



N° 95
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Broadcasting cooperation across the Mediterranean : a subject talked about more and more!

There is a real desire to help countries on the southern shores of the Mediterranean, particularly Tunisia and Egypt; several international broadcasting organisations want to combine their efforts so that the former state-run television stations can become free, independent companies.

And so – many of us are doing things !

On May 31st in Paris UNESCO and France Télévisions, in association with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), are organising a conference to help international organisations, media and donor countries coordinate their efforts.

And the CMCA? Also in May we are hosting 10 directors and journalists from the Mediterranean area, in particular from Tunisia and Egypt, for a week's training session on how to make news films from archival material, organised in conjunction with INA.

The CMCA also went to "Doc à Tunis", where films from last year's PriMed (International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film) were screened during the event's five days.

"Méditerranée Audiovisuelle" will continue to keep you informed about what's going on in the Arab Spring. As every month, we offer you the usual items and show you the web-site of "Tlemcen, Capital of Islamic Culture".

A final and very important piece of news: the CMCA is now part of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

Happy reading to all of you.



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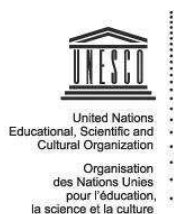
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THE MAIN HEADLINES...



Conference for coordinating efforts to help the southern Mediterranean media

On May 31st UNESCO and *France Télévisions*, in association with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), are organising a conference in Paris to coordinate the efforts of

international organisations (CFI, CMCA...), the media (France Télévisions, RAI, ARD, BBC...), and the donor countries.

An invitation by Rémy Pflimlin, Chairman of *France Télévisions*, Janis Karklins, Deputy Director of Communication and Information at UNESCO and Jean-Paul Philippot, Chairman of the EBU.

The aim is to find the most efficient way to support Tunisia and Egypt – firstly to help them achieve a free and independent media and secondly to identify what they need in terms of media development and freedom of expression. But more generally the conference will also increase the awareness of the international community, bringing together potential partners to look at the various issues arising from the Arab Spring.

If you would like to take part in this conference, you can register with Mme Saorla McCabe (phone + 33 1 45 68 42 62 - fax + 33 1 45 68 55 79 – email : s.mccabe@unesco.org)



CMCA-INA / Training for “News Film using archival material”

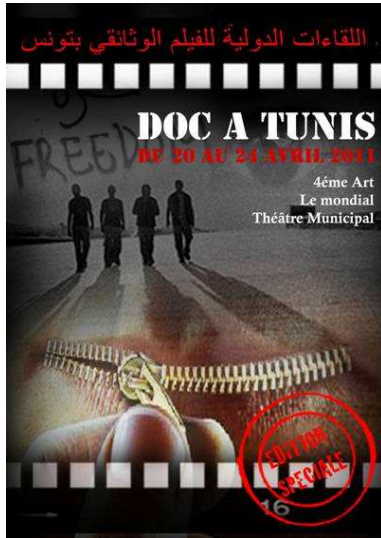
The CMCA, in partnership with INA, is organising a training session on “Using archive material to make news film” from May 23rd to 27th.

10 journalists from Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Jordan and Turkey will come to Marseilles for this training.

The aim is two-fold: partly to make people aware of the importance of preserving the Mediterranean's broadcasting heritage, partly to learn new and useful journalistic skills, giving the trainees experience in making news videos with archive material. There will be a body of archival material available to them, offered by INA and the public service broadcasters.

The trainees will put together a work of their own and the week will end with a critical screening.

They will be led by people working in archive conservation and news reportage.



The CMCA goes to *Doc à Tunis*

Following so soon after January's Jasmine Revolution, it was a courageous decision – but a great success

Doc à Tunis kept all its promises, despite the difficulties such as the lack of preparation time and a few hesitations: should we cancel? carry on regardless? show footage of this “improbable, unexpected” revolution? give those who lived through the revolution the chance to have their say?

Over the five days (April 20th to 24th) the turn-out was good, with screenings at the Théâtre Municipal and two cinemas which had programmed the documentaries.

Intrigued by seeing the events through which they themselves had just passed, to see themselves up there on the big screen, the audiences applauded, cat-called, expressed their feelings before these raw images. Many directors had not had time to finish editing their films...but they came anyway to explain to their public, to put their feelings into words. They were Ridha Béhi, Nejib Belkadhi, Mohamed Ali Nahdi, Christophe Cotteret...

It was a powerful experience, seeing this young and not-so-young public mixing together, asking questions, agreeing or loudly disagreeing with what was said. The crowd who go to *Doc à Tunis* are a reactive bunch.

Having given a lot of time to films about the revolution, the rest of the programming was more varied.

The CMCA had a free hand, and screened several award-winning films from last year's Primed (International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film):

“**La main et la voix**” (The Hand and the Voice) by Anush Hamzehian on the game of morra. Known in several Mediterranean countries, including Tunisia where it is called “*Chi la fourmi*”

“**Faces**”: photographs of faces, smiling or scowling, stuck on to the walls in Palestine and Israel, photos which forge a link between the two peoples, where in reality the differences are so slender that it's hard to be sure who is Palestinian and who is Israeli.

“**Gaza Strophe**” (Grand Prix *France Télévisions*, PriMed 2010) – January 20th 2009, the day after the 2009 invasion of the Gaza strip by Israeli forces. The directors Samir Abdallah and Khéridine Mabrouk, accompanied by Palestinian Human Rights delegates, discover a devastated land.

“Les chemins de la Mémoire” More than 30 years after Franco's death, Spain is just beginning to lift the veil on that sombre period of its past and give justice to the victims



During the Festival an appeal was made for there to be a republican banquet on Sunday April 24th on the Avenue Bourguiba, the symbolic heart of January's demonstrations.

