



**REGULATIONS  
FOR THE  
31st EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS (EFAs)**

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**REGULATIONS FOR THE 31st EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS (EFAs)****1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 1.1. The aims of the European Film Awards (EFAs) are:
  - to celebrate the excellence and diversity of European cinema
  - to attract new audiences to European film
  - to draw attention to new European talent.
- 1.2. Legal body of the European Film Awards is the European Film Academy e.V. (EFA). The executive body is the EFA Board. The board consists of a chair person, two deputy chair persons and up to 16 further EFA Members.
- 1.3. The 31st European Film Awards will be presented by the European Film Academy e.V. and EFA Productions gGmbH on 15 December 2018 in Seville.
- 1.4. The European Film Academy and EFA Productions present awards in the following categories:
  - EUROPEAN FILM
  - EUROPEAN COMEDY
  - EUROPEAN DISCOVERY– Prix FIPRESCI
  - EUROPEAN DOCUMENTARY
  - EUROPEAN ANIMATED FEATURE FILM
  - EUROPEAN SHORT FILM
  
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER
  - EUROPEAN CINEMATOGRAPHER– Prix CARLO DI PALMA
  - EUROPEAN EDITOR
  - EUROPEAN PRODUCTION DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN COSTUME DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN HAIR & MAKE-UP ARTIST
  - EUROPEAN COMPOSER
  - EUROPEAN SOUND DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR
  
  - EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
  - EUROPEAN ACHIEVEMENT IN WORLD CINEMA
  - EUROPEAN CO-PRODUCTION AWARD – Prix EURIMAGES
  
  - EFA PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD for Best European Film
  - EFA YOUNG AUDIENCE AWARD
- 1.5. The entry of a film or a performance in a film for the European Film Awards implies the unconditional acceptance of the regulations for the European Film Awards and the consent to make the film available to the EFA Members as VOD.
- 1.6. Producers and/or distributors of films having received a nomination or an award in any category agree to use the nomination or the award in all future promotion campaigns, for example, on poster campaigns, in magazine, newspaper and internet advertising and in trailers etc.
- 1.7. Each nominee receives a certificate.
- 1.8. Each award winner receives a certificate and a statuette.
- 1.9. Not eligible are films accepted for the European Film Awards 2017.

## 2. FEATURE FILMS: Eligibility

- 2.1. Eligible for the European Film Awards are European\* feature-length fiction films intended for theatrical release.
- 2.2. The films must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) **between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018**. The EFA Board has the right to refrain from this rule in exceptional cases.
- 2.3. The films must have a director who was born in Europe or holds a European\* passport. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon the Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production (CETS No. 220). According to the Convention, a film qualifies as European if it achieves 16 points out of a possible maximum of 21 from a schedule of European elements.

To give the most flexible definition, the European Film Academy uses a lower minimum of 13 points as follows:

<b>European elements</b>	<b>Weighting points</b>
Director	4
Scriptwriter	3
Composer	1
First role	3
Second role	2
Third role	1
Head of Department – cinematography	1
Head of Department – sound	1
Head of Department – picture editing	1
Head of Department – production or costume design	1
Studio or shooting location	1
Visual effects (VFX) or computer-generated imagery (CGI) location	1
Post production location	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>

The EFA Board has, however, the right to make any exception in cases of lower points, provided the film has a European\* director.

- 2.4. Eligible candidates for the individual categories must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 2.5. Films can be proposed as candidates for the European Film Awards by European film institutions, festivals, trade magazines, media partners, members of the European Film Academy, EFA Patrons and rights holders of European films.
- 2.6. Films have to be submitted by their rights holders. The version submitted has to be the original language version with English subtitles.

