

Strasbourg, 15 January 2026

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE
AUDENTIA AWARD
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF FILM FESTIVALS
IN EURIMAGES' MEMBER STATES**

**Deadline for
applications**

15 March 2026

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – AUDENTIA AWARD

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This call for proposals is launched in the framework of the Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy of the Eurimages Fund. It aims to select festivals that are relevant and likely to meet the Fund's quality standards and values.

1. INTRODUCTION

Active since 1989, Eurimages was established as a cultural support fund of the Council of Europe. The Fund promotes independent filmmaking by providing financial support to feature-length fiction, animation and documentary films. In doing so, it encourages co-operation between professionals established in different countries.

1.1 Values and missions

As an entity of the Council of Europe, the Eurimages Fund organises its activities based on the following fundamental values:

- freedom of artistic expression
- pluralism
- diversified creative storytelling
- cultural co-operation and exchange
- equality, diversity and inclusion
- transparency and neutrality
- environmental sustainability

Eurimages aims to enhance co-operation for the purpose of stimulating high quality film and audiovisual production as an important means of promoting independent cinematography and cultural exchanges within Europe and beyond, thus contributing to more inclusive and peaceful societies.

Its mission is to foster co-production and the circulation of independent, diverse, and original quality filmmaking and encourage co-operation contributing to a common film heritage, while taking into account gender equality, diversity, inclusion, and environmental protection.

1.2 Structure and governance

The Board of Management, under the authority of its President, adopts the budget of the Fund and defines its policy and strategy. It meets at least once a year and is composed of representatives of the Fund's member states.

The Executive Committee provides continuity of management between meetings of the Board of Management. It meets at least three times a year and is composed of representatives of one-third of the Fund's member states, named by rotation and with regard for geographical and gender balance.

The Secretariat of Eurimages is responsible for implementing the decisions taken by the Board of Management. It maintains contacts with film industry professionals and has the task of assessing applications for funding as well as ensuring the follow-up of support agreements. The Secretariat is based in Strasbourg under the authority of an Executive Director.

1.3 Budget and funding

Eurimages has a total annual budget of approximately €31 million. This financial envelope derives essentially from the contributions of the member states as well as returns on the loans granted. Eurimages' support takes the form of soft loans and grants (Co-production support) or grants (Promotion of co-production, Cinemas support and Film Marketing & Audience Development support, supports granted in the framework of the Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy). Soft loans are repaid from revenues generated by the projects supported.

1.4 Support schemes

Eurimages has four support schemes:

- Feature Film Co-production support (representing 80% of the Fund's resources)
- Film Marketing & Audience Development (FMAD) support¹
- Cinemas support, in cooperation with Europa Cinemas
- Promotion activities to promote independent filmmaking and international co-productions through co-operation agreements with various festivals and film markets, including Sponsorships, New Lab Awards and Co-production Development Awards².

In addition, Eurimages carries out other activities within the framework of overarching principles:

- Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy
- Sustainability Strategy

**More information on the Eurimages Fund and its activities is available on its [website](#).
The latest activity report is available [online](#).**

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Eurimages Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

Promoting an equal and diverse society is key to the fulfilment of the Council of Europe's mission: safeguarding human rights, upholding democracy and preserving the rule of law. In line with the Council of Europe's policies, Eurimages is committed to promoting equality - including gender equality - diversity, and inclusion in its activities and in the film industry in general. At its meeting in Lucerne (Switzerland) on 6 December 2024, the Board of Management of Eurimages adopted its [first integrated strategy for gender equality, diversity and inclusion \(2025-2027\)](#).

Through this strategy, Eurimages affirms its willingness to participate actively in the reduction of inequalities in the film industry. Its aim is to promote the role of women in front of and behind the camera as well as to advance diversity and inclusion throughout the industry. This involves actions within the Fund but also externally, such as encouraging other film funds at national or regional level to take these dimensions into account. This action work programme is based on several strategic objectives:

- Contribute to increasing the presence of women in the industry by attracting more female-driven projects and showcasing their achievements;
- Promote diversity and inclusion in the industry by showcasing more inclusive film projects;
- Continue raising awareness of various types of inequality across the film industry, with a focus on gender and minority representation. Efforts should address both on-screen and off-screen inclusion, equitable access to resources, and fair peer recognition;
- Continue to increase the visibility of the best-practice work and measures carried out by national and international bodies and by Eurimages to promote diversity, inclusion and audience accessibility;
- Carry out, where possible, and promote data monitoring, if available, gender equality, diversity and inclusion, and foster the systematic sharing of findings;

¹ This new programme replaces the former [Distribution Support Programme](#), which was discontinued in 2019.

