



N°91
December-January 2011

MEDITERRANEE AUDIOVISUELLE Monthly News letter

It's in the can! This year's winner has been announced and our Mediterranean festival has happened. For the 2nd time the International Festival of Mediterranean Documentary and Current Affairs Film took place in Marseille, an undeniable success both for the public and for the broadcasting people from all round the Mediterranean who flew in for the four days of this unique event.

The jury's deliberations, a conference, public screenings and the award ceremony – many powerful moments which all contributed to “Tell the Story of the Mediterranean” in all its forms, whether the fruit of its differences or the positive things that make up the mosaic of its cultures

10 prizes, three sponsored by broadcasting companies, were awarded in the presence of the finalist film-makers and the general public.

Once again the CMCA has fulfilled its role as a shop-window where films about the Mediterranean can be seen and taken up by broadcasters: we thank all those who organised, participated and supported this 15th festival.

We'll meet again next year!

In this special issue of the Letter you have the chance to find out who the winners are and how they reacted to their award.

Also in this issue, focus on Jordan's 1st Human Rights Festival; find out about the web-site “leJMed.fr” and of course your usual favourites: Life in the Channels, Programmes, Cinema, etc

Happy reading to all.

François JACQUEL

Managing Director of the CMCA

CONTENTS

HEADLINE STORY pages 4 to 19

LIFE IN THE CHANNELS pages 20 and 21

PROGRAMMES pages 22 and 23

ECONOMY pages 24 and 25

CINEMA pages 26 to 29

FESTIVALS pages 30 to 33

WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH page 34

CALL FOR PROJECTS pages 35 to 37

STOP PRESS... page 38

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Directeur de publication : Francois Jacquel

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CMCA - 96 La Canebière 13001 Marseille Tel : + 33 491 42 03 02 Fax : +33 491 42 01 83

<http://www.cmca-med.org> - cmca@cmca-med.org

Le CMCA est soutenu par les cotisations de ses membres, la Ville de Marseille, le Département des Bouches du Rhône et la Région
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HEADLINE STORY.....THE AWARDS FOR THE 15TH.....



**PRIX INTERNATIONAL
DU DOCUMENTAIRE
ET DU REPORTAGE
MEDITERRANEEN**



France Télévisions Grand Prix for the Best Mediterranean Documentary in the “Mediterranean Issues” category.

GAZA-STROPHE, THE DAY AFTERWARDS

55 minutes, 2010

Directors: Samir ABDALLAH and Khedrine MABROUK (Franco-Egyptian/Franco-Algerian)
Production: Les Yeux Ouverts, Iskra, RFO (France)



Samir Abdallah and Khedrine Mabrouk, the directors, managed to get into the Gaza strip on the 20th January 2009, the day after the cease-fire announced after the last major Israeli offensive, called “Hardened Lead”.

They are guided by Palestinian delegates of Human Rights along the narrow Gaza strip, following the tracks of the Israeli tanks. Camera in hand, they talk to dozens of eye-witnesses of this 22-day war against Gaza (27th December 2008 to the 18th January 2009) and, with the terrible event so fresh in everyone's mind, the stories they are told are remarkable for their precise detail, leading us to the heart of the Palestinian nightmare. A documentary which tells the Palestinian tragedy from the inside.

Samir ABDALLAH and Khedrine MABROUK

Samir ABDALLAH was born in Copenhagen (Denmark), with an Egyptian father and a Danish mother. Living in France from the age of 6, he acquired French nationality. He has been making documentaries and news films since 1983.

Having worked for ten years with Agence IM'Media, a specialist in immigration and urban culture, where he produced and directed a series of films for "*Rencontres*" a programme on France 3, he founded his own company, "*Les Yeux ouverts*" which organises film-making workshops in the difficult tower-block estates around Paris. Since 1994 he has run a network of public screenings for documentaries which express a critical view of the contemporary world. The network has more than 3,000 partners across France, Europe, Arab countries and the Americas....a network which he has just named CINEMETEQUE, aiming to get the cinema of these "superfluous people", resistance fighters, more widely known.

Kheridine MABROUK is passionate about comic strips and cinema. He is the author of a comic strip and for more than seven years worked as illustrator on different magazines. His personal projects are marked by their political commitment (*Hawwa*, a magazine to think about Islamic culture; *Grizlis*, committed communication...). He is known for a graphic style which draws on Eastern sources. His artistic universe, deeply inspired by the Arab world, sets him apart. He has been artