



Press Release

Brussels, 13 November 2018

LUX Film Prize finalists' plea to EU decision makers: audiovisual creators should be linked to the life of their works

On the occasion of the European Parliament LUX Film Prize Award Ceremony on 14 November, LUX Prize finalists since 2007 are calling in an [open letter](#) on Member States and the European Commission to take on board the Parliament's proposal to introduce a principle of fair and proportionate remuneration for authors and performers in the proposed Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market.

The [LUX Film Prize](#) is a unique platform for European filmmakers' works to reach European audiences at large by providing visibility and subtitles in the EU official languages. In order to foster a vibrant creative environment at a time when the online exploitation of audiovisual works is increasing, European filmmakers are calling on EU institutions to support them in finally sharing in the economic success of their work.

Following the adoption of the European Parliament's position on the proposed Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market on 12 September, interinstitutional negotiations have started, with the objective of reaching an agreement by the end of the year. The European Parliament proposed to introduce a much-needed principle of fair and proportionate remuneration for authors and performers, leaving flexibility to Member States on the choice of the implementation instrument (collective bargaining agreements, collective management of rights, statutory remuneration mechanisms) provided that authors and performers receive remuneration from the revenues derived from the exploitation of their works.

Quotes

"Representative organisations of screenwriters and directors have asked for it, more than 21,000 petition signatories support it, The European Parliament proposed it and now we, the finalists of the LUX Film Prize, call for it. It is time that the Commission and Council listen and re-balance the level playing-field to include authors in the ecosystem of the exploitation of their works", said Benedikt Erlingsson, Wolfgang Fischer and Mila Turajlic, the LUX Film Prize finalists of 2018.

"The LUX Film Prize pays tribute to the unique diversity and quality of European cinema. Fostering European audiovisual authors' creative freedom entails enabling them to make a sustainable living, and therefore to benefit from the success of their works.", said Pauline Durand-Vialle, FERA Chief Executive.

"Collections of royalties for audiovisual authors represent 6,4% according to the CISAC Global Report. Collections for digital rights only amount to 2,4% of this total. Including a principle of fair and proportionate remuneration in the new Directive on Copyright is essential for authors to fairly benefit from the success of their works, in relation to the actual distribution and consumption of film and TV", said Cécile Despringre, SAA Executive Director.

Notes to Editors

LUX Film Prize and SAA, in partnership with FERA and FSE have invited Members of the European Parliament, screenwriters and directors and their representative organisations for a dinner on the evening of 13 November in the European Parliament in Strasbourg to celebrate the finalists and look at the way forward for audiovisual authors in the Copyright Directive.

For interview opportunities please contact Annica Ryngbeck, +32 475 66 95 94.

Download the open letter in [English](#) and in [French](#)

About

FERA - Founded in 1980, the Federation of European Film Directors gathers 43 director's associations as members from 33 countries. It speaks for more than 20,000 European film and TV directors, representing their cultural, creative and economic interests at national and EU level. FERA EU Transparency Register Id No. 29280842236-21. [@Film_directors](#)

Press: Pauline Durand- Vialle, pdv@filmdirectors.eu +32 491 52 49 04.

SAA - The Society of Audiovisual Authors is the association of European collective management organisations representing audiovisual authors. Its 32 members in 24 countries manage rights for over 138,000 film, television and multimedia European screenwriters and directors. [@saabrussels](#)

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FSE - The Federation of Screenwriters in Europe is a network of national and regional associations, guilds and unions of writers for the screen in Europe, created in June 2001. It comprises 25 members from 20 countries, representing more than 7000 writers in Europe. [@ScreenwritersEU](#)