² Three calls for proposals are launched at the same time as this one in order to select for the period 2027-2029: (i) the co-production markets that will host the Eurimages Co-production Development Awards, (ii) the initiatives (festivals / markets / labs) that will host the Eurimages New Lab Awards, and (iii) sponsorship proposals made by international festivals or organizations and likely to contribute to the promotion of film international co-productions.

- Sponsor and offer patronage to initiatives promoting gender equality, diversity and inclusion and support research on these subjects;
- Mainstream gender, diversity and inclusion across the Fund and across decision-making.

2.2 Current activities in the framework of the Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

2.2.1 Eurimages Audentia Award

This award has been created to promote the ongoing career of a female director and is awarded at a different festival every year since 2016. The Audentia Award includes a cash prize of €30,000 to be invested in the director's upcoming film, as well as a statuette designed by Ewa Rossano³.

So far, the prize has been presented at Istanbul Film Festival (2016), Locarno Film Festival (2017), Toronto International Film Festival (2018), Göteborg Film Festival (2019), Sarajevo Film Festival (2020), Montreal's Festival du Nouveau Cinéma (2021), Trieste Film Festival (2022), Beldocs International Documentary Film Festival (2023), Norwegian International Film Festival Haugesund (2024) and the Cork International Film Festival (2025). In 2026, it will be presented at the International Crime and Punishment Film Festival (TR).

2.2.2 Sponsorships and Patronages

Further to its triennial calls for proposals, Eurimages offers financial support in the form of sponsorships to selected projects, activities and events aimed at promoting gender equality and/or diversity and inclusion within the film industry. Sponsored initiatives under the Fund's previous Gender Equality Strategies have included events, promotional activities, residencies and training programmes with a focus on female filmmakers⁴.

Applications from initiatives for sponsorship proposals from 2027 on to receive a grant from the Eurimages Fund as part of its Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy (2025-2027) are not concerned by this call. A separate call for proposals is launched at the same time as this one in order to select these initiatives.

Eurimages also offers patronage (i.e. sponsorships that do not involve a financial contribution from the Fund) for film-related initiatives in the areas of gender equality, diversity, and inclusion. Applications for patronage are not covered by this call. They must be submitted in accordance with the [guidelines on patronage](#) published on the Eurimages website.

3. PURPOSE OF THE CALL

The Eurimages' Audentia Award was created to encourage women in filmmaking in their ongoing careers by giving them extra financial support for their upcoming films based on the quality of the film screened at the selected festival

In order to improve the impact of this award, a decision was taken to issue a call for proposals to select festivals capable of hosting the award on an ad hoc basis in line with the Fund's integrated [Strategy for Gender Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) as set forth by Eurimages' Board of Management.

The purpose of this call for proposals is to select the festivals that will host the Eurimages' Audentia Award for the period 2027-2029.

These guidelines set out the terms and conditions for the call for proposals for the presentation of the Audentia Award in the framework of ad hoc film festivals from 1 January 2027 and for a period of three years (2027-2029).

³ The list of festivals selected to present the Audentia Award can be found on the Eurimages website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/eurimages/audentia-award>

⁴ The list of initiatives sponsored by Eurimages, with or without financial participation, can be found on the Eurimages website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/eurimages/sponsorships>

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE EURIMAGES' AUDENTIA AWARD

The Eurimages' Audentia Award takes the form of a non-reimbursable lump sum of €30,000 for feature-length fiction, animation and documentary films, which must be used exclusively to cover the expenses of the director's next film.

The Eurimages' Audentia Award shall be awarded to a film intended for theatrical release, pre-selected by the chosen festival, minimum 10 (ten), maximum 12 (twelve) films, directed by a female director⁵, national or permanent resident of one of Eurimages' Member States, pre-selected and pre-approved by Eurimages which represents high-quality of directing, to support the ongoing career of the female director.

