

# EUROPEAN STORIES CALL FOR PROJECTS

<u>CinEuro</u> is a network that encourages cross-border film coproduction's, spreading over seven regions: Grand Est France, Northern Switzerland, Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Brussels-Capital, and Wallonia. <u>CinEuro FilmLab</u> supports the development of feature films and series exploring the links between these territories.

The present call focuses on projects that depict Europe related issues, through the European institutions and its places of power. **Home to the headquarters of European institutions**, Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg are filled with politicians, attachés, advisors, civil servants, journalists, activists, lobbyists, spies, international institutions, NGOs, foreign delegations, specialized service companies, etc. These places of power are **the setting in which the submitted projects must take place**.

Up to **Five feature film or series projects will be selected** for a one year support, with scriptdoctoring sessions and pitching trainings. The participants will meet other scriptwriters and directors of partner regions and will get to pitch at BRIFF 2026 (Brussels International Film Festival, Belgium) and FORUM ALENTOURS 2026 (Strasbourg, France) to find co-producers.

#### SCHEDULE

- 31/08/2025 Deadline for submissions
- 31/10/2025 The selected projects are revealed
- December 2025 First scriptdoctoring session
- February 2026 Pitch & Meet at European institutions
- March 2026 Second scriptdoctoring session
- April 2026 First pitching training
- May / June 2026 Second pitching training
- June 2026 Pitching @BRIFF, Brussels
- July 2026 Pitching @ Forum Alentours, Strasbourg

#### SUBMISSION CRITERIA

- The project's submission must be written in English. Regardless of the project's original language, all CinEuro FilmLab documents and workshops will be in English.
- The submitted project must be a feature film, or a 30min or 50min series.
- All genres are welcome: drama, comedy, thriller...
- The submitted project must deal with European related issues as specified under "submission terms".
- The submitted project's layout must meet the requirements specified under "submission terms".
- The submitted project must be an original concept, not yet submitted previously.
- Each participant can submit one project only.
- A single participant must submit each project. If a team of writers/directors developed the project, one of them must be chosen as the project leader and submit the project. If selected, all writers/directors of the team can attend the workshops.
- Participants must reside in one of the partner regions: Grand Est France, Northern Switzerland, Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Brussels-Capital or Wallonia.
- Participants must have at least written or directed one professional fiction project (short, feature film or series) that has received institutional funding, and has benefited from professional distribution.
- The submitted project must be optionned by a production company which has its headquarters established in France, Switzerland, Germany, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg or Belgium.
- Each production company can option only one project.
- Each participant must be available to attend all session. All workshops and pitching sessions will take place in Brussels. Transport expenses will be at charge of the participants. CinEuro will arrange catering and accommodation (if necessary).

# SUBMISSION TERMS

Projects must be submitted via **the online form** before **31/08/2025 at 11:59 p.m.:** <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjYbpG7azlpfj1Bu9vHdgRPNH0VIMrZlq</u> <u>r9op2xfMOJHkyWw/viewform?usp=header</u>

To allow for anonymous evaluation, they must be submitted as two separate PDF files:

# 1. "CINEUROFILMLAB2025\_PROJECTTITLE\_FORM.PDF"

- Cover with:
  - o Title
    - Format (feature film, series number of episodes x 30min or 50 min)
    - Name of the author
    - Name of the production company
- Author's Resume and contact details (phone, email and address)
- Producer's Resume and contact details (phone, email and headquarters)
- Option contract

# 2. "CINEUROFILMLAB2025\_PROJECTTITLE\_PITCH.PDF"

- Cover with:
  - o Title
  - Logline
- Pitch: 1 page, written in Times 12, line spacing 1, providing a clear idea of the general plot as well as its dramatic drive and concept : characters and empathy, objectives and challenges, and theme, as described in the selection criteria below
- European specificity: ½ page, written in Times 12, line spacing 1, elaborating how the concept develops a unique take on Europe related issues, the European institutions and its places of power.

### Please note:

- The second PDF, the pitch, must be completely anonymous and may not contain any mention of the author's name or the production company.
- No element other than those listed above may be included to the submission.
- Any project that does not meet the submission criteria or terms will be considered ineligible.
- A confirmation email will be sent upon reception.
- No updates to the application or revised submissions will be accepted.

### SELECTION

A five-person jury appointed by ASA, ARRF, screen.brussels, the Grand-Est Region and the Film Fund Luxembourg, will be sent the anonymous pitch PDF's and select five projects based on following criteria:

- **Goal**: Are they clearly identifiable? Why is vital for the protagonist(s) to achieve their goal?
- **Stakes and antagonist forces:** Are they strong and relevant enough? What conflicts and obstacles do they create?
- **Characters**: Do their depth, complexity and dilemmas have the potential to be developed throughout the story?
- **Theme**: Is it sufficiently original and powerful? How does it resonate with our world and the present times?
- **European institutions and its places of power**: are they the right setting for the story? Do they resonate with the theme?