



N°109 October 2012

The largest online archive library in the Mediterranean has been created: www.medmem.eu a website dedicated to Mediterranean heritage – its “memory” – was officially launched on Friday 12th October. There are nearly 4,000 videos available on this website, taken from 14 television archives across the Mediterranean basin, all in three languages: French, English, Arabic. It includes gems like Che Guevara's journey to Algiers in 1963, old Egyptian cartoons or the last television appearance of the poet Mahmoud Darwish in 2008. The Mediterranean in archive footage, available free to everyone. Read all about it in this issue of “Méditerranée Audiovisuelle”.

Something else new: each month in "The Letter" you will find a piece about one of the television channels which is a member of the CMCA. This month, October, we invite you to discover the Moroccan channel 2M.

And, as always, a rich and varied wealth of information about broadcasting life across the Mediterranean.

Happy reading.

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HEADLINE NEWS

Close-up on... **2M**

Each month, Méditerranée Audiovisuelle does a portrait of a channel belonging to one of the CMCA's members. Presentation, organisation, key programmes... This month our guest is the Moroccan channel 2M.



2M is the the 2nd biggest public television channel in Morocco.

When it first started, in March 1989, 2M was a private, commercial channel (the first private channel in Morocco, but also in Africa and the Arab World) and transmitted encrypted programmes with only two unscrambled slots.

Right from its launch the channel was hugely successful and after five years it was no longer a themed channel aimed at an international market as originally planned, but a generalist channel for Moroccans.

After seven years of operation, in June 1996, its main shareholder withdrew and the Moroccan State, which had signed the concession, took back control at 68%. On January 10th 1997, **2M** was at last released unscrambled, completely changing the Moroccan broadcasting landscape.

Having extended its availability throughout the national territory in the late 1990's, **2M** is today one of Morocco's most popular channels.

Its regional centres

Regional Offices send in local information primarily intended to supply the day's news bulletins with reports and interviews. These offices also provide and transmit reports to other programmes.

2M has created an extensive network across the country: seven regional offices located in the cities of Rabat, Tangier, Oujda, Agadir, Marrakech, Laayoune and Fez. Rabat, the political capital, is where most of the activity is handled, so the office there is better equipped.

2M world-wide

2M's primary purpose is to serve Morocco's image abroad and to meet the expectations of Moroccans around the world. Programming aimed at this category of viewers is very much seen as *2M Monde's* mission.

The majority of the programmes are in Arabic and their content favours local news, national events and federating themes about society. Today *2M Monde* is available in Europe and the United States of America via 5 satellite platforms and in France and Switzerland on cable.

- Europe, North Africa, Middle East and Africa on HOTBIRD 8 (13 ° East) and NSS 7 (22 ° West).
- Europe, North Africa, Canada and the United States on ASTRA 1 (19.2 ° East) and GALAXY 25 (97 ° West).
- Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, the Far East, France and Switzerland on NILESAT 101 (7 ° W) on **cable** networks.



2M's Headquarters in Casablanca

Organization

- **Managing Director:** Salim CHEIKH (*photo*)
- **Deputy managing director:** Driss ANOUAR
- **Deputy managing director in charge news, sport and news magazines:** Samira SITAIL
- **Director of Programmes and the Channel:** Zouheir ZRIOUI
- **Director of Drama:** Najib ERREFAIF
- **Director of Production:** Brahim CHELLAI

The channel's web-site: www.2m.ma

Find 2M's TV News at this address: www.2m.ma/infos



2M has been a member of the CMCA for many years. **Karim ABDELHAMID**, 2M's Head of Documentation, is part of the Association's Bureau as Deputy Secretary General.

LIFE IN THE CHANNELS



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[#Algeria / Major changes at the head of private satellite television stations](#)

On September 12th Djerri Ali was appointed managing director of the private satellite channel Ennahar TV – just two weeks later he resigned, for reasons still unclear.

On September 19th, Bakhilili Slimane (photo), managing director of Echourouk TV, tendered his resignation. According to the newspaper *L'Expression*, Mr. Bakhilili disagreed with the Channel's Chairman, Ali Fodil, about the editorial line. In addition to being managing director he was also anchor-man for three of the channel's programmes. Mr. Fodil decided not to replace him.

Finally, a new private channel made its début on the satellite this month, Djazair TV. It is run by businessman Ali Haddad, who already owns two Arabic and French-language daily newspapers, as well as a web-TV. This is the fifth Algerian private channel to be created, following Echourouk TV, Ennahar TV, El Djazairia TV and Hoggar TV.



