



EUROPEAN  
SOLIDARITY  
FUND FOR  
UKRAINIAN  
FILMS

GUIDELINES

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# **A - OVERVIEW**

The agreement signed on December 30, 2022 between the Cinema and Audiovisual Centre of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, the Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF), the Croatian Audiovisual Centre (HAVC), the Deputy Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Cyprus, the EFAD association, the Centre National du Cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC), the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM), the Greek Film Centre (GFC), Screen Ireland, the General Directorate for Cinema and Audiovisual of the Italian Ministry of Culture (MIC), the Lithuanian Film Centre, the Luxembourg Film Fund, the Netherlands Film Fund and the Instituto do cinema e do audiovisual (ICA) has established a **European Solidarity Fund for Ukrainian Films**.

## **OBJECT OF THE SUPPORT**

The purpose of the Fund is to provide grants to support the development and finalisation of Ukrainian feature films.

All grants are paid out in the form of subsidies.

The annual budget of the Fund is 1.05 million euros; it is financed by the above-mentioned signatories of the agreement establishing the Fund.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

Two calls for projects will be launched collectively by the CNC and the contributors.

The deadline for submitting applications is set out in the call for projects published on the websites of all the contributors. The application file must be submitted by the producer in English or French to the CNC.

After the CNC has reviewed the applications, the eligible projects are evaluated by a commission called the "European Solidarity Fund for Ukrainian Films Commission". This commission is composed of a president, four members and alternates.

After the committee's recommendation and with the agreement of the contributors, the subsidies are allocated by decision of the CNC.

The decision to grant support is valid for a period of 18 months, which may be extended, by way of exception, to 24 months in justified cases and for valid reasons.

## **AWARD CRITERIA**

- In drawing up its opinion, the Commission applies the following selection criteria:
  - a) artistic quality and originality of the project,
  - b) importance of the testimony that the work, through its dramatic content, its production or the talents and artistic collaborations it brings together, represents for Ukrainian culture and society,
  - c) financial feasibility,
  - d) technical and logistical feasibility,
  - e) degree of involvement of the production company established on the territory of one of the Parties,
  - f) distribution prospects.
  
- For the calculation of the amount of the financial support, the following elements are considered:
  - a) project estimate and financing plan,
  - b) distribution of the expenses envisaged in each territory,
  - c) financial envelope of the Fund.
  
- A particular attention will be paid to applications for finalisation support.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

In order to benefit from the Fund, long-length cinematographic works must meet all the following requirements:

1. They belong to the genres of fiction, documentary, or animation.
2. They are intended to be first released in theatres.
3. They have been interrupted due to the conflict on Ukrainian territory or, for development scheme, they don't have the possibility of being undertaken due to this conflict.
4. The director is a national of Ukraine or Ukraine is his or her country of habitual residence.
5. They are co-productions between at least one production company established in Ukraine and at least one production company established on the territory of one of the member States of the contributors.

Companies are deemed to be established on the territory of a State of the contributors if they effectively carry out an activity through a stable and durable establishment in one of these States and have their registered office in that same State, in another Member State of the European Union or in a State party to the agreement on the European Economic Area.

6. They shall involve at least one Ukrainian production company, which should ideally be main holder of the rights.
7. The works are subject to a co-production contract including a sharing of the exploitation rights of the work concluded between the production company or companies established in the territory of one of the contributors and the production company or companies established in Ukraine.

However, at the time of submission of the application for support, the works may be subject of a preparatory document attesting the intention of the production companies to conclude a contract. The co-production contract is submitted at the latest when the grant agreement is signed.

Projects including co-producers from third countries may be admitted if the highest share of financing is provided by the Ukrainian producer or co-producers established in the territory of the contributors.

Any project of cinematographic work that already received any kind of public support for production is not eligible to apply for development support from the Fund. It is also forbidden to submit the same project simultaneously for development and finalisation support.

An application for the same project may be made a second time if the project is not selected. The new application must be accompanied by a note stating the developments and changes made since the first application.

If a development grant has been awarded to a project by the Fund, the same project remains eligible later for the Fund's finalisation grant.

## **B – DEVELOPEMENT SUPPORT**

- The grant is awarded to cover development costs related to:
  - remuneration of authors for the writing required to finalise the script and the acquisition by the producer of the rights to adapt and exploit the project theatrically,
  - related expenses linked to the writing and development of the project, in particular those corresponding to research work, location scouting, documentation, assistance from experts in the context of a residency, translation, personnel costs and corresponding social charges, and possibly legal fees.

The exhaustive list of eligible development expenses is provided in Annex 2.

- Development support is capped at 50,000 € (fifty thousand euros) for fiction or animation and 25,000 € (twenty-five thousand euros) for documentary.
- The intensity rate of public support may reach up to 100% of the eligible expenses incurred, in accordance with Article 54 of the General Commission Block Exemption Regulation No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, provided that Ukraine is on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list.

### **PAYMENT OF THE SUBSIDY**

The CNC is responsible for the payment of the grant. It is the subject of an agreement between the production company established in one of the contributors' territories and the CNC.

The support is paid into a bank account opened on the name of the applicant production company. Payments are made by the CNC in two instalments:

- **The 1<sup>st</sup> instalment** (80%) is paid upon the signature of the agreement,
- **The balance** (20%) is paid upon submission of the following documents:
  - Co-production contract with the Ukrainian production company,
  - Final development budget and its related financing plan,
  - Statement of expenditure incurred to report on the total amount of the grant,
  - Proof of payment of all the expenditures incurred after the grant has been awarded.