**Submission deadline for feature films is 31 May 2018.**

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy, means geographical Europe, both EU and non-EU, and shall include Israeli and Palestinian

### 3. FEATURE FILMS: Selection

- 3.1. The selection of approx. 50 films proposed to the EFA Members to be considered for a nomination is made as follows:
- In the 20 European countries with the highest number of EFA Members (as of 15 March 2018) these members vote directly for one film from among the national feature films released in their country or screened at festivals between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018. With a minimal voter turnout of 25 %, the film having received the highest number of votes in each of these countries will automatically be included in the selection of films, provided it corresponds to §§ 2.1. – 2.6. above. Should the voter turnout be less than 25 %, the EFA Board has the right to decide if a film shall be added to the selection.
  - The selection of the approx. 30 remaining films is made by a committee composed of the EFA Board and a group of experts appointed by the board. These remaining films are selected from proposals submitted as detailed under § 2.6.
- 3.2. More than one film from the same country can be selected.
- 3.3. The selected films are made available as VOD to the EFA Members for the nomination procedure.
- 3.4. The list of the films recommended according to § 3.1 is not exclusive. Rights holders of European films which are not among the recommended films may – upon payment of a fee – make their films available to the EFA Members as VOD. These films must fulfil the criteria of the European Film Awards regulations, §§ 2.1. – 2.6. above, and be approved. These additional film entries are eligible in all feature film categories (see § 4.1) except for the Excellence Awards (see § 5.3).

### 4. FEATURE FILMS: Nominations

- 4.1. There are five nominations in each of the following categories:
- EUROPEAN FILM
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER
- 4.2. Based on the selection list and the films additionally made available by rights holders, four of the nominations in each of these categories are voted for by the EFA Members. The EFA Board adds one nomination in each category. The board's nominations may also be chosen from films nominated as EUROPEAN DISCOVERY – Prix FIPRESCI, EUROPEAN DOCUMENTARY, EUROPEAN ANIMATED FEATURE FILM, and EUROPEAN COMEDY.
- 4.3. The above nominations will be announced four to five weeks prior to the EFA Ceremony.

## 5. FEATURE FILMS: Election of the Winners

- 5.1. The list of nominations is submitted to the EFA Members who vote for the winners in the following categories (online or by correspondence):
- EUROPEAN FILM (the award goes to director and main producer jointly)
  - EUROPEAN DIRECTOR
  - EUROPEAN ACTRESS
  - EUROPEAN ACTOR
  - EUROPEAN SCREENWRITER
- 5.2. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.
- 5.3. In the following eight categories, also called **EFA Excellence Awards**, a jury decides on the awards recipients based on the selection list:
- EUROPEAN CINEMATOGRAPHER – Prix CARLO DI PALMA
  - EUROPEAN EDITOR
  - EUROPEAN PRODUCTION DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN COSTUME DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN HAIR & MAKE-UP ARTIST
  - EUROPEAN COMPOSER
  - EUROPEAN SOUND DESIGNER
  - EUROPEAN VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR
- 5.4. There are no nominations in these categories. The jury consists of representatives of the different arts and crafts, and selects the award recipient in each of the eight categories above.
- 5.5. The recipients of the EFA Excellence Awards will be announced prior to the EFA Ceremony in November.

## 6. EUROPEAN COMEDY

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 6.1. The award is presented to the director of a European\* comedy. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 6.2. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon the Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production (CETS No. 220) (see § 2.3.).
- 6.3. Films taken into consideration must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) **between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018.**
- 6.4. Films have to be submitted by their rights holders. The version submitted has to be the original language version with English subtitles.  
**Submission deadline for comedies is 31 May 2018.**
- 6.5. A committee of EFA Members appointed by the EFA Board nominates three films. These are made available as VOD to the EFA Members who vote for the winner (online or by correspondence).
- 6.6. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.

## 7. EUROPEAN DISCOVERY – Prix FIPRESCI

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 7.1. The award is presented to a young and upcoming director for his/her first full-length European\* feature film. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 7.2. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon the Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production (CETS No. 220) (see § 2.3.).
- 7.3. Films taken into consideration must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) **between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018.**
- 7.4. Films have to be submitted by their rights holders. The version submitted has to be the original language version with English subtitles.  
**Submission deadline for debut films is 31 May 2018.**
- 7.5. A committee of members of FIPRESCI, the International Federation of Film Critics, and EFA nominates five films in this category. These are made available as VOD to the EFA Members who vote for the winner (online or by correspondence).
- 7.6. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy, means geographical Europe, both EU and non-EU, and shall include Israeli and Palestinian

