 40 minutes by car from the SBC Summit venue at the Feira Internacional de Lisboa (FIL). If you plan to attend both events, we recommend planning your transportation accordingly. Taxis and rideshare services are readily available, and public transport options are also accessible. For assistance with directions or coordinating shared transportation, please reach out to the IMGL team.

Here are some nearby recommendations if you're unable to secure a room at the Altis Grand:

- The Vintage Lisbon (4\*): Chic boutique option literally around the corner—great for style lovers and short stays.
- PortoBay Liberdade (5\*): Elegant and well appointed on bustling Avenida da Liberdade—ideal for a luxurious stay.
- Vincci Liberdade (4\*): Modern comforts within easy walking distance of Altis Grand.
- Eurostars Das Letras (4\*): A boutique hotel with literary charm, just 120 m away.
- InterContinental Lisbon (5\*): Classic luxury experience under 1 km from Altis Grand, with full-service amenities and refined ambiance.
- EPIC SANA Lisboa Hotel (5\*): A spa-centric option with wellness facilities, also near Rato station.

## TRANSPORT INFORMATION

#### **VISA REQUIREMENTS**

If you're traveling from outside Portugal or the EU, please check whether you need a visa for Lisbon. Ensure your travel documents are in order well ahead of time to avoid any last-minute stress.You can find out more about the requirements to enter Portugal and see if you need a visa here.

#### AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

To help you arrive smoothly, here's what you need to know when traveling from Humberto Delgado Airport (LIS) to the Altis Grand Hotel (IMGL host hotel):

#### Taxi & Rideshare

- Taxi:
  - Readily available outside arrivals.

- Approximate fare to Altis Grand Hotel: €15–€25
- Travel time: 20–30 minutes, depending on traffic.
- Ask for a receipt and confirm fare before departing.
- Uber / Bolt / Free Now:
- All services operate in Lisbon and are often slightly cheaper than taxis.
- Pick-up zone may vary slightly—check app instructions after booking.

#### **Public Transport**

- Metro:
  - Take the Red Line from the airport to São Sebastião, then transfer to the Blue Line to Avenida station (close to Altis Grand).
  - Total time: ~35–45 minutes
  - Cost: ~€1.80 (reloadable Viva Viagem card required)
- Aerobus (Airport Shuttle):
  - Line 1 serves the city center. Closest stop: Av. da Liberdade
  - Runs every 20 minutes
  - Fare: ~€4.50
  - Travel time: ~30–40 minutes

#### **Private Transfers**

- Pre-booked chauffeur or hotel car services can be arranged for a seamless experience.
- Contact the Altis Grand Hotel concierge or your travel provider for options.

#### USEFUL TRAVEL TIPS

#### Weather & Packing:

- Warm Days, Mild Evenings: Expect daytime temps around  $24-28^{\circ}C(75-82^{\circ}F)$  and cooler nights (~ $17^{\circ}C/63^{\circ}F$ ).
- Dress Smart-Casual: Light layers, breathable fabrics, and comfortable walking shoes are ideal.
- Sun Protection: Bring sunglasses, a hat, and sunscreen—sunshine is still strong in September.

#### What to Bring

- Adapters: Portugal uses Type C & F plugs (European standard, 230V).
- Walking Shoes: Lisbon is famously hilly with cobbled streets sturdy shoes are a must.
- Reusable Water Bottle: Tap water is safe and clean; staying hydrated is easy and eco-friendly.

#### **Getting Around**

- Taxis & Rideshare: Uber, Bolt, and Free Now are all available.
- Public Transit: Metro, trams, and buses are efficient and affordable (grab a Viva Viagem card).
- Walking Friendly: Many key neighborhoods are best explored on foot—just be ready for the hills!

#### Travel Tip:

Lisbon traffic can be unpredictable during peak hours, so allow extra time if arriving near check-in or session start times.

We look forward to welcoming you to an unforgettable IMGL Autumn Conference in Lisbon!





#### **Currency & Payments**

- Portugal uses the Euro ( $\mathfrak{C}$ ).
- Credit cards are widely accepted, but some small businesses prefer cash.
- ATMs are readily available and typically offer fair exchange rates.

#### Food & Dining

- Meal Times: Lunch around 1-2 pm, dinner often starts 8 pm or later.
- Local Specialties: Try bacalhau (codfish), pastel de nata (custard tart), and a glass of vinho verde.
- Tipping: Not mandatory, but 5–10% is appreciated for good service.

