



N°110

November 2012

An anniversary...

50 years ago, at the time of independence, the Algerian state regained its control over television. 50 years of history, celebrated by the EPTV, *Etablissement Public de la Télévision algérienne*, to which we dedicate our portrait of the month.

Today EPTV is a public service broadcaster with 5 channels and nearly 3,500 employees ([see page 3](#)).

A date...

It's official, the PriMed pre-selection jury will meet in Rome from December 17th to the 22nd at the invitation of RAI (details in the next issue of the Letter), six months to the day before the 17th PriMed in Marseille.

A record...

To date more than 400 reportages, documentaries and web-documentaries have been registered for PriMed 2013, which will take place between June 17th and 22nd 2013: a record. Registration is now closed.

And more...

Also in this issue read about the latest developments in the Tunisian media's difficult situation, a presentation of the *Maghreb des Films*, happening in Paris in November, and a glimpse at *France Télévisions'* new platform for web-dramas: Studio 4.0.

Have a great read!

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HEADLINE NEWS

Close up on ...

Algeria's EPTV : L'Etablissement Public de Télévision algérienne

Each month, Méditerranée Audiovisuelle, the newsletter of the CMCA, gives a portrait of one of the association's members. Presentation, organization, iconic programmes... This month, Algerian public broadcasting is under the spotlight, with a focus on EPTV.,



EPTV is celebrating a major event. In fact it was just 50 years ago, October 28th 1962, right after independence, that the State regained control of Algerian television. Radiodiffusion-Télévision Algérienne (RTA) took over from the then Office de Radiodiffusion-Télévision Française (ORTF).

History

EPTV is a result of the restructuring of the former RTA in 1986. In 1991 it became an EPIC – *Etablissement Public Industriel et Commercial* – its purpose both social and cultural, invested with a mission of public service.

From July 1st 1986, ex-RTA was made up of **4 self-governing enterprises**:

- **The Entreprise Nationale de Télévision** (ENTV, which later became EPTV)
- **The Entreprise Nationale de Radiodiffusion Sonore** (ENRS, later *Radio Nationale*)
- **The Entreprise Nationale de Télédiffusion** (ENTD, later TDA)
- **The Entreprise Nationale de Production Audiovisuelle** (ENPA), broken up in 1998 in the wake of the economic reforms undertaken by the Algerian government of the time.

While waiting for the broadcasting field to open up, EPTV is, officially, **the only television organization in Algeria**. A public service establishment, its particularity is to have a monopoly on television.

Transmission and broadcasting are the responsibility of another institution, **Télédiffusion Algérie** (TDA).

It should be noted that in January 2012 an organic (or fundamental) law about news was passed, providing, *inter alia*, for the drafting of a law on broadcasting activity. The process is underway, and this law will be debated by the new *Assemblée Populaire Nationale* (Parliament), at its next session.



Activity

EPTV has three public service missions: **to inform, educate and entertain.**

It offers five **national television channels**:

- **La Terrestre** (main channel), a general interest channel, broadcast across the whole country on analogue;
- **Canal Algérie**, founded in 1994, a French-language general interest channel, broadcast by satellite (photo above: the logo of *Canal Algeria's* news programme);
- **A3 (Algeria 3)**, founded in 2001, a general interest channel in Arabic, broadcast by satellite;
- **Channel 4**, created in 2009, broadcast in Tamazight;
- **Channel 5**, established in 2009, dedicated to the Qur'an and religious programmes.

The main activities of the Company are:

- **Creating, producing and making of its own programmes**: for its programmes, EPTV produces internally with its own resources and also uses independent producers according to the format of the executive production and coproduction.
- **Buying foreign programmes**: schedules are fed by purchasing foreign programmes, Arab and Western, to ensure some variety and allow the viewer to be aware of different cultures and civilizations.
- **Transmission and distribution of programmes** on its 5 national channels.

EPTV is thus committed to the national development effort and the establishment of peace, but also to the promotion of cultural diversity and the values of sharing, solidarity and fraternity which Algeria upholds.

A new programme schedule is being developed for the creation of the *Groupe Télévision Algériennes*.

Organisation



EPTV, with its headquarters in Algiers (*photo*), is administered by a **Managing Director**, assisted by a Deputy Managing Director, a Principal Assistant and six assistants.

The establishment is divided into **19 departments, made up of 15 central ones and 4 regional ones** (Oran, Constantine, Ouargla and Bechar). The Department of Archives and Documentation, particularly, has a rich and varied collection of programmes.

The Board of Directors is chaired by the Managing Director. Its role is to oversee strategy and provide overall control.

The current **Managing Director is Tewfik KHELLADI** (*photo*), officially in office since February 15th 2012.

The provisional **Head of Production and Programming is Lyes BELARIBI**.

On December 31st 2011, there were **3,447 employees** at EPTV.

