

The role of adaptations in European audiovisual fiction production

IP Adaptation Bootcamp
Series Mania Institute
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Adaptations in film and audiovisual fiction production in Europe (April 2026)



Period =

Years 2015-2024



Media-press.tv =

Live-action TV/SVOD fiction commissioned by broadcasters and streamers

Lumiere =

European feature films released in European cinemas



Europe TV =

EU-27, CH, NO, UK

Europe Film =

EU-27, BA, CH, IS, ME, NO, MK, TR, UK



Adaptations =

Blogs, Board Games, Books, Comics, Films, Manga, Theatre Plays, TV Series, and Videogames

Remakes =

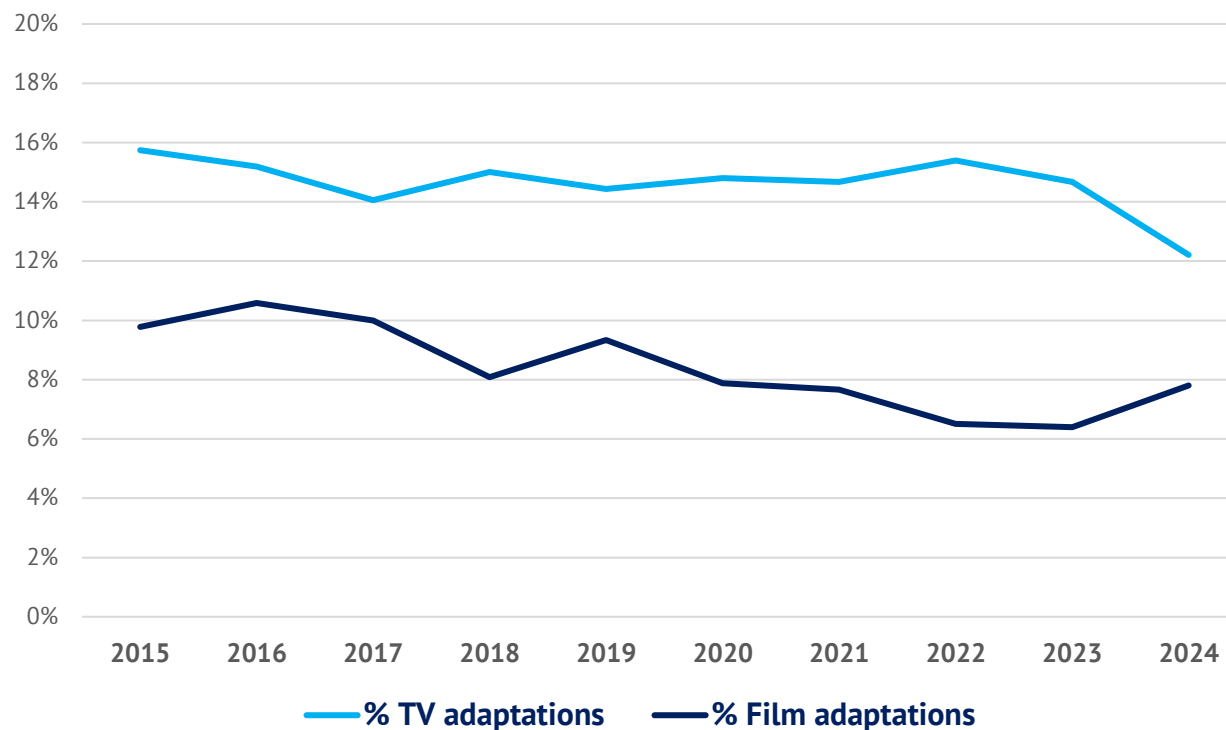
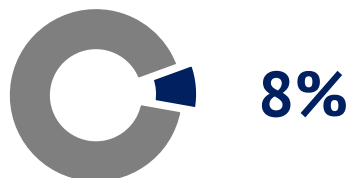
Films, Series

Here to stay: A stable share of adaptations in European audiovisual fiction.

TV Adaptations



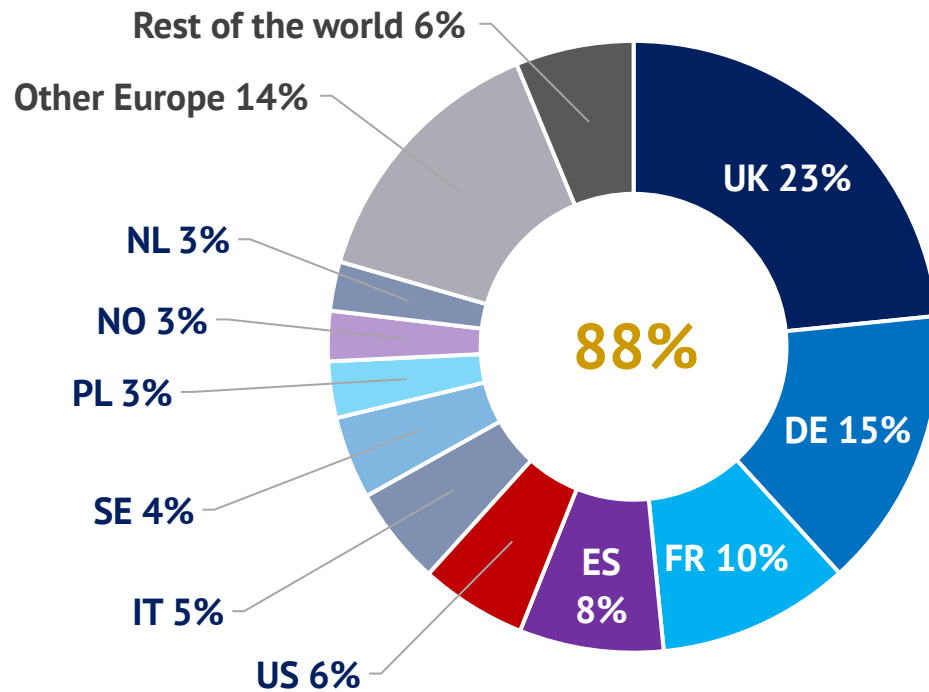
Film Adaptations



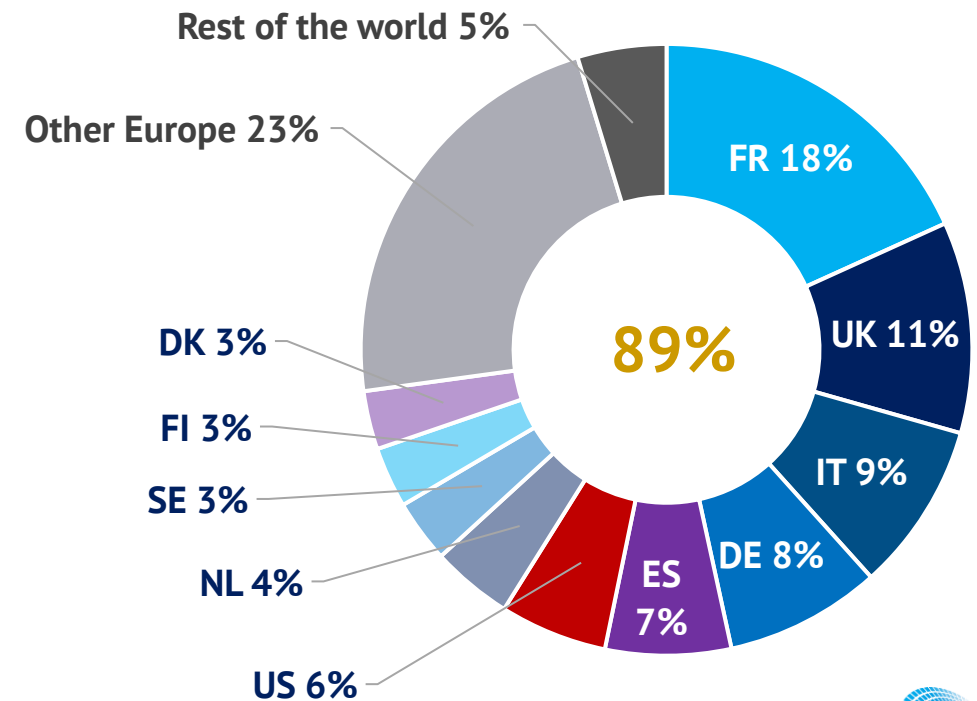
Origin of Original Sources