The jury shall be gender-balanced and consist in one Eurimages representative and at least two other members designated by the festival, including at least one professional from the cinematographic and audiovisual industry (directors, scriptwriters, actors/actresses, producers, sales agents, distributors, members of institutions or professional organisations, etc.).

Following the selection of the director, an agreement indicating the amount of the award and the conditions for its granting will be signed between the winner and Eurimages.

5. OBJECTIVES AND MODALITIES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Eurimages intends to select **one festival for one year on a one-off basis to host the Eurimages' Audentia Award** in accordance with the exclusion, eligibility and selection criteria defined below. **The present call for proposals intends to select 3 (three) festivals to host the Audentia Award in 2027, 2028 and 2029.** The selected festivals will sign a partnership agreement detailing the terms of their partnership with Eurimages for the organisation of the Eurimages' Audentia Award for one year only (template attached, Annex II).

Eurimages will finance the amount of €30,000 to be granted exclusively to the winner of the award. **The partnership agreement will not include any financial compensation from Eurimages** for the selected festivals. The selected festivals will entirely cover the travel and accommodation expenses for the jury members, and if necessary, the award recipient, and the Eurimages delegation (maximum two persons).

5.1 Eligibility criteria for festivals

These are the mandatory minimum requirements for the festival and for the organisation of the award. Proposals that do not meet these minimum requirements will be dismissed as ineligible.

i. Nature, location and geographical scope

The event takes the form of an international film festival existing for at least 3 (three) years, with a track record of at least 3 (three) festival editions.

The festival is a legal entity that is legally authorised to enter into a partnership agreement with the Council of Europe. It takes place annually in a Member State of the Fund for at least 2 (two) consecutive days.

The event needs to have a gender equality policy.

It is aimed at professionals in the film and audiovisual industry from a geographical area comprising a minimum of 10 (ten) countries.

⁵ Films co-directed by one or more male directors are not eligible to receive the Audentia Award.

ii. Film selection

The selection must include minimum 10 (ten) and maximum 12 (twelve) long-length feature films eligible for the Eurimages' Audentia Award as described under point 4 above.

Long-length feature films include fiction, documentary films or animations of at least 70 (seventy) minutes and intended for theatrical release.

The information that will be made available to Eurimages to establish the eligibility of projects in relation to the award will include:

- title of the film and nationality of the female director;
- a declaration of compliance with the exclusion criteria according to a pre-established template provided by Eurimages.

For the avoidance of any doubt, the festival is not expected to establish a specific section for films only eligible for the Eurimages Audentia Award competition. The films eligible for the Eurimages Audentia Award can be chosen transversally from the different sections already existing within the festival (as is the case with the *Camera d'Or* in Cannes for example).

iii. Presentation of the films

The festival should organise the screenings of the films to the jury members and also organise designated times and places for the deliberations of the jury (to be held in English).

iv. The jury

The jury of the Eurimages Audentia Award must include at least 3 (three) members, i.e. one Eurimages representative and at least one professional from the cinematographic and audiovisual industry (directors, scriptwriters, actors/actresses, producers, sales agents, distributors, members of institutions or professional organisations, etc.). Furthermore, at least one of the two members of the jury that are not the representative from Eurimages shall be a national or permanent resident of one of Eurimages' member states. All 3 (three) jury members shall have a specific knowledge or an interest in topics pertaining to gender equality.

The jury should be gender balanced and be specifically put together for the Eurimages Audentia Award. The composition of the jury will be submitted to Eurimages for prior approval.

Each jury member will be requested to sign a declaration of interest according to a pre-established template provided by Eurimages.

The jury will select the film on the basis of its artistic value and the ongoing career potential of the female director.

In the event of disagreement within the jury, the final decision will be taken by the Eurimages representative with regard to the winner of the Eurimages Audentia Award.