[#Algeria / The head of TV4 sentenced for sexual harassment](#)

On October 14th Said Lamrani, director of the Amazigh (Berber) channel TV4 was given a six-month suspended prison sentence by the Sidi M'Hamed Tribunal in Algiers. The 76 year old was accused of sexual harassment by three of the channel's employees.

Mr. Lamrani, who was not present for the verdict, must also pay a fine of 20,000 dinars (200 euros) and 100,000 dinars in damages.

At the beginning of October, two months after he was first accused, he was suspended from his duties as a precautionary measure. He faced a maximum penalty of one year in prison.



[#Tunisia / Ansar Al-Sunna launches its television channel](#)

On September 25th in Tunis, Ansar Al-Sunna, a Sunni Islamic movement, announced the imminent launch of a new television channel, The Blessed Sunnah. It sees its main task as spreading Muhammad's hadiths to the Western public.

Founded in 2003, Ansar al-Sunna is based in Iraq and is considered a terrorist organization. Its members are responsible for several suicide bombings and the murders of civilian and military foreigners in both Iraq and Palestine.



[#Egypt / A new channel dedicated to Mahommed](#)

Since early October a new Egyptian satellite channel, “Greetings To You Prophet Muhammad”, has been carrying out tests. Its objective is “to help Muslims understand their prophet.”

Nasser ibn Mosaffar Al Zarani, one of the leaders of the channel, said that “the programmes are based on the Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet of Islam.”

He also explained that recent incidents caused by the appearance of “The Innocence of Muslims” on YouTube and the caricatures in the French satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo* were not unrelated to the channel's creation: “We are witnessing violent insults to the Prophet Muhammad, and we respond by taking appropriate measures.”



[#Israel / Channel 10 close to filing for bankruptcy](#)

The private broadcaster, Channel 10, may be living its final moments. The ultimatum to the channel's directors and investors to repay the €12 million debt expires this month. At the end of August, billionaire Ron Lauder (photo), a Channel 10 shareholder, agreed to invest the 12 million, on condition that its repayment was rescheduled and the

channel was given a new license.

However, the Israeli Parliamentary Committee refused this demand. According to Yossi Warchawski, Director of Channel 10, this refusal was Benjamin Netanyahu's "revenge", after Channel 10 showed a documentary accusing the Israeli prime minister of receiving private funds for travel abroad.

Channel 10 was founded in 2002. It is so far the only Israeli channel available on cable in Europe and North America.



[#Spain / Wages too high at RTVE, according to its chairman](#)

The new chairman of RTVE, Leopoldo Gonzalez-Echenique (photo), has decided to change the group's collective agreement. According to him, there are several "mismatches between the work performed and the pay received". He therefore

wanted the collective agreement to be revised to "adapt it to the new labour law" and "ensure a stable budget and thus RTVE's competitiveness."

Mr. Gonzalez-Echenique also explained that the dismissal of journalists this summer ([see Mediterranean Audiovisual No. 108](#)) was nothing more than the "normal" departures which happen every year in every television station when schedules are changed.

RTVE is facing budget cuts of nearly €50 million in 2013. In 2012 the group's budget was already reduced by €204 million.



[#Spain / RTVV wants to lay off demonstrators](#)

The Directorate of RTVV (*Ràdio Televisió Valenciana*) confirmed it was upholding the charges against employees who had occupied the Channel 9 studios in July to show their discontent at the proposed job-cuts. The 50 employees in question have been blamed for “a very serious offence” and risk being sacked without any compensation.

The company is basing its argument on an article in the collective agreement which states an employee will be punished “for criminal or fraudulent conduct in the performance of his or her duties.” The Directorate also accused the protesters of “harming the rights and freedoms recognized by the Constitution and the Statute of Autonomy.”

RTVV's plan to cut jobs announced in July could affect 1,200 of the 1,600 in the group.



[#France / Marie-Christine Saragosse officially nominated head of AEF](#)

By presidential decree Marie-Christine Saragosse (photo) has been officially appointed chair-person of AEF (*Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France*).

When questioned about a merger between France 24 and RFI, she told members of parliament on September 26th that she had “no intention of merging with RFI,

come what may.”

So the editorial teams at France 24, RFI and Monte Carlo Doualiya should remain separate. Ms. Saragosse wanted to clarify the situation so that “the employees of RFI can be left in peace” and “can focus on the real issues.”

Marie-Christine Saragosse's arrival was preceded by several people leaving AEF, including the head of France 24's editorial staff, Nahida Nakad.



[#France / France Télévisions cuts 200 million from budget](#)

During a meeting of the works council, the chairman of *France Télévisions*, Rémy Pflimlin, unveiled a plan to cut about €200 million in 2013. This is because state funding will decrease by 3.4% next year, while in 2012 advertising revenue will be between €50 and €55 million less than forecast. The state's budget allocation will also be frozen by €21 million.