Europe loves European IP

TV Fiction

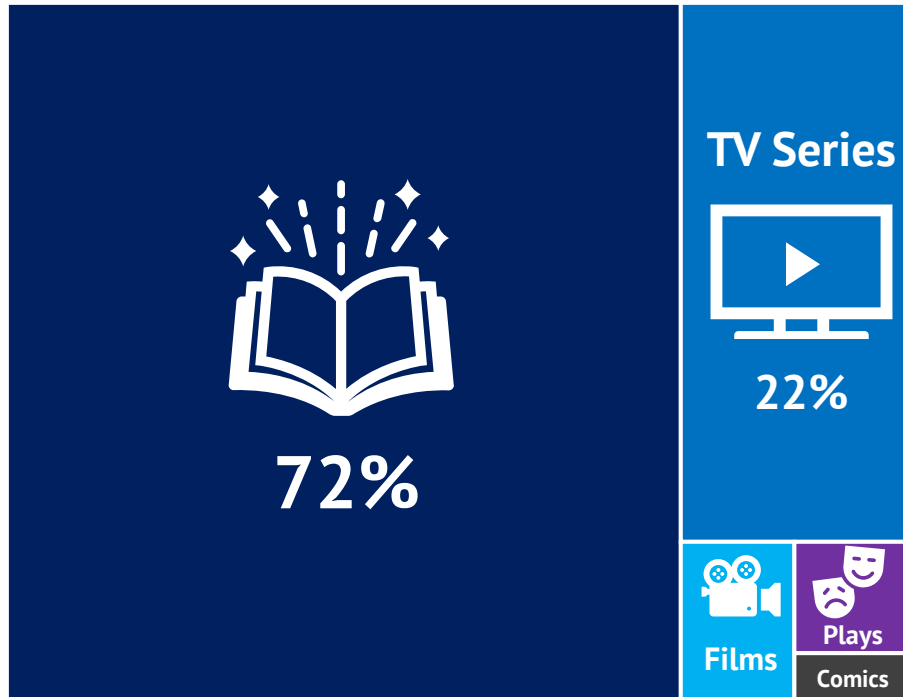


Film

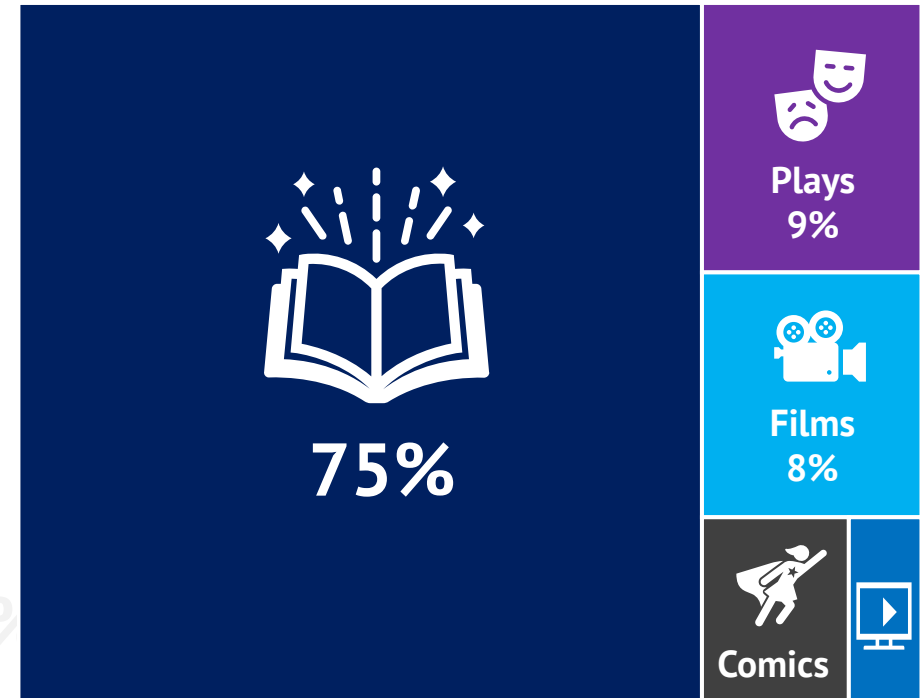


Most adaptations are based on books.