The festival shall cover, if relevant, the travel and accommodation costs of the award-winner (as per award ceremony attendance). In addition, the festival shall cover the travel and accommodation costs for the whole period of attendance of the festival necessary in relation to the selection of the award-winner, of the three jury members and of the Eurimages delegation (maximum two persons, representatives of the Eurimages Secretariat).

v. Publicity and awards ceremony

The festival should ensure the best possible visibility for the Eurimages Audentia Award by mentioning its partnership with Eurimages in its promotional material, including using the Audentia Award branding sign next to all of those directors nominated for the Award, and by publishing the graphic identity of the prize in its catalogue.

A “certificate” will be awarded to the winner during the high-profile closing awards ceremony which will be provided by the festival, if applicable.

Further, a statuette will be awarded to the winner during the awards ceremony which will be provided by Eurimages.

The name of the winner will be officially published immediately after the award ceremony and made available to Eurimages with the motivation of the jury and pictures of the awards ceremony. The festival will prepare a press release in conjunction with Eurimages which must be shared widely with the industry press to ensure maximum publicity.

In order to ensure maximum visibility, the festival must identify a high-profile award-giver, in agreement with Eurimages, e.g. an actress, female director, well-known gender rights champion or other high profile figure whose presence will ensure greater visibility for the award and the recipient of the award.

5.2 Exclusion criteria

Festivals shall be excluded from the call for proposals for sponsorship proposals if they, or, where applicable, their owners or persons having powers of representation or decision-making:

- a) have been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering, terrorist financing, terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour or trafficking in human beings;
- b) are in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- c) have received a judgement with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or constitutes a serious professional misconduct;
- d) are in a situation of a conflict of interests or a potential conflict of interests in relation to Eurimages Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy or any of the applicant’s contractors to be used for the implementation of the festival;
- e) do not comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of the country where they are established;
- f) are an entity created to circumvent tax, social or other legal obligations (empty shell company), have ever created or are in the process of creation of such an entity;
- g) have been involved in mismanagement of the Council of Europe or Eurimages funds or public funds;
- h) are retired Council of Europe staff members or are staff members having benefitted from an early departure scheme;
- i) have not fulfilled, in the previous three years, their contractual obligations in the performance of a contract concluded with the Council of Europe leading to a total or partial refusal of payment and/or termination of the contract by the Council of Europe;
- j) are included in the lists of persons or entities subject to restrictive measures applied by the European Union (available at www.sanctionsmap.eu).

By signing the Application Form, applicants shall declare on their honour that they are not in any of the above-mentioned situations (see **Appendix I, Item 8**).

Eurimages / the Council of Europe reserves the right to ask applicants at a later stage to supply the following supporting documents:

- for the items set out in paragraphs a), b), c) and g), an extract from the record of convictions or failing that an equivalent document issued by the competent judicial or administrative authority of the country where the applicant is established, indicating that these requirements are met;
- for the items set out in paragraph e), a certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of establishment;

- for the items set out in paragraph f), an extract from the companies register or other official document proving ownership and control of the applicant.

6. HOW TO APPLY

6.1 Documents to submit

The proposal must include the following elements:

- Legal registration documents for the organising body if it is established under civil law or a declaration that it has the authority to enter into the partnership if it is a public authority;
- The duly completed and signed Application Form, describing the festival and detailing the proposal to host and organise the Eurimages' Audentia Award (**see Appendix I**) in a PDF format.

Proposals must be submitted in English.

Proposals that are incomplete will not be considered.

Multiple submissions to this call are not permitted.

6.2 Deadline for submission

The Application Form together with the supporting documents listed in Section 6.1 above must be submitted via the online platform at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MQRY7ZX>.

Applications must be received **before 15 March at 23H59 CET**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

6.3 Questions

General information can be found on the website of Eurimages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/eurimages>

Other questions regarding this specific call for proposals must be sent at the latest one week before the deadline for the submission of proposals, in English or in French, and shall be exclusively sent to the following address: eurimages.equity@coe.int, with the following reference in subject: Questions – Audentia Awards 2027-2029.

Answers to the questions submitted will be made available to all applicants on the Eurimages website under *Programmes – Calls for Proposals*.

7. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

7.1 Evaluation and selection procedure

Eligible proposals will be assessed by an Expert evaluation group composed of 3 (three) members representing film professionals and experts in the field of gender equality.