In this context, more than the expected 550 jobs could be lost.

According to Director of Information Thierry Thuillier, a merger of *France Télévisions'* editors is also planned for 2015: *“The goal is to increase the news output on France Télévisions' channels by optimizing resources.”*

To show its concern, on October 2nd 16% of the Group's employees went on strike.

France Télévisions could limit its losses by extending the license fee to second homes (see below).

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PROGRAMMES

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[#Morocco / Moroccan public figures appear on Nessma TV's satirical programme Guignols](#)

Well-known public Moroccan figures have been added to the list of puppets in "Les Guignols du Maghreb".

Abdelilah Benkirane, Head of Government, Fouad Ali El Himma, advisor to the King, and Sheikh Abdulbari Zemzmi

are just a few of the luminaries now caricatured in the show.

Benkirane seems to accept this with a certain condescension, as he told a press conference: "I would say to these artists that if their intentions are good and they just want to make people laugh using my personality I have no problems. I forgive them."

According to Ms. Hassi, a journalist for Nessma, there will be no puppet representing King Mohammed VI nor André Azoulay his advisor. "Les Guignols du Maghreb" is broadcast every night at 20:15 (local time).

Finally, note that the private channel Echourouk TV has launched an Algerian version of the Guignols, "Coup Tordu" (Dirty Tricks), using 3D animation instead of puppets.



[#Algeria / Mediterranean radio stations to act as "rubbish collectors"](#)

On September 17th Copeam's Radio Commission (Conférence Permanente de l'Audiovisuel Méditerranéen)

met at the premises of Radio Tipaza, near Algiers.

According to a statement from Radio Tipaza, March 25th 2013 has been chosen as the launch date for "Rubbish collectors of the Mediterranean", during which "all Copeam's radio partners will be involved in a major operation to clean-up the shores of the Mediterranean."

Other points raised were the organization of a Mediterranean Week from March 18th to 24th 2013 and the setting up of an Arabic-language version of the programme "Kantara", broadcast throughout North Africa once a month.



#Belgium / Moroccan programmes celebrated on RTBF

From October 20th to 28th RTBF (French-language Belgian radio & television) is offering a special programme dedicated to cultural productions coming from Moroccan immigrants.

La Une will broadcast two reports filmed in Morocco for “*Grand Format*”. The first channel will also set up a mobile studio which will cover cultural events organized as part of *Daba Maroc 2012* in Brussels.

Several topics shown on “*Grand angle*” and “*Studio 2M*” will be broadcast on *La Deux*, as will performances of Belgian artists of Moroccan origin.

La Trois will broadcast live the opening night of *Daba Maroc 2012*, “*Brussels on Stage*” combining theatre, dance and music. Documentaries and films either made in or about Morocco will also be broadcast.

For more information: <http://www.rtbf.be/culture/> et <http://www.dabamaroc.com/fr/>



#France / October's “Mediterraneo” schedule

In “*Mediterraneo*” this month, a look at **the situation in Cyprus**: the Cypriot government asks for €11 billion from international financial institutions. A country which has no industry and whose economy is essentially based on a large number of small enterprises, including handicrafts.

A report about Nicosia's traders and craftsmen.

The economic crisis in Greece and its consequences

The Greeks are getting more and more exasperated by the austerity measures demanded by international investors, and new demonstrations brought together thousands of people mainly in Athens and Thessaloniki.

Agri-tourism in Sardinia

To maintain or develop their business in the current situation, small artisans and traders have had to adapt: economic development through diversifying their activity, allowing people to both maintain a rural economic structure and develop tourism. Agri-tourism has recently developed in Sardinia. With the back-to-nature trend linked to desire for good food, this type of accommodation is experiencing a huge success today.

Eastern Christians

The situation of Christians in East is increasingly fragile and many of them are fleeing Iraq in particular and Syria. Today there are between 15 and 20 million Christians in 17 countries, and during his visit to Lebanon, the Pope urged Christians not to be afraid and to work for peace. Today though it depends which Middle Eastern country one is talking about: Jordan, for example, where Christians make up 6% of the population, live in harmony with Muslims.



The Red Lizard

The “Red Lizard” (photo) is a train from another time, full of history. First it was a gift from France to the Bey of Tunis, who used it for his official journeys across the country, today the tourists take it to discover breathtaking landscapes along the gorges Selja. After the Tunisian revolution, fewer people used the train, but for those who go to Metlaoui station, the magic still works.

