

Activity results for 2009

Eurimages, the Council of Europe fund for the co-production, distribution and exhibition of European cinematographic works, has [34 member states](#).

✚ Some key figures

In 2009, the total support granted by the fund amounted to € 20 903 621, allocated as follows:

Support programme	Total amount granted	Percentage of total support	Number of requests for support	Percentage of eligible projects supported
Co-production	€ 19 460 000	93.09 %	55 European co-productions	50.46 %
Distribution	€ 865 900	4.14 %	169 distribution support requests	87.11 %
Theatres	€ 264 963	1.27 %	35 theatres of the Eurimages/Europa Cinemas network	
Digitisation	€ 312 758	1.50 %	16 films that have already received Eurimages co-production support	

✚ Awards and nominations for Eurimages-supported films

The year of Eurimages' 20th anniversary, was an exceptional one in terms of awards and nominations for Eurimages-supported films.

✚ Eurimages enjoyed particular success at Cannes and Venice:

[Twelve films selected](#) at the Cannes Film Festival, including the [Palme d'Or](#) awarded to *Das weiße Band (Le ruban blanc)* by Michael Haneke, a German/Austrian/French/Italian co-production. This was the 5th time that a Eurimages-supported film has won this prestigious award. As well as the Palme d'Or, this film was awarded the FIPRESCI prize, given by the "International Federation of Film Critics" and a special mention of the Ecumenical Jury.

9 prizes were awarded to Eurimages-supported films at the Venice Film Festival, including the Silver Lion for Best Director to the Iranian film-maker Shirin Neshat for her film *Women without Men*, a German/Austrian/French co-production, and the FIPRESCI prize for the film *Lourdes* by Jessica Hausner, an Austrian/French/German co-production.

✚ Eurimages welcomes the recognition of its films by major European festivals:

4 Prizes at the Locarno International Film Festival, including the Leopard for Best Actor awarded to Antonis Kafetzopoulos for his role in *Akadimia Platonos*, by Filippos Tsitos, a Greek/German co-production and the Ecumenical Jury award for *Pianomania*, a German/Austrian documentary by Robert Cibis and Lilian Franck, which was also singled out by the Jury of the International Critics Week.

The 15th Sarajevo Film Festival awarded the "Heart of Sarajevo", the prize for Best Film, to Vladimir Perišić, director of the film *Ordinary People*, a French/Serbian/Swiss co-production.

The Golden Giraldivo for Best Film at the Seville Festival was awarded to *Lourdes* by Jessica Hausner, an Austrian/French/German co-production.

✚ Promotion of European cinema through joint activities with the Council of Europe

Eurimages continued and developed its cooperation with the Council of Europe through its involvement with the "[FACE prize](#)", awarded to the cinematographic work which best furthers public awareness of human rights issues (Istanbul International Film Festival), and the Odyssée-Council of Europe prize, awarded as part of the "[Etoiles et Toiles du Cinéma Européen](#)" event, which is exclusively devoted to Eurimages films.

Furthermore, Eurimages participated in the "[Hermes](#)" training programme, taking part in the pilot project '[Cross-border Cinema Culture](#)' (CBCC) carried out in connection with the Kyiv Initiative, in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, sharing its knowledge in the field of co-production with professionals from these countries.

✚ Eurimages renews its agreements with the festivals

Eurimages renewed its agreements with the Seville and Medfilm Rome Festivals which both devote a special section to films supported by Eurimages by awarding a Eurimages Prize. The films *Tears of April* by Aku Louhimies, a Finnish/German/Greek co-production and *Pandora's Box* by Yesim Ustaoglu, a Turkish/Belgium/French/German co-production, won the respective awards.

✚ Partnership with the European Film Awards (EFA) and recognition of co-production

The Eurimages Prize, the award for European co-production, now in its third year, has become an integral part of the EFA awards and this year was awarded to two producers who are both well known to Eurimages, having contributed through their work to the promotion of European cinema: [Diana Elbaum \(Entre Chien et Loup, Belgium\)](#) and [Jani Thiltges \(Samsa Films, Luxembourg\)](#).

Das weiße Band was the biggest winner at the European Film Awards winning all three of the most prestigious prizes: Best European Scriptwriter, Best European Director and Best European Film.

✚ A New President

[Mr Jobst Plog](#), who has replaced Mr Jacques Toubon, took up his functions as President of Eurimages on 20 November 2009, for an initial two-year term.

✚ Looking to the future

Towards a bigger fund

Armenia, Georgia, Russia and Ukraine have all shown their interest in joining Eurimages.

Reform of contributions as of 2011

The Eurimages Board of Management has adopted a new method for calculating the member states contributions to the fund's budget. This method aims to distribute the weight of the contributions between the member states, according to criteria corresponding to the specific features of the Fund's activities.

External audit of the Fund in 2013

The Board of Management has decided to carry out an external audit of the fund 2013.