The Laws on Online Gambling for Member States in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) – A Review

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ABSTRACT

The internet provides an alternate platform for land-based industries to thrust their business into a virtual world and this is now the new norm of doing business in the 21st century. The gambling industry is not excluded from this technological revolution. The accessibility of online gambling makes it increasingly popular globally. This paper will firstly demonstrate whether the current regulations in place for respective member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are adequate in dealing with online gambling. Secondly, this paper will determine if there is a need for specific online gambling legislation to regulate online gambling in each member state of ASEAN. Finally, this paper will propose the best model of a specific legislation that regulates online gambling so that other member states could adopt this model to regulate online gambling effectively and successfully. Preliminary observation by the authors pertaining current regulation of online gambling in ASEAN member States is not encouraging. In this paper, the authors conducted the research methodology by way of doctrinal research. The primary research was done by examining and assessing relevant legislations, cases and treaties, whilst the secondary research was conducted by reference with materials that include, amongst others, publications in journals, conference papers, legal encyclopaedias, news releases, data for government websites from various member states etc. This paper could be a useful source of information for practitioners, academics, policymakers and students and a guide for any possible future amendments to the current insufficiency.

Keywords: ASEAN member states, land-based gambling, legislations, online gambling, model.