TV Fiction

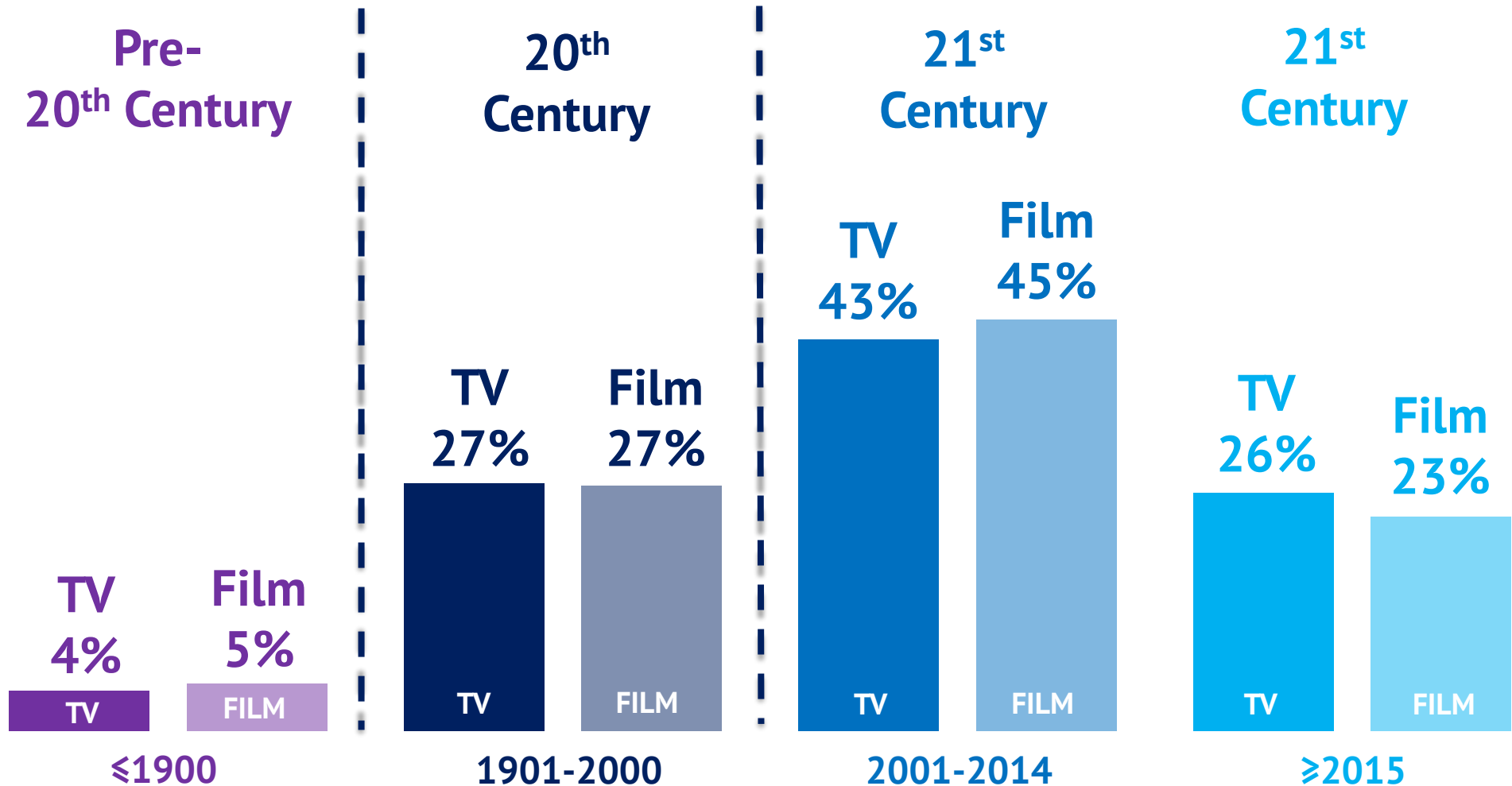


Film



Publication Year of Original Books

Most adapted books are contemporary literature.



Top Original Books Adapted for TV Fiction

Agatha Christie, the queen of crime novels.

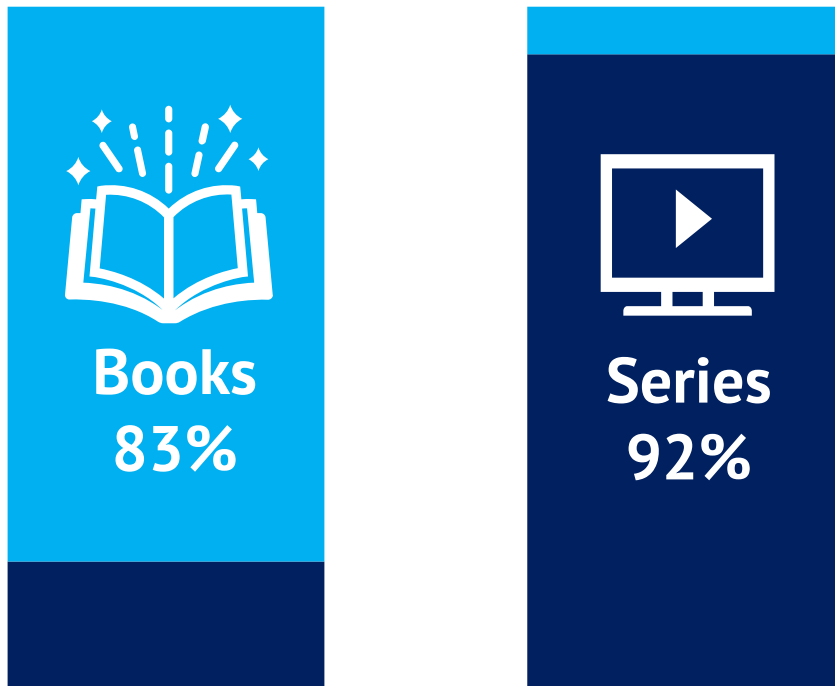


Number of adaptations + Original Author + Genre		Country of Origin - Authors		Country of Origin - Adaptations
Σ10	Christie, Agatha (detective novels)		UK	FR, SE, UK
Σ9	Roszbacher, Claudia (crime novels)		AT	AT
	Wolf, Klaus-Peter (crime novels)		DE	DE
Σ7	The Brothers Grimm (folk tales)		DE	DE
Σ6	Herrmann, Elisabeth (crime novels)		DE	DE
	Simenon, Georges (detective novels)		BE	FR, UK
Σ5	Coben, Harlan (thrillers/mystery novels)		US	ES, FR, PL, UK
	Espinosa, Albert (memoir)		ES	DE, FR, IT, SK
	Held, Annegret (contemporary novels)		DE	DE
	Link, Charlotte (detective novels)		DE	DE
	Neuhaus, Nele (crime novels)		DE	DE
	Sýkora, Michal (detective novels)		CZ	CZ