The Expert evaluation group will recommend proposals for support. In doing so, the Expert evaluation group will carry out a comparative analysis of the eligible proposals, on the basis of the selection criteria set out in section 7.2 below.

The Expert evaluation group will endeavour to select the festivals for hosting the Audentia Award according to a fair geographical and calendar distribution and do its utmost to ensure the representation of different types of festivals in regards of cinematographic works presented (fiction, documentaries, animation).

The Board of Management of Eurimages adopts the recommendations for the festivals proposed to present the Audentia Award made by the Expert evaluation group as approved by the Gender Equality and Diversity Working Group.

All meeting reports and deliberations relating to the selection are confidential.

The Council of Europe reserves the right to cancel this procedure if none of the proposals obtain at least 50 points out of 100.

7.2 Selection criteria

Proposals will be assessed by the Expert Evaluation Group on the basis of the following criteria:

A. References / Track record and experience	50
History and description of the event (main activities), as well as its track record	20
International, national or regional prominence of the festival in the industry, geographical scope and countries involved and the public targeted by the festival including its editorial line	15
Sensitivity to gender equality related aspects by the festival demonstrated over the past 3 (three) editions (e.g. organisation of panels or ensuring that there are equal numbers of female and male directors selected etc.)	15
B. Proposal to host the Eurimages' Audentia Award	50
Quality of the communication strategy vis-à-vis the public, the industry and Eurimages	25
Quality of the organization by the festival of the implementation of hosting the Audentia Award, including the selection of eligible films, organization of screenings of the films, the selection of the jury members as well as the deliberations between jury members and the award ceremony	25
Final score = A+B	100

8. NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION AND SIGNATURE OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

On completion of the selection process, all applicants will be notified in writing of the final decision concerning their respective proposals as well as on the next steps to be undertaken.

The selected festivals will be invited to sign a partnership agreement (see **Appendix II**, for information only), formalising their legal commitments. **Potential applicants are strongly advised to read the draft agreement.**

9. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

The provisional timetable for the implementation of the call for proposals is as follows:

Phases	Indicative timing
Publication of the call	22 January 2026
Deadline for submitting questions	8 March 2026

Deadline for submitting proposals	15 March 2026
Meeting of the Expert evaluation group	May/June 2026
Adoption of recommendations by the Board of Management of Eurimages	June 2026
Information to applicants on the results of the award procedure	Summer 2026
Start of the programme	1 January 2027

10. APPENDICES

Appendix I APPLICATION FORM

Appendix II TEMPLATE DRAFT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

APPENDIX I

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**PROCEDURE
SELECTION FOR PARTNERSHIP**

**APPLICATION FORM
(APPENDIX I)**

Call for proposals for the Presentation of the Audentia Award
in the Framework of Film Festivals in Eurimages' Member States
(2027-2029)

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM?

Complete each box with the information requested. The size of the box will adapt to the volume of text typed.

Once all fields are completed in the Application Form, sign it, and send it in accordance with the requirements of the Call for Proposals.

1. Applicant

Official name ►	
Legal form ►	
Registration number (if any) ►	
Country of registration ►	
Full address ►	
Internet site (if any) ►	
Date on which the applicant was founded ►	
Objectives of the applicant (as stipulated in its Statutes) ►	
Name(s) of the person(s) entitled to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant (indicate names and positions) ►	
Members of the governing board (or equivalent body, if applicable). Indicate names, positions and professions ►	

2. Contact details

Contact person ►	
Position of the contact person ►	
Email address ►	
Phone number ►	

3. Applicant(s) profile / Recent activities and track record

Describe below the festival and its history, its main activities including its location, frequency and dates (covering 3 (three) years) and the achieved results; for the main organisation team, indicate the profiles and/or professional CVs and the working language(s) (maximum 2 pages). ▼

4. Targeted public, editorial line and international dimension

Indicate below the public targeted by the festival, including a description of its editorial line, its international/national/regional aspects, geographical scope, number of countries involved in the festival. ▼

5. Sensitivity and experience related to Gender Equality

For the festival, indicate its events, measures, activities, guidelines (...) related to gender equality demonstrated over the past 3 (three) editions (e.g. organisation of panels or ensuring that there are equal numbers of female and male directors selected etc.). ▼