An organisation chart of EPTV is being drawn up for the creation of the Groupe Télévisions Algériennes.

The **capital budget** is funded entirely by the state. The **current budget** depends on 3 elements: the state (for fulfilling its public service obligations), the licence fee (paid by users as part of their income tax), and EPTV's own resources (generated through advertising and sponsorships).

The overall budget for 2012 was 6.2 billion dinars, or about €60 million.

EPTV has been **an active member of the CMCA** since its inception. **Ahmed DJABRI**, EPTV's Deputy Director of External Relations, is the CMCA's current Vice-President.



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LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

Tunisia	On strike, journalists defend their rights
Tunisia	Enabling decrees 115 et 116
Tunisia	Directors of Radio Sfax and Radio Monastir Resign
Tunisia	Kasbah Live, a web-TV for the government
Morocco	New specifications coming soon for public service media
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Libya	Alhurra TV's headquarters sacked
Bosnia	Face TV joins Euronews Network
Spain	TV5 Monde sub-titled in Spanish
France	URTI's Radio Grand Prix awarded to 2 journalists from Algeria's Channel 3
France	A new Director for TV5 Monde on November 14th?



TUNISIA / [On strike, journalists defend their rights](#)

Called out by the *Syndicat National des Journalistes Tunisiens* (SNJT – National Union of Tunisian Journalists), a one-day strike was observed by the entire profession on October 17th. SNJT estimated more than 90% of journalists came out.

A major rally was held in front of the union

headquarters, where protesters were able to express their anger at the increasingly strong pressure exercised by the government and to defend press freedom in Tunisia.

The programmes of *Télévision Tunisienne* were disrupted. The 8.00 pm News on Al Wataniya 1 was shown without a presenter and only lasted 5 minutes, with just the announcement of the headlines.

Journalists on the daily *Dar Assabah* had been on hunger strike since October 10th, in response to the government nomination of a new director in August, **Lotfi Touati**. They returned to work on October 24th after talks with the Head of the Provisional Government **Hammadi Jebali**, pending the signing of an agreement.



TUNISIA / [Decrees 115 et 116 enabled](#)

Following the Tunisian journalists' strike (see above), the government issued a press release on October 17th in which it states formally that decrees 115 and 116 will be enabled.

They were signed in November 2011 but never implemented.

Decree 115 establishes the freedom of the press and the decriminalization of press offenses. It forbids any restriction to the broadcasting of news and protects journalists' sources.

Decree 116 formalizes the creation of an independent High Authority of Broadcasting Communication, whose main task will be to grant licenses to Tunisian radio and television. Reporters Without Borders welcomed the announcement, but with reservations: *"It is urgent that the government clarify the timetable for these decrees to come into force, and also whether their adoption is permanent or temporary. Government must do everything it can to transform this announcement into action, otherwise it's too easy to conclude that the intention was simply electioneering."*



TUNISIA / [Directors of Radio Sfax and Radio Monastir Resign](#)

Two directors of Tunisian public radio submitted their resignations on October 18th. Both **Malek Riahi**, Director of Radio Sfax and **Bashir Zghari**, Director of Radio Monastir, left office in protest against *"the State's determination to control the media in a manner contrary to professional ethics"* as they explained in an interview with Mosaïque FM radio. The Director of Programming for Radio Sfax, **Henda Lassouad**, also resigned.

The board of Radio Tunisienne appointed **Hichem Karray** new Director of Radio Sfax. Previously he had run the channel's computer department. The name of the new Director of Radio Monastir has not yet been announced.

MM. Riahi and Zghari had been appointed to run their respective radios in July.



TUNISIA / [Kasbah Live, web-TV for the government](#)

On October 18th, the Minister of Economy **Ridha Saidi** (photo) announced there would soon be an on-line web-TV covering government activities.

Called *Kasbah Live* it will broadcast live press conferences and follow ministers when they travel around the country.

Saidi compared the editorial line of *Kasbah Live* to that of European parliamentary channels, using the example of the French channel

LCP.



MOROCCO / [New specifications coming soon for public service media](#)

In late October the *Haute Autorité de la Communication Audiovisuelle* (HACA: High Authority for Broadcasting

Communication) approved government changes to public broadcasting specifications. SNRT and Soread-2M should therefore soon have a new programme contract binding them to the state.

According to the introductory note to the 2013 Finance Act, the new specifications aim for the “development of a professional public media sector, responsible and competitive, obeying the principles of diversity, equality of opportunity and ethics.”



ALGERIA / [Numidia News, new Algerian private channel](#)

After several weeks of testing the technology, Numidia News is now transmitting on satellite. This private TV channel is a spin off from the news

website www.numidianews.com. Chaired by **Samer Riad**, it has a dozen foreign correspondents, mainly in Arab countries. Numidia News will mark its difference from other private satellite channels in Algeria (*Echourouk TV*, *Ennahar TV*), by specializing in economic and international news.