"Mediterraneo" is broadcast every Saturday at 11.30 on France 3 Corse-ViaStella, every Sunday at 11.30 on France 3 Provence-Alpes and France 3 Côte-d'Azur, and also every week on TV5 Monde.

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

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ECONOMY

[#Italy / Three candidates want to buy Telecom Italia Media](#)

[#France / The TV Licence to spread to second homes](#)



[#Italy / Three candidates want to buy Telecom Italia Media](#)

The media subsidiary of *Telecom Italia* is attracting envy. Recently put up for sale by the parent company, it is arousing the interest of *Clessidra*, a private equity fund manager, the American group *Discovery Channel* and the

telecommunications company *3 Italia*. These three candidates have each submitted a non-binding offer. The Mediaset group, owned by the Berlusconi family, as well as News Corporation, owned by the Australian Rupert Murdoch, have also expressed interest but have not yet made a formal offer.

Telecom Italia Media includes the television channels La7 and MTV Italia, but also has the news agency Apcom.



[#France / The TV Licence to spread to second homes](#)

The license fee is changing its name and, in 2013, its price. It will now be called “contribution to public broadcasting”. In the draft budget for 2013 it is expected to increase by €2, making a total of €129, one of the cheapest in Europe.

In addition, an amendment was introduced by Patrick Bloche, chairman of the National Assembly's Cultural Affairs Commission to extend this levy to second homes. An additional half-price licence may be required of second-home owners.

In 2011, the TV Licence brought in €3.2 billion for the state. That means it funded 85% of public broadcasting (*France Télévisions*, *Arte*, *Radio France*, *RFI* and *INA*).

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CINEMA

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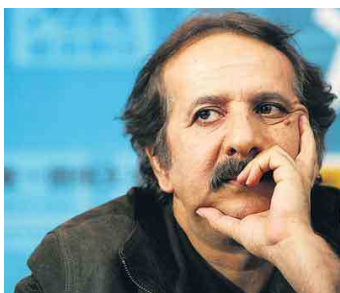
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[#Arab world / Several film projects about Mohammed](#)

In response to the film “*The innocence of Muslims*”, which created enormous controversy after its release on YouTube in September, there are several projects to make a fictional life of Mohammad in the Arab world.

In Tunisia, the international humanitarian organization Peace Without Limits will produce “*Mohamed Rassoul Essalam*” with a

Tunisian director. Shooting will take place in several Arab countries.

In Qatar, Alnoor Holdings launches into the production of a trilogy aimed at restoring “*the true image of the Prophet.*” Produced by American Barrie Osborne (“*The Matrix*”, “*Lord of the Rings*”), this project began in 2009, but its development has accelerated since last month's event.

Finally, the Iranian film “*Mohammad, prophet of God*” by Majid Majidi (photo), will soon be released in Iranian cinemas. Dubbed into Arabic, English, French and Spanish, this project received a substantial budget of €25 million.



[#Tunisia / Adnane Kheder appointed managing director of the CNCI](#)

On September 26th the former CEO of *Télévision Tunisienne*, Adnan Kheder (photo) was appointed managing director of the very new *Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image* (CNCI).

Having worked 18 years for Tunisian Television and served as chairman from January to August 2012 this will be his first

experience in the film industry.

He will have the difficult task of keeping Tunisian cinema afloat, in this organisation created last July and supervised by the Ministry of Culture.



[#Algeria / A film about the life of Krim Belkacem](#)

Since September the director Ahmed Rachedi (“*L’opium et le bâton*”, “*Mostafa Benboulaïd*”) has been shooting a film based on the life of the FLN leader (*Front Libération National*), Krim Belkacem (photo). Produced by the Ministry of Mujahideen and Télécinex, as part of the 50th anniversary of Algeria's independence, the film follows the career of the man who negotiated the Evian Accords in 1962 before being assassinated in Frankfurt in 1970 when he was fighting against the

government of Houari Boumediene.

Filming is currently taking place in Algiers and Oran, in Kabylia and Tunisia. With this film, Ahmed Rachedi, 74 years, becomes more than ever the film-maker associated with the Algerian war of liberation.



[#Morocco / Ridley Scott moves his next film](#)

Although American director Ridley Scott was going to make his next film in Tunisia, he changed his mind and went for Morocco. According to the website Emarrakech, the decision to leave Tunisia was caused by last month's violent events at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis and the subsequent climate of fear.

“*The Counsellor*” is Ridley Scott's 21st feature film. Filming began in London with a cast which includes Michael Fassbender, Brad Pitt, Cameron Diaz, Penelope Cruz and Javier Bardem. It is about a lawyer with financial problems who becomes involved in cocaine trafficking.



