



CRIMINAL ACTION AGAINST VIAGOGO & LAUNCH OF #FANPASGOGO CAMPAIGN

www.fanpasgogo.fr

PRODISS has launched a new campaign - #FANPASGOGO - against ticket touts

The campaign aims at raising the public's awareness when purchasing tickets online, providing tips and kits to relay the campaign, practical guides, tips to avoid being scammed, and a space of testimony for those who have been victims of fraudulent practices. The comprehensive campaign encompasses an « action kit » for the industry professionals and a petition [#stoplarnaque](#)



The FANPASGOGO initiative has been coupled by PRODISS with a criminal action against VIAGOGO and a call on the government to take tougher action against non-official websites which resell concert tickets.

➔ TARGET : PUTTING AN END TO INDUSTRY SCALE TICKET TOUTING

In the last decade, illicit resale of tickets on internet has dramatically increased, causing harm to fans, artists and industry professionals. Speculation on tickets re-sold at exorbitant prices (beyond their face value), counterfeit tickets, duplicates of the same e-ticket resold several times ... Buying on these sites involves many risks, and especially that of not being able to attend the show. These internet sites often come in first positions on the search engines, they are well referenced. They also stock up in places thanks to technological botnets that capture large-scale tickets for sale on official sites... leaving even less chance for fans to get a ticket at its true value.

In France, the law of March 12, 2012 prohibits the resale of tickets for shows without the authorisation of the promoter. The law creates a criminal offense (article 313-6-2, French penal code) for the unauthorised ticket resale to sporting, cultural, trade events, and live performances. It is in France forbidden *“to sell, offer for sale or expose for sale or transfer of*

ownership, or to provide the means for sale or transfer of ownership of access rights to a sporting, cultural or trade event or to a live show, habitually and without authorisation from the producer, the organiser or the owner of the rights of exploitation of this manifestation or event, is punishable by a 15 000 euros fine. The penalty is up to 30 000 euros in the event of a repeat offense”

The existing law has already enabled several promoters to take legal against non official sites reselling concert tickets without their authorization.

➔ **STEP 1 : FRENCH CONSUMER AFFAIRS TAKES VIAGOGO TO COURT**

In December 2017, The French Directorate General for Competition Policy, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Control (**DGCCRF**) launched an injunction against VIAGOGO, alleging it breached the french Consumer Law when reselling entertainment, music and live sport tickets. The DGCCRF alleges that Viagogo engaged in misleading or deceptive conduct, regarding the availability of tickets and the prices of tickets on its online platform (drip pricing), failing to disclose significant and unavoidable fees upfront in the ticket price.

➔ **STEP 2 : PRODISS TAKES VIAGOGO TO COURT**

PRODISS alongside several promoters, has filed against VIAGOGO a criminal indemnification proceedings with civil action within criminal proceedings.

This criminal action will have the effect of setting in motion the public action by the appointment of an investigating judge and the opening of a judicial inquiry.

PRODISS is urging fans victims of scams and promoters to file a complaint in order to strengthen the criminal action.

About PRODISS - Since 1984, PRODISS, the French Live Music Industry Trade Organisation, is the representative employers' organisation of the main promoters, festival and venues in France. PRODISS' missions are to represent, promote and defend the interests of the live music industry.

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