In addition, the Algerian Minister of Communication, **Mohamed Said**, announced during a visit to the premises of *Echourouk TV* that the Broadcasting Act would not be presented to the government before November. The official opening up of the audiovisual field to private channels probably will not take place before the summer of 2013.



LIBYA / [Alhurra TV Headquarters sacked](#)

According to the *Libya Herald*, on October 21st dozens of demonstrators in Bani Walid stormed the premises of *Alhurra TV* and ransacked the equipment. They were members of the rebel Warfalla tribe, who accuse the channel of taking sides in the violent conflict between them and the Libyan army since October 2nd.

On October 24th, armed forces crushed the revolt and announced the taking of Bani Walid, considered the last bastion of the former dictator **Muammar Gaddafi**.

Created on February 17th 2011, *Alhurra TV* was one of the first television channels to support the Libyan revolution. Its founder, journalist **Mohammed Nabbous** was killed a month later by a sniper from **Gaddafi's** army, while filming the first shelling aimed at Libyan civilians.



BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA / [Face TV joins Euronews Network](#)

On October 26th Bosnia's first High Definition channel, Face TV, formalized its entry into the Euronews Network. This private, general interest channel, founded in Sarajevo by journalist **Senad Hadzifejzovic** in early 2012,

becomes a privileged member and thus gains access to several services, including the ability to broadcast up to five hours of Euronews programmes a day, or to work closely with Euronews journalists.

Euronews Network is a network created by the international news channel Euronews, to develop partnerships with the world's media for the exchange of expertise and programmes.



SPAIN / [TV5 Monde sub-titled in Spanish](#)

Since November 2nd viewers in Spain have been able to watch the French-language channel TV5 Monde with subtitles in Spanish.

The channel is now subtitled into 13 languages, including English, Arabic, and Romanian.

According to a statement from TV5 Monde, “nearly 30% of Spaniards know TV5 Monde. In Spain, the channel is received by 96% of households subscribing to pay-TV.”

Spanish subtitles had already been offered for programmes broadcast in Latin America.

TV5 Monde is available to 5 million homes in Spain via pay platforms and the Astra and Hispasat satellites.



FRANCE / [URTI's Radio Grand Prix awarded to two journalists of Algeria's Channel 3](#)

On October 18th the *Union Radiophonique et Télévisuelle Internationale* (URTI: International Radio and Television Union) awarded its Radio Grand Prix to “Love 2.0”, a short drama produced by two journalists from the Algerian Channel 3 **Yazid Ait Hamadouche** (photo) and **Salim Berkoun**.

For the 24th edition of the Radio Grand Prix, the theme was “love”. 124 radio programmes from 46 different countries were sent in. The Grand Prix jury, chaired by writer **Lahcène Moussaoui** met from October 1st to 6th at Tipasa in the premises of Algerian Radio.

“Love 2.0” confronts two different visions of love, that of a teacher and his pupil.



FRANCE / [A new head of TV5 Monde on November 14th?](#)

On October 16th TV5 Monde's board, chaired by **Marie-Christine Saragosse** (*pictured*) was not able to agree on the name of the new channel director. However, it should be known at the end of the next directors' meeting on November 14th.

Marie-Christine Saragosse, who in early October was appointed Chairperson of *Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France* (AEF), is still the head of TV5 Monde pending the appointment of a successor.

For that post, Belgian (RTBF), Swiss (SSR), and Canadian (Radio-Canada, Télé-Québec) media, the channel's minority shareholders, have demanded a professional who has worked in broadcasting, has strong international experience and is not necessarily a French citizen, according to *Le Monde*.

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PROGRAMMES

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Arab States Broadcasting Union
League of Arab States

TUNISIA / [Télévision Tunisienne and SNRT rewarded by the ASBU](#)

At the end of the ASBU's 5th Standing Committee of Television Programmes, which was held in Tunis on October 11th, several awards were presented to programmes on Arabic channels.

Télévision Tunisienne received the award for best “Arab Evening” for the programme “*Nawartouna*”, broadcast in prime time on Al Wataniya 1. The second prize in this category went to “*Hdit Siniya*”, produced by SNRT (Morocco)

and aired on Al Aoula.

The public service Moroccan group also won the award for best programme to raise awareness of Arab countries, “*Amoudou*”, also transmitted on Al Aoula.

The ASBU Standing Committee of television programmes made several recommendations on this occasion, and in particular emphasized the need to intensify programme exchanges between different Arabic television stations.



