

**DECISION OF THE THIRD-PARTY DECIDER  
CASINO DE SPA / Mr. Nikola PISCHEDE  
Case no. 444261: 777-casino.be**

**1. The Parties**

**1.1. Complainant:**

CASINO DE SPA  
Rue Royale 4  
4900 SPA  
BELGIUM

Hereafter referred to as the "Complainant".

*Represented by:*

COGITUS SRL  
Mr. Philippe PARTOUNE  
Legal advisor – Trademark attorney  
Avenue des Bouleaux 30  
4053 EMBOURG  
BELGIUM

**1.2. Domain Name Holder:**

Mr. Nikola PISCHEDE  
Via Sarrabus 12  
09121 CAGLIARI  
ITALY

Hereafter referred to as the "Domain Name Holder".

**2. Domain name**

Domain name: 777-casino.be  
Registered on: 22 April 2025

Hereafter referred to as the "Domain Name".

**3. Procedure**

On 15 December 2025, the Complainant filed a complaint concerning the Domain Name and requests the transfer thereof ("Complaint") with the Belgian Centre for Arbitration and Mediation ("CEPANI") by e-mail, in accordance with the CEPANI rules for domain name dispute resolution (the "Rules") and the dispute resolution policy of DNS Belgium, incorporated in Article 10 of its Terms and conditions for .be domain name registrations (the "Policy").

On 4 February 2026, CEPANI appointed the undersigned, Ms. Sarah van den Brande, as a third-party decider (the "Third-Party Decider") to settle the dispute involving the Domain Name.

The deliberations were closed by 11 February 2026.

The Domain Name Holder did not file a response to the Complaint.

In accordance with Article 6.4 of the Rules, this decision is based on the Complaint alone, including the exhibits attached to the Complaint.

#### 4. Factual background information

The Complainant operates a casino in Spa (Belgium) under the trade name "Casino de Spa", as well as an online gaming platform under the trade name "Casino 777".

The Complainant holds a license issued by the Belgian Gaming Commission for both offline (A license) and online (A+ license) gambling activities. Such licenses are required for any operator to legally offer gambling activities in Belgium. The A+ (online) license has been granted for the website "www.casino777.be".

The Complainant is the holder of a.o. the domain names with .be extension "casino777.be" (registered in 2007), "777.be" (registered in 2000) and "casino-777.be" (registered in 2007), as well as various trademarks applicable on the Belgian territory including the following:



- Benelux combined trademark "777 CASINO - POKER - BINGO - SPORTS", with registration number 921079, as applied for on 1 February 2012 and as registered on 10 September 2012 for the goods and services in Nice classes 7, 9, 28 and 41;
- EU word trademark "CASINO 777", with registration number 014632244, as applied for on 1 October 2015 and as registered on 31 March 2016 for the goods and services in Nice classes 9, 28 and 41;



- EU figurative trademark "777", with registration number 017178451, as applied for on 6 September 2017 and as registered on 9 January 2018 for the goods and services in Nice classes 9, 28, 35, 38 and 41;
- EU word trademark "BET777", with registration number 018279715, as applied for on 28 July 2020 and as registered on 8 January 2021 for the goods and services in Nice classes 9, 28, 35 and 41;



- EU figurative trademark "CASINO 777", with registration number 018384332, as applied for on 27 January 2021 and as registered on 11 September 2021 for the goods and services in Nice classes 9, 16, 28, 35, 38 and 41; and
- EU word trademark "777", with registration number 019080394, as applied for on 17 September 2024 and as registered on 4 December 2025 for the goods and services in Nice classes 9, 28, 35, 41, 42 and 43.

The Domain Name has been registered on 22 April 2025 by the Domain Name Holder and has been connected to a website regarding online gambling activities in the past (annexes 13-16 to the Complaint). The Complaint contains screenshots of the connected website showing that it contained links to third-party gambling websites without license to operate in Belgium (pages 18-19 of the Complaint). The connected website is not accessible at the date of this decision.

## 5. Position of the parties

### 5.1. Position of the Complainant

The Complainant requests the transfer of the Domain Name and submits that the three cumulative conditions for the transfer of the Domain Name are fulfilled:

- The Domain Name is confusingly similar to the Complainant's trademarks, trade names and domain names;
- The Domain Name Holder has no rights or legitimate interests in the Domain Name;
- The Domain Name has been registered and is being used in bad faith to impersonate the Complainant and divert internet users to third-party gambling websites with no official license for the Belgian market.

In summary, the Complainant invokes the following reasons to support this:

The Complainant provides several news articles and advertising investments (annexes 8-11 to the Complaint) to indicate the recognition and trust among Belgian consumers of "Casino 777" as an online casino, as well as the use of its trade name and trademarks on the Belgian market.