The organisers worked hard so that *Doc à Tunis* should be able to happen, and the following must be thanked: the festival director Syhem Belkhodja (photo), Khmaïs Khayati, the festival's managing director and the others...so many others...



[The CMCA joins the Anna Lindh network](#)

Since April the CMCA has been officially part of the Anna Lindh Foundation's Euro-Mediterranean network for inter-cultural dialogue. The application was approved by the leading member of the French network, the Forum of Mediterranean Women. Based in Alexandria, the Anna Lindh Foundation brings together more than 3,000 civil organisations and aims to bring the populations of the two sides of the Mediterranean closer together.

Revolution and evolution in the Arab countries... the story continues

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[Tunisia / Debate about the best way of covering the elections](#)

On April 9th and 10th a two-day workshop was held in Tunis to discuss media coverage by Tunisian broadcasters. Several motions were passed on the best ways of covering the up-coming elections on July 24th. The candidates have signalled certain difficulties the media might come up against, such as the increased number of parties, or the possible exploitation of foreign media by some parties. On April 14th, the French *Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel* (CSA) announced it was available to help the Tunisian broadcasters organise their election coverage, particularly as far as respecting ethics and the rules of media coverage were concerned.

**Audiovisuel
> extérieur <
de la France**

[Tunisia / AEF launches a programme to help Tunisian journalists](#)

An agreement was signed on April 11th between the AEF – *Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France* – on the one hand and Tunisian Television and Radio on the other, to create a scheme for helping around a hundred French-and-Arab-speaking journalists working in Tunisian broadcasting. Thus from April 11th to May 12th, 9 journalists working for RFI and its Arab-speaking subsidiary MCD (Monte Carlo Doualiye), brought their experience to help colleagues in radios Achabab, Atthaqafia, Al Wataniya and RTCI (*Radio Tunis Chaîne Internationale*). The *Académie France 24*, the training department of the French-language news channel, worked alongside journalists of *Télévision Tunisienne*. The project was organised with the support of the French Embassy in Tunis and *Canal France International*.



[Algeria / Freelance journalists on Radio Nationale given staff jobs](#)

The 344 freelancers of *Radio Nationale Algérienne* were given staff jobs by management at the beginning of April after a work session between the managing director Tewfik Khelladi and Kamel Amarni, the general secretary of the journalists' union, the SNJ (*Syndicat National des Journalistes*). Now all these journalists have permanent staff status ending “a precarious, unjust and untenable situation”. The question of career management for the employees of *Radio Nationale* was also discussed, as were the cases of the journalists sacked after a sit-in on April 3rd. *Radio Nationale* has 54 channels.



[Algeria / New law soon on news and a media regulatory authority](#)

The Algerian president, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, has ordered his government to begin drawing up a draft law, in tandem with the media, on how news information is to be handled.

He also reiterated that on April 15th press sanctions would be lifted. Introduced in 2001, they could be lead to imprisonment.

The Algerian president also announced that once the information law was in place, a media watchdog would be created which would “*make sure freedom of speech is respected, guarantee equal access to broadcasting for all political parties and work for the respect of ethical rules.*” Meanwhile six work groups have been set up to make concrete proposals to the Communications ministry on how to improve the situation of journalists. The work groups are a spin-off of a committee overseeing the “dignity of the journalist”, and were initiated by journalists from the private and public press.



[Morocco / The revolution continues on the Web](#)

While King Mohamed VI announced on March 9th imminent constitutional reforms, two Moroccan IT engineers, Tarik Nesh-Nash and Mehd Slaoui Andaloussi, launched an internet site allowing anyone to give their opinion on any of the articles in the present constitution, and even to post suggestions on its reform. [Reforme.ma](#) is a huge success, with more than 450,000 votes, 10,000 commentaries and 1,500 propositions received by the end of April. The interest is so great that the web-site's creators have been contacted by members of the constitutional reform commission, which has to present its findings to the King on June 16th.



[Libya / Several journalists killed, others missing](#)

During April, two journalists were killed in Misrata. One was the British photographer and documentary maker Tim Hetherington, an internationally known photographer well-used to war situations, the other the American Chris Hondros who worked for Getty Images.

The fate of a British journalist working for Al-Jazeera, Kamel Ataloua, remains unclear, while three of his colleagues from the same channel, a Tunisian, a Mauritian and a Norwegian, arrested at the same time as him in March in the west of the country, have been liberated. Four journalists, including two Americans working for web news sites, a Spaniard and a South African, both photographers, disappeared on April 4th. The Libyan government has confirmed they were arrested, but later released, but the White House has become concerned over what has happened to them. According to Amnesty International a female Syrian journalist, Rana Al-Akbani, has also been arrested in Tripoli and has been held in secret with her brother since March 28th.



[Syria / The Algerian journalist Khaled Sid Mohand freed](#)

The Algerian journalist and correspondent for *France Culture*, Khaled Sid Mohand, arrested on April 9th in Damascus, was released on May 3rd. He was in Syria to cover the protests against the current regime and was making radio documentaries for *France Culture's* "Sur les docks" when he was arrested. According to information received by Reporters without Frontiers, he was kept in a prison in Damascus. Khaled Sid Mohand was handed over the Algerian embassy in Damascus.

IMPORTANT ! FINAL DEADLINE TO SEND YOUR FILMS

CALL TO TAKE PART IN THE.....

Prix International du Documentaire et du Reportage Méditerranéen



The deadline to take part in the 16th PriMed (International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film) is very close.