SPAIN / [TV3 withdraws one of its programmes for “explicit violence”](#)

On October 15th the head of the Catalan channel TV3 decided to temporarily withdraw the programme “Bestiari Il·lustrat” (Illustrated bestiary). A controversial episode on October 9th sparked off many reactions: it showed the writer **Jair Domínguez** practicing shooting

using targets with the effigy of **King Juan Carlos of Spain** (photo) and Britain’s **Charles, Prince of Wales**.

The programme director, **Mai Balaguer** resigned immediately. The Government of Catalonia supported TV3’s decision to accept her resignation. “We can talk, discuss and debate everything, but there is a limit, not to be exceeded: showing explicit violence,” said the Government spokesman, **Francesc Homs**.

An enquiry was opened by the Spanish National Court to determine whether there was an insult to the Crown. Almost certainly “Bestiari Il·lustrat” will not find its way back on the programme schedule before January 2013.



SPAIN / [The return of bullfighting on television worries Catalonia](#)

The Consell de l’Audiovisual de Catalunya (CAC) has requested the Ministry of Industry to take action over the broadcast of bullfights on television. In accordance with the regulations in force, it asks that such programmes be broadcast outside the time-slot known as “enhanced protection” (from 5.00 pm to

8.00pm) to protect children from violent images.

For the first time in six years bullfighting came back on to Spanish screens on September 5th. The event, broadcast by TVE from the Plaza de Toros in Valladolid, was transmitted between 5:50 p.m. and 8:40 p.m. – prime time. The programme was simply signalled as “not recommended for children under 7 years”. The CAC considers this warning should have been extended to 13 years.

Leopoldo Gonzalez-Echenique, chairman of RTVE defended the scheduling of this event, saying it is the “second most popular event in Spain, after football”. However, he also said that no other bullfight would be shown in the coming months.



FRANCE / [The original version soon generalised for TV programmes?](#)

In October the UMP member of Parliament **Denis Jacquat** (photo) filed a bill for French television to broadcast programmes simultaneously in French and in their original version with subtitles.

He even wants to apply this idea to cartoons and children's programmes. *“Television will become a modern language laboratory in the home,”* he says.

This would enable the French to practice English. According to a study published in 2012 by Eurostat, 41% of French people do not master any foreign language.



FRANCE / [Contents of “Mediterraneo” in November](#)

GREECE : Tax evasion:

They are deadbeats, cheaters, and are only reaping what they have sown. This is what is often said now, quite openly, across Europe. The Greeks, kings of tax evasion?

The reality is more complex, as it usually is. For most Greek

taxpayers, evading taxes is almost impossible, and the younger generation does not intend to repeat the mistakes of the past. Certainly we're talking about €45 billion each year not finding its way into the state coffers. But according to experts this fraud is probably the fault of less than 5% of the population. The vast majority of taxpayers have in reality only one wish: to earn enough money to be able to contribute to the national effort.

TURKEY: view over the Bosphorus :

The time it takes to cross the Aegean Sea, and now we are in Turkey, whose largest city, Istanbul, is going through a cheeky economic boom, a far cry from the Greek crisis next door. Here, the housing bubble has not burst, it's blossoming, thanks to the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere which attracts more and more Europeans, especially to the neighbourhood of Cihangir. Prices soar, less well-off families are forced out of their district, leaving it in the hands of speculators who are betting on the Bosphorus Strait, with its breathtaking views.

MOROCCO : Tangier, the Moroccan miracle:

A town that knows no crisis. With a very low rate of unemployment, factories which open and create jobs, Tangier has much to make European capitals envious. Its massive development weapon is its port, created 5 years ago. Today, the containers going through the port are counted in the millions. And the town is continuing to dream of a rosy future, with a project for a new marina and a terminal for cruise ships.

LEBANON: The Symbol of the Cedar tree :

They have been there since the dawn of time, and will be there long after we have gone. This is certainly the wish that **Desiree Saadek** makes, admiring the cedars of her country, Lebanon. More than a tree, cedars are the symbol of an entire people. They are ancient, revered in all three monotheistic religions, but endangered by deforestation. The author **Desiree Saadek** has imagined a story for children to encourage the younger generation to continue the reforestation begun several years ago.

MOROCCO: the Khettaras :

A journey underground to see an irrigation system 14 centuries old, the khettaras, underground tunnels designed to bring the waters of the Atlas mountains to the middle of the desert. An extensive rehabilitation program has been initiated, and it is a matter of economic survival for some Berber families.

“Mediterraneo” is broadcast every Saturday at 11:30 a.m. on France 3 Corse-ViaStella, every Sunday at 11:30 a.m. on France 3 Provence-Alpes and France 3 Côte-d'Azur, and every week also on TV5 Monde.

Find all the schedules for North Africa [by clicking here](#).

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ECONOMY

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Italy [Silvio Berlusconi sentenced to one year in prison for the Mediaset affair](#)

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France [The licence fee will increase by 6 euros](#)



SPAIN / [A deficit of €105 million for RTVE](#)

The Spanish public broadcasting group will end the fiscal year 2012 with a deficit of €105 million. RTVE's losses have widened due to lower than expected revenues and the rising cost of broadcast rights.