6. Communication and visibility

For the festival, indicate the communication strategy (vis-à-vis the public, industry, Audentia Award) and its effectiveness in enhancing the visibility of the Eurimages Fund. ▼

7. Hosting of the Audentia Award

For the festival, indicate the logistics and organisation of hosting the Audentia Award including the selection of eligible films, the criteria and method for selecting jury members, the organisation of screenings of the films and of the deliberations between jury members as well as the award ceremony. ▼

8. Declaration

By signing this form I, the undersigned, authorised to represent the Applicant, hereby certify that the information contained in this application is correct and that the applicant organisation has not received or applied for any other Council of Europe funding to carry out the action which is the subject of this application.

I also certify on my honour that the applicant organisation or their owner(s) or executive officer(s) is not in one of the situations which would exclude it from taking part in a Council of Europe (grant) award or partnership procedure, and accordingly declare that the applicant:

- a. has not been sentenced by final judgment on one or more of the following charges: participation in a criminal organisation, corruption, fraud, money laundering, terrorist financing, terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour or trafficking in human beings;
- b. is not in a situation of bankruptcy, liquidation, termination of activity, insolvency or arrangement with creditors or any like situation arising from a procedure of the same kind, or are subject to a procedure of the same kind;
- c. has not received a judgement with res judicata force, finding an offence that affects their professional integrity or constitutes a serious professional misconduct;
- d. is not in a situation of a conflict of interests or a potential conflict of interests in relation to Eurimages Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy or any of the applicant's contractors to be used for the implementation of the initiative;
- e. does comply with their obligations as regards payment of social security contributions, taxes and dues, according to the statutory provisions of the country where they are established;
- f. is not an entity created to circumvent tax, social or other legal obligations (empty shell company), have ever created or are in the process of creation of such an entity;
- g. have not been involved in mismanagement of the Council of Europe or Eurimages funds or public funds;
- h. are not retired Council of Europe staff members or are staff members having benefitted from an early departure scheme;
- i. have not fulfilled, in the previous three years, their contractual obligations in the performance of a contract concluded with the Council of Europe leading to a total or partial refusal of payment and/or termination of the contract by the Council of Europe;
- j. are included in the lists of persons or entities subject to restrictive measures applied by the European Union (available at www.sanctionsmap.eu).

9. Data protection and publication of the decision

The processing by Eurimages of any personal data included in this application and its appendices is governed by the [Council of Europe Regulations on the Protection of Personal Data](#), adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 15 June 2022. The applicant is also informed that the details of Eurimages' data processing practices are provided, for information purposes only, in the [Privacy Notice](#). Please indicate below whether the applicant has any objections to the publication of information on the decision (the title of the Agreement, the nature and purpose of the Agreement, name and locality of the festival) should its application be successful and, if so, the reasons for such objection. ▼

10. Signature

Complete the table below and sign in the last box

APPLICANT:

First name and surname of the Signatory ►

Title or position of the Signatory in the applicant organisation ►

Place and date of signature ►

Signature and official stamp of the applicant organisation ►

Done in:

On:

APPENDIX II

Model template partnership agreement Audentia Award 2027-2029, subject to changes

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT N° '(reference of the agreement)'

on

Audentia Award '(year)'

at the '(title of the festival)' Film Festival '(year of the festival)'

* * * * *

The present Partnership Agreement is concluded between:

EURIMAGES, the Support Fund for the Co-production and Distribution of Creative Cinematographic and Audiovisual Works of the Council of Europe, Allée des Droits de l'Homme in Strasbourg, France represented by **Mr Enrico Vannucci, Deputy Executive Director**, hereinafter called "EURIMAGES",

on the one hand,

and

'(Name of PARTNER FESTIVAL)', '(postal address)', represented by '(name of legal representative and function)', hereinafter called "the FESTIVAL",

on the other.

PREAMBLE

Whereas EURIMAGES wishes to promote gender equality in the film industry;

Whereas the FESTIVAL has become an annual meeting point for film professionals from '(name of the Country)' and Europe;

Having regard to the decisions taken by the Board of Management of EURIMAGES on '(day of the decision)'/06/2026 in relation to the EURIMAGES Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

Hereinafter collectively referred to as "the PARTIES".