Don't forget to send you films by May 15th

REMINDER OF THE DIFFERENT AWARDS:

Two new awards this year:

- **The Award for the best Mediterranean "short" (2,500 €):** this award is for a documentary or a current affairs film of less than 30 minutes, dealing with some aspect of the Mediterranean.
- **The Mediterranean Multimedia award (2,500 €):** This is for any production like a web-documentary or a SMEW (Short Multimedia Work) on a Mediterranean subject.
A *web-documentary* is a documentary conceived and made for the internet, and distributed on the internet, using photos, text, sound effects and videos, with an interactive dimension.
A *SMEW (Short Multimedia Work)* is a video production calling on the skills of a photographer, director, web-designer, sound creator and illustrator. A video montage bringing a still image to life, giving it a third dimension and allowing a direct approach to the subject.

Plus, as every year, you will find the usual awards:

- **"Mediterranean Issues" Grand Prix (€6,000)**
- **"Mediterranean Memory" award (€5,000)**
- **"First Documentary" award (€5,000)**
- **"Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Culture" award (€5,000)**
- **"Best investigation" award (€5,000)**
- **Special Jury award (€5,000)**
- **Young public award (€5,000 - new last year)**

The **PriMed** also gives broadcasting awards, something unusual enough to be worth emphasising.

A Poster Competition for the 16th PriMed International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film has been launched in the graphic design schools of Marseilles and its region ...

For more information and to register:

<http://www.cmca-med.org/fr/home.php>

prix@cmca-med.org

and visit our Facebook page: [PriMed Cmca](#)

Do not forget ! Deadline for registering your film

May 15th 2011

You can also see pictures of the 2010 Festival on our blog :

www.prixcmca.wordpress.com

And very soon we'll be giving you somewhere to meet us, on a web-site dedicated to **PriMed**.

LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

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[Turkey / Agreement between TRT and the UN's television](#)

A cooperation agreement between TRT (Turkish television) and the United Nations' television service was signed at the beginning of April in New York. The signatories were the Turkish deputy prime minister, Bülent Arinç, TRT's managing director, Ibrahim Sahin and Kiyotaka Akasaka, Ban Ki-Moon's deputy. TRT will be able to use the UN's archives, which will greatly benefit the English-language channel the Turkish broadcasting group will be launching within the next few months.



[Lebanon / Al-Jazeera's bureau chief at Beirut resigns](#)

Ghassan Ben Jeddou has resigned as Beirut bureau chief of the satellite channel Al-Jazeera. According to the newspaper *Assafir*, M. Ben Jeddou, who has both Tunisian and Lebanese nationality, hopes his decision will be taken as a protest against the direction in which the Qatary channel is moving. He feels Al Jazeera's management have forgotten their primary role of news reporting: "*The agitated behaviour inside Al Jazeera is neither professional nor acceptable, particularly in the historic, decisive context of what is happening in the region.*" The wind of protest blowing through Al Jazeera's editorial rooms was also behind the resignation of Fayçal Kacem, a Syrian who presents "*Al-Ittidjah Al-Mouâakass*" (Upside Down).



[Morocco / A French-language learning service on TiVi5Monde+](#)

TV5 Monde demonstrated a new French-language learning service for children at the Tangier International Festival for Books and Art. This service will go on the group's youth-orientated Web-TV, TiVi5Monde+, which has its biggest audience in Morocco. Teaching aids for both teachers and pupils will be available for downloading, the idea being to teach French through a series of games. Launched in 2009, TiVi5Monde+ is the first free WebTV for children aged from 3 to 12 years, available across the whole world, and offers a selection of 300 hours of youth programmes from TV5 Monde. This service is launched as part of the season *France-Maroc 2011*, of which TV5 Monde is a partner.



[Romania / A TV boss found guilty of blackmail](#)

The boss of one of the major private television stations in Romania, Sorin Ovidiu Vantu, was arrested on April 21st for blackmail and death threats against the channel's manager, according to a statement from the prosecutor's office. "*The prosecutor decided to open proceedings against Sorin Ovidiu Vantu for blackmail and decided he should be arrested*". M. Vantu, a businessman already accused of fraud, is accused of demanding with threats 150,000 euros from Sebastian Ghita, manager of the non-stop news channel Realitatea TV, according to the prosecutors. "*The accused issued death threats against the victim and his family*".



[Tunisia / Nessma TV at crisis point](#)

Nessma TV's star presenter, Lyes Gherbi, announced his decision to leave the channel and move to the private radio station Express FM. Since the start of the Jasmine Revolution, Lyes Gherbi has become the channel's star-performer, mainly because of his direct language. He presented a now notorious debate with American Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, for which he was heavily criticised. These criticisms could be behind his present departure. The other reason could be financial: the Karoui brothers' channel is going through a bad patch as far as finance is concerned. The lack of advertising and their partners' financial problems have forced management to cut wages and sack staff.

Audiovisuel extérieur de la France

[France / Merger of France 24 and RFI](#)

On April 6th the French government confirmed the merger of the editorial teams of France 24 and RFI. It was then voted and made official on April 11th by the board of the AEF (*Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France*). Negotiations are in progress between Alain de Pouzilhac, AEF's managing director, and Credit Suisse, owner of the building which houses RFI and which will be twinned with France 24's offices. This restructuring will probably lead to job redundancies, at the very moment when AEF is being investigated by the *Inspection Générale des Finances* (see April's Letter), and the parliamentary committee leading the inquiry has specifically demanded "*that no decision or irreversible steps concerning AEF's future be taken before the committee has presented its conclusions.*"



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[France / France Télévisions speeds up its digital strategy](#)

In April the French group launched its first iPad and iPhone application, which would allow users to receive live broadcasts from the five public channels, watch programmes from the previous week and share their content on Facebook and Twitter. *France Télévisions* is also preparing an all-news platform for September with a second digital platform for sports if the first is a success.

