



FIPRESCI Newsletter #1

1. Introduction

Dear colleagues,

The FIPRESCI Board is pleased to introduce the **Monthly Newsletter** — an initiative long overdue. With the growing number of activities within our beloved Federation, our website has become more vibrant than ever, complemented by an active presence on social media. Still, we believe the Newsletter will serve as a valuable tool to keep up with the many events FIPRESCI organizes and participates in.

Below you'll find a **trial edition**, which for now will be distributed exclusively to members. In the future, we plan to make it available by subscription to anyone interested in following FIPRESCI's activities.

Before we take a look at what **October 2025** (and one important event in late September) brought us, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the editorial team that makes our continuous online presence possible: **Elena Rubashevsk**a, **Salome Kikaleishvili**, **Robert Horton**, **Steffen Moestrup**, **Lamia Fathy**, **Eirik Bull**, all our language

editors, and **Elli Mastorou**, who recently joined the team — the result of whose efforts is this very Newsletter.

We would greatly appreciate your feedback. We would also be glad to feature the activities of our **national sections**, so please share your thoughts, news, and ideas with us at editor@fipresci.org

Without further ado, let's take a look back at October 2025!

2. News

General Assembly - Budapest, 17-18 September 2025



The annual FIPRESCI General Assembly took place in Budapest on September 17–18, hosted by the Hungarian National Film Institute (NFI). **This year's assembly was of particular significance, as FIPRESCI celebrates its centenary in 2025.** It also marked a historic transition: the first assembly since the retirement of Klaus Eder, who had served as General Secretary for 38 years. A record number of 30 delegates

attended, representing countries from Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

[Read all about it here](#)

FIPRESCI 100 year Anniversary celebrations

Slovakia

On October 6, 2025, the Film Journalists' Club in cooperation with the Slovak Film Institute prepared a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of FIPRESCI at the Lumiere Cinema in Bratislava. **In the program, presented by the chairman of the Film Journalists' Club, Ladislav Volko, he emphasized the importance of our international organization.** Emília Kincelová recalled the period of Czechoslovak and, after the division of the Czechoslovak Republic, Slovak participation of films and members in international juries at various festivals.

The first Slovak film to receive the FIPRESCI award was screened - Štyridsať štyri (Forty-Four, 1957), directed by the prominent Slovak film director Paľo Bielik. The introduction to the film was given by Petra Hanáková, author of a publication about the director.

On the occasion of the Anniversary, Slovak section also published a brochure on the history of FIPRESCI, both in online and paper form, prepared by L. Volko.

Other Anniversary activities in October

Schlingel International Film Festival for Children and Young

Audience: A brunch get-together with international filmmakers and industry guests.

Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Canada: Panel discussion organized as part of the FNC Forum activities, open to the public. The talk was

centred around the discoverability of auteur cinema through film criticism, and in particular the new media of expression.

El Gouna Film Festival, Egypt: Film Criticism at 100: Tradition and Transformation Panel. Marking 100 years of FIPRESCI, this panel reflects on the critical role of film criticism in shaping cinema and supporting filmmakers. As audiences now engage through social media and new platforms, critics are redefining their tools to remain relevant. The discussion explores how criticism continues to influence audiences, impact industry directions, and what defines meaningful criticism in today's world of limitless reviews. Speakers: Ahmed Shawky, Ola Salwa, Dubravka Lakic, Moderator: Mohamed Tarek

Viennale International Film Festival, Austria: FIPRESCI Reception: A get-together in the Foyer of their biggest Cinema, Gartenbaukino.

More info on the celebrations at fipresci.org.

Talent Press workshop in Warsaw

The [FIPRESCI Warsaw Critics Project](#) took place during the 41th Warsaw International Film Festival. The training workshops for young critics and film journalists from Central and Eastern Europe is coordinated by the Warsaw Film Foundation and FIPRESCI. **2025 marks a new beginning for Warsaw just as FIPRESCI continues the celebrations for its 100 years of collaboration between film critics worldwide.** To mark this milestone, Tommaso Tocci and Amber Wilkinson, who organize the WCP workshop every October, have been collecting memories and impressions from former participants through the years, looking back at snapshots of the career paths of many young colleagues who share the experience of Warsaw. [You can read it here.](#)



Farewell to Jean Roy

We are saddened by the news of the passing of Jean Roy, former President of FIPRESCI and of UJC, France's Union of Cinema Journalists. He was also the former Head of the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes. [Read the full announcement from the UJC, in French, here.](#)

Fipresci Legacy Award presented at the Lumière Festival in Lyon

We are proud to announce the [launch of our new Legacy Award](#), a special honor that turns the critical gaze toward cinema's rich past to recognize those who have shaped the craft of filmmaking.



Launch of the first critics jury at D'A Festival De Cinema de Barcelona

A new and exciting collaboration, marking the establishment of FIPRESCI's first official critics' jury at the festival's upcoming 16th edition, scheduled to take place March 19–29, 2026. [More info here.](#)

3. Juries

In October, FIPRESCI juries were held in Odesa (Ukraine), Chemnitz (Germany), Montréal (Canada), Warsaw (Poland), El Gouna (Egypt), and Vienna (Austria). Among the awarded films: [A Simple Soldier](#) by [Juan Camilo Cruz](#) and [Artem Ryzhykov](#), *Nino* by Pauline Loquès, [The Devil Smokes \(And Saves the Burnt Matches in the Same Box\)](#) by Ernesto Martínez Bucio, *The World Of Love* by Yoon Ga-eun, *Always* by Deming Chen by [Ernesto Martínez Bucio](#).

All festival reports are available on our website

4. Calls

Animation group call from Kévin Giraud (Belgian Film Press Union)

Do you have a knack for animated films ? This call is for you !

[Click here](#)

5. Next month...

What to look forward to in November:

- [Our first collab with Montreal Docs](#)
 - [A glorious return to Mar del Plata](#)
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6. Outro

Diane Keaton (1946-2025)

She made us laugh, she made us cry, she made us feel many emotions through her career that marked the history of cinema. But she also made us dance. Farewell to Diane Keaton, who passed away this October.



See you next month !

FIPRESCI

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