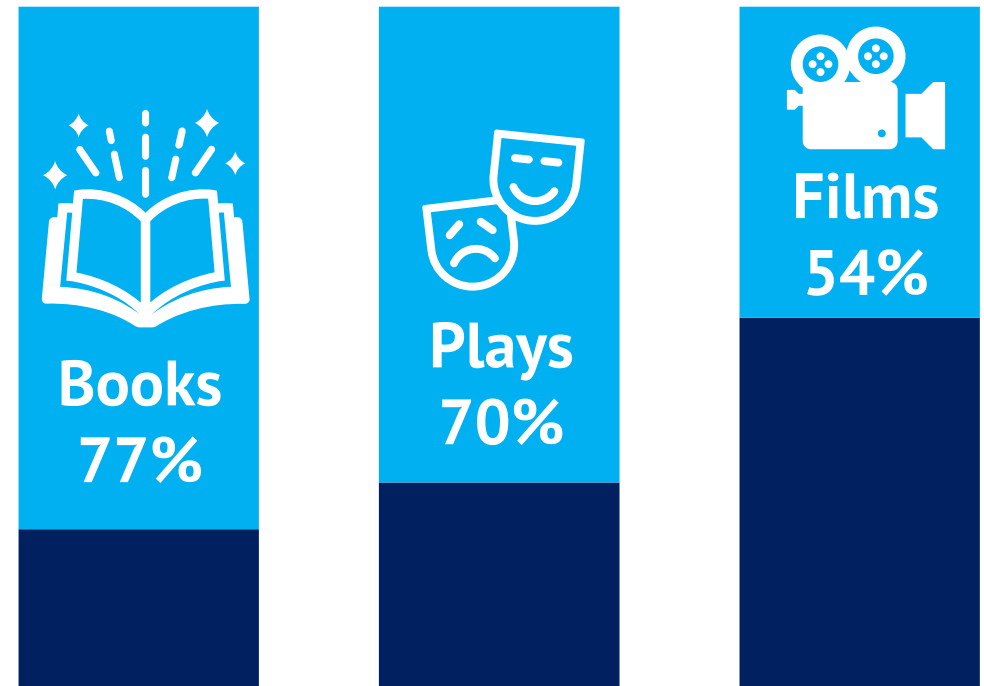


Adapted books and plays are national, TV series and films international.

TV Fiction



Film



■ Adaptation from another country

■ Adaptation from same country

Top Original TV Series Adapted for TV Fiction

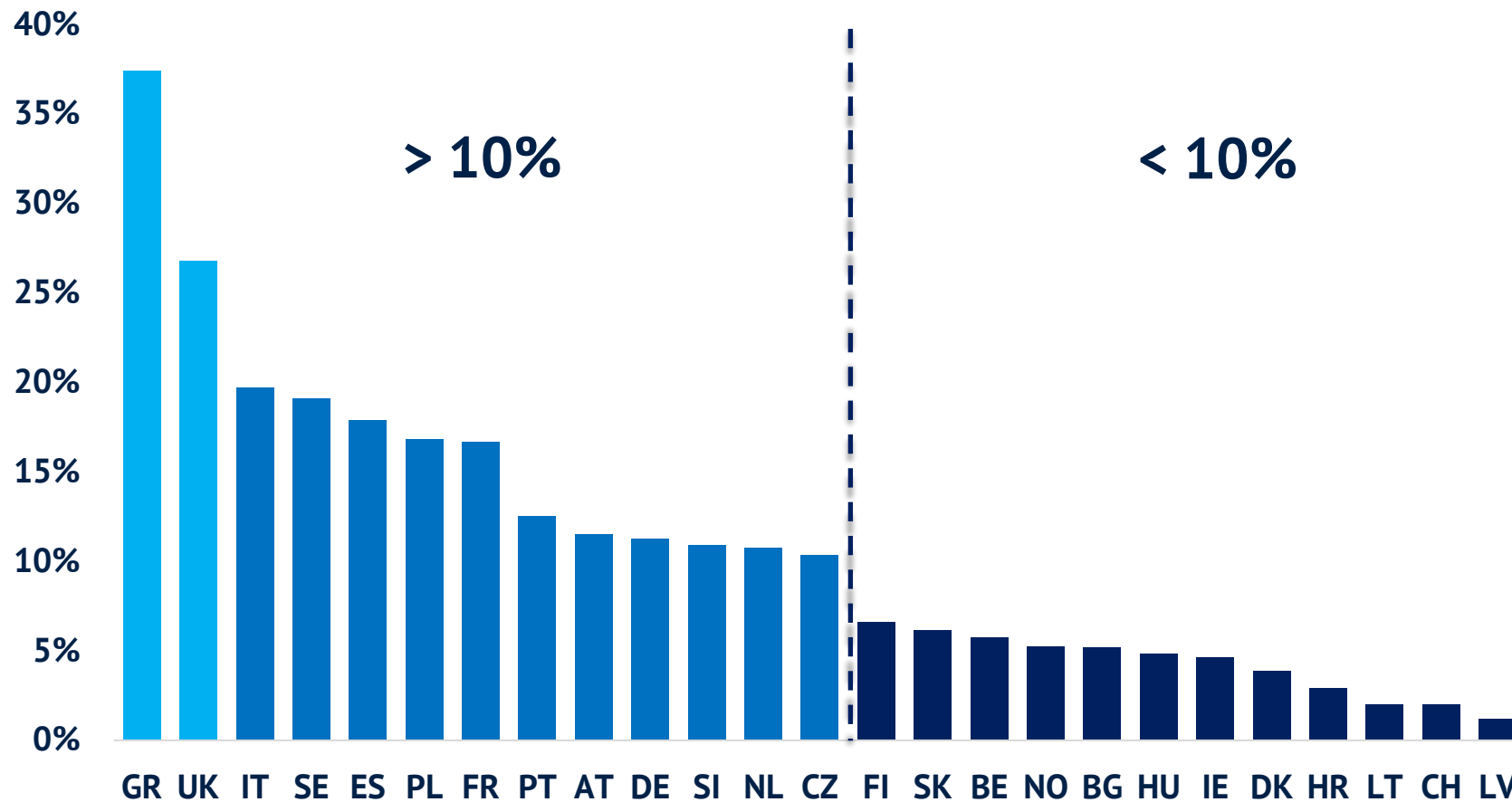
Norwegian “SKAM” is the most adapted TV series.