The Complainant indicates the mere inversion of the elements "Casino" and "777" in the Domain Name.

The Complainant furthermore submits that, even though the Domain Name Holder claims to be affiliated to the Complainant (annex 16 to the Complaint), such affiliation does not exist. The Domain Name Holder furthermore does not hold the legally required license to operate online gambling activities in Belgium.

The Complainant argues that the Domain Name was registered and is used in bad faith. The Complainant asserts that the Domain Name Holder uses its Domain Name to imitate the Complainant's websites to confuse Internet users and subsequently redirect those users to third-party gambling websites, while it does not hold the legally required license to operate gambling activities in Belgium.

### 5.2. Position of the Domain name holder

The Domain Name Holder did not submit any response following the Complaint.

## 6. Discussion and findings

Although the Complaint has been filed by the Complainant's representative based on a power of attorney dating back from 10 December 2024 with a copy-pasted signature, the Third-Party Decider has no reasons to question this power of attorney as (i) the Complainant's representative is mentioned as the Complainant's trademark attorney for the abovementioned trademarks in the relevant publicly available trademark registers and (ii) the power of attorney is signed by a representative of the Complainant which appears to be duly authorised to sign such power of attorney based on the publications in the Belgian Official Gazette. Indeed, based on article 18 of the Complainant's articles of association, the Complainant can be validly represented vis-à-vis third parties in all acts and in court by its managing directors acting alone. The representative who signed the power of attorney was appointed as such managing director on 29 January 2020, which appointment was confirmed on 6 August 2025.

The Third-Party Decider furthermore notes that the Complaint was found to be complete by CEPANI in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of the Rules.

The Third-Party Decider therefore considers the Complaint to be admissible.

Pursuant to Article 16.1 of the Rules, the Third-Party Decider shall rule on domain name disputes with due regard for the Policy and the Rules.

Pursuant to Article 10(b)(1) of the Policy, the Complainant must provide evidence that:

- the Domain Name is identical or confusingly similar to a trademark, a trade name, a registered name or a company name, a geographical designation, a name of origin, a designation of source, a personal name or name of a geographical entity in which the Complainant has rights; and
- the Domain Name Holder has no rights or legitimate interests in the Domain Name; and
- the Domain Name has been registered or is being used in bad faith.

### **6.1. The Domain Name is identical or confusingly similar to a trade name and to trademarks in which the Complainant has rights**

The Complainant has established rights in the trade name “Casino 777”, through its use on the Complainant’s website since 2016 (annexes 6-7 to the Complaint), in advertising campaigns in 2019 and 2022 (annexes 8-9 to the Complaint) and in press coverage in 2019, 2022 and 2025 (annexes 8-11 to the Complaint). The Complainant furthermore holds a license from the Belgian Gaming Commission allowing it to operate online gambling activities under the domain name “casino777.be” since 2017 (page 4 of the Complaint and website Belgian Gaming Commission). The Complainant is the holder of said domain name, as registered on 9 December 2007 (annex 3 to the Complaint).

The Complainant moreover registered a trademark for the word “Casino 777” in 2016 and a figurative trademark for “Casino 777” in 2021. The most relevant trademarks for the assessment in this decision are the EU word trademarks “CASINO 777” (as applied for on 1 October 2015 and with registration number 014632244) and “777” (as applied for on 17 September 2024 and with registration number 019080394). The Third-Party Decider has no reason to assume that these trademarks have not been put to genuine use, due to the use on the Complainant’s website at present and in 2016-2023 and 2025 (annexes 6-7 to the Complaint) and in advertising campaigns in 2019 and 2022 (annexes 8-9 to the Complaint).

Therefore, the Complainant has established that it holds rights in the trade name “Casino 777” and the EU trademarks with registration numbers 014632244 and 019080394.

In the case at hand, the Third-Party Decider rules that the Domain Name is at least confusingly similar to the EU trademarks with registration number 014632244 and 019080394 and the Complainant’s trade name “Casino 777”.

The Domain Name on the one hand and the Complainant’s EU trademark 014632244 and trade name on the other hand are a combination of the elements “Casino” and “777”. The inverted use of these elements in the Domain Name compared to the Complainant’s EU trademark 014632244 and trade name or the addition of the symbol “-” are insufficient to establish any meaningful distinction (see *inter alia* CEPANI 444224) and do not allow to conclude to a lack of similarity. The use of these similar signs for activities in the same sector is also likely to cause confusion. The relevant public may think that the Domain Name is associated with the Complainant as a result of the use of the same elements and the limited scope of the Belgian online gambling sector in which the Complainant holds the legally required license, whilst the Domain Name Holder does not.