## 8. EUROPEAN DOCUMENTARY

selection and nomination procedure, and election of the winner

- 8.1. The award is presented to the director of a documentary film. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 8.2. Documentary films taken into consideration must have a minimum length of 70 minutes. **Between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018**, they must have either had a theatrical release in at least one European country or been screened at one of the following documentary festivals:
- Cinéma du Réel (France)
  - CPH:DOX (Denmark)
  - Docslisboa (Portugal)
  - DokLeipzig (Germany)
  - IDFA (The Netherlands)
  - Jihlava (Czech Republic)
  - Krakow Film Festival (Poland)
  - Sheffield Doc/Fest (UK)
  - Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival (Greece)
  - Visions du Réel (Switzerland)
- or at a European competitive feature film festival accredited by FIAPF.
- 8.3. Films have to be submitted by their rights holders. The version submitted has to be the original language version with English subtitles.
- Submission deadline for documentary films is 31 May 2018.**
- 8.4. A committee of EFA Members and documentary experts selects 15 documentaries from all films submitted or suggested by the above festivals.
- 8.5. The list of the films selected according to § 8.4. is not exclusive. Rights holders of European documentary films which are not among the 15 selected films may – upon payment of a fee – make their films available to the EFA Members as VOD. These films must fulfil the above criteria and be approved.
- 8.6. The selected documentaries and the additional film entries are made available as VOD to the EFA Members for the nomination procedure.
- 8.7. Based on the selection list and the films additionally made available by rights holders, four of the nominations are voted for by the EFA Members. The EFA Board adds one nomination.
- 8.8. The above nominations will be announced four to five weeks prior to the EFA Ceremony.
- 8.9. The EFA Members vote for the winner (online or by correspondence). The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy, means geographical Europe, both EU and non-EU, and shall include Israeli and Palestinian

**9. EUROPEAN ANIMATED FEATURE FILM**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 9.1. The award is presented to the European\* director of an animated feature film. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 9.2. Animated feature films taken into consideration must have a minimum length of 60 minutes. Eligible films must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) **between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018**. The EFA Board has the right to refrain from this rule in exceptional cases.
- 9.3. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon a point system set up by CARTOON, the European Association of Animation Film. To give the most flexible definition, a film qualifies as European if it achieves 10 points out of a possible maximum of 17 from a list of European elements, following below point system:

<b>European elements</b>	<b>Weighting points</b>
Concept	1
Script	2
Character design	2
Music composition	1
Directing	2
Storyboard	2
Chief decorator	1
Computer backgrounds	1
Layout	2
Compositing	1
Editing	1
Sound	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>

The EFA Board has, however, the right to make any exception in cases of lower points, provided the film has a European\* director.

- 9.4. A film is considered an animated feature film with a minimum of 50 % of the film being animated. In case of doubt, a decision will be made by the EFA Board.
- 9.5. Films have to be submitted by their rights holders. The version submitted has to be the original language version with English subtitles.

**Submission deadline for animated feature films is 31 May 2018.**

- 9.6. A committee composed of experts appointed by the European Film Academy and CARTOON selects three nominations from a list of films provided by CARTOON as well as from films submitted by rights holders.
- 9.7. The three nominated films are made available as VOD to the EFA Members who vote for the winner (online or by correspondence).
- 9.8. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy, means geographical Europe, both EU and non-EU, and shall include Israeli and Palestinian



**10. EUROPEAN SHORT FILM**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 10.1. The award goes to a short film by a director born in Europe or holding a European\* passport.
- 10.2. The film has to be **produced in 2017 or 2018** and shall not exceed the time limit of 30 minutes. Eligible are fiction, documentary, animation and experimental films in all film or video formats.
- 10.3. The European Short Film is presented in co-operation with the following 15 European film festivals:
- 21 - 28 Oct. 2017 Valladolid International Film Festival (Spain)
  - 23 - 29 Oct. 2017 Uppsala International Short Film Festival (Sweden)
  - 10 - 19 Nov. 2017 Cork Film Festival (Ireland)
  - 2 - 9 Dec. 2017 Leuven Short Film Festival (Belgium)
  - 24 Jan. - 4 Feb. 2018 International Film Festival Rotterdam (The Netherlands)
  - 2 - 10 Feb. 2018 International Short Film Festival Clermont-Ferrand (France)
  - 15 - 25 Feb. 2018 Berlin International Film Festival (Germany)
  - 7 - 11 Mar. 2018 Tampere Film Festival (Finland)
  - 27 May - 3 June 2018 Krakow Film Festival (Poland)
  - 15 - 22 July 2018 Curtas Vila do Conde – International Film Festival (Portugal)
  - 1 - 11 Aug. 2018 Locarno Festival (Switzerland)
  - 10 - 17 Aug. 2018 Sarajevo Film Festival (Bosnia & Herzegovina)
  - 29 Aug. - 8 Sep. 2018 Venice Film Festival (Italy)
  - 17 - 22 Sep. 2018 International Short Film Festival in Drama (Greece)
  - 25 - 30 Sep. 2018 Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival Bristol (UK)
- 10.4. At each of the above festivals, an international jury appointed by the festival nominates a single film (there shall be no ex-aequo nominations).
- 10.5. The 15 nominated films are submitted as VOD to the EFA Members who vote for the winner (online or by correspondence).
- 10.6. The votes are kept by a notary or an auditor. The winner is announced during the EFA Ceremony.