[#Lebanon / The Turkish film “Fetih 1453” censored](#)

Originally scheduled for September 27th, the Lebanese release of the Turkish film “Fetih 1453” is currently still being held up. Several Orthodox Christian parties have managed to have the film censored. Made by Faruk Aksoy with a budget of \$17 million, and lasting 2 hours 40 minutes, it is about the capture of Constantinople by the Ottomans in 1453.

According to Rodrigue Khoury, a member of the Al Mashreq Party, “the film is not about the battle between two empires, [...] but the battle between two civilizations, Muslim and Christian.” He argues that releasing “Fetih 1453” could cause “a conflict between Christians and Muslims.” According to the daily newspaper *L'Orient-Le Jour*, Al Mashreq and a committee of religious people applied to the state security forces to have the film censored.

“Fetih 1453” has been successful in Turkish cinemas, where it was released last February.



[#Spain / The cinema protection fund will shrink again in 2013](#)

On October 7th the Spanish film industry received another blow with the Government announcement of a 20% drop in the 2013 film protection funds.

In 2010 this fund, managed by the *Instituto de la Cinematografía y de las Artes Audiovisuales* (ICAA), had more than €89 million. In 2013, it won't have more than € 39 million available. The new budgetary restrictions are worrying for the *Federación de Asociaciones de Productores Españoles* (FAPAE). Indeed, most of the funds go into the programme which writes off the debts for films.

In 2013, this money, estimated at 50 million, should go to films released in 2011, leading to an impasse with ICAA and its new budget.



[#Italy / Fewer cinemas](#)

Like the studios at Cinecittà, the Maestoso cinema (photo) is currently occupied by its employees, worried about the survival of their place of work.

Built in the 1960's, Rome's first multiplex might see its activity come to an end in the coming weeks, as a result of the crisis.

The cinema generally has suffered a massive decrease in the number of spectators. According to figures released by Cinetel, from May to August 2012 cinemas lost 33% of their audience in relation to the same period in 2011.

Since 2002, more than 750 cinemas have closed in Italy, 60 this year.



[#U.S. / Candidates for Best Foreign Film Oscar](#)

Each country had until September to choose a film to represent it for the 2013 Oscar for Best Foreign Film. Here is a list of the films selected by the Mediterranean countries:

- Albania: "*Pharmakon*" by Joni Shanaj;
- Algeria : "*Zabana*" by Saïd Ould Khelifa;
- Bosnia-Herzegovina: "*Les enfants de Sarajevo*" by Aida Begic;
- Bulgaria: "*Sneakers*" by Valeri Yordanov;
- Croatia: "*Cannibal Vegetarian*" by Branko Schmidt;
- Spain: "*Blanche-Neige*" by Pablo Berger;
- France : "*Intouchables*" by Eric Toledano et Olivier Nakache;
- Greece: "*Unfair world*" by Filippos Tsitos;
- Israel: "*Fill the void*" by Rama Burshtein;
- Italy: "*César doit mourir*" by Paolo et Vittorio Taviani;
- Macedonia: "*The third half*" by Darko Mitrevski;
- Morocco: "*Mort à vendre*" by Faouzi Bensaïdi;
- Palestine : "*When I saw you*" by Annemarie Jacir;
- Romania: "*Au-delà des collines*" (photo) by Cristian Mungiu;
- Serbia: "*When day breaks*" by Goran Paskaljevi;
- Turkey: "*Where the fire burns*" by Ismail Günes.

This year there are no films from Tunisia, Egypt or the Lebanon.

The 5 films in the final selection will be announced on January 10th 2013. The Oscars ceremony will take place on February 24th in Los Angeles.

FESTIVALS AND MEETINGS

Festival of the month: The 19th Rencontres d'Averroès, in Provence (France), from October 24th to December 8th 2012



From October 24th to December 8th Marseille's Espace Culture is organizing the 2012 edition of the *Rencontres d'Averroès*. This annual event was created in 1994 by Thierry Fabre, the current Director of Cultural Development and International Relations at MuCEM Marseille, with Edgar Pisani and Jean-Marie Borzeix.

The 19th *Rencontres* will be on the theme “The City in danger? – Dictatorship, transparency and democracy” – an opportunity for discussion and debate about the relationship between the north and south of the Mediterranean.

The special section “Averroès screens” allows the general public to discover several Mediterranean documentaries, in partnership with the CMCA, INA and *Images de Ville*.

On October 24th “*Paroles et résistances*” by Timon Koulmasis and “*Unfinished Italy*” by Benoit Felici are scheduled at the *Théâtre de la Criée* in Marseille. Audiences can also see the first images of a project called “I remember the Mediterranean”. The screenings will be followed by discussions with the film-makers.

