



N°11 December 2012 / January 2013

Soon the names of the films selected for PriMed will be known !

At the invitation of RAI, the CMCA's pre-selection jury will be in Rome from December 17th to the 21st, and they will have a heavy responsibility: choosing the 30 or 35 documentaries, news films and web-documentaries which will feature on the final list of the best broadcasting films about the Mediterranean in 2013 !

In almost 6 months to the day, from June 17th to 23rd 2013, all the finalists will be in competition during the "Mediterranean Audiovisual Week", which will bring together in Marseille several events linked to Mediterranean broadcasting, including PriMed.

The next issue of the Letter will contain the official selection for this 17th edition of the Festival. A selection you will be able to discover from December 21st, on our two web-sites www.cmca-med.org and www.primed.tv, as well as [on our Facebook page](#).

In this issue we continue our journey to find out about Mediterranean television stations which are members of the CMCA, with a close-up on TRT, the national Turkish television.

Read also all the news about the Mediterranean TV channels: Yves Bigot's appointment as head of TV5 Monde, the agreements signed between *France Télévisions* and Moroccan and Algerian televisions, focus on the North African festival, *Si loin, Si proche*, and a presentation of the web-site Terramedplus.tv.

Happy Reading!

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HEADLINE NEWS

PriMed 2013 : the pre-selection jury meet in Rome **from December 17th to 21st**



At the invitation of the RAI, partner of the Festival, the **PriMed 2013** pre-selection jury will meet in Rome from December 17th to the 21st, in the premises of Italy's public service television, the RAI, thanks to the work of coordinating by our Secretary General, Maria Du Bessé.

This pre-selection takes place six months to the day before the start of the 17th PriMed, which will be held in Marseille from June 17th to 22nd 2013, at the MuCEM (Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilizations) and the Villa Méditerranée (built by the Conseil Régional Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur).

The call for entries closed on September 30th.

This year the CMCA received 440 films from 36 countries for PriMed. A record !

As in 2011, **France, Italy and Spain** are the countries most represented, while **Israel, the Lebanon and Turkey** confirm the vitality of their documentary production. **Tunisia and Egypt** are also well represented this year, two years after the start of the Arab Spring. Still discreet but getting bigger, is the presence of the **Palestinian Territories**. CMCA has also received films from **Syria, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina**, among others.

Of the 440 films received, there are:

- 63 films in the "Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Culture" category
- 70 films in the "Mediterranean Memory" category
- 81 films in the "Mediterranean Issues" category
- 72 films in the "First Film" category
- 35 films in the "Investigative Report" category
- 108 films in the "Mediterranean Short Film" category
- 11 works in the "Multimédia" category

France Télévisions makes a commitment to EPTV and SNRT

Having given support to Tunisian and Egyptian media in 2011, the French broadcasting group continues to commit itself in the Mediterranean,.



On November 13th in Algiers, **Tewfik Khelladi** (pictured right), managing director of EPTV and **Rémy Pflimlin** (pictured left), managing director of France Télévisions, signed a memorandum of understanding concerning several aspects of cooperation .

According to a joint statement, both public television groups have agreed to measures to encourage “the shared development, production or pre-purchasing of television programmes.”

On training, EPTV and France Télévisions will share their knowledge to help improve television operations, and will develop joint projects for the new technologies and communication.


France Télévisions will provide strategic support for developing the digital side of EPTV’s channels, using the example of its online platforms France TV Pluzz, TV France Info and France TV Education.

The Memorandum of Understanding also provides for “specific coordination in the Mediterranean, through a partnership between EPTV, France 3 pole Sud-Est, the CMCA and France 3 Corse ViaStella, with the production of an annual action programme by each of the parties, concerning the news and life in the Mediterranean.”

During their meeting, **Messrs. Khelladi** and **Pflimlin** also discussed the “Mediterranean Broadcasting Week”, which will be held in Marseille from June 17th to 23rd 2013, as part of the Marseille Provence European Capital of Culture 2013, initiated by the CMCA.



On December 1st **Rémy Pflimlin** went to Marrakech to meet **Faisal Laraïchi**, CEO of SNRT (pictured). A memorandum of understanding was also signed, the first between these two media groups. Primarily it focuses on strengthening cooperation in the fields of training and continued improvement, by helping to set up concerted actions aimed at sharing knowledge and improving television operations between the two public media.



France Télévisions and SNRT are committed to developing joint programmes and co-producing broadcast material.

Finally, they agreed to encourage agreement and coordination in the actions and positions of the two groups for international cooperation within the broadcasting organizations of which they are members: the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators (CoPeAM), the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU), and the Centre for Mediterranean Audiovisual Communication (CMCA).

Two joint monitoring committees, consisting of representatives of *France Télévisions*, EPTV and SNRT will be created to monitor the implementation of each of these agreements.

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Close up on...

TRT (Türkiye Radyo Televizyon Kurumu)



Each month, the CMCA Newsletter presents a portrait of one of the CMCA's member channels. Presentation, organization, iconic programmes... This month, the spotlight is turned on TRT, the Turkish public broadcasting group.

History



Le siège de la TRT à Ankara

Turkish Radio and Television (**TRT**) was **created on May 1st 1964** to broadcast state radio and television programmes, although its own specific law gave it independent status. Following the constitutional amendments of 1972, TRT was re-defined as an **“impartial” public institution with a commercial nature**. Following the provisions of the 1982 Constitution, the law on **TRT** was revised in 1984. In 1986 the possibility of

receiving private satellite channels and the launch of private channels aimed at Turkey ended **TRT's** monopoly of the television in 1990.

With its 1993 amendment, Article 133 of the Constitution permitted transmission of private radio and television stations, while once again also guaranteeing **TRT's** independence.

Today, **TRT**, whose **objectivity and independence are set out in the Constitution**, continues transmitting radio, television and multimedia, as a provider of public service broadcasting.

The first radio broadcasts started in 1927 through Türk Telsiz Phone (Turkish Radio Telephone), and were taken over by **TRT** in 1964. **Television broadcasts** began on January 31st 1968.