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1 - OBJECT OF THIS AGREEMENT

1. EURIMAGES and the FESTIVAL hereby undertake to co-operate for the establishment of the **'(year)' "Audentia Award"** (hereinafter, "the AWARD") which shall be granted on **'(day/month/year)'**.
2. This Partnership Agreement shall come into effect on the day of its signature by the second signatory and shall remain valid for the duration of the FESTIVAL from **'(day/month/year)'**.
3. This Agreement shall not be renewed, as the AWARD will be awarded on an ad hoc basis at a different festival every year.

ARTICLE 2 - THE AUDENTIA AWARD

1. The AWARD consists of a one-off lump sum payment of **€30,000 (thirty thousand euros)** which shall be granted by EURIMAGES to the AWARD winner. This AWARD will be accompanied by a small statuette (provided by EURIMAGES) and a certificate (to be provided by the FESTIVAL, if applicable). The payment will be made by EURIMAGES directly to the winner based on an agreement to be signed between EURIMAGES and the AWARD winner (see Article 8 hereinafter). THE FESTIVAL will not be involved in the transaction.
2. The AWARD winner shall be a film director chosen from a pre-selected group of 10-12 female film directors¹, nationals or permanent residents of one of EURIMAGES' member States, identified by the FESTIVAL from across all categories of films and approved by EURIMAGES (see Appendix I). Eligible films shall be long-length feature films of at least 70 minutes. The information the FESTIVAL will make available to EURIMAGES include the name and nationality of the female film director and the title and the countries of production of the film.

ARTICLE 3 - JURY

1. The AWARD shall be granted by a gender-balanced three-person Jury including one EURIMAGES representative. At least one of the two members of the Jury that are not the representative from EURIMAGES shall be a professional working actively in the audiovisual industry of one of EURIMAGES' member states. Furthermore, at least one of the two members of the Jury that are not the representative from EURIMAGES shall be a national or permanent resident of one of EURIMAGES' member states.
2. The members of the Jury will be selected by the FESTIVAL with EURIMAGES' approval. Each Jury member will be requested to sign a declaration of interests according to a pre-established template provided by EURIMAGES to the FESTIVAL.
3. The festival should organise the screening of the films for the Jury members and ensure designated times and places for the deliberations of the Jury in English.
4. In the event of a tie or a non-agreement within the Jury, the vote of the EURIMAGES' representative will be decisive.

¹ Films that were co-directed by one or more male directors are not eligible to receive the Audentia Award.

ARTICLE 4 - SELECTION CRITERIA

The AWARD shall be granted by the Jury according to the following selection criteria:

- quality of the film directed by the director;
- career potential of the director.

ARTICLE 5 - AWARD CEREMONY

1. The AWARD winner shall be revealed during the festival's official award ceremony held for that purpose on '(day/month/year)'. *(Please specify: e.g. The Award is to be handed out as part of the Awards Gala.)*

2. The FESTIVAL undertakes to ensure that EURIMAGES and the AWARD are given visibility in terms of time and space during the ceremony in order to promote EURIMAGES and the AWARD. A chosen high-profile AWARD-giver shall be identified in agreement with EURIMAGES. The AWARD-giver shall introduce the AWARD with a backdrop announcing it and all of the nominated films shall be presented with a photo and title on screen.

3. The FESTIVAL undertakes to issue a press release (or other news release) immediately after the AWARD ceremony to inform the industry about the winner of the AWARD.

ARTICLE 6 - PUBLICITY OF EURIMAGES AND THE AWARD

1. The FESTIVAL undertakes to ensure the best possible visibility for the AWARD by mentioning its partnership with EURIMAGES in its promotional material and by publishing the visual of the AWARD in its catalogue (see Appendix II).

The festival undertakes to include the Audentia Award branding sign (logo available on the EURIMAGES website [here](#)) next to all of those directors nominated for the AWARD in its promotional material. EURIMAGES shall provide the FESTIVAL with the necessary visual material to be included in the relevant publications (printed and digital).

2. The FESTIVAL also undertakes to do its utmost to promote the visibility of the AWARD within the framework of its promotional and advertising campaign.

