
The European Film Forum

The European Film Forum is a platform for a structured dialogue between policy makers and stakeholders in the audiovisual sector.



The European Film Forum (EFF) was proposed by the Commission in its 2014 Communication on European Film in the digital era. Since its launch in 2015 its aim has been to develop a strategic policy agenda opening up new perspectives on the challenges and opportunities brought about by the digital revolution.

There are various EU initiatives and rules for the film industry covered by copyright legislation, the Audiovisual Media Services Directive, competition law and the Creative Europe programme. However public financing and a number of regulatory aspects are essentially governed by Member States. They provide 30 times more public funding than the EU for the audiovisual sector.

The European Film Forum's dialogue with stakeholders and Member States provides opportunities to enhance synergies between public actions and enables the exchange of expertise and best practice. This dialogue is taken forward by the European Commission in different venues, notably during Film Festivals and TV markets where different formats are employed such as conferences, round-table discussions and workshops. The process involves a wide variety of players including Member State authorities, the European Parliament, the European Audiovisual Observatory, the EFADs as well as national and European wide organisations supporting the film, TV and games industries.

Our aim is that through the conclusions of the above-mentioned events, the Forum will facilitate concrete adaptations in European funding systems and provide clear recommendations for the Member-States and the audiovisual industries, thus adding value of the upcoming review of the MEDIA sub-programme of Creative Europe.

European Film Forum editions

2021

- Berlin, 24 February 2021

2020

- Berlin, 24 February 2020
- Annecy, 18 June 2020
- Cannes, 22 June 2020
- Venice, 4 September 2020
- San Sebastian, 22 September 2020
- Tallinn, 23 November 2020

2019

- Berlin, 11 February 2019
- Lille, 27 March 2019
- Cannes, 20 May 2019
- Cluj-Napoca, 7 June 2019
- Annecy, 13 June 2019
- Barcelona, 17 June 2019
- Venice, 31 August 2019
- San Sebastian, 23 September 2019
- Tallinn, 27 November 2019

2018

- Berlin, 19 February 2018
- Cannes, 14 May 2018
- Annecy, 14 June 2018
- Barcelona, 11-14 June 2018
- Venice, September 2018
- Lyon, October 2018
- Tallinn, November 2018

2017

- Berlin, 13 February 2017
- Vilnius, 6 April 2017
- Cannes, 22 May 2017
- Annecy, 14 June 2017
- Barcelona, 19 & 22 June 2017
- Venice, 3-4 September 2017
- MIPCOM (Cannes), 18 October 2017

What are the issues tackled by the European Film Forum?

Financing and public support

- **Modern film financing:** Current business models see distribution and financing as interrelated through presales and co-production and the exclusivity of rights. The EFF is a place to discuss the use of other forms of financing like private investment by third parties or crowd-funding, which develops with digital technology.
- **Smart public support:** Film, especially production, is publicly supported at national and local level through various means like loans, subsidies and tax rebates. The EU focuses more on development, distribution, promotion and training activities; new forms of support aiming to boost entrepreneurship. In this context, the Film Forum will explore the complementarity relationship between film support policies at national, local and EU level with the aim to increase overall efficiencies.

The EFF works on increasing the complementary and optimization of different sources of public funding (local, national and European).

European films and audiences

Promoting European films will provide possibilities for a wider audience. Therefore the policy environment together with the business environment must be discussed in order to find innovative release and promotion practices as well as exploring actions for audience development so that people would watch more European films.

Fostering talent and creativity

The European Film Forum is also a place where talent, competences and creativity will be addressed. In this area, the Forum will work on equipping emerging talents with the skills needed to turn a promising idea into a successful film, tv series, documentary or video game.

Digital transition

Digital transition and its impact on society is a core part of the MEDIA programme and is addressed in several of the events, assessing the challenges and opportunities for new audiovisual business models and technology, and discussing how to offer new user and industry-friendly solutions to the promotion of European audiovisual works.

Adapting to the changing landscape of the TV industry

The European Film Forum also covers key issues of the European TV industry, such as public funding for creation and new viewing patterns.

Latest

A Season of Classic Films: bringing European classics closer to people

After the success in 2019 with more than 15.000 people participating, 'A Season of Classic Films' is back in 2020 for its second edition.
[Browse Film heritage](#)

Related Content

Big Picture

Digital cultural heritage

Cultural heritage has a new breath of life thanks to digital technologies and the internet. Citizens now have opportunities to access cultural material online.

See Also

Access to finance for the Cultural and Creative Sectors

The Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility helps SMEs in the cultural and creative sectors to scale up and become more competitive.

The Europeana platform

The Europeana platform is Europe's digital cultural collection for responsible, accessible, sustainable and innovative tourism.

Expert Group on Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana (DCHE)

The Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana Expert Group is a forum for cooperation in digitisation, and online cultural material and preservation.

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