TRT's first representation abroad was in Berlin in 1998. Currently, **TRT is represented in 11 cities around the world**, including Cologne, Lefkoşa (Nicosia, in Cyprus), Washington, Brussels and Cairo.

Activity

TRT has **14 television channels:**

- **TRT 1** : family entertainment
- **TRT Haber**: news channel, also covering art and culture
- **TRT Spor**: sports channel
- **TRT GAP**: regional channel for Eastern and South-Eastern Anatolia
- **TRT Çocuk**: children's programmes
- **TRT 6**: family channel in Kurdish
- **TRT Avaz**: aimed at Turkish-speaking countries and those with a link to Turkey
- **TRT Türk**: News in Turkish, broadcast abroad
- **TRT Turizm Belgesel**: documentary channel
- **TRT Müzik**: music channel
- **TRT Arapça**: general interest channel in Arabic
- **TRT Anadolu**: channel specialising in Anatolia
- **TRT HD**: HD channel
- **TRT Okul** : educational channel

It is also one of the major shareholders in **Euronews**, broadcasting its programmes in Turkish, making it the ninth language of this international news channel.

TRT offers its radio programmes to listeners on **7 national channels and 5 regional ones:**

- **RADYO-1**: educational, cultural and news programmes
- **RADYO-2 (TRT-FM)**: popular music in Turkish
- **RADYO-3**: Western classical music, jazz, pop and foreign rock
- **RADYO-4**: Turkish music
- **TRT NAĞME**, a themed station, broadcasting programmes on traditional Turkish artistic music
- **TRT TÜRKÜ**, another themed station, broadcasting programmes on Turkish popular music.
- **TRT Radyo Haber** broadcasting alternately programmes from TRT 1, TRT Haber and TRT Türk.



The transmission prototypes of the **5 regional radio stations** were reorganized to take into account listeners' requests and advice. **Regional radio stations** (Antalya, Çukurova, Erzurum, GAP-Diyarbakır, Trabzon) broadcast exclusively local programmes, live between 10a.m. and 1.00 p.m. Outside these hours they broadcast programmes jointly with RADYO-1.

The web-site www.trt.net.tr offers rich content, with web-pages on the channel's special broadcasts, programmes made for the web, Podcasts, radio and television.

Broadcasting in **35 languages and dialects**, www.trt-world.com offers web users Turkish, regional and international news with an impartial and reliable content.

In addition TRT has a **web address for mobiles** and **TV and news apps for iOS and Android**.

www.trt.net.tr / www.trt-world.com / <http://mobil.trt.net.tr/>

Finally, thanks to the **teletext system**, **Telegün** launched in December 1990, viewers in Turkey and other countries have access to 450 pages full of news and immediate interest: weather, traffic, television, radio, culture and art, education, economy, tourism / travel ...

Organisation



The Director General of the TRT is **İbrahim ŞAHİN** (*photo*). He was appointed in 2007 and re-elected in 2011 for a second four year term.

TRT has been an active member of the **CMCA** since 2007. **Kerem BALCI**, Vice-Chairman of TRT's Department International Relations, is the current Vice-Chairman of the Association.

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LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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FRANCE / [Yves Bigot, new managing director of TV5 Monde](#)

On December 5th in Paris, TV5 Monde's Board of Directors appointed **Yves Bigot** as managing director, after extensive consultation between the different governments backing the French channel. He succeeds **Marie-Christine Saragosse**, appointed in October to run the French external broadcasting body, AEF.

Yves Bigot, born in 1955, was Director of Programmes of the radio station RTL for two years. A music lover and specialist in media, he began his career as a journalist, and has worked in Programme Planning for *France 2*, *France 4*, RTBF (Belgium) and *Arte Belgique*.



PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES / [Hamas's television premises shelled by the Israeli army](#)

A journalist from Al Aqsa, Hamas's TV station, was killed on November 19th during a bombardment by the Israeli army which struck the Al Sharuk tower, a 14-storey building in central Gaza. Six other people were injured in the attack.

The building, which had been shelled the day before without victims, housed the offices of several Arab news channels, including Al Aqsa, Al Arabiya and MBC. Several correspondents working for international channels worked there. The offices of Sky News (UK), ARD (Germany) and RT (Russia), among others, were destroyed, as were those of Reuters.

On Sunday the authorities had ordered the evacuation of the building, but with nowhere else for them to work several journalists decided to stay. *"For their own safety I advise journalists in Gaza to stay away from any facility or station belonging to Hamas"* warned an Israel Defence Force spokesman.

On the 18th, Tsahal had also attacked the Al Shawa Wa Hassri tower, wounding 4 journalists from the Lebanese channel Al Quds.

(Sources : Europa Press, VerTele.)



LIBYA / [A new Ministry of Information to control the media?](#)

On November 26th the Libyan National General Congress voted in favour of creating a new Ministry of Information. It's main responsibility would be to regulate the media, replacing the two existing bodies, one set up by the National Transition Council, the other created last June by the media themselves at a

conference to Giado. The Libyan Government must now decide whether to create this Ministry.

Despite a majority of members of Congress being supportive, many were concerned about loss of media freedom. *"I do not think the government should interfere in the workings of the media,"* said **Mokhtar Elatrash**, an elected member of the Congress. *"I voted against it because I want my people to live free. I have repeatedly stressed, we are on a slippery slope. If we are not free, there is no democracy."*

Currently, all matters relating to the press and media are handled by the Ministry of Culture, but it has neither the mandate nor power to exert control.

(Source : Libya Herald.)



MOROCCO / [Casablanca will host Bloomberg's African channel](#)

On November 8th in Dakar, **Mustapha Mellouk** (photo), chairman of Casablanca Media Partners, announced the launch of Bloomberg Africa, a subsidiary of the American economic channel, aimed at French-language African countries.

"Apart from its financial and economic vocation, it will be an African network with African DNA, responding to African concerns," he said.

The channel headquarters will be in Casablanca Finance City, the financial centre which is under development in the Moroccan city.