ARTICLE 7 - FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

The FESTIVAL shall cover, if relevant, the travel and accommodation costs of the AWARD winner (as per AWARD ceremony attendance, see Art. 5 above). In addition, the FESTIVAL shall cover the travel and accommodation costs for the whole period of attendance of the festival necessary in relation to the selection of the AWARD winner, of the three Jury members and of the EURIMAGES delegation (maximum two persons, representatives of the EURIMAGES' Secretariat).

ARTICLE 8 - DIRECTOR'S OBLIGATIONS

In order to receive the AWARD, the winner will be required to sign a contract with EURIMAGES, which will stipulate that they must undertake to include a reference to EURIMAGES in the credits of their next film, use the AWARD money to invest in their next film and other reporting obligations. The FESTIVAL shall inform the pre-selected nominees of this requirement and obtain their approval beforehand.

ARTICLE 9 - GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. In the performance of the present agreement, the FESTIVAL shall not seek or accept instructions from any government or any authority external to the Council of Europe. The FESTIVAL undertakes to comply with the applicable principles, rules and values of the Council of Europe.
2. The present agreement may be amended at any time with the written consent of the PARTIES. Any such amendment shall come into effect on the date determined by the PARTIES.

ARTICLE 10 - DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

1. The FESTIVAL is informed and gives an authorisation of disclosure of all relevant terms of this Agreement, including identity and application, for the purposes of internal and external audit and to the Committee of Ministers and to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe with a view to these latter discharging their statutory functions.
2. The FESTIVAL authorises the publication, in any form and medium, including the websites of the Council of Europe or its donors, of the title of this Agreement, the nature and purpose of this Agreement, name and locality of the FESTIVAL for the purpose of meeting the publication and transparency requirements of the Council of Europe or its donors.

ARTICLE 11 - DATA PROTECTION

1. The FESTIVAL shall comply at all times with the applicable data protection legislation. In particular, the FESTIVAL shall ensure the effective exercise of data subject rights, including the right to information. Where, under the terms of this Agreement, the FESTIVAL needs to share personal data of third PARTIES with EURIMAGES, they shall inform the data subjects accordingly.
2. The FESTIVAL is informed that the processing of any personal data by EURIMAGES is governed by the Council of Europe Regulations on the Protection of Personal Data adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 15 June 2022. THE FESTIVAL is also informed that the details of EURIMAGES' data processing practices are provided, for information purposes only, in the [Privacy Notice](#).

ARTICLE 12 - DISPUTES

Any dispute regarding this Agreement shall - failing a friendly settlement between the Parties - be submitted to arbitration.

The Arbitration Board shall be composed of two arbitrators each selected by one of the PARTIES, and of a presiding arbitrator, appointed by the other two arbitrators; in the event of no presiding arbitrator being appointed under the above conditions within a period of six months, the President of the Tribunal Judiciaire of Strasbourg shall make the appointment.

Alternatively, the PARTIES may submit the dispute for decision to a single arbitrator selected by them by common agreement or, failing such agreement, by the President of the Tribunal Judiciaire of Strasbourg.

The Board referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article or, where appropriate, the arbitrator referred to in the above paragraph, shall determine the procedure to be followed.

If the PARTIES do not agree upon the law applicable the Board or, where appropriate, the arbitrator shall decide ex aequo et bono having regard to the general principles of law and to commercial usage.

The arbitral decision shall be binding upon the PARTIES and there shall be no appeal from it.

Done digitally, on this date of

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On behalf of EURIMAGES

On behalf of the FESTIVAL

Enrico Vannucci
Deputy Executive Director

Legal Representative
Function/Title

DRAFT

Appendix I

Pre-selected films in competition for the AWARD

The following list of *'(number of films)'* films constitutes a preliminary list of eligible directors and works pre-approved by EURIMAGES. If one or several of these directors and films have to be replaced by the FESTIVAL, these changes will need to be approved in writing by EURIMAGES.

Appendix II

Detailing the *Communication strategy* vis-à-vis the public, the industry and EURIMAGES and the organization by the FESTIVAL of the implementation of hosting the AWARD, including organization of screenings of the films, the selection of the Jury members as well as the deliberations between Jury members.

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