#### Entry & Safety

- Portugal is in the Schengen Area-most travelers don't need a visa for short stays.
- Lisbon is safe, but as in any major city, keep an eye on valuables in crowded areas.

#### Connectivity

- EU roaming usually applies to visitors from Europe.
- For international travelers, local SIM cards and eSIMs are affordable and available at the airport or shops.

#### **Events & Atmosphere**

• September is a vibrant time in Lisbon—expect outdoor festivals, great weather, and lively streets without the peak summer crowds.

## TOP THINGS TO SEE & DO IN LISBON, PORTUGAL

#### **CULTURAL & HISTORIC SITES**

#### 1. Belém Tower (Torre de Belém)

Iconic 16th-century fortification on the Tagus River. A UNESCO World Heritage Site.

#### 2. Jerónimos Monastery

Stunning example of Manueline architecture. Don't miss the cloisters and Vasco da Gama's tomb.

#### 3. São Jorge Castle (Castelo de São Jorge)

Historic castle with panoramic views over Lisbon's red rooftops and the river.

#### 4. Lisbon Cathedral (Sé de Lisboa)

The city's oldest church, combining Romanesque and Gothic styles.

#### 5. MAAT – Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology

A striking modern building on the waterfront with compelling exhibitions.

#### LOCAL EXPERIENCES

#### 6. Ride Tram 28

A classic Lisbon experience through narrow streets and historic districts like Alfama and Baixa.

#### 7. Explore Alfama

Lisbon's oldest neighborhood with winding alleys, fado music, and local taverns.

#### 8. Time Out Market (Mercado da Ribeira)

Gourmet food hall featuring top chefs, Portuguese classics, and great wine.

#### 9. LX Factory

A trendy hub of restaurants, boutiques, and street art in a converted industrial space.

#### 10. Miradouros (Viewpoints)

- Miradouro da Senhora do Monte
- Miradouro de Santa Catarina
- Miradouro de São Pedro de Alcântara

Great spots for sunset photos and city views.

#### DAY TRIPS & TASTINGS

#### 11. Sintra

A fairytale town just 40 minutes away. Visit Pena Palace, Moorish Castle, and Quinta da Regaleira.

#### 12. Douro Valley Wine Escape

Ideal for post-conference relaxation. Join the IMGL Douro Valley Retreat (Sept. 19–21) or plan a visit to Portugal's wine country.

#### 13. Pastéis de Belém

Try the original custard tarts at this legendary bakery near Jerónimos Monastery.

#### **SHOPPING & SOUVENIRS**

#### 14. Avenida da Liberdade

Lisbon's luxury shopping street with international brands and Portuguese designers.

#### 15. Feira da Ladra (Thieves' Market)

Lisbon's famous flea market-great for antiques and unique finds.

#### EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

#### 16. Fado in Alfama or Bairro Alto

Experience Portugal's soulful traditional music in intimate venues like Clube de Fado or A Baiuca.

#### 17. Sunset Cruise on the Tagus River

A relaxing way to see Lisbon from the water, with views of the 25 de Abril Bridge and Christ the King statue.

Enjoy your time in Lisbon!!!





## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

#### Annual Platinum Sponsors



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Take your place as an industry leader by sponsoring an IMGL conference.

#### Sponsor Benefits

Sponsorship of an IMGL conference is a great way to advance awareness and engagement with your organisation among our valuable and influential audience. Associate sponsors can get involved for as little as \$5000 with a range of price points to match your budget and objectives.

Depending on the level of sponsorship taken sponsoring companies recieve these valuable benefits

- Complimentary delegate & guest registrations to conference sessions;
- Complimentary delegate & guest registration to the social program;
- Personal invitation to "Sponsors Recognition Reception" hosted by IMGL Executive Committee;
- Adverts in the IMGL Magazine. our quarterly publication;
- Sponsor recognition at conference & in multiple IMGL online adverts for conference;
- Standalone conference sponsor marketing banner displayed at conference;
- Logo & company description in sponsorship section of conference page on IMGL website;
- Sponsor marketing materials displayed at conference registration booth;
- Enhanced recognition via photos on IMGL social media & website;
- Logo on conference sponsors banner displayed at conference.

For information on joining our impressive rosta of sponsors, please reach out to brien@IMGL.org