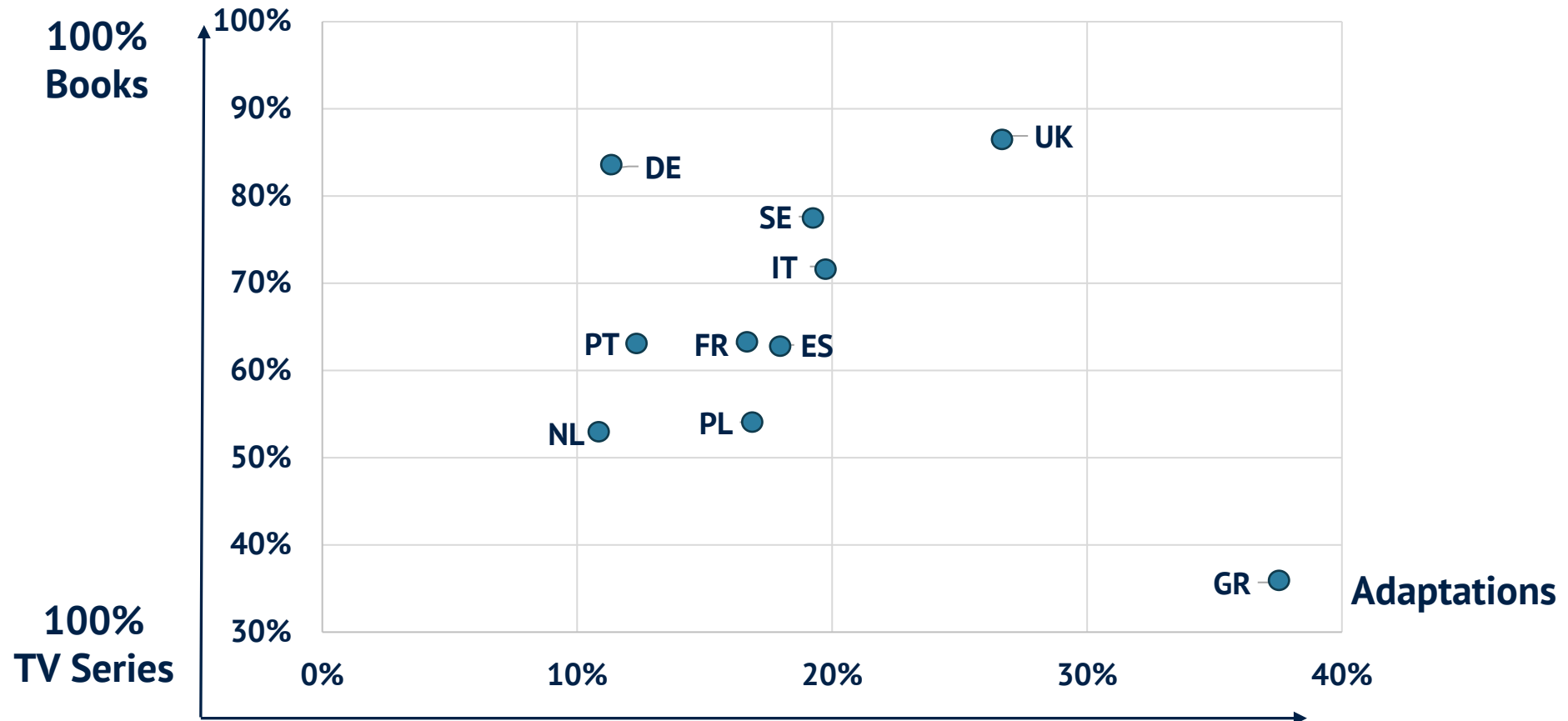
Number of adaptations + Original Title + Year of 1st Broadcast		Country of Origin - Originals		Country of Origin - Remakes
Σ7	SKAM	2015	 NO	BE, FR, DE, ES, HR, IT, NL
Σ6	Liar	2017	 UK	DE, ES, FR, GR, IT, SK
Σ5	בטיפול / In Therapy	2005	 IL	CZ, FR, HU, IT, PT
Σ4	Professor T.	2015	 BE	CZ, DE, FR, UK
	Bron Broen / The Bridge	2011	 SE	AT, DE, GR, UK
Σ3	Amar después de amar / Love After Loving	2017	 AR	ES, GR, PT
	HPI: Haut Potentiel Intellectuel	2021	 FR	CZ, GR, SK
	Kommissar Rex	1994	 AT	IT, PT, PL
	Gran Hotel	2011	 ES	FR, GR, IT