"We are in the process of setting up the project with private operators, and there are a number of Moroccan investors who have expressed interest," said **Mr. Mellouk**, who previously worked as head of programmes on 2M then as Medi1Sat's managing director.

(Source : MAP)



MOROCCO / [Five television channels about to be accredited by the government](#)

The Minister of Communication, **Mustapha El Khalfi**, announced on November 21st that *"an agreement in principle"* had been found for the installation of five foreign channels in Morocco: Al Jazeera (Qatar), Sky News Arabia (UAE) BBC Arabic (United Kingdom), TRT (Turkey) and Bloomberg TV (USA). He added that there were two other applications for certification also being studied, by the two Lebanese channels

Al Manar and Al Mayadine.

For Al Jazeera it would be a return, because in 2010 its offices in Rabat were closed – the Moroccan government accusing it of *"multiple breaches of the code of serious, responsible journalism."*

Al Jazeera's return to Morocco seems to be the result of lengthy negotiations. Mr. **El Khalfi** has mentioned a *"frank dialogue, positive and successful which has resulted in a favourable decision."*

More generally, he stressed the government's efforts for an *"open media [...]"* which can to serve the spread of the Moroccan model and its foundations."

(Source : Atlas Info)



TUNISIA / [Al Wataniya 1 sacks its Senior News Editor](#)

On November 23rd the Board of Tunisian Television confirmed in a statement the dismissal of **Said Khezami** (photo), Al Wataniya 1's Editor-in-Chief of News.

Moufida Hachani, who held the post before **Mr. Khezami**, is temporarily replacing him.

According to him, the chairman of Tunisian Television, **Imène Bahroune**, has since offered him the job of "overseeing the company's editorial line as far as news programmes, talk shows and documentaries are concerned."

A statement said the first Tunisian public channel will have its new Editor-in-Chief of News "having reviewed the applications and followed the criteria agreed by a commission of experts in broadcast news."

(Source : Kapitalis)



TUNISIA / [Chafika Chamas launches a non-stop news channel](#)

According to a statement by Al Horra Prod, businesswoman **Chafika Chamas** (photo) has joined the newspaper man **Raouf Cheikhrouhou** to prepare for the launch of a private Tunisian 24-hour news channel.

Called Al Horra News, this satellite channel will transmit continuously in Arabic dialects. The programme schedule will be punctuated by news programmes and special editions devoted to important topics in the Tunisian and international news.

"We want to become the leading news channel in Tunisia in terms of audience," said **Madame Chamas**, whose ambition is to give Tunisia an emblematic news channel, as CNN is for the United States or France 24 in France.

The launch of Al Horra News is scheduled for March 2013. It should not be confused with Al Hurra, founded in 2004 and funded by the United States.

Chafika Chamas is currently Director of V.Net, a transmission platform involved in preparing the launch of DTT (Digital Terrestrial Television) in Tunisia.



EGYPT / [Al Faraeen TV in debt and suspended, its owner sentenced](#)

On November 10th the Egyptian courts suspended the TV channel Al Faraeen for failing to pay Nilesat, its host satellite. According to *Independent Egypt*, Al Faraeen's debt was running at \$207,000 (€160,000). Two weeks earlier the channel's owner and presenter **Tawfik Okasha** (*photo*), was sentenced to four months in prison for defaming the Egyptian

President **Mohamed Morsi**. In August, a group of lawyers filed a complaint against **Mr Okasha** after a programme on Al Faraeen in which he criticized **Mr. Morsi**, stating in particular that his mandate was "illegal."



SPAIN / [Sanctions confirmed for 48 employees of RTVV](#)

On November 14th the Board of RTVV (Radio and television Valencia) confirmed that 48 of its employees would be punished for interrupting a live broadcast of Canal 9 on July 16th. Their aim was to protest against the massive job cuts which should affect 1,200 employees of the Valencian public group.

The 48 employees concerned, a large portion of whom are union representatives, will be suspended for between 30 and 60 days, during which they will receive no salary. They risked a maximum sanction of losing their job without compensation. The Board has retained as a mitigating circumstance the "stress" caused by staff at the announcement of the job cuts.

The Union of Journalists in Valencia issued a statement on November 15th reaffirming its support for all employees at risk and asking RTVV to lift the sanctions.

Members of RTVV's welfare committee unanimously objected to the "unjustified" sanctions, accusing management of "relentlessness" "persecution" and "repression against trade unions."

(Sources : El País, La Informacion.)



SPAIN / [Journalists from TVE condemn pressure](#)

In a statement issued on 24th November, TVE's News Council condemned "*a serious violation of freedom of information.*" Several journalists have been reprimanded, others punished for refusing to put their names to news films in the programme "*Informe semanal*". They disagreed with the content of the films,

whose editorial line was apparently imposed by the head of News.

"These practices have been criticized by journalists who have written directly to the News Council. The latter analyzed the complaints, and before taking any initiative, tried to intervene with the head of news," the statement said.

Since then, 260 employees of TVE have signed a petition condemning these pressures and showing their support for the journalists involved.

(Source : VerTele.)



SPAIN / [€9 million fine for RTVE](#)

On November 6th Spanish Radio and Television (RTVE) was sentenced to pay \$9 million to the Ministry of Finance. The charges against the group go back to 2001 and 2002, when the various public channels were

beginning to introduce competitions in their broadcasts, with viewers able to participate via SMS, telephone or e-mails.

The Inspectorate of Finance, after investigation, found that these competitions were tantamount to gambling, and that therefore RTVE should have told the *Loterías y Apuestas del Estado* (state lotteries and betting, part of the Ministry of Finance which looks after lotteries in Spain). According to the findings of the investigation, RTVE therefore had to pay tax on the income obtained.

(Source : El Pais.)



