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French DNCG management control versus UEFA Financial Fair Play: a divergent conception of financial regulation objectives

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Abstract

The French Football Federation was the first football governing body to put in place, in 1990, a financial regulation system. It might be expected that UEFA's Financial Fair Play (FFP) system established in 2010 would be similar to French DNCG (National Direction for Management Control) regulations. However, while FFP is concerned with profitability, DNCG is focused on solvency. Hence, a French club may be loss-making and not compliant with FFP, while at the same time being solvent in accordance with DNCG rules. Our research confirms that most French clubs do not conform to FFP rules. As such, it provides further evidence that DNCG has not prevented poor financial management within French clubs. The coexistence of DNCG and FFP- or any other domestic financial regulation and FFP -may result in disparities between domestic

clubs. As a consequence, there should be consistent financial regulation in all European leagues.

Notes

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5. Lago, Simmons and Szymanski, 'Financial Crisis European Football'.
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7. DNCG, *Rapport d'Activité 2008/2009*, 11.
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9. Andreff, 'French Football'; Gouguet and Primault, 'The French Exception'.
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31. UEFA, European Club Landscape 2009, 76.
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33. UEFA, UEFA Club Licensing 2012, Annex X, D.
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40. It is important to note that strictly speaking loan note holders are not the same as shareholders, as the latter group contributes equity in the form of share capital to a company.

41. UEFA, European Club Landscape 2012, 80.

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Related Research Data

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Regulating Banks in Central and Eastern Europe

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