



FIPRESCI Newsletter #2

November 2025

1. Introduction

The busiest FIPRESCI month, November, is behind us—and what a month it was! **We have plenty of exciting news to share: from our jury presence at a record 20 festivals, to celebratory events, conference participation, and exclusive professional opportunities.**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to our visibility at partnering events—whether moderating panels, conducting Q&As, introducing films, or writing articles for the FIPRESCI website. November also marked symbolic re-establishments and the launch of new collaborations. **And here's a small teaser: the Board is negotiating some exciting new destinations for the coming months.**

Thank you as well to everyone who shared feedback from the events, helping us identify areas for improvement and strengthen the work of film critics. It was an intense, exciting, challenging, and inspiring month.

See below for a recap of the highlights—and see you next month!

Yours truly,

FIPRESCI Board

2. News

FIPRESCI 100 year Anniversary celebrations

FIPRESCI [celebrated its centennial](#) at the Cairo International Film Festival (November 12-21). FIPRESCI president and Egyptian critic Ahmed Shawky was on the federation's jury for the 46th edition, alongside French critic Laura Pertuy and Dutch critic Thierry Verhoeven.



During the festival, FIPRESCI presented the *FIPRESCI 100 Lifetime Achievement Award* to Hungarian director Ildikó Enyedi, before the screening of her latest film, *Silent Friend*, at the Cairo Opera House's Grand Theater.



Ildikó Enyedi with Elena Rubashevskaya and Ahmed Shawky

“Your articles orient us – I read them regularly about fellow filmmakers, they are important points of reference for me. And, of course, I read them when you write about my work. It is not so much the positive or negative sentences which count. It is the feeling of being understood or not. To feel understood is always a crazy, euphoric feeling – it means that I belong, that I have a place on the face of Earth. For a moment I am not alone.”

Ildikó Enyedi

[Read the full speech](#)

The federation’s vice president Elena Rubashevskaya sat down with Enyedi to discuss her artistic journey—from her recent achievements to the unexpected memories that shaped her early years as a filmmaker.

[Read it here](#)



Film Criticism Conference

For the third consecutive year, FIPRESCI took part in the International Film Criticism Conference, held in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. FIPRESCI members played a leading role throughout the program, offering a diversity of voices, backgrounds, and critical methodologies.

[More info here](#)

Nominees announced for the European Discovery – Prix FIPRESCI

Six full-length fiction debuts have been nominated for the prestigious European Discovery – Prix FIPRESCI at the 38th European Film Awards. **The winner will be selected by a committee composed of FIPRESCI members and experts appointed by the European Film**

Academy Board. The awards ceremony will take place on 17 January 2026 in Berlin, Germany.

Discover the nominees

3. Juries

Last month, 20 FIPRESCI Juries were held in...

Valladolid, Leipzig, Thessaloniki, Cottbus, Stockholm, Kolkata, Mar del Plata, Mannheim-Heidelberg, Taipei, Rabat, Tallinn, Cairo, Amsterdam, Ljubljana, Gijon, Coimbra, Lecce, Montreal, Athens, and Torino.



Tallinn : Jason Gorber (Canada), Martin Oja, (Estonia), Alexander Melyan (Armenia)



Thessaloniki : Gena Teodosievska (North Macedonia), Ifigenia Kalantzi (Greece), Robert Horton (USA) (c) Aris Rammos



Manheim : Britta Schmeis (Germany), Tereza Brdečková (Czech Republic), Assiya Issemberdiyeva (Kazakhstan)



Taipei : Jianlun Hung (Taiwan), Cecilia Wong (moderator), Andreea Patru (Romania), Giovanni Stigliano Messuti (Italy)

Some highlights :

- [Adam Kruk](#) (Poland), [Enoe Lopes Pontes](#) (Brazil) and [Bartolomé Armentano](#) (Argentina) were the first FIPRESCI jury in Mar del Plata after a 7-year hiatus.
- In Kolkata, eminent film director, actor, music director and cinematographer Goutam Ghose was awarded with the FIPRESCI-India Lifetime Achievement Award.
- First time at Montreal Doc : FIPRESCI Vice President [Paola Casella](#) attended a panel discussion on [deconstructing biases in film criticism](#)
- *To the West, in Zapata* by David Bim won the second FIPRESCI prize in 2025 (Nyon and Kolkata). Read reviews [here](#) and [here](#).

All festival reports are available on our website

4. Calls

CINAMAA cinematic studies: Call for papers

In collaboration with our Saudi Arabian partners at Cinamaa, we are pleased to announce a Call for Papers dedicated to Cinematic Studies. We invite scholars, critics, and researchers to submit their proposals exploring diverse aspects of cinema and its critical discourse. **All selected contributors will receive remuneration of 1000\$.** More info :

[Click here](#)

5. Next month...

What to look forward to in December

- Juries in Singapore, Havana, Duhok, Kerala.

- At the Red Sea Film Festival, mentors from the federation will take part in the educational program organized in collaboration with our Saudi partners.
- Some other collaborations will be announced. **Stay tuned...**

6. Outro

Udo Kier (1944-2025)

Eccentric, iconic, fantastic, horrific, magnetic : farewell to legendary actor Udo Kier, who passed away this november.



See you next month !

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