FRANCE / [A million subscribers for Bein Sport](#)

“Since early November” Bein Sport, the Qatari bouquet of sports channels, has more than one million subscribers, according to its chairman, **Nasser Al-Khelaifi** (photo). Bein Sport 1 and Bein Sport 2, launched respectively in June and July, quickly seduced French viewers, thanks particularly to its acquiring the exclusive broadcasting rights for

several major sporting events: the *Championnat de France de football*, the *Ligue des Champions*, *Euro de football* and major NBA matches.

“If we continue at the same pace, we expect hundreds of thousands more subscribers in the next six months,” said **Mr. Al-Khelaifi**, adding that soon Bein Sport will count “two million subscribers.” He was also confident about the group’s financial position, believing a balanced budget will be reached “in the next four to five years.” Between €250 and €350 million have been spent by the Qatari Group purchasing broadcasting rights.

(Source : AFP.)



FRANCE / [A union for the public broadcasting media](#)

The French public broadcasting companies (*France Télévisions*, *Arte*, *Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France*, *TV5 Monde*, *Radio France* and *INA*) decided on November 26th to transform the *Syndicat des Editeurs Publics de Programmes* (SEPP – Union of Public Broadcasting Editors) into the *Syndicat des Médias de Service Public* (SMSP – Public Service Media Union).

In this way they hope to respond better to the technological and industrial changes within the sector. The main task of SMSP will be to represent “the moral and material interests of its members,” especially “in the social field,” according to a statement.

This representation will be done primarily with national governments, European institutions, and groups working in French and European broadcasting.

(Source : AFP.)

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PROGRAMMES

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ROMANIA	TVR broadcasts Euronews programmes
SPAIN	Filming the biopic about Juan Carlos has begun
FRANCE	France 4 launches a competition to create programmes



TUNISIA / [Controversy surrounds an interview with Ben Ali's son-in-law](#)

On November 23rd Tunisian courts lifted the injunction preventing the channel Ettounsiya from broadcasting an interview with **Slim Chiboub** (photo), one of the sons-in-law of former dictator **Zine El Abidine Ben Ali**.

According to Mosaïque FM and Shems FM it was the Tunisian government's legal department which hurriedly took out the injunction on Thursday November 22nd, to stop the interview

being broadcast. **Hamadi Jebali**, the Prime Minister described this as being "*a prelude to a planned normalisation of the former regime's symbols.*" So Ettounsiya was unable to broadcast the interview on the Thursday evening as scheduled.

The following day, as the government was trying to extend the injunction to cover all Tunisian media, its application was rejected by the court, thus *de facto* reversing the previous day's censorship of Ettounsiya.

The programme in question, "9 heures du soir" presented by **Moez Ben Gharbia**, was finally transmitted on Monday 26th November. "Broadcasting the interview is a matter of principle," said the presenter. "Our fight is not against **Slim Chiboub** personally, nor anyone else, but for freedom of expression."

ROMANIA / [TVR broadcasts Euronews programmes](#)



Since mid-November the public broadcaster TVR has been transmitting programmes produced by the international news channel Euronews, based in France. They are broadcast in English by default, and subtitled in Romanian. Viewers may choose to view them in one of the 11 languages already available via the Euronews network (Arabic, English, French, Italian).

The application for TVR to be a partner of Euronews comes as the Romanian group is in the middle of restructuring. Burdened with a debt of €145 million, it dropped two channels this year, TVR Cultural and TVR Info.

(Source : Romania Insider.)



SPAIN / [Filming the biopic about Juan Carlos has begun](#)

On November 20th filming started for the mini-series produced by Telecinco about the life of **King Juan Carlos** of Spain.

The actor **Fernando Gil** (pictured), known for his portrayal of Prince Felipe in "*Felipe y Letizia*", plays the king and the Galician **Norberto Lopez Amado** is the director.

The writers based the scripts on two books written by journalist **Pilar Urbano** and British historian **Paul Preston**. The series begins in 1948, when **Juan Carlos**, 10, is sent by his parents to Madrid to study with other children of the Spanish aristocracy. All the major stages of his life will be shown, from his coronation in 1975 to the death of his father, **Don Juan de Borbon**.

No release date has so far been announced.

(Source : El Pais.)



FRANCE / [France 4 launches a competition to create programmes](#)

France 4 and the Research & Development department of *France Télévisions* are using innovative methods for creating new programme ideas, TVLab.

They are organising a competition for writers under the age of 40 who want to develop an idea for a new programme. A jury of experts in scenario-writing and

production (**Bruno Solo, Kader Aoun, Emmanuelle Guilbart**) will choose the 9 most innovative projects. These will then be developed, produced and submitted to the votes of France 4's viewers over the course of three special evenings in June 2013.

The creator of the winning format will be commissioned to write a complete season which will be broadcast on France 4.

Each author wishing to take part must present their project with a producer. **The deadline for submitting applications is January 14th 2013.**

[Click here](#) to download the application form and obtain more information.



FRANCE / [The contents of “Mediterraneo” in December](#)

Morocco: Tangier is a city experiencing strong economic growth, but it is also the last stop for many African migrants wishing to get into southern Europe. Some of these migrants are welcomed by an

association that helps them with everyday concerns through workshops and giving them medicines. But for most of the migrants, the trip becomes a dead end.

Tunisia: very often young Tunisians try to follow their dreams: to find work in Europe and make something of themselves. But how to get there? Nobody knows. Meanwhile, more and more Tunisian parents are without news of their children. They form associations, solicit Tunisian consuls and ambassadors in Europe to try to find a trace, an answer.

Italy: according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, nearly 300 people have died crossing the Mediterranean this year. In addition to Lampedusa and Sicily, the coasts of Apulia and Calabria have been the refuge of 2,600 migrants, mainly Afghan, Pakistani, Iraqi and Syrian. In Italy, facilities to help them have been set up in recent years.

Croatia: 20 years ago one of the major events of the Balkan War took place: the siege of Dubrovnik. During the winter of 1991-92, more than 40,000 people were trapped for eight months in very difficult conditions, as Serbian and Montenegrin forces bombed them. Today the old town has been restored (*photo*), there are few traces of the destruction. But what remains in the minds of people of those dark times?