According to Bruno Patino, head of digital at *France Télévisions*, "*at the moment the group's policy is spread across 146 different sites, amounting to between 8 and 9 million pages read. This audience must be re-directed to our strongest point : news and sport.*"

[Revenir au sommaire](#)

PROGRAMMES

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[Shooting for Lahazat Harega's](#) third season begun

Lahazat Harega, a hospital drama series based on the successful American series "*Casualty*", will run to a third series, which has just begun filming in Cairo. Produced by Emiratie Outlook Entertainment, this series aired since

2007, takes centre stage in a very particular context : all the episodes of this new series were written before the January 25th revolution. The director Ahmed Saleh, believes the series should be more involved in current political and social events. His wish would be granted since a fourth season of *Lahazat Harega* has already been commissioned. Meanwhile the second season is being aired at the moment on the satellite channel DubaiTV.



[Algeria / Mohamed Lebcir launches filming of a new soap](#)

In the middle of April, the director of *Mon Amie, Ma Sœur* (1999), Mohamed Lebcir, began shooting a new 31-part series *Sihir El Mordjane*. The first scenes were filmed in El Tarf at the *Maison des Jeunes Ahmed Betchine*. M. Lebcir told the Algerian Press Service (APS) that "*even though the principal narrative thread of this series is coral, one of the riches of this beautiful region, it is also an*

intimate series which we hope will lift the audience out of the greyness by being positive and offering an amusing series with a good musical backing, all set in an idyllic setting."



[Lebanon/ The web-series *Shankaboot* wins an Emmy](#)

It's the first time a Lebanese production has been given such a prestigious award. On April 4th the web-series *Shankaboot*, a mix of drama and humour, shot in Beirut, received the Best Digital Drama Award at the International Digital Emmies. The series was in competition with Dutch, British and Brazilian productions. Launched in 2010, produced by Batoota Films and directed by Amin Dora,

Shankaboot emphasises social problems in the Lebanese capital, but in a very particular way. The series is only broadcast on the web, streamed by Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.



[Libya / The new channel "Libya TV" launches a programme in Berber](#)

Libya TV has just launched its first programmes in Tamazight (Berber), a language forbidden for many years under Colonel Gaddafi. Educational and artistic programmes, as well as news programmes and bulletins, are scheduled. The channel calls on all Libyans to watch and take part in these Tamazight language programmes. LibyaTV is available on the ArabSat bouquet.



[France / The Contents of Mediterraneo in May](#)

the Basque country: in a video broadcast on a Basque news site this January, the ETA announced a permanent and verifiable cease-fire. Some people saw this as a political manoeuvre to bring the proscribed Batasuna party back into grace in view of the May 2011 elections. One month later, on February 9th a new independent party, SORTU, took over from Batasuna. But with not much more hope of taking part in the elections. At the end of April SORTU still did not exist legally.

Conflict in Libya : on April 25th, Italy decided to take an active part in bombing Libya. Since the beginning of NATO's operations, Italy had only given logistical support: the closest air force base to Libya is on Italian soil, at Pantelleria. The western Mediterranean islands: Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica all play a strategic role of first importance in this conflict.

Project for a national park in the Calanques : 25 kilometres of rocky coast-line between Marseilles and La Ciotat. An impressive rock formation, very close to France's second city, but difficult to get into – that sums up Les Calanques. Walkers, rock-climbers, fishermen or hunters, the people who love this fragile piece of nature's heritage can be counted in their hundreds of thousands. Two million tourists come here every summer. This growing number could soon be limited by the creation of a natural park. A project which has stirred up passions for over ten years.

Extension of the national park at Port-Cros: it is one of the oldest, but smallest national parks in France: 600 hectares (1,500 acres). Port-Cros, a Mediterranean island. As a new law takes force, the national park of Port-Cros wants to extend its boundaries. On to the mainland but also on to the neighbouring island of Porquerolles

Greece : A key place for ornithologists. People come from across Europe to watch birds of prey and migrating birds. The park on the delta of the Evros in western Thrace is one of ten natural parks in Greece. 5,500 plant species and 900 animal species have been listed – though the number is getting smaller every year.

Since the 1992 *Sommet de la Terre*, Greece has created an action programme to protect its environment. For years Manolis Glezos has been totally involved in the protection of nature and sustainable development on Paros and Naxos, two islands of the Cyclades which are very dear to him. But above all this quiet man is known for his past in the Greek resistance and as a trades unionist. So in March 2010, when he was hit in the face by a tear-gas grenade during a demonstration, it was like a general call to arms. For the Greeks he remains a powerful symbol of their freedom.

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ECONOMY

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[Morocco / 2010 a succesful year for SOREAD-2M](#)

Following its Board Meeting at the beginning of April, SOREAD-2M announced a 21% increase in advertising revenue as against 2009. 2010 was an excellent year for the group, with an increase in funds, a re-structuring of operating costs and, for the first time in 15 years, a positive operating result excluding grants. The viewing figures are also good (24% of the market, up 3% on 2008). In addition, the 2M channel is both popular and well thought of, getting 80% of favourable opinions in a poll and the award for “the Moroccans' preferred brand” given in the 2010 Morocco Awards.



[Lebanon / TV5 Monde gets going in the Lebanon](#)

According to an Ipsos study taken in the last quarter of 2010, TV5Monde is the international French-language channel with the largest audience in the Lebanon, ahead of TF1 and Euronews. On average each week 262,000 viewers switch on to TV5Monde. The most popular programmes are the television news and the magazine programmes, ahead of films and youth programmes. At the same time other polls have shown that TV5Monde was also the most watched international channel in Mauritania, and that half a million viewers watch the channel every week in India (where TV5Monde is the only French-language channel).