On October 27th, to round off a day devoted to Egyptian literature at Marseille's *Bibliothèque départementale*, Tahani Rached's “*Ces filles-là*” and “*Interdit*” (Forbidden) by Amal Ramsis will be shown with the directors present.

Other films to be discovered during the *Rencontres d'Averroès* are Isabel Coixet's “*A l'écoute du juge Garzon*” (Listening to Judge Garzon), Mohamed Diab's “*Les femmes du bus 678*”, “*Flashlight in the Mouth*” by Christos Chryssopoulos and Giannis Missouridis, “*Inland*” by Tariq Teguia, Merzak Allouache's “*Le repentir*” (as a sneak preview), “*Syrie : Le crépuscule des Assad*” by Christophe Ayad and Vincent de Cointet, and “*Mouss et Hakim : Origines contrôlées*” by Samia Chala.

But the *Rencontres* will also be adding in their traditional fare of exhibitions, round tables, live shows (theatre, dance).

A major concert will close the festivities on November 24th with contributions from the singers Emel Mathlouthi (Tunisia) and Djazia Satour (Algeria).

Find the whole programme of the 19th *Rencontres d'Averroès* [by clicking here](#).



Benoît Felici's "Unfinished Italy" shown as part of the Ecrans d'Averroès

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OTHER FESTIVALS

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[#Morocco / The Italian film “Cargaison” wins Grand Prix at the Tangier Festival](#)

10th Tangier Mediterranean Short Film Festival ended on October 6th. The jury awarded the Grand Prix to the Italian film “Cargaison” (Cargo) by Carlo Sironi. It is about a young Italian in love with a Ukrainian prostitute he accompanies every day to

work.

The Special Jury Prize went to the Moroccan Hicham Ayouch for “*Commes ils disent*” (As they say). The Croatian Jure Pavlovic won Best Director for “*Parapluie*” (Umbrella). Best Script went to “*Quand ils dorment*” (When they sleep) by the Moroccan Maryem Touzani.

An honorary award was given to British director Terry Gilliam, who came to Tangier to show his short film “The Wholly family”.

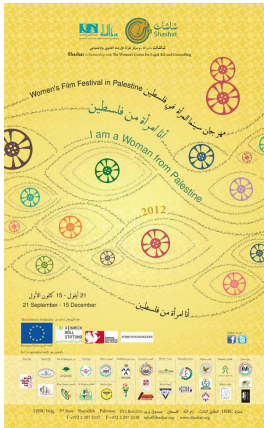
[#Israel / Call for candidates for the Docaviv festival](#)



Entirely devoted to documentary films, the DocAviv festival (Tel Aviv) is back for a 15th edition from May 2nd to 11th 2013. At last May's festival the jury of the Israeli competition gave the award to Reuben Brodsky's “Home Movie” and in the international competition the prize went to the South Korean Yi Seung-jun's “Planet of Snail”.

The call for nominations for the 2013 edition is open, all kinds of documentary are eligible. Applications should be sent before December 24th 2012.

[Click here](#) for more information and to enter your films.



[#Palestine / The Shashat festival continues until December 15th](#)

With the aim of encouraging Palestinian women film-makers, the Shashat Women's Film Festival began in September and will run until December 15.

For this eighth edition, one hundred screenings are planned in 13 towns in the Palestinian territories, including Gaza, Hebron, Ramallah and Jerusalem.

9 films make up the selection of the festival which is organized by “I Am A Woman From Palestine”, an organisation which teaches young Palestinian film-makers and regularly produces their films.

To consult the whole programme, [click here](#).



[#France / Call for web-documentaries for FIFE 2013](#)

In 2013 for the first time, the International Festival of Environmental Film will offer a competition specifically for web documentaries. The works selected will be judged and voted by web-users. The winner will receive €1,000.

Please note that there will be an out-of-competition selection as well. The festival runs from February 19th to 26th 2013 in Paris and the Ile-de-France. The call for web-documentaries is open until November 16th. The proposed works must be in French (VF, dubbed or with subtitles).

[Click here](#) for more information.



[#France / Focus on diversity and equality in Paris](#)

Founded in 2011, the *Festival Images de la Diversité et de l'Égalité* (FIDEL) returned for a second edition from October 18th to 21st at the *Palais de la Porte Dorée* in Paris.

Several screenings were organized around three main topics: “Contemporary Algeria”, “Women film-makers from the Arab world”, and “Mixed or Identity in Question”.