Palestinian Territories: in Ramallah, a French organisation “Un Coeur pour la Paix” has financed the creation of a paediatric cardiology clinic. In the West Bank, as in all the Middle East, more children are born with heart defects than in the rest of the world. The reason is an age-old tradition: intermarriage.

France: in 2013 Marseille will be European Capital of Culture. To animate these 12 months, all the creative energies of the city are being mobilized. Several theatre companies are making their preparations in the difficult neighbourhoods. They are grouped in the *Cité des Arts de la Rue*. Their work is original and their way of seeing this cultural adventure rather impertinent.



Italy: neighbour of Syracuse, yet almost unknown, the Sicilian city of Ragusa (pictured) is an architectural gem, listed among UNESCO's World Heritage sites. Since an earthquake in 1693 there are two very different parts: Ibla, the old quarter, with its dome, its ruins and gardens; and Nuova, the middle-class town dominated by the Baroque.

“Mediterraneo” is broadcast every Saturday at 11:30 on France 3 Corsica ViaStella, every Sunday at 11:30 on France 3 Provence-Alpes and France 3 Côte d'Azur, and each week also on TV5 Monde. For North African schedules [click here](#).

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ECONOMY

ITALY	€184.5 million loss for RAI
SPAIN	Financing the cinema through television will be reformed
FRANCE	France Télévisions majority share-holder in TV5 Monde from 2013



ITALY / [€184.5 million loss for RAI](#)

In the first 9 months of the year, RAI's losses totalled €184.5 million. According to the Board of Directors the reason is declining advertising revenues and the high cost of the year's major sporting events (Olympics, Euro football).

The Group's income is down €137 million compared to the same period in 2011, largely due to advertising revenues being €114 million

less than last year's.

At the same time the payroll has increased by €7 million, despite the austerity measures. However, RAI's network of channels have healthy viewing figures: from January to September 2012, they accumulated 39.8% of the market share, reaching 41.5% for prime time programmes.

Luigi Gubitosi, RAI's managing director, reassured his employees in a statement, promising that in three years' time RAI would be "*cleansed and competitive.*"

(Source : La Repubblica.)



SPAIN / [Financing the cinema through television will be reformed](#)

Soraya Saenz de Santamaria, the Spanish government's Deputy Prime Minister, announced on November 19th that the tax paid by television companies to finance cinema films would soon be reformed.

A joint committee, chaired by the Secretary of State for Culture, **Jose Maria Lassalle** (pictured) will be responsible for reviewing funding arrangements for the Spanish cinema, which has been hard hit by the crisis. The committee will present a new draft law on cinema films on May 31st 2013. Every year since 1999, each broadcaster has had to pay 5% of its income to Spanish and European cinema.

Several heads of the TV channels have called for more effective and better managed funding. *"Having received over a billion euros from the television companies [Since 1999, Ed], Spanish cinema should become part of the real world, stop its obstructionism and work with the TV channels"* according to **Maurizio Carlotti**, vice-chairman of Antena 3. He believes that over the past 13 years, *"at most only 40 films justified the money"* and helped *"to build a strong industry."*

(Source : El Pais.)



FRANCE / [France Télévisions majority share-holder in TV5 Monde from 2013](#)

From the beginning of 2013 France Télévisions will be the largest shareholder of TV5 Monde. The group will recover 49% of shares held until now by the *Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France* (AEF), while the latter will take the 12.6% of shares owned by France Télévisions. The chairman of France Télévisions will become *de facto* chairman of TV5 Monde. Nevertheless, the channel will be directly financed by the state.

It is expected that this new ownership structure will be formalized during a inter-governmental conference in early 2013, with all the partners of TV5 Monde present. According to a report chaired by **Jean-Paul Cluzel**, former chairman of RFI and Radio France, and published last July, the AEF was *"clearly present in TV5 Monde, but didn't [play] any real role."*

France Télévisions was an important shareholder in TV5 Monde until 2008, when the former French President **Nicolas Sarkozy** reformed the AEF.

(Sources : Les Echos, Le Monde.)

CINEMA

MOROCCO	Naomi Watts will play Gertrude Bell for Werner Herzog
TUNISIA	Adnène Khedher defends the strategy of the CNCI
TUNISIA	First meeting of the FPCA's strategic council
ITALY	Barbara Corsi publishes a book about production in Italy



MOROCCO/ [Naomi Watts will play Gertrude Bell for Werner Herzog](#)

German director **Werner Herzog** is preparing to shoot a historical drama in Morocco, “*Queen of the Desert*”, about the British archaeologist, explorer, political attaché and adventurer **Gertrude Bell** (photo, 1868-1926). **Naomi Watts** will play the title role, alongside **Robert Pattinson** who will play

Lawrence of Arabia, and **Jude Law**.

Gertrude Bell is remembered because she helped draw the borders of today’s Iraq, Jordan and Syria. Nicknamed “Sultana”, particularly because she supported the Arab Revolt during the First World War, she played an important role in the British dismantling of the Ottoman Empire.

Shooting is scheduled for March 2013.

(Source : Au Fait Maroc.)



TUNISIA / [Adnène Khedher defends the strategy of the CNCI](#)

Appointed on September 26th to the Board of the Centre National du Cinéma et de l’Image (CNCI), **Adnan Khedher** (photo) faces strong opposition from the producers' unions and professional associations ([see Letter No. 110](#)). In an interview with Euromed Audiovisual, he replied to those who accuse him of having no experience in the film industry: “*I started in the business in 1988, I worked as a Production*

Manager on over 25 series. I know the industry and the craft of production well.”

The man who was chairman of Tunisian Television for the first eight months of 2012 promises he will “*listen to everyone.*” According to him, the associations and unions will be well represented at the CNCI since they have 8 of the 12 seats on the Strategic Council.

Mr. Khedher is currently working on the CNCI’s administrative and financial base, particularly the organizational chart. The institution is not yet fully operational. “*It’s not a question of starting quickly, but starting well,*” he said.

(Source : Euromed Audiovisuel.)