At a hearing before the Board of Control, the chairman of RTVE **Leopoldo Gonzalez-Echenique** (photo), however, denied he is currently planning to lay off employees, refuting union accusations claiming that 1,800 jobs are threatened.

Since 2010, when advertising was taken off the TVE channels, the group's accounts have constantly been in the red.

According to **Gonzalez-Echenique**, the current situation is such that in 2013 it will be impossible for RTVE to fulfil the broadcasting rights for the matches of the Spanish football team, which amount to €43 million.



ITALIE / [Silvio Berlusconi sentenced to a year in prison for the Mediaset affair](#)

On October 26th **Silvio Berlusconi** was sentenced by the Court of Milan to four years in prison, a sentence reduced shortly afterwards to one year. He is also banned from exercising public office for 5 years. Ten other defendants have to pay €10 million in taxes.

The owner of the Mediaset group was found guilty of tax evasion on the rights to broadcast films between 1994 and 2003. "At the top of the chain of command of TV rights until 1998," according to the

prosecutor **Fabio De Pasquale**, he inflated the price of these rights so he could place the profits overseas and pay less tax in Italy. With this manoeuvre, **Signor Berlusconi** and the other defendants were able to cream off a total of €408 million over 10 years.

The imprisonment of the former chairman of the board could nevertheless be suspended if his lawyers appeal, or even cancelled due to his age.



FRANCE / [M6 claims €100 millions from the government](#)

Through the voice of its managing director **Nicolas de Tavernost** (photo), M6 intends to demand financial compensation following the cancellation of the bonus channels promised by the state. The French government had promised TF1, M6 and Canal Plus a bonus channel to compensate them for the costs incurred setting up DTT in 2005.

In September 2011, though, the European Commission vetoed the idea, finding these bonus channels contrary to Community

law.

According to **M. de Tavernost**, “*there has been financial loss, the Constitutional Council itself has acknowledged it. Now we have to agree how much.*” As he stated in a letter to the government, he calculates the damage at around €100 million.



FRANCE / [The licence fee will increase by 6 euros](#)

The Socialist Senator **David Assouline** (photo) intends to file an amendment to the Finance Bill 2013 regarding the amount paid by taxpayers for public service broadcasting, which he wants to increase from €125 to €131 in 2013.

This €6 increase, €2 indexed on inflation, would bring in “€50 million more for France Télévisions,” as Rémy Pflimlin, chairman of France Télévisions explained at the Senate hearing on October 24th.

However, no additional fee will be imposed on second homes, as had been suggested at one time.

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CINEMA

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ALGERIA / [A DVD box-set of documentaires published by Béjaïa Doc](#)

Several films, made since 2008 as part of the annual Béjaïa Doc workshop, have just been compiled in a DVD box-set published in Algiers.

Among the 21 documentaries on offer are “C'est à Constantine” by **Bahia Bencheikh El Fegoun**, “Block House” by **Tarek Hadj Moknach**, or “Un simple visite” by **Abderrahmane Krimate**.

Identity, immigration, life in society, sociology of the peoples of Algeria. As many themes tackled in these films which are the fruit of the workshop organized each year by two organisations, *Cinéma et Mémoire* and *Cinema Kaina*, during the Béjaïa Doc festival.

Contact : bejaiadoccinema@gmail.com.

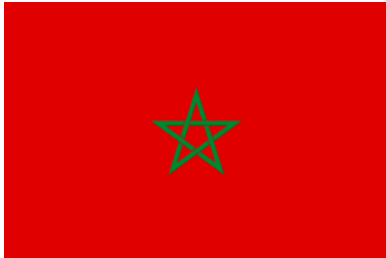


TUNISIA / [A joint committee formed against the appointment of Adnene Khedher at the CNCI](#)

Following the appointment on September 26th of **Adnene Khedher** (photo) to the position of Director of the *Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image* (CNCI), several film industry associations formed a joint committee on October 17th.

They intend to have this appointment cancelled, for it “obeys no objective criteria” and “does not take into consideration the professionals” according to their statement. “Cinema associations have played an active role in the CNCI’s legal and organizational creation. [...] The latest [government] decisions have purely and simply ignored the work we have done.”

Film professionals blame particularly the Ministry of Culture for appointing someone who knows a lot about broadcasting but has no experience of cinema.



MOROCCO / [A White Paper as from 2013 for Moroccan cinema](#)

In a written address to the National Conference of Cinema gathered on October 16th, **King Mohammed VI** invited industry professionals to participate in creating a White Paper which would identify key areas of their work and lead to a thorough reform of the Moroccan film industry. The paper would be published in 2013.