3 films were shown in pre-release: “*Aujourd'hui*” by Alain Gomis, “*Pays rêvé*” by the Lebanese Jihane Chouaib, and “*Rengaine*” by Rachid Djaidani. Also on the programme were 3 documentaries not yet released: “*Mbëkk Mi, Le souffle de l'océan*” by Sophie Bachelier, “*La moudjahida et le parachutiste*” by Mahdi Lallaoui,

and “*L'identité nationale*” by Valérie Osouf.

Finally, a programme of short Algerian films was followed by a public debate.

All the film-makers were present.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Find the list of every festival in October / November on our web-site:

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

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WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH

Med-Mem, Audiovisual Memories of the Mediterranean (www.medmem.eu)



On October 12th the Med-Mem website was launched in Marseille (photo), in the presence of Mathieu Gallet, Chairman of INA and Copeam, and Yves Rolland, Secretary General of France Télévisions and Chairman of the CMCA.

With nearly 4,000 films available to the public free of charge, Med-Mem, co-financed by the European Union within the Euromed Heritage IV programme, is the largest online collection of film archive material, devoted to the historical, cultural and tourist heritage of the Mediterranean.

Spear-headed by INA (*Institut National de l'Audiovisuel*), as part of COPEAM (*Conférence Permanente de l'Audiovisuel Méditerranéen*), Med-Mem brings together 20 partners including 14 TV channels from the Mediterranean region, three professional organizations and high-level cultural and scientific partners. Med-Mem offers the general public, especially younger generations, a trilingual web-site (English, French, Arabic) which can be navigated intuitively by subject, geographical area or historical period, enhanced by perspectives and viewpoints from over 40 specialists in the Mediterranean.

Outstanding documents, unpublished images: from Che Guevara's visit to Algiers in 1963 to the last television appearance of the poet Mahmoud Darwish in 2008, from the construction of the Suez Canal to the magic of Petra, the natural wonders of Montserrat or Capri to Bauhaus architecture or images from Nicosia in 1960, faces of Tunisian stringed-instrument makers to Croatian traditional singers, from the first Moroccan women's equestrian team to films about legendary footballers.

To make the web-site available to as many people as possible, it can be consulted in a network of educational and cultural institutions (museums, libraries, universities).



Med-Mem's aim is to encourage inter-cultural dialogue and an understanding of the shared history of the Mediterranean region.

CMCA is a partner of Med-Mem. The web-site's homepage shows a selection of cultural events taking place in the Mediterranean (film festivals, musical and other cultural events, seminars on Mediterranean issues). It also contributes to the dissemination of the web-site via its members.

→ www.medmem.eu

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THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WAY

[#Lebanon / Call for candidates for the Docmed training programme 2013](#)

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[#Lebanon / Call for candidates for Docmed training 2013](#)

In 2013 there will be another session of Docmed, the training programme for professionals in the Arab-Mediterranean world. The call for applications is open to producers and / or directors working on a documentary film project – they can be from Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Egypt or Palestine.

For the selected candidates the training will be in 3 parts, between March and October 2013. All aspects of pre-production (writing, budget development) will be discussed, and each participant will have the opportunity to present his or her project to international experts.

For more information and to download the application form, [click here](#).



[#Egypt / Egypt asks the Turkish media for help](#)

At a meeting on September 27th, Salah Abdel Maqsood, Egyptian Minister of Information (photo), asked the Turkish ambassador in Cairo, Huseyin Avni Botsali, for Turkey's help in restructuring Egyptian media .

The minister particularly emphasized the lack of financial means available to Egyptian television for building new studios to current standards.

“We have also set up an exchange and cooperation programme with Turkey in the fields of television, radio and news,” said Mr. Maqsood. He also said other projects are being considered, such as co-producing documentaries and entertainment programmes which would bring Turks and Egyptians closer together.



[#Romania / A workshop about documentary production in Bucharest](#)

On November 10th and 11th Documentary Campus, in association with DocuMentor, the association of Romanian documentary directors supported by the Romanian CNC, is offering a weekend industry event in Bucharest about the documentary market.

Four workshops will be open to anyone interested in learning more about the international documentary market, and in developing their skills and creativity. They will be led by Kate Quilton of Channel 4 (UK) and Liz McIntyre of Discovery International (USA).

The participation fee is €50. [Click here](#) for more information and to enrol for one of the two workshops.



[#Italy / Mediterranean co-production celebrated in Apulia](#)

On October 26th and 27th, Bari hosts the third edition of the Forum of Mediterranean Co-production. The aim is to encourage meetings between producers in order to develop projects for films about the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

20 projects pre-selected by the Apulia Film Commission will be presented, among which 7 are from the Southern Mediterranean: “*A maid for each*” by Maher Abi Samra (Lebanon), “*Absolute truth*” by Rukaya Sabbah (Israel), “*Stabat Mater*” by Tova Ascher (Israel), “*The curve*” by Assaf Rifqi (Jordan), “*The lost image*” by Mohamed Abu Sidu (Morocco), “*The righteous path*” by Okacha Touita (Algeria) and “*Poisonous roses*” by Fawzi Saleh (Egypt).