In the event that the producer is unable to provide proof of development expenses 24 months after the granting of the support, the CNC may demand the total or partial reimbursement of the support already paid.

## C – FINALISATION SUPPORT

- Applications are considered by the granting commission after viewing the first images or edited sequences. These images must be subtitled in English.
- The grant is awarded to cover the costs of finalising cinematographic works related to the post-production of image and sound, in particular editing, visual effects, and laboratory work.

The exhaustive list of eligible finalisation costs is given in Annex 2.

- Finalisation support is capped at 75,000 € (seventy-five thousand euros) for all kind of feature films.
- The intensity rate of public support may reach up to 100% of the eligible expenses incurred, in accordance with Article 54 of the General Commission Block Exemption Regulation No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, provided that Ukraine is on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list.

### **PAYMENT OF THE SUBSIDY**

The CNC is responsible for the payment of the grant. It is the subject of an agreement between the production company established in one of the contributors' territories and the CNC.

The support is paid into a bank account opened on the name of the applicant production company. Payments are made by the CNC in two instalments:

- **The 1<sup>st</sup> instalment** (80%) is paid upon the signature of the agreement,
- **The balance** (20%) is paid upon submission of the following documents:
  - Co-production contract with the Ukrainian production company,
  - Final development budget and its related financing plan,
  - Statement of expenditure incurred to report on the total amount of the grant,
  - Proof of payment of all the expenditures incurred after the grant has been awarded,
  - End credits of the completed film.

In the event that the producer is unable to provide proof of finalisation expenses 24 months after the granting of the support, the CNC may demand the total or partial reimbursement of the support paid.

## **ANNEX 1: Documents to apply**

The producer requesting a support from the Fund must submit an application to the CNC in English. The application must be sent electronically to the following address: [esfuf@cnc.fr](mailto:esfuf@cnc.fr) ; copy: [manon.duverger@cnc.fr](mailto:manon.duverger@cnc.fr).

This application must include, in that order, the following documents:

- **For development support of cinematographic work:**

- I. Application form :**

to be downloaded from the CNC website at the following address: (in progress)

- II. Artistic file:**

1. Summary (5 lines),
2. Synopsis (max. 1 page),
3. Treatment (max 20 pages),
4. Graphic development (if animation),
5. Note of intent from the scriptwriter(s) and graphic designer(s) (if animation), or from the director(s) if applicable,
6. A note of intent from the producer describing the artistic approach and issues related to the development of the project, the nature of the links with the two Parties concerned as well as the stages of development and justifying financing by the Fund,
7. CV of the scriptwriter(s) and graphic designer(s) (if animation), and if applicable the director(s),
8. Filmography of the production company established on the territory of a contributing State,
9. Visual elements (optional),
10. Internet or DVD links to the director's previous works.

- III. Administrative and financial documents:**

11. Financing plan for the development,
12. Detailed development forecast budget,
13. Production financing plan,
14. Provisional production forecast budget,
15. Deal memo or co-production contract binding the co-producers,
16. Contracts (option and assignment) of the Ukrainian production company concerning authors' rights and their possible translation,
17. Contracts of all persons collaborating in the writing of the script,
18. Provisional development schedule.



- **For finalisation support of cinematographic work:**

**I. Application form :**

to be downloaded from the CNC website at the following address: (in progress)

**II. Artistic file:**

1. Letter of application from the producer (indicating in particular the progress report of the project and the need for additional funding),
2. Summary (5 lines),
3. Synopsis (max. 1 page),
4. Director's statement of intent,
5. Director's CV,
6. CVs of all producers,
7. Detailed financing plan (indicate current/acquired funding and amount of support requested) in Euros,
8. Precise list of envisaged expenditure,
9. Considered post-production schedule,
10. List of the technical and artistic team,
11. Internet or DVD links to the director's previous works.

**III. Administrative and financial documents:**

12. Financing plan,
13. Detailed forecast budget,
14. Deal memo or co-production contract binding the producers,
15. Contracts (option and assignment) of the Ukrainian production company concerning authors' rights and their possible translation,
16. Director's contract with the Ukrainian production company (if different from the author),
17. Copies of confirmations from partners involved in the film (letters with figures, contracts).

## **ANNEX 2: Eligible expenditures**

- In the application for **development support** submitted by production companies, only the following expenditure directly allocated to the development of the project shall be taken into account for the granting of support:
  - a) Remuneration of authors,
  - b) Acquisition of literary and artistic rights, including, if applicable, the purchase of archive image rights,
  - c) Salaries and remuneration and related social security charges of personnel collaborating in the development of the work corresponding to the period during which such personnel were actually employed in the development of the work,
  - d) Expenditure on location scouting,
  - e) Expenditure on visual effects experimentation,
  - f) Expenditure related to the search for and pre-selection of actors,
  - g) Expenditure on expertise, documentation and archive research,
  - h) Expenditure relating to the search for financial partners in the context of the planned co-production,
  - i) expenditure relating to legal expertise.

For animated films, the following may also be taken into account:

- j) graphic development costs.
- In the application for **finalisation support** submitted by production companies, only expenses directly allocated to the finalisation of the project are taken into account for the allocation of support:
    - a) Image and sound post-production,
    - b) Editing and sound engineering,
    - c) Sound and post-synchro services,
    - d) Auditorium and projections,
    - e) Film or digital laboratory,
    - f) Specific stereographic work,
    - g) Digital visual effects,
    - h) Credits and trailers,
    - i) Subtitling and audio description,
    - j) Conservation for legal registration and production (digital or photochemical).

# CONTACT

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