On October 15th a bill was voted through parliament, paving the way for an increase of 67% of government grants for the cinema sector. They go from 60 million dirhams a year (€5 million) to 100 million dirhams (€9 million).



ITALY / [A co-production agreement between Italy and Slovenia](#)

An agreement will be signed on December 15th to develop cinema co-production between Italy and Slovenia. The final terms of the agreement will be determined by November 15th.

On October 26th the Italian Ministry of Culture's cinema representative, Nicola Borrelli, met his Slovenian counterpart Jozka Rutar (photo) in Rome during the Medfilm festival. Coproduction agreements currently in force between Italy and Slovenia concern only one Italian region, Friuli-Venezia Giulia,

which borders the Slovenian state.



FRANCE / [The government levies €150 million from CNC](#)

A special levy of €150 million on the capital of the *Centre National du Cinéma et de l'image animée* (CNC) was voted on October 22nd by members of parliament, as part of the draft budget for 2013, which is trying to balance public accounts. A report by the Court of Auditors on October 11th pointed to a “significant increase in the number of employees” – 34.7% up between 2003 and 2011.

The Budget Minister, **Jérôme Cahuzac** (photo), also criticized the CNC’s purchase of buildings in Paris, “without any real negotiation, according to my information.” The Court of Auditors’ report claims the CNC has taken out a 20-year loan to buy a building whose value is estimated at €22 million.

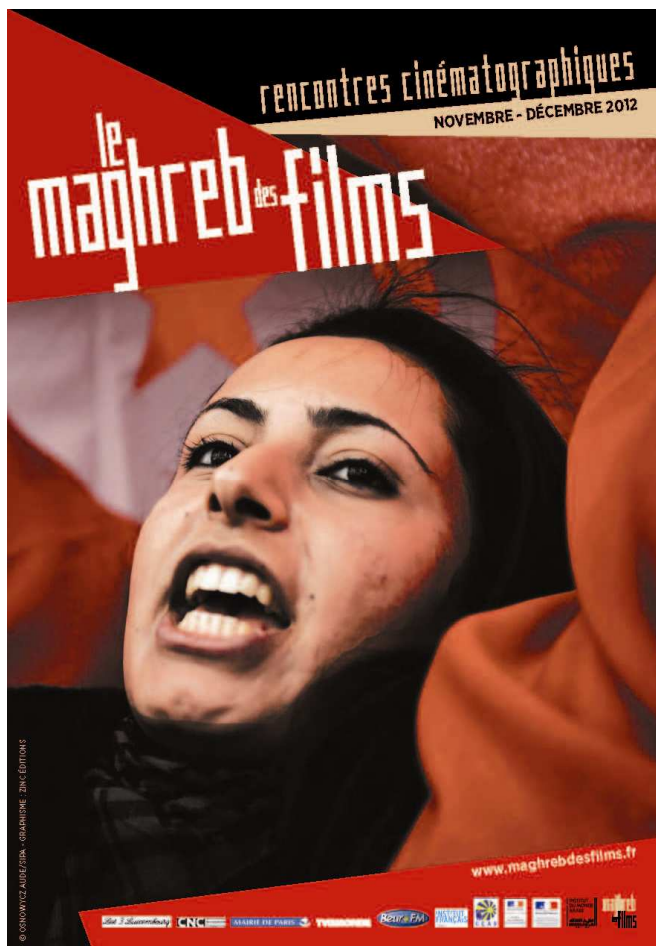
At the end of 2011 CNC’s funds exceeded €820 million, an increase of 63% compared to 2007.

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FESTIVALS

The festival of the month

Le Maghreb des Films,
from November 19th to 23rd, and from November 28th to December 4th 2012,
in Paris (France) and its region



The *Maghreb des Films* (Films from North Africa) offers a series of screenings, debates and exhibitions. The main event will be held in Paris in two parts: from November 19th to 23rd at the *Institut du Monde Arabe* (IMA), and from November 28th to December 4th at a cinema called *3 Luxembourg*.

This year there are five main themes:

- “Algeria, from dream to reality – 1980 to 2012”, part of the 50th anniversary of Algerian independence. Among the screenings on offer are “*Rachida*” by **Yamina Bachir-Chouikh** (2002), **Tariq Teguia’s** road movie “*Inland*” (2008), “*Normal*” by **Merzak Allouache** (2011) and “*Slimane Azem, une légende de l’exil*” by **Rachid Merabet** (2011).

- “*Algérie, une nouvelle vague*” (Algeria, a new wave), which puts the spotlight on the new generation of Algerian filmmakers. Marion Pasquier, editor of the magazine short film *Bref* was given a free hand. Her choice includes several short documentaries

by the director **Lamine Ammar Khodja** and “*Dans le silence je sens rouler la terre*” (In the silence I feel the earth rolling) by **Mohamed Lakhdar Tati** (2010) on the Algerian camps opened in 1939 to take in refugees of the Franco regime.