[Click here](#) for more information and the complete programme.



[#France / CFI organises a workshop on animated film](#)

From October 15th to 25th CFI and the *Communauté d'Agglomération de Valence* are organizing a workshop called Maarifa Lab Animation about “Animation in the Service of Education”, in *La Cartoucherie de Bourg-lès-Valence*.

It is aimed at producers and film-makers from North Africa and the Middle East. Thirteen participants, each with an animated film project that has an educational element, will work for ten days alongside recognized French animation

professionals. The final projects will be pitched on October 24th before an audience of broadcasters and producers.

Maarifa Animation Lab is part of the Maarifa programme, created in 2010 by the CFI. Its aim is to show southern Mediterranean and Middle Eastern media how television and digital media are bringing new opportunities for education.



[#France / A bursary for Mediterranean cultural projects](#)

The Marc de Montalembert Foundation is looking for Mediterranean based cultural projects. It gives grants of €7,000 to people under 30 living in a Mediterranean country who are working “in the field of culture or arts and crafts on a project which will help others discover Mediterranean cultures.”

Each project must be related to the candidate's personal vocation and must need a trip outside the country of origin to dig deeper into the chosen theme.

The deadline for submitting applications is December 31st 2012.

For more information [click here](#).

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STOP PRESS

[#Italy / Rémy Pflimlin new chairman of the Italia Prize](#)

[#France / Conference about the situation of Arab media](#)

[#France / Publication of a study about public broadcasting in the Arab world](#)



[#Italy / Rémy Pflimlin new chairman of the Italia Prize](#)

The chairman of *France Télévisions*, Rémy Pflimlin (photo) has been appointed chairman of the Italia Prize by the Annual General Meeting. This appointment was made shortly before the 64th Italia Prize, on September 22nd in Turin. This year's winner is a radio documentary “*Souteigai: Beyond imagination – Japan and the three disasters*”, offered by ARD (Germany).

The Italia Prize is given every year to the best radio, television and web programmes coming from 90 broadcasters worldwide.



[#France / Conference about the situation of Arab media](#)

As part of Panos World Network's annual meeting, which will be held in Marseille from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm in the *Maison de la Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur* (61 La Canebière, 13001 Marseille), the *Institut Panos Paris* (IPP) is hosting a conference on the theme “Is Springtime in the Arab World Media Possible?”.

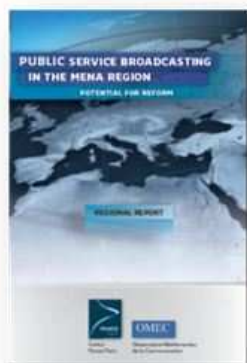
The conference is a continuation of IPP's project “Strengthening public service broadcasting in North Africa and the Near East” which aims to take stock of what has happened to the media since the beginning of the Arab Spring. The discussion will revolve around three main points:

- Digital media, social networks, private broadcasters, press groups: media pluralism at the service of regional geopolitics.
- Public service broadcasting: a new guarantor of independent news?
- How are the public reacting? Is there any citizen awareness?

The conference will be attended by key players in politics, the media and the academic landscape in the Arab world and the Euro-Mediterranean region.

If you want to be present at this event, enrol by sending an e-mail to: adrien.emangard@panosparis.org.

Additional information: www.panosparis.org.



[#France / Publication of a study about public broadcasting in the Arab world](#)

Panos Paris has just published a book entitled “*La mission de service public audiovisuel dans les pays du Maghreb et du Machrek*” (The mission of public service broadcasting in North Africa and the Near East).

This book is the result of a project which began before the Arab revolutions – its aim is to strengthen public service broadcasting in eight North African and Near Eastern countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia.

NGO's and experts associated with IPP and OMEC examine the many ways to assess public service broadcasting: how it is defined in each country, its objectives, its specifications, the legislation surrounding it, the resources available for it and the programme schedule.

This study has been done in partnership with Ammannet, Arabic Media Internet Network (AMIN), the Centre for Media Freedom Middle East and North Africa (CMF MENA), the *Ligue Algérienne de Défense des Droits de l'Homme* (LADDH) and the Maharat Foundation. Its publication has received support from Irish and Catalan organisations (Irish Aid and ACCD) and the Open Society Foundations. It is available on paper or electronically, in English or in French.

Contact: communication@panosparis.org.

Additional information: www.panosparis.org.

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