TUNISIA / [First meeting of the FPCA's strategic council](#)

The project for the Pan-African Cinema and Audiovisual Fund (FPCA) is taking shape. The fund is for African broadcasting production, and its board met for the first time at the FPCA headquarters in Tunis.

With representatives of the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF) and the Tunisian Minister of Culture, several institutions were present at this meeting, including UNESCO and the African Union.

The founding principles of the FPCA were defined at the meeting. The General Coordinator of the Advisory Board, **Ferid Boughedir** (pictured) in particular emphasized the need for “*transparency*” to provide a “*serious and credible work*”. All those taking part reiterated their commitment to the project and its importance in the development and distribution of African productions made for television.

The creation of the FPCA was first suggested in 2010. In May 2012, during the Cannes Film Festival, the Tunisian Minister of Culture **Mehdi Mabrouk**, announced that the headquarters of the fund would be set up in Tunis, giving the project a real boost.

(Source : TAP.)



ITALY / [Barbara Corsi publishes a book about production in Italy](#)

On November 21st journalist **Barbara Corsi** published “*Produzione e Produttori*” (Production and producers). This book provides an overview of film production in Italy, by analysing seven films:

Giovanni Pastrone's “*Cabiria*” (1914), “*La canzone dell'amore*” by **Gennaro Righelli** (1930), **Alessandro Blasetti's** “*La Corona di ferro*” (1941), “*Cronache di poveri amanti*” by **Carlo Lizzani** (1954), **Sergio Leone's** “*For a Few dollars More*” (1965), “*Attila flagello di Dio*” by **Diego Abatantuono** (1982), and **Matteo Garrone's** “*Gomorrah*” (2008).

An important tribute is paid to the producers, “*who are usually ignored – unless they have married a famous actress,*” writes the author. “*But the films are the result of their intuitions, their qualities as entrepreneur, and ultimately their personalities.*”

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FESTIVALS

The festival of the month:

Maghreb, si loin, si proche,
in the Languedoc-Roussillon,
from January 11th to the 27th 2013



Created in 1997, the festival “*Maghreb, si loin, si proche*” (North Africa, so near yet so far) claims each year it is a “cinematic bridge” between Europe and North Africa. Beyond its qualities as a film festival, it also offers the opportunity to hear about literature, music, photography, cooking ...

“*Maghreb, si loin, si proche*” takes place during two weeks in several towns in the Pyrénées-Orientales and Aude, including Perpignan, Argeles-sur-Mer, Carcassonne and Lézignan.

Some twenty films will be screened this year in 12 festival venues. The opportunity to discover, among other things:

- **Safinez Bousbi's** musical documentary “*El Gusto*” (pictured above);
- The Moroccan-Belgian drama “*Le sac de farine*” (The bag of flour) by **Khadija Leclère**, winner of three awards at the Brussels Festival of Independent Film in November;

- **Jerome Lemaire's** documentary “*Le thé ou l'électricité*” (Tea or electricity), filmed in southern Morocco;
- “*Goodbye Morocco*” (photo below) by **Nadir Moknèche** with **Lubna Azabal**;
- **Rachid Djaidani's** “*Rengaine*”, shot without producers, taking nine years to film and 200 hours of rushes;
- Or the documentary by **Malek Bensmaïl**, “*1962: French Algeria to an Algerian Algeria*”.



Several short documentaries accompany this programme, in partnership with Béjaïa Doc.

Parallel to the screenings, several exhibitions will be held, highlighting the work of Algerian cartoonist **Gyps**, the calligrapher **Karim Ibrahim**, and the photographer **Françoise Dexmier**. Literary meetings, a one-man show, concerts, a *carte blanche* to the association Aflam, and other festivities will complete the programme.

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THE OTHER FESTIVALS

TURKEY	Candidate call for TRT's documentary film competition
ITALY	Candidate call for the Prix Marcellino de Baggis documentary award
ITALY	A very Italian list of awards at the Rome Festival
BULGARIA	Last days to enrol for the 2013 Rencontres de Sofia
FRANCE	Pointdoc, on-line documentary festival
BELGIUM	Nabil Ayouch winner at the Festival of Mediterranean Film



TURKEY / [Candidate call for TRT's documentary film competition](#)

In November TRT launched a call for films for the 4th TRT Documentary Awards, which each year gives prizes to documentaries from all backgrounds.

The competition is divided into three separate competitions: one category is devoted to Turkish amateur documentaries, another to professional Turkish documentaries and the last to international documentaries.

Any film produced after January 1st 2012 is eligible. For the international competition any film not in English must at least

be subtitled in the language of Shakespeare.

The deadline for entries is January 25th 2013. The award ceremony will be on May 13th.

[Click here](#) to consult the rules and download the application form.



PREMIO MARCELLINO DE BAGGIS
festival internazionale del cinema documentario

ITALY / [Candidate call for the Prix Marcellino de Baggis documentary award](#)

The call for films is open for the 2013 Prix Marcellino Baggis. This international competition aims to give greater exposure to documentary film. Its organizers

describe it as a “laboratory for documentaries” and a “meeting place for encouraging and spreading documentary practice.”

All documentaries made after January 1st 2011 are eligible, with no restrictions on nationality or length. However the films must be subtitled at least in Italian or English.

Dossiers must be sent in before February 28th 2013.

The festival, organized by the Marcellino Baggis Association, will be held in May 2013 in Taranto.

[Click here](#) to download the rules and the application dossier.



ITALIE / [A very Italian list of awards at the Rome Festival](#)

The American **Larry Clark** won the Marcus Aurelius silver statuette for his film “*Marfa Girl*” at the end of the 7th International Rome Film Festival, which was held between November 9th and 17th. But it is mainly the Italian films in the official competition that

impressed the jury, chaired by director **Jeff Nichols**.

Paolo Franchi won the Best Director Award for “*E la chiamano estate*” (They call it summer), while his actress **Isabella Ferrari** won the Award for Best Actress. But the film, which is about a couple’s sexual difficulties, was coldly received by the public and critics. The Special Jury Prize went to **Claudio Giovannesi**’s “*Ali ha gli occhi azzurri*” (Ali has blue eyes), about a 16 year old trying to escape the constraints of his Muslim family.