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**11. EUROPEAN FILM ACADEMY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

- 11.1. The award is given to honour an extraordinary lifetime achievement which has made a special contribution to European cinema.
- 11.2. The EFA Board decides upon the recipient of the award.
- 11.3. It is expected that the recipient will attend the EFA Ceremony.

**12. EUROPEAN ACHIEVEMENT IN WORLD CINEMA AWARD**

- 12.1. The award honours an outstanding achievement in world cinema. Candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 12.2. The EFA Board decides upon the recipient of the award.
- 12.3. It is expected that the recipient will attend the EFA Ceremony.

**13. EUROPEAN CO-PRODUCTION AWARD – Prix EURIMAGES**

- 13.1. The award goes to a distinguished European\* producer active in co-production.
- 13.2. Eurimages selects the award winner to acknowledge the decisive role of co-productions in fostering international exchange.
- 13.3. The award is presented at the EFA Ceremony.

**14. EFA PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD for Best European Film**

- 14.1. The award goes to a feature-length European\* film released outside the country of its origin **between 1 June 2017 and 31 May 2018.**
- 14.2. The EFA Board decides the nominations in this category based on audience acclaim in- and outside of the country of a film's origin.
- 14.3. The winner is voted for by the cinema-loving public across Europe in a campaign lasting from 1 September to 31 October.
- 14.4. The voting procedure is set up and managed by the European Film Academy.
- 14.5. The results are tabulated by an independent auditor.
- 14.6. The award is presented at the EFA Ceremony.

\* European in the sense of the European Film Academy, means geographical Europe, both EU and non-EU, and shall include Israeli and Palestinian

**15. EFA YOUNG AUDIENCE AWARD**

nomination procedure and election of the winner

- 15.1. The award is presented to the director of a European\* film that addresses an audience between 12 and 14 years. Eligible candidates must be born in Europe or hold a European\* passport.
- 15.2. Eligible are feature-length films which must have had their first official screening (be it at a festival or at a regular cinema) **between 1 January and 31 December 2017**.
- 15.3. The criteria whereby a film qualifies as European\* are based upon the Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production (CETS No. 220) (see § 2.3.).
- 15.4. Eligible are fiction, animation and documentary films.

**Submission deadline for the EFA Young Audience Award is 15 December 2017.**

- 15.5. A committee composed of experts for young audience films establishes a list of candidates and nominates three films.
- 15.6. The three nominated films will be presented in non-commercial closed jury screenings on Sunday, 6 May 2018, across Europe.

This includes screenings in the following countries:

Australia	Greece	Montenegro
Austria	Hungary	The Netherlands
Belgium	Iceland	Poland
Bosnia Herzegovina	Ireland	Portugal
Bulgaria	Israel	Romania
Croatia	Italy	Serbia
Czech Republic	Kosovo	Slovakia
Denmark	Latvia	Slovenia
Estonia	Lithuania	Spain
Finland	Luxembourg	Sweden
France	FYR Macedonia	Switzerland
Germany	Malta	Turkey
		UK

Further countries may participate.

- 15.7. After the screenings, the young jury members vote for the winner.
- 15.8. The winner will be announced on the same day during a ceremony in Erfurt/Germany.
- 15.9. The directors of the three nominated films will be invited to Erfurt to attend the ceremony, which will be streamed live on <http://yaa.europeanfilmawards.eu>

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