The Domain Name furthermore includes the Complainant's EU trademark 019080394 in its entirety as the first, dominant element of the Domain Name (see *inter alia* CEPANI 444260). This use is to be considered as confusingly similar regardless of the other elements in the Domain Name (see *inter alia* WIPO D2020-2923 and CEPANI 444167), in particular when only generic words as "casino" are added as the second, less dominant element.

Taking into account the above, the first condition of Article 10(b)(1) of the Policy is met.

## **6.2. The Domain Name Holder has no rights or legitimate interests in the Domain Name**

The burden of proof of the second condition is considered to be satisfied when, taking into account all the facts of the case, the Complainant can credibly state that it is unaware of any reason or circumstance which could be indicative of a right or legitimate interest of the Domain Name Holder in the Domain Name (see *inter alia* WIPO D2001-1020; CEPANI 444110; CEPANI 444122).

Based on all the facts of the case, the Third-Party Decider finds that there are no reasons or circumstances that are indicative of any rights or legitimate interests in the Domain Name by the Domain Name Holder:

- In accordance with Article 10(b)(3) of the Policy, the Complainant shows its use of a name corresponding to the Domain Name in connection with a bona fide offering of services (annexes 6-11 to the Complaint).
- The Complainant indicates the lack of rights or reasons for the Domain Name Holder to use the Domain Name, as the Domain Name Holder is not affiliated with the Complainant, nor received an authorisation to use its trademarks or trade name.
- Based on the publicly available register of gambling licenses, there is no evidence that the Domain Name Holder has the required license to legally offer online gambling activities in Belgium, even though the Domain Name refers to such gambling activities.

By not submitting a response to the Complaint, the Domain Name Holder failed to provide any explanation or evidence to establish any rights or legitimate interests in the Domain Name (see *inter alia* WIPO D2010-0138). The above finding is therefore not contradicted by the Domain Name Holder.

The second condition of Article 10(b)(1) of the Policy is met.

## **6.3. The Domain Name has been registered or is being used in bad faith**

Bad faith must be reasonably proven and may be proved by any means, including by means of presumptions and circumstances that indicate the existence of bad faith with a reasonable degree of certainty (see *inter alia* CEPANI 44171; 44441).

The evidence of registration or use in bad faith of a domain name can be provided by the circumstances mentioned in the non-exhaustive list under Article 10(b)(2) of the Policy (see *inter alia* CEPANI 444102).

All circumstances of the case indicate with a reasonable degree of certainty that the Domain Name has been registered and used in bad faith:

- The use of the Domain Name with a ".be" extension indicates its intended use in Belgium for offering online gambling activities (annex 13 to the Complaint). Anyone wishing to operate such online gambling activities in Belgium should be aware that this requires a government-issued license. Taking into account the Complainant's license for such online gambling activities in Belgium, which can easily be verified on the regulatory authority's website, and the Complainant's advertising efforts (annexes 8-9 to the Complaint), the Domain Name

Holder should have been aware of the Complainant's prior existence in Belgium (see *inter alia* CEPANI 444260; 444224; 44482).

- The Domain Name Holder furthermore lacks a government-issued license to offer online gambling activities. As the connected website claimed to offer such activities in the past, the Domain Name Holder performs no legitimate activities under the name "777 Casino".
- The Domain Name Holder registered the Domain Name long after the Complainant registered its EU trademark 014632244 (2016) and started using its trade name in Belgium (at least since 2016 based on annex 7 to the Complaint). The Complainant has established that its activities as a licensed (online) casino are known in Belgium through its advertising efforts and press coverage (annexes 8-11 to the Complaint). The existing trademarks and trade name of the Complainant could have been easily identified by the Domain Name Holder by a search in a trademark register or on the Internet (see *inter alia* WIPO DNL 2015-0062). The Domain Name Holder, at the time of registration of the Domain Name on 22 April 2025, could therefore not reasonably ignore the existence of the Complainant and its trademarks and trade name.
- The Complainant reasonably proves that the Domain Name was connected to a website that redirects users who click on the "LOGIN" or "REGISTER" button to third-party gambling websites (see *inter alia* CEPANI 444260).

The website was therefore used to attract Internet users to other online locations by creating confusion with the Complainant's trademark and trade name as to the claimed source of the Domain Name Holder's website or the services on this website (see *inter alia* WIPO D2020-2923; CEPANI 444260), including by falsely stating or implying that it is affiliated to the Complainant and that it operates under the Complainant's license, whilst this is not the case (annex 16 to the Complaint).

The third condition of Article 10(b)(1) of the Policy is met.

## 7. Decision

Taking into account the foregoing, the Third-Party Decider hereby rules in accordance with Article 10(e) of the Policy that the domain name registration for the "777-casino.be" domain name is to be transferred to the Complainant.

Brussels, 25 February 2026

Signed by:  
 Sarah van den Brande  
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VAN DEN BRANDE, Sarah

The Third-Party Decider