The performances of two French actors were also praised by the jury: **Jérémie Elkaïm** (Best Actor) in “*Main dans la main*” (director **Valerie Donzelli**), and **Maryline Fontaine** in “*Un enfant de toi*” (A child by you) (director **Jacques Doillon**).



BULGARIA / [Last days to enrol for the 2013 Rencontres de Sofia](#)

The 10th *Rencontres de Sofia* will be held from March 14th to 17th 2013, as part of the Sofia International Film Festival. This is an opportunity for film-makers with a

project for a first, second or third feature film to meet finance providers from across Europe. Several distributors, broadcasters, representatives of festivals and markets, will be present throughout the Conference.

Registration is open to European directors, who must submit a complete dossier on their project before December 15th.

The programme of the *Rencontres de Sofia* includes screening recent short and feature films made in Bulgaria or the Balkans to an audience of festival directors, programmers, distributors and journalists.

[Click here](#) for more information.



FRANCE / [Pointdoc, on-line documentary festival](#)

Founded in 2011, the Pointdoc festival has the particularity of only making its selected films available on the Internet, free of charge. From January 13th, 20 documentaries “committed to a humanist, sensitive and subjective cinema” will be available to web-users, directly on the festival site.

A jury of people working in documentaries will be responsible for awarding two “Coup de Coeur”

awards: one for the Best “First Creation” and the other for Best “Film ever released”. But the public will also be invited to choose its own coup de coeur in each category.

[Click here](#) for the festival site.



BELGIUM / [Nabil Ayouch winner at the Festival of Mediterranean Cinema](#)

The jury of the 12th Brussels Festival of Mediterranean Cinema, chaired by actor **Serge Riaboukine**, awarded the Grand Prix to the Moroccan film “Les chevaux de Dieu” (The Horses of God) by **Nabil Ayouch** (photo). Loosely based on the bombings in Casablanca on May 16th 2003, this

film shows how a group of young kids from the slums, recruited by a radical imam, come to commit a series of simultaneous suicide attacks. “Les chevaux de Dieu” had already received the Young Audience Award at the Cinemed Festival in Montpellier.

The rain of awards also continues for the Bosnian director **Aida Begic**. Her film “Children of Sarajevo” won the Special Jury Prize and Best Actress Award. The Audience Award went to **Srdjan Dragojevic's** Serbian film “The Parade”.

66 films were shown from the 9th to 17th November in Brussels for this 12th edition.

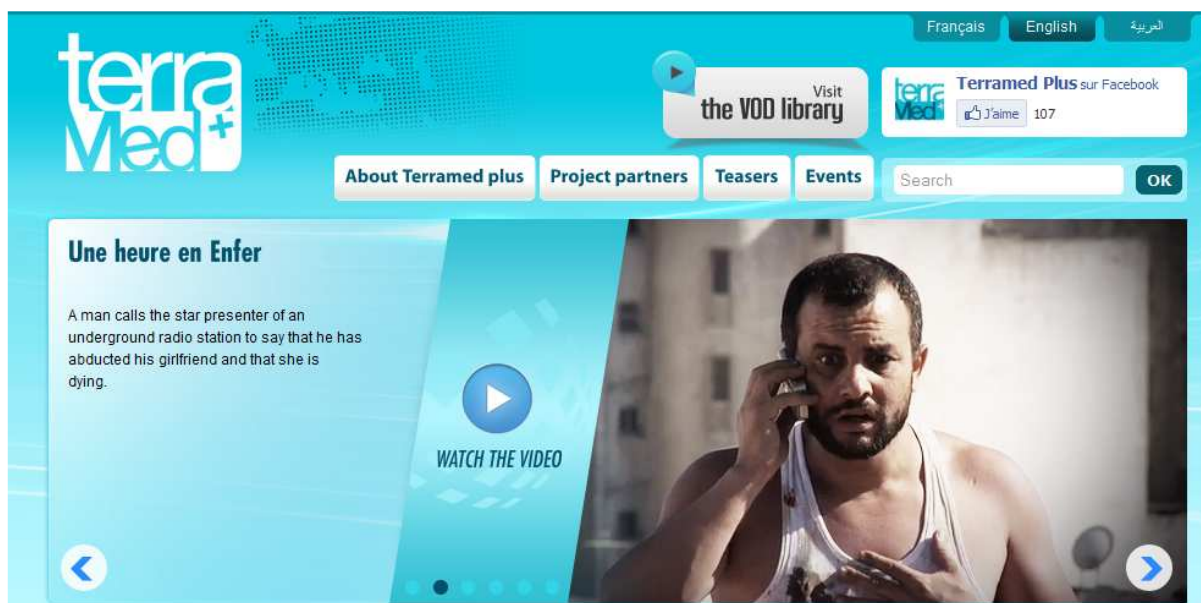
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Find the list of all the festivals in December/January on our web-site:

<http://www.cmca-med.org/fr/festivals-et-marches/>

WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH

TerraMed+.TV : <http://www.terramedplus.tv>



The TerraMed + project, coordinated by RAI and funded by Euromed Audiovisual, enters its second phase with the launch of the platform TERRAMED +. TV.

This site makes available free of charge, documentaries and drama films produced by the television companies of the Mediterranean region. Each week, the six channels or groups of channels which are partners of TERRAMED + (Arte, EPTV, France Télévisions, RAI, RTVE and SNRT) supply the site with several of their programmes.

The web-user is free to consult the programmes of his or her choice, searching by genre (series, feature film, short film, documentary) or by the original channel. All the programmes are subtitled in English, Arabic and French.

Thus TERRAMED +. TV offers an original look at Mediterranean cultures, and is contributing to the construction of an audiovisual heritage shared by the countries bordering the Mediterranean.