[France / Radio France clocks up €9 million profit in 2010](#)

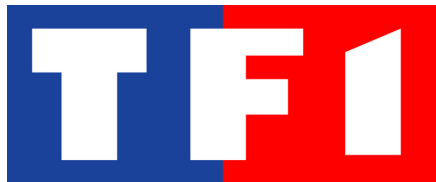
In a statement issued after their Board meeting on April 27th, the *Radio France* group announced a net profit of €9 million for 2010, an increase over last year's results. This improvement is due "to an improvement of running costs, linked as well to controlling costs and the good dynamic of income, particularly from advertising," according to the statement. Thus the French public-service radio improves its financial situation after investing heavily last year (€51 million for work on their head offices and €16 million on modernising technical equipment).



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[France / Profits rise in 2010 for France Télévisions advertising](#)

At the end of April *France Télévisions* also published its financial results for 2010. The turnover of the advertising department has increased considerably to €441.3 million, up 9% against 2009, showing that the public service channels have not suffered since the government stopped advertising between 8.00pm and 6.00am. The group's profits are down €7 million on 2009 at €12.8 million, nevertheless the management of *France Télévisions* sees the latter figure as a sign of good health, "since the initial budget for 2010 predicted a loss of €44 million."



[France / TF1 offers its films on iTunes](#)

To counter the drop in sales of DVD's, TF1 is looking for a means of using the web to increase the return on the films which it has produced or distributed. The French television group has signed an agreement with iTunes Store, Apple's on-line sales service, which will offer new films and part of TF1's existing catalogue as on-demand videos. The service began on April 25th, with a re-mastered version of Jean-Pierre Jeunet's 2001 romantic comedy "Amélie".

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CINEMA

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[Israel / Hiam Abbass will direct her first film this autumn](#)

The Arab-Israeli actress Hiam Abbass (*La Fiancée Syrienne*, *Paradise Now*, *Les Citronniers*) is due to start directing her first full-length feature, "*Héritage*". A drama film, it is about a family torn apart by conflicts in a Palestinian village near the Lebanese border in 2006.

The film is produced by Agat Films & Cie (France). In the main roles, Hafsia Herzi, Makram Khoury... and Hiam Abbass herself. Shooting is down for October and November near Haifa (Israel).



[Spain / Enrique Gonzalez Macho new chairman of the Spanish Cinema Academy](#)

Since April the producer and distributor Enrique Gonzalez Macho has been the new chairman of the Academy. Standing against the Catalan Bigas Luna, he was elected for a three-year mandate by 256 of his fellow-academics to 101. To help him in his job he will have two vice-chairpersons: the actress Marta Etura and the director Judith Colell.

Sr. Gonzalez Macho takes over from Alex de la Iglesia, who resigned following disagreement with the Minister of Culture, Angeles Gonzalez-Sinde, about the anti-pirating law. On the eve of the elections Pedro et Agustin Almodovar announced their return to the Academy, after 6 years of protest against its election system.



[Italy / The Piedmont region creates a new guarantee fund for producers](#)

On April 19th *Finpiemonte*, regional financier for the Piedmont region, and the *Istituto Per Il Credito Sportivo*, announced the creation of a strengthened system to encourage film-makers to shoot their films in the region. The new system has two financial instruments: a new Guarantee Fund for film production and Tax Credit – tax relief at national level. The funding will only be available for projects which are scheduled to shoot in Piedmont, which already have written guarantees from a distributor and which generate financial benefits for the region totalling more than 50% of the investment. Films which receive this funding must be made with local people.

The new system will start with a budget of €250,000, and the guarantees awarded should not be greater than €2 million.



[Morocco / A feature film being shot about the FLN female activist Djamila Boupacha](#)

On April 11th filming began for Caroline Huppert's full-length feature about Djamila Boupacha, an activist in the Algerian National Liberation Front, and the barrister Gisèle Halimi (photo), who defended her in 1960. Accused of placing a bomb, Djamila Boupacha was arrested and then tortured and raped for more than a month by members of the French parachute regiment in Algeria. Her story moved the whole world, with several international defence committees fighting for her liberation. She was eventually transferred to France to be tried in 1961, sentenced to death and then amnestied by the Evian Agreement. Marina Hands (*Lady Chatterly*) will play lawyer Gisele Halimi, Hafsia Herzi (*La Graine et le Mulet*) will play the FLN activist. Produced by Barjac Productions for France 3 and Arte, *Pour Djamila* will be shot in France and Morocco.



[Algeria / New York screening for controversial documentary about slavery in the camp at Tindouf](#)

Three years ago Australian directors Violetta Ayala and Daniel Fallshaw were contacted by the *Front Polisario* to set up a documentary about family groups in the Tindouf camp in west Algeria, near the frontier with Morocco and Western Sahara. But during the shooting they witnessed modern methods of slavery being used on black people in this desert zone, and immediately the documentary's subject-matter changed. The result is *Stolen*, which has won awards in many international festivals, and which was screened in New York's Lincoln Centre in April as part of the New York African Film Festival – despite the deep embarrassment and protests of *Polisario*, for whom the two film-makers are “ambitious young publicity-seekers, desperate for glory and money.” Violetta Ayala replied “Several people in the film want their voices to be heard. How can we reduce all these voices to silence and stop them from speaking?” The trailer for the film is viewable at <http://thetruthaboutstolen.com>.

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FESTIVALS

CLOSE UP ON... The Cannes Film Festival (May 10th to 22nd)

The organisers have selected 19 films to take part in the 64th Cannes Film Festival's Official Competition, between May 11th and 22nd, including the latest works by Pedro Almodovar, Lars Von Trier, Terrence Malick, Nanni Moretti and the Dardenne brothers. The jury of the Official Selection will be chaired by the American actor, director Robert de Niro.