- “*Tunisie, quelle révolution?*”, with the first Tunisian documentaries looking at the Jasmine Revolution : “*Dégage*” by **Mohamed Zran**, “*C’était mieux demain*” by **Hinde Boujemaa**, “*Militantes*” by **Sonia Chamkhi**... All casting a fresh look on a still recent event which is still turning the country, and by extension the Arab world, upside down. A roundtable is also planned, with the directors present.

- “Tribute to the directors **Mohamed Zran** and **Nadia El Fani**.” All **Mohamed Zran**’s films will be screened, including “*Essaïda*”, “*Le prince*” and “*Vivre ici*”. The filmmaker **Nadia El Fani**, whose documentary “*Laïcité Inch'Allah*” caused much controversy, will also be a guest of honour with the screening of her new film “*Même pas mal*” and her two previous works.

- A selection of films from 2011 and 2012 not seen before, including “*Le repentir*” by **Merzak Allouache** (Algeria), “*La langue de Zahra*” by **Fatima Sissani** (Algeria), and “*Le sac de farine*” by **Khadija Leclerc** (Morocco / Belgium).

Several other French towns will be hosting screenings throughout the month: between November 10th and 17th the *Maghreb des Films* will call in at Besançon – on the 16th and 17th November at Lille and Roubaix, November 18th at Lyon ...

Find the full programme [by clicking here](#).

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THE OTHER FESTIVALS

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Belgium	A Mediterranean November in Brussels
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FRANCE / [The Cinemed awards 2012](#)

Rusudan Chkonia's Georgian film “Keep Smiling” won the Golden Antigone on November 3rd at the end of 34th Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film (Cinemed). This film about a female beauty contest that turns into media farce beat “Winter of discontent” by the Egyptian

Ibrahim El Batout, who walked away with the Special Jury Mention and the Critics Award.

The Serb **Srdjan Dragojevic** was rewarded by the public for his film “The Parade”.

As for the short films, the Grand Prix went to the Turkish **Rezan Yesilbas** for “Silent”, the story of a Kurdish-speaking woman who visits her husband in a Turkish prison, where only Turkish is allowed to be spoken.

Finally, **Silvina Landsmann's** Israeli documentary “Soldier / Citizen” won the Ulysses Award.



MOROCCO / [Nominations now open for the Tétouan Festival](#)

Filmmakers can now register for the 19th Tétouan International Festival of Mediterranean Film, which will take place between March 23rd and 30th 2013.

Films made in 2012 and 2013, either about the Mediterranean or by a director of Mediterranean origin are invited to compete. There

are two deadlines for registration:

January 31st for longer drama films and documentaries,

February 10th for short films.

You will find the registration form and rules [by clicking here](#).



LEBANON / [Nominations now open for Beirut's Docudays](#)

The Lebanon's most important documentary festival, Beirut's Docudays, returns for its 11th

edition from April 10th to 14th 2013.

You have until December 15th 2012 to send in your registration. Any documentary film (regardless of length) made after January 2011 is eligible. There are two separate competitions: one for filmmakers from Arab countries and the other for films from anywhere in the world.

[Click here](#) to find out more information and to download the registration form.



ITALY / [The Director of the MedFilm Festival sends alarm signal](#)

At a press conference on October 16th in Rome, at the launch of the 18th MedFilm, the festival director, **Ginella Vocca** (photo), sent a signal of alarm to the authorities.

"Our grants have been reduced by 60% compared to last year. If things continue like this we will not be able to organize the festival," she said.

The budget of the 18th MedFilm, held in Rome from October 19th to 28th, was €45,000, while the Roma Fiction Fest receives €2.5 million, and the Rome International Film Festival a budget of €12 million.

MedFilm 2012 ended with the jury choosing the Serbian film *"Parade"* by **Srdjan Dragojevic** for the main prize, the *Amore e Psiche* Award. Moroccan **Hakim Belabbès** won special mention for his film *"Rêves ardents"*. In the documentary category, two films tied to win the Open Eyes Prize: *"Les invisibles"* by **Sébastien Lifshitz** (France) and *"Soldier / Citizen"* by **Silvina Landsmann** (Israel).

Find the complete results [by clicking here](#).



ITALY / [Call for films for the Rome Independent Film Festival](#)

The Rome Independent Film Festival (RIFF) has made a call for applications for its 12th edition, which runs from April 4th to 12th 2013.

The festival has 8 separate categories: drama films, new frontiers (early works), documentaries, short films, student

films, animation, scripts and subjects, and pitches. Awards worth €50,000 will be shared out among the winners.

The registration deadline is December 15th.

[Click here](#) to read the rules and download the entry form.