TERRAMED + was launched in 2011 as part of the European Union's programme Euromed Audiovisual. The project began by broadcasting each week on the Italian satellite channel Rai News a clutch of trailers from partner channels' programmes. In addition to the 6 groups of channels mentioned above, CoPeAM and the satellite operator Skylogic are amongst the partners involved in TERRAMED +.

ON THE WEB

LEBANON	A new web-series by the producer of <i>Shankaboot</i>
LEBANON	“Beirut and the invisible”: meeting artists from Beirut
ITALY	A webdoc about the village where Mussolini was born
FRANCE	France Télévisions creates an educational platform



LEBANON / [A new web-series by the producer of “Shankaboot”](#)

This summer **Katia Saleh**, a producer at Batoota Films, launched a new web-series entitled “Fasateen”. Previously Ms Saleh had been the producer of “Shankaboot”, the first Middle Eastern web-series filmed in Arabic, which won an Emmy in

2011 and was seen by nearly one and a half million people on YouTube.

“Fasateen” takes three Lebanese women in their thirties, each faced with the taboos of her society: a single mother whose husband has run off; a middle-class woman obsessed with her appearance; a liberated young woman trying to find her place both in her cocoon-like family and in Lebanese society.

Divided into 10 episodes of 10 minutes, the series is available on the network Yahoo Maktoob.

The great originality of “Fasateen” is offering several alternative endings for each episode, leaving the user free to choose the one that suits him or her.

Katia Saleh is already planning the next step, having the series broadcast on Lebanese television: “Today, the web is not enough. The series, which is very successful, should be given a second life on television.”

[Click here](#) to discover the 10 episodes of “Fasateen”.

(Source : L'Orient Le Jour.)



LEBANON / [“Beirut and the invisible”: meeting artists in Beirut](#)

How do young artists from Beirut view their city? Through this web documentary interweaving interviews, photos and sounds, directors **Barbara Coffy** and **Maël Le Tolguenec** reveal “the invisible architecture of Beirut.”

By portraying young artists born in 1980 and living in the Lebanon, they help us reflect on the poetry, imagination and utopias which criss-cross the city, helping it to live.

“Beirut and the invisible” has been online since October 31st. The production of this web-documentary began in September 2010. The directors made two trips to Beirut, in July 2011 and January 2012, to collect interviews with the various artists.

[Click here](#) to consult the web-documentary.



ITALY / [A webdoc about the village where Mussolini was born](#)

In early November two French filmmakers, **Samuel Picas** and **Cyril Bérard**, posted a web-documentary, “La Duce Vita”, about the people of Predappio, birthplace of **Benito Mussolini**.

Today Predappio is known because of the pilgrimage that takes place there three times a year to commemorate the March on Rome, the birth of the “Duce” and his death.

“A linear documentary could not bring out all the issues. For us, the web is the best way to bring the village to life. We wanted to put the web-user right at the heart of Predappio and leave him or her free to go and meet the people,” the film-makers explain on the *Cinéma Documentaire* blog.

Divided into three parts, “La Duce Vita” also benefits from insights provided by several historians, philosophers and politicians of the Emilia-Romagna region.

[Click here](#) to consult the web-documentary.



francetv**éducation** **FRANCE** / [France Télévisions creates an educational platform](#)

France TV Education, a new multimedia platform for education, was launched on November 19th by *France Télévisions*.

It is aimed primarily at pupils in primary and secondary school, who can find all types of content (videos, slideshows, games, web-documentaries) connected to the subjects they are studying in the classroom. There are also dossiers to understand the news.

But this platform is also for parents and teachers, who will find it complements the video library offered by *France Télévisions*' other educational site, *lesite.tv*.

France TV Education replaces the *Curiosphère* site, which since 2008 has been France 5's online video magazine for the world of education.

[Click here](#) to access the site.

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STOP PRESS

EGYPT	Call for projects for the 2nd session of Maarifa Lab
FRANCE	An exhibition to celebrate the 25 years of IMA
FRANCE	Candidate call for a Mediterranean video network



EGYPT / [Call for projects for the 2nd session of Maarifa Lab](#)

CFI (Canal France International) is organising a new workshop from January 13th to 17th in Alexandria, as part of the Maarifa Lab programme. This workshop will bring together 10 candidates and a panel of media professionals, focussing on the theme “Science, TV and new media”. The workshop is primarily intended for people with projects from North Africa and the Middle East, will develop audiovisual ways of producing scientific content for educational purposes, whether for broadcast television or uploading on to multimedia platforms.

Discussions between Europeans and Arabs working in the media will be an opportunity to talk about several successful projects and get feedback from producers and people trying to get a project off the ground.

CFI will then support the most promising projects and assist the best organised productions.

Application forms must be submitted before December 9th.

[Click here](#) for more information and to download the application form.



FRANCE / [An exhibition to celebrate the 25 years of IMA](#)

The *Institut du Monde Arabe* (IMA) in Paris is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary with an exhibition of visual arts on the theme “25 years of Arab creativity”.

The Egyptian expert **Ihab El Laban** has brought together paintings, sculptures, installations, photographs and

videos created over the past 25 years, providing a comprehensive overview of the trends of contemporary Arab artists.

Some works have been specially designed for the event. Several conferences and round tables complete the programme.

The exhibition is open from Tuesday to Sunday until February 3rd 2013, in the premises of the IMA and Mobile Art.

[Click here](#) for more information about the exhibition.



FRANCE / [Candidate call for a Mediterranean video network](#)

The *Ecole Supérieure d'Art* (ESA) in Aix-en-Provence is now launching a project for a Mediterranean video network, *Labo Fictions*, aimed at art students. From July

1st to 12th 2013, 10 students from the southern Mediterranean will make videos with students from Aix.

These films will then be shown in public at an evening screening in Aix-en-Provence, and then published in a special DVD.

Several master classes will punctuate the group work, with contributions from artists, image theorists and art critics.

Any art student from the southern Mediterranean, less than 30 years old and speaking either English or French, is invited to send in an application. **The deadline has been set for December 31st.**

[Click here](#) to download the application form and for more information.

**Translated from the French
by Tim King**

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