Among the 19 films chosen, 9 come from Mediterranean countries:

La Piel que Habito by Pedro Almodovar (Spain)

Hearat Shulayim (Footnote) by Joseph Cedar (Israel)

Bir Zamanler Anadolu'da (Once Upon a Time in Anatolia) by Nuri Bilge Ceylan (Turkey)

Habemus Papam by Nanni Moretti (Italy)

This Must Be the Place by Paolo Sorrentino (Italy)

L'Apollonide - Souvenirs de la maison close by Bertrand Bonello (France)

Pater by Alain Cavalier (France)

Polisse by Maïwenn (France)

La source des femmes by Radu Mihaileanu (France)

Radu Mihaileanu's *La Source des Femmes*, a Franco-Romanian production, was shot in Morocco

This film is about a revolution started by women in a Moroccan village who refuse to be subjected to a sort of "water duty" imposed on them by the men

In the small village, somewhere between North Africa and the Middle East, tradition insists that the women trudge up to the very top of the mountain under a blazing sun to get water from the spring. Leïla, a young wife, suggests to the other women that they go on a sex strike: no more sex until the men fetch the water.

The main roles are played by two French actresses of north African origin, Hafsia Herzi and Leïla Bekhti. It is the Romanian director Radu Mihaileanu's 6th feature. At the French equivalent of the Oscars in 2006 he won Best Film and Best Director awards for *Va, Vis et Deviens*, and in 2010 for *Le Concert*.

A special thought for Tunisia and Egypt

"A Special Thought" will be made for Tunisia, Egypt and Japan during the 64th Cannes Film Festival, the organisers announced. As usual Tunisia will be present at the Festival's international village, where each pavilion becomes a mini embassy to display the country's cultural identity, institutions, its creative diversity as well as its cinema. The Tunisian chamber

of film producers has got together a programme of 30 short films, produced recently by young Tunisian film-makers, which will be screened during the Festival. Mourad Ben Cheikh's documentary *Plus Jamais Peur*, about the Jasmine Revolution, will be given a special screening.

For the first time in the history of the Festival, Cannes will host an invited country. The guest this year is Egypt. A compilation of shorts about the January revolution, made by ten different directors, entitled *18 days*, will be screened, along with Hussein Kamal's *Facteur* and Sameh Abdel Aziz' *The Cry of the Ant*.

Morocco will be honoured as well: Leila Kilani's *Sur la Planche* has been selected in the *Quinzaine des Réalisateurs*, which runs parallel to the official selection. This Moroccan feature, which had a pre-sales grant from the *Centre Cinématographique Marocain*, is about a gang of four girls in their twenties working in Tangier.

“Cinemas of the World”: a homage to the Tunisian film-maker Tahar Chériaa.

A homage to the Tunisian film-maker Tahar Chériaa. (1927-2010) will be organised as part of this 64th Festival at Cannes.

On the 13th May, in the “*Cinemas de Monde*” pavilion, there will be a homage to the founder of the *Journées Cinématographiques* at Carthage. This year, even though weakened by illness, he took part in the bi-annual event which he himself created back in 1966

The high-point of this homage will be the screening of a long documentary *Tahar Chériaa notre Baobab* made by Mohamed Chellouf, one of the disciples of the late creator of the *Rencontres Cinématographiques*, Tahar Chériaa.

At the same event Taoufik Salah, a longstanding colleague and collaborator of M. Chériaa, will give a full appreciation of the man and his work. This will be followed by a major discussion about Tahar Chériaa, bringing together the younger generation of Arab and African film-makers present at Cannes, with those pioneers who knew Chériaa well. Amongst the latter will be the great Egyptian film-maker Taoufik Salah.

We remind readers that in 1971 M. Chériaa helped set up the first *FESTIVAL Panafrican du Cinéma et de la télévision de Ouagadougou* (FESPACO), which gave him a vibrant homage in March 2011, its 22nd year.

Five days later, on May 18th, there will also be a homage to the great Egyptian film-maker Youssef Chahine.

The other Festivals

[Spain / Call for candidates for the Arab and Mediterranean Film Festival of Catalonia](#)

[Croatia / Call for candidates for the Motovun Film Festival](#)

[France / Call for films for the 6th *Génération Court*](#)

[France / Call for first films for the 1st *Eye on Films*](#)

[France / The selection of URTI's 30th International Festival for Creative Documentary](#)



[Spain / Call for candidates for the Arab and Mediterranean Film Festival of Catalonia](#)

Organised since 2006 by Cinebaix and Sodepau, the Arab and Mediterranean Film Festival is trying to encourage this particular cinema, giving the Catalan public the chance to discover other societies seen from the inside. But the Festival is also a place for Arabs, Catalans and Spanish people working in the cinema to get together.

For its 5th year, the Festival will take place in two different locations: Barcelona's *Cinematheque de Catalunya* and the *Cinebaix* (at Sant Fellu de Llobregat). This year particular attention will be given to Egypt, which is the guest country.

Enrolment is open until May 31st for all feature-length dramas and documentaries made by Arab directors over the last five years. All you have to do is send a DVD of your film, subtitled in French, English or Spanish, to the following address: SODEPAU, Ptge. Del Credit, 7, Pral, 08002 BARCELONA. The enrolment form must be filled in and sent by email to sodepau@sodepau.org.



[Croatia / Call for candidates for the Motovun Film Festival](#)

Candidates for the official selection of Croatia's 13th Motovun International Film Festival may now send in their work. The Festival welcomes any feature-length film, drama or documentary, or short film of 15 minutes or less, which has not been broadcast or distributed on Croatian TV or cinema screens.

The full-length films must have been produced not more than 18 months before the beginning of the Festival (which will take place between July 25th and 29th) and shot in 35mm, HDV, DigiBETA or HDCAM.