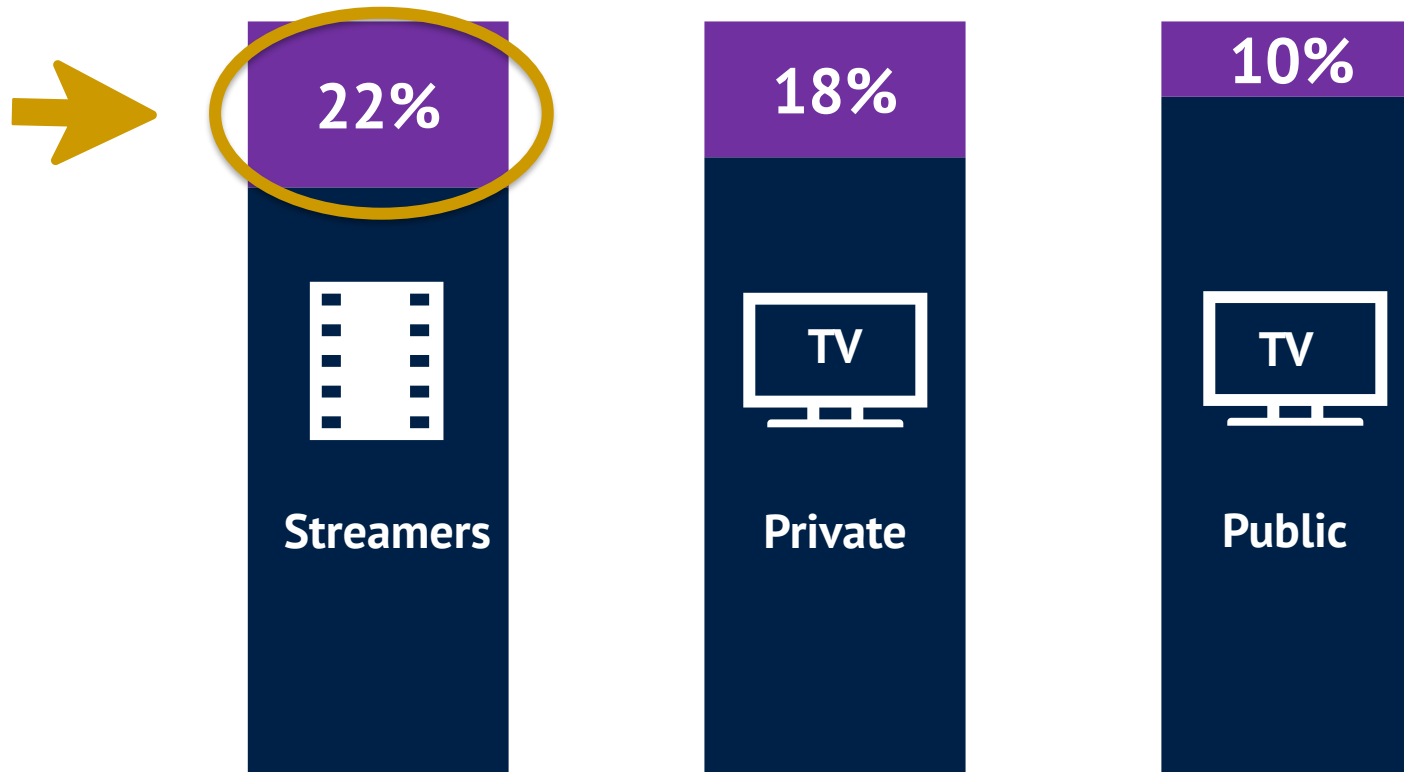
TV adaptation champions Greece and the United Kingdom.



Emphasis placed on the type of original works varies among top ten countries.



Streamers offer more adaptations.



■ Other works ■ Adaptations

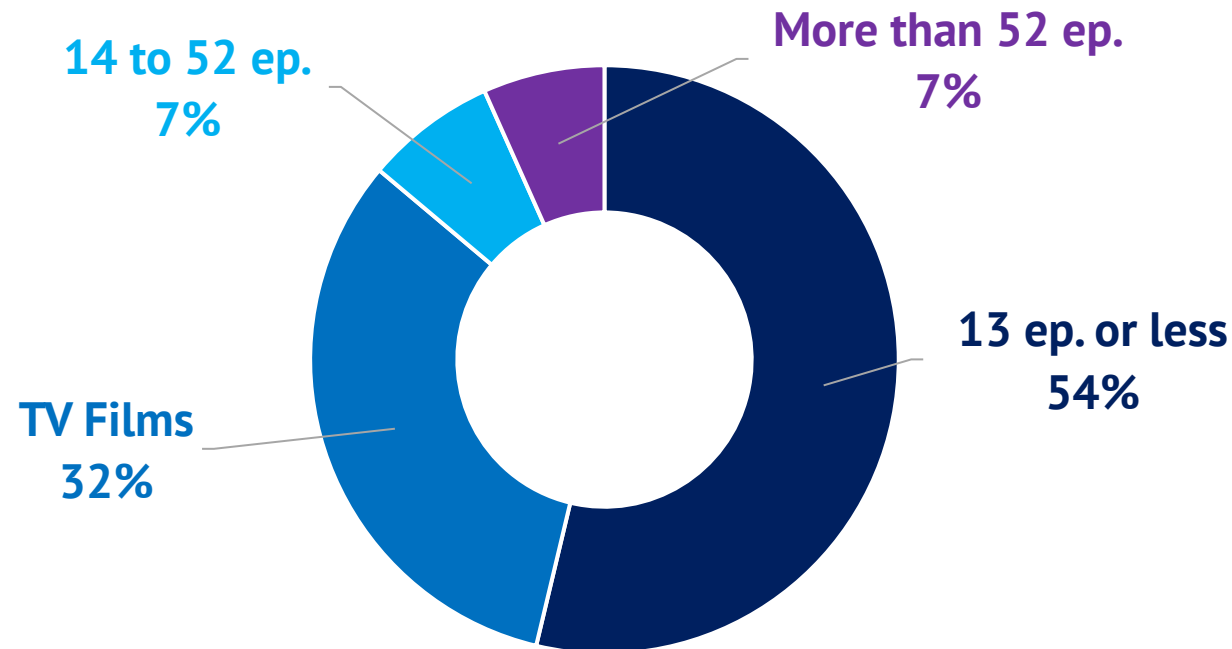
2022-2024

Major public service broadcasters and Netflix are top commissioners.

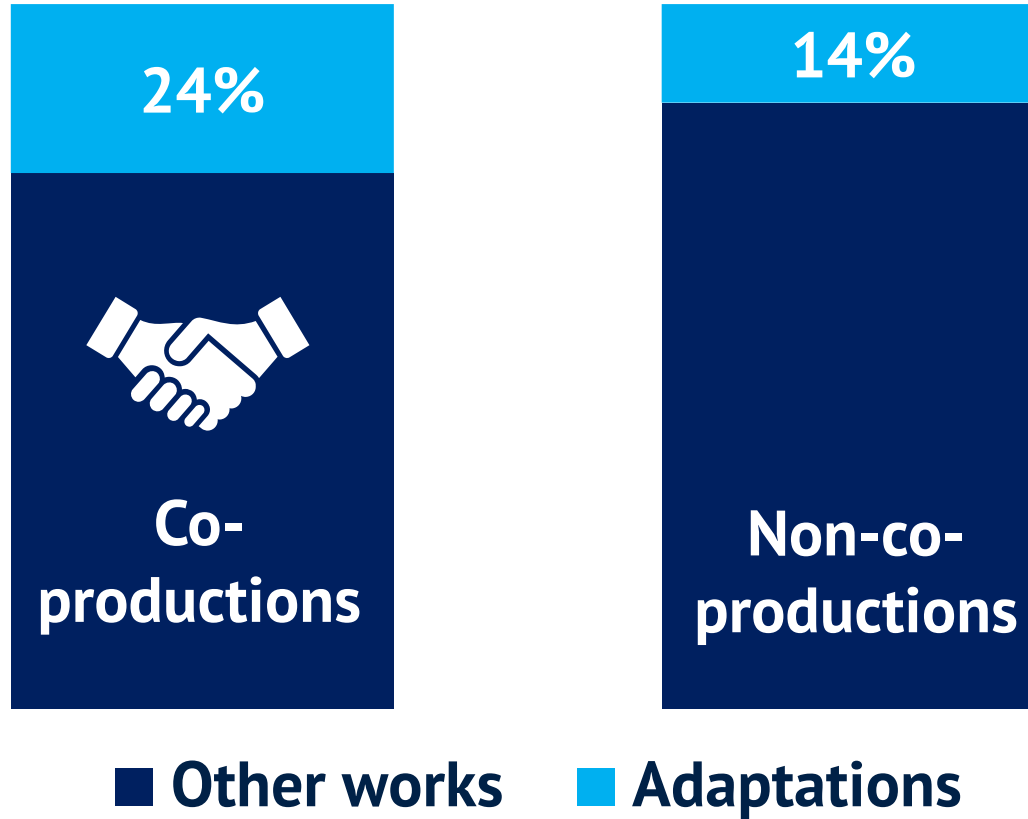
Rank	Company	% share adaptations	Titles
1	BBC (UK)	25%	198
2	ZDF (DE)	15%	150
3	Netflix (US)	25%	139
4	ARD (DE)	8%	112
5	France Télévisions (FR)	16%	107
5	ITV (UK)	40%	107
7	RTL Group (LU)/Bertelsmann (DE)	21%	86
8	RAI (IT)	20%	65
9	Comcast (US)	27%	63
10	TF1/Bouygues (FR)	27%	57

Rank	Company	% share adaptations	Titles
11	Warner Bros. Discovery (US)	18%	47
12	Arte (DE/FR)	18%	44
13	Telia Company (SE)	21%	41
14	TVP (PL)	20%	32
14	Amazon (US)	17%	32
16	Alpha TV/Primos Media (GR)	45%	30
17	ORF (AT)	13%	26
17	NPO (NL)	8%	26
19	Atresmedia (ES)	26%	24
20	Paramount (US)	25%	23

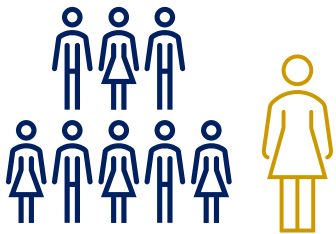
Most audiovisual fiction adaptations are either high-end TV series, or TV films.



More adaptations among co-productions.



World of competition & choice



Standing out from the crowd.



Cornerstone of TV fiction production.



Books take special place.



Universal stories told in a specific way.