UAE / [Yesim Ustagli and Nouri Bouzid celebrated at the Abu Dhabi Festival](#)

The Turkish film “Araf” by **Yesim Ustagli** won the Black Pearl for Best Drama Film at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival, from October 11th to 20th. The story of two teenagers trying to escape from a morose everyday existence, won over the jury chaired by Indian **Shabana Azmi**.

Tunisian filmmaker **Nouri Bouzid** received Best Director from the Arab world. He showed his latest film, “*Beautés caches*”

(Hidden Beauties), about two women trying to find emancipation in post-revolutionary Tunisia. The Black Pearl for Best Documentary was won by **Mehdi Fleifel's** Lebanese film “A world not ours”, a long, hard look at life in the Palestinian refugee camp where the director spent his childhood. “*Maudit soit le phosphate*” (Cursed be the phosphate), by the Tunisian **Sami Tili**, was named Best Arab Documentary, while the Egyptian **Wael Omar** was awarded the Best Arab Documentary Director for his film “*In search of oil and sand*” co-produced with Frenchman **Philippe Dib**.



BELGIUM / [A Mediterranean November in Brussels](#)

Europe's capital takes Mediterranean colours in November: as well as the traditional Mediterranean Film Festival at the *Cinéma Botanique*, from November 9th to 17th, the EU's Euromed Audiovisual Programme is organizing several screenings at the *Palais des Beaux-Arts* throughout the month.

Most of the directors will be present to discuss their films with the public. This is an opportunity to discover or rediscover several films that have made the news in recent months: “*Tinghir Jérusalem, les échos du*

Mellah” (Morocco) by **Kamal Hachkar**, “*Winter of discontent*” (Egypt) by **Ibrahim El Batout**, “*Mort à vendre*” (Morocco) by **Faouzi Ben Saïdi**, “*We are here*” (Tunisia) by **Abdallah Yahya**, “*Les chevaux de Dieu*” (Morocco) by **Nabil Ayouch**, and “*La Vierge, les Coptes et moi*” by **Namir Abdel Messeeh** (France/Qatar).

For the Mediterranean Film Festival programme [click here](#).

For the calendar of screenings organized by Euromed Audiovisual [click here](#).



UNITED KINGDOM / [Submissions open for the Palestine Film Festival](#)

The London Palestine Film Festival is for any film about the Palestinian territories. All genres are accepted, and directors of all nationalities are invited to submit their work.

The 2013 edition will start on May 3rd. There will be daily screenings, lectures and workshops.

To register, download the application form [by clicking here](#).

[Click here](#) for more information and to view the rules.

You can also find a list of all the festivals in October/November on our website:

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

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WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH

Studio 4.0

(www.france4.fr/studio-4-0/)




On October 13th two off-shoots of *France Télévisions*, *France 4* and *Nouvelles Ecritures*, launched a new online platform for web-dramas.

Offering the best in drama specifically made for the web by the teams at *Nouvelles Ecritures* and *Transmedia*, both part of *France Télévisions*, the aim is to provide a space for young creators to try things out.

Within a year more than 450 episodes of web-series from across the world will be available on the site, as well as several hours of programmes and short films.

An important place is given to user interactivity, with features for sharing and exchanging content on social networks, thanks to a downloadable Dailymotion video player.



Among the productions already available on the site you can see “*Les opérateurs*” – the business world but seen as an absurdist comedy, “*Le visiteur du futur*”, about the adventures of heroes from the future who prevent cataclysms to come, and “*Indégivrables*”, a web-animated series on a penguin colony whose behaviour is modelled on humans.

To build up a faithful public there will also be several regular events: the first of them, *Nuits 4.0* is a quarterly night-time show lasting 2 hours that offers a cocktail of unexpected and surprising images. The first episode, on October 13th, showed adult animation.

A call for projects has also been launched, for directors and screenwriters who have an idea for a web series about modern young women who fully assume their life, their work and their sexuality.

Contact: Catherine MUGLER (Nouvelles Ecritures de France Télévisions) : 01 56 22 27 31 / nouvelles-ecritures@francetv.fr

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TRAINING



JORDAN / [Nominations open for a training session at the Med Film Factory](#)

Initiated by Jordan's Royal Film Commission, the Tunisian *Sud Ecrisure* and Ireland's Huston School of Film and Digital Media, Med Film Factory is an annual training programme offering ten selected

teams of directors and producers support and expertise to help them work on their first or second feature film.

The training is divided into three inter-related sessions: the first for directors, the second for coaching producers, and the last is an "independent film assembly", during which the teams come together to work with a panel of international experts.

Applications are open to film-makers and producers from the Middle East and North Africa.

Each team may have only one director and one producer.

The deadline for submission is December 31st.

More information: <http://www.medfilmfactory.com/howto.php>

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**Translated from the French
by Tim King**