The deadline for enrolling is June 20th, and must be done on-line at the following address: <http://www.Motovunfilmfestival.com/>

Worth mentioning too is that this year for the first time the Bauer Award will be given to the best film in the official selection which was produced in ex-Yugoslavia.



[France / Call for films for the 6th Génération Court](#)

Génération Court will take place for the 6th consecutive year at Aubervilliers. It brings together a selection of short films from around the world and puts the spot-light on young directors. You can register until June 5th on the Festival's web-site. Candidates can compete in three categories: *Jeunes Pousses* (under 18 years), *Jeunes Adultes* (under 30 years) and *International*.

For more information : <http://www.generationcourt.com>.

EYE ON FILMS [France / Call for first films for the 1st Eye on Films](#)

Created at the beginning of this year, *Eye on Films* (EoF) is a world-wide network cinema professionals trying to get first feature films regularly shown in festivals, both in Europe and beyond. It also wants these films to be taken up by partner distributors. For this first year, a call for films has been launched and concerns any first film completed after October 31st 2010 and which has never been shown outside its country of origin. The rules and registration form are available at the following address: <http://www.eyeonfilms.org>.



[France / The selection of URTI's 30th International Grand Prix for Creative Documentary](#)

This year URTI's International Grand Prix for Creative Documentary has had a record number of entries for pre-selection: 223 documentaries have been received from 140 international TV channels and 64 different countries. URTI is the *Union Radiophonique et Télévisuelle Internationale*. Their pre-selection jury, meeting in Paris, has chosen 10 films for the final selection, among them José Luis Peñafuerte's *Les Chemins de la Mémoire*, winner of the Mediterranean Memory Award at last year's PriMed, *18 Jours* by the Egyptian Anan Abdo Ali Hassan (ERTU), Ahmed Zaradasht's *La Route de Diyarbekir* (Apimed), and Emilio Casalini's *Iran About* (RAI). The final jury will judge the selection in early June during the Monte Carlo International Television Festival. 4 Awards will be given on June 7th with a purse of €10,000.

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WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH... www.tlemcen2011.org



This year the Algerian town of Tlemcen, close to the Moroccan border, has become the Capital of Islamic Culture. Inaugurated on April 16th the event will spread across the year, with several artistic and cultural activities organised, including 9 national and international festivals (Arab calligraphy, dance, music, cinema).

"*Tlemcen, Capital of Islamic Culture*" will show 35 films and documentaries on the history and heritage of Tlemcen. These films were made for the occasion, supervised by the ministry of Culture.

Credited to Algerian film-makers, these films and documentaries will be screened in the presence of their directors and script-writers, who will then chair the discussions afterwards. These films will also be shown in the cinemas of the provinces around Tlemcen as well as in some southern regions, such as Béchar, Adrar, Ouargla, Laghouat and El Oued.

Translated into French, English and Arabic, the web site created specially for the event provides regular updates on what is happening and gives an overall perspective on all the events which will be seen in Tlemcen and its neighbourhood in the coming year.

- **The Major Events:** official ceremonies plus a conference of Ministers of Culture from Islamic countries.
- **The Major Projects:** programmes to restore, revive or make-over existing buildings (the Royal Palace El Mechouar, the Colisée cinema, the Archaeological Museum, the transformation of the former town hall into a museum of Tlemcen's past), and the creation of new buildings (theatre, a centre for Andalusian studies and a cultural complex, Imama)
- **The discussions:** a dozen conferences will take place in Tlemcen until January 2012, their themes chosen by experts in each particular field: history, poetry, Islam, literature... All the subjects under discussion will be linked to Tlemcen's heritage and culture.
- **The Festivals and Animations :** Between April and November Tlemcen and the neighbouring provinces will host 8 cultural festivals (Arab calligraphy, miniatures and decorative arts, Andalusian music, Haouzi music, popular dances, Diwan music, Sama Soufi music, and the international cultural festival of El Inchad), as well as July's International Film Festival
- **The Exhibitions :** 10 exhibitions are planned until December. Amongst these will be "Immaterial Cultural Heritage in Islamic Countries", with 39 masterpieces from Africa,



north Africa and Asia, all listed by UNESCO, and “Painters from Tlemcen and its Surroundings” focussing on the region's artistic potential

- **Books and Literature** : 365 literary works about Tlemcen's history and heritage will be specially printed this year.
- **Theatre** : 19 plays will be performed by the members of the National Theatre of Algeria, several regional theatre companies (Constantine, Sidi Ben Abbas, Oran...), and local independent co-operatives.
- **Cinema** : 31 documentaries and 2 full-length docu-dramas have been especially produced to be screened during the event. Two documentary series will also have public screenings, one on Tlemcen and the other on Algeria's regions. A ten-day festival, the Panorama of Tlemcen's Documentary Film, will reward the best of all these films. Elsewhere screenings of films from countries taking part in the event are also planned, and discussions with the directors.
- **Cultural Exchanges**: there will be several days of foreign culture to promote member countries of ISESCO (Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and other invited countries (Spain, China, India, Cuba...).

But the web-site also shows you everything which makes Tlemcen such a fascinating and culturally rich city, with explanatory texts and collections of themed photographs.

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THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WAY



[France / A new Managing Director for Marseille Provence 2013](#)

On April 18th Jean-François Chougnet was nominated managing director of the Marseilles Provence 2013 association, which plans and

oversees the programme of the prestigious Capital of European Culture 2013. In 2005 M. Chougnet, 54, was general commissioner for *Brazil in France* and between 2006 and 2011 managing director of the park and cultural centre at La Villette, Paris.

The Board, chaired by Jacques Pfister, has also nominated Bernard Latarjet adviser to the chairman and the managing director.



