



FIPRESCI Newsletter #11

August 2026

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1. Introduction

Dear colleagues,

August may traditionally be associated with slowing down, but there was little pause at FIPRESCI. We revealed the **five nominees for the FIPRESCI Grand Prix 2026**, putting the final decision into the hands of our international community of critics ahead of the award ceremony in San Sebastián.

Our juries continued travelling across continents and cinematic landscapes, from **Amman to Locarno and Kastellorizo**, discovering new films and voices along the way. In Locarno, FIPRESCI also contributed to the broader conversation around

contemporary cinema through our **Critics Panel**, continuing our commitment to creating spaces for critical exchange beyond the jury room.

And while August kept us busy, September promises to be even more eventful: the **Grand Prix winner**, our **Annual General Assembly in Budapest**, juries from Venice to Brasília, and a new international partnership still waiting to be revealed.

The season is changing, but FIPRESCI certainly isn't slowing down.

Yours truly,
FIPRESCI Board

2. News

FIPRESCI announces nominees for Grand Prix 2026



The International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI) is pleased to announce the five nominees for the **FIPRESCI Grand Prix 2026 – Best Film of the Year**, one of the highest distinctions awarded by the international community of film critics.

Following the nominating phase, five outstanding films have been selected by FIPRESCI members from around the world. The winner will be chosen through a final vote and awarded during the Opening Ceremony of the **74th San Sebastián International Film Festival**.

[Discover the nominees](#)



FIPRESCI Critics Panel in Locarno

At the 79th Locarno Film Festival (August 5–15, 2026), the official [FIPRESCI](#) collaboration featured a high-profile panel discussion titled “*A World Without Film Critics*”, exploring the state of professional film criticism in a landscape crowded with marketing language, social-media influencers, and AI-generated content.

Moderator: Christopher Small. **Panelists:** Sona Karapoghosyan (FIPRESCI Jury President), Laura Staab (MUBI), Diego Cepeda (*Outskirts*)

3. Juries

In July, FIPRESCI juries were held in:

Amman, Locarno, Kastellorizo

Among the winning films: *Far from the Trees* by Meritxell Colell Aparicio, *The Other Side of the Sun* by Tawfik Sabouni, *Yrupë* by Candela Sotos

Discover our new festival page on the the website



7th Amman International Film Festival –
Awal Film: Israa Radaydeh (Jordan), Paulo Portugal (Portugal), Letícia Alassé (Brazil)



79th Locarno Film Festival:

Sona Karapoghosyan (Armenia), Anne-Sophie Scholl (Switzerland) Mihai Fulger (Romania), Georgios Papadimitriou (Greece), Virat Nehru (Australia AFCA)



11th Beyond Borders International Documentary Festival: Paola Casella (Italy), Nino Kovacic (Croatia), Robenson Eksiel (Greece)

4. Next month...

What to look forward to in September:

- The winner of the FIPRESCI Grand Prix, who will be awarded during the opening ceremony of the **74th San Sebastián International Film Festival** on **18 September**.
- **FIPRESCI Annual General Assembly** – Once again, delegates from FIPRESCI sections around the world will gather in Budapest to review the Federation's activities, discuss key priorities, and shape its work for the year ahead.
- **FIPRESCI Juries** in Venice, Toronto, Miskolc, Drama, Brussels and Brasilia!
- **Crucial partnership** in a new country.

Stay tuned!

5. Outro

Farewell to...

Vincent Dieutre

The French film director and screenwriter passed away on August 10.

You can discover the FIPRESCI report by member Alberto Castellano, devoted to a retrospective of his work at the Istanbul 2017 festival, [by clicking here](#).

photo: [Wikipedia](#)



See you next month !

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