

Charity lottery potential for the United Kingdom

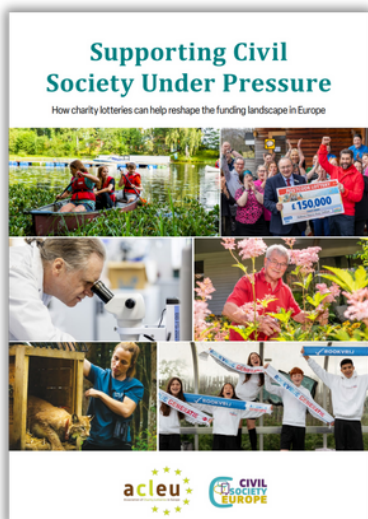
The UK operates a semi-restricted charity lottery market alongside the state-run National Lottery. Major operators include *People's Postcode Lottery*, *Local Hospice Lottery*, *Health Lottery*, *Scottish Children's Lottery*, and *CFP Lottery & Raffles*, represented by the Lotteries Council. Charity lotteries face strict limits — £50 million annual sales, £5 million per draw, and a £500,000 prize cap — yet still generated over £1 billion in sales and £450 million for civil society in 2025, about one-ninth the size of the National Lottery. In Northern Ireland, outdated laws prevent large UK charity lotteries from operating, costing millions in potential funding for local civil society.



Charity lotteries could generate up to €1.5 billion in additional funding for UK's civil society each year!

If the UK's charity lottery laws were liberalised further, the UK charity lottery sector could generate around €2.3 billion a year in revenue net of prizes, which would provide nearly €1.5 billion in additional funding, generating a 28% boost to overall lottery funding in the UK.

If Northern Irish charity lottery legislation was brought into line with the rest of the UK, People's Postcode Lottery alone estimates it would be able to raise an additional £25 million of funding for civil society within the first five years of operation.



What can be done?

- A regulatory environment that removed preferential treatment for the state lottery would be optimal.
- Lift outdated caps on charity lotteries. At the very least, further reform to charity lottery legislation is needed to remove outdated caps on annual sales, draws and prizes on charity lotteries.
- A single UK-wide market across Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as is offered to the National Lottery, would be preferential. This would require legislative change at Westminster to harmonise the charity lottery sectors across the United Kingdom.

With endorsement of these policy recommendations, we hope the government will take action to create an enabling policy environment that allows charity lotteries to raise more substantial and much-needed funds for civil society in the United Kingdom.



The report “Charity Lotteries and the European Lottery Sector: Impact analysis” (2022) shows how charity lotteries complement state lotteries across Europe.



The report “The €10 Billion Opportunity: The potential benefit for civil society across Europe from charity lottery fundraising” (2023) sets out the scale of the opportunity in each European country.



The report “Beyond the Jackpot: analysing the safety of charity lotteries” (2024) confirms charity lotteries are a very low-risk gambling product.

Click on the images to read the full reports or visit www.acleu.eu/publications

About ACLEU

The Association of Charity Lotteries in Europe (ACLEU) is an international non-profit organisation, established in 2007 to promote the charity lottery model and to give a voice to charity lotteries and their beneficiaries in the European debate on games of chance and fundraising.

Charity lotteries have **proven successful** in several European countries, such as the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Germany, and Great Britain. These lotteries have joined forces in ACLEU to promote this **effective fundraising model** throughout Europe by raising awareness among politicians, policy-makers, regulators and charities.

The members of ACLEU believe charities in every European country should be empowered to use a charity lottery as a fundraising tool to **support civil society**.