[Egypt / The Anna Lindh Foundation appeals for candidates for its 2011 Journalism Award](#)

The Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures has launched its 5th Journalism Award. Candidates have until July 15th to apply. According to the Foundation "*this leading regional Award aims at rewarding exceptional journalistic productions, contributing to a better understanding of the diversity of cultures in the Euro-Mediterranean region*".

Journalists coming from any of the region's 43 countries are eligible to apply for the Award. Submitted works should tackle inter-cultural issues between and within Euro-Mediterranean societies (minorities, migration, integration and identity to religion and cultural traditions). The Award is organised in partnership with CoPeAM, the European Commission, the UN Alliance of Civilisations, Al-Arabiya News Channel and Euronews



[Romania / Enrolment open for the 6th Aristoteles training](#)

For the 6th year running, the Aristoteles workshop is offering a month-long training programme, from July 25th to August 28th

in Vama (northern Romania) on how to make and produce documentaries. Sponsored by the Franco-German channel Arte, and since 2010 financed by the EU's MEDIA programme, this workshop gives 16 young documentary makers (directors, producers, authors and editors) the chance to receive an intensive training, at the end of which they will have a 30-minute broadcast-ready documentary. After evaluation by a jury, this documentary will be shown by the television companies of the participating countries.

Candidates have until May 31st to send their registration file (form, CV, photo, presentation of an earlier work and letter of recommendation). Those taking part must have a good level of English. The cost of registration is €500, which covers lodging and use of the material. The cost of getting to Vama must be paid by the participant.

Information: www.aworkshop.org / dan@aworkshop.org.

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INDEPENDENT MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCERS' WAY

apimed

Association internationale de producteurs indépendants de la méditerranée

CALL TO TAKE PART IN MEDIMED 2011 – Sitges (Spain) October 7th to 9th

MEDIMED is mainly interested in documentary and fact-based projects of a social, cultural or political nature.

Producers with factual subjects about history, the environment or science who are looking for additional partners will be eligible to take advantage of MEDIMED's unique format to promote their projects to a raft of international buyers.

Each year the projects are pre-selected by an international committee – and all proposals come from the Euro-Mediterranean area.

Tips for presentations – simple Docu Films:

- Projects for a one-off documentary on a social, cultural or political subject, as well as other non-fiction subjects.
- Have a partner working in the business (broadcaster or distributor) who will come and co-present the project with the producer.
- Have already 25% of the finance.

As far as Completed Programmes are concerned, the film must be recent (2010 or 2011) and from a European or Mediterranean country. The programme must be a documentary and can be of any length, on any subject.

Deadline for registration: THURSDAY JUNE 30th for submission of a project and/or a programme completed in 2010 or 2011.

For all further information about Medimed : www.medimed.org

For more information about any aspect of this, please contact the APIMED office: Tel: + 34 93 244 98 50 / Fax: + 34 93 247 01 65 / info@apimed.org

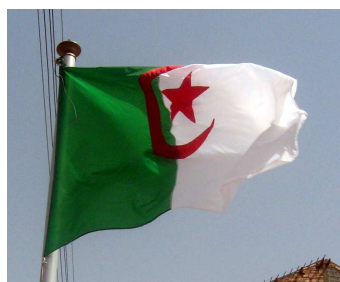
STOP PRESS...



[Lebanon / The AFP Foundation launches a training scheme for journalists](#)

On April 12th in Beirut the programme “Media for Development” was launched, put together by the AFP Foundation in partnership with the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and CFI (*Canal France International*). Spread over two years, the programme offers Lebanese journalists in the written press, television and radio a training to make them

more aware of development issues.



[Algeria / Call to take part in the 5th Côté Courts workshop](#)

For the past eight years, the *Rencontres Cinématographiques de Bejaïa* (Algeria) has hosted *Côté Courts*, a scenario re-writing workshop for short films, giving Algerian writer/film-makers the chance to re-work their project with professional help. The 2011 workshop will take place between June 11th and 17th and will be supervised by Tahar Chikhaoui (a critic and teacher), Stéphanie Durand-Barracand (head of development), Jean-Pierre Morillon

(literary director) and Malek Ali Yahia (producer). Candidates have until midnight on May 23rd to send in their registration dossier. An international jury will chose a maximum of 4 candidates, based on the submitted scenarios. A minimum allocation of 50,000 dinars (about €500) will be awarded to each project. The candidature dossiers should be requested at the following email address: cote.courts.2011@free.fr



[Tunisia / Restoration of the national audiovisual archives](#)

Tarak Ben Ammar's production company, Quinta Communications, has announced the start of a programme to restore the Tunisian national audiovisual archives. Up to now, Quinta's technical department has succeeded in restoring 400 cans of archive material, containing national news from 1956 to 1958. These archives have been preserved thanks to the express demand of former president Habib Bourguiba to put everything on to 35mm film, thus guaranteeing a certain perenity. Quinta will continue the process of restoration at the rate of 33 cans a month, before digitising everything as from 2012.



[France / Launch of a school for web-documentaries in Paris](#)

Every Saturday from April to December 2011, 17 young people aged between 18 to 35 years, and coming from the difficult mixed-race areas of Lyon, Marseilles, Paris and the satellite towns surrounding Paris, will be given free training in how to write, produce and make web documentaries. This weekly workshop will be held at *La Gaieté Lyrique* (Paris) and will be supervised by professional journalists (the Bondy Blog) and film-makers (the Tribudom collective). Their aim is to help these young people think about “*the thin line between journalism, documentaries, fiction and reality*”. The training will include practical and interactive aspects as well as theoretical.

[Translated from the French](#)
[by](#)
[Tim King](#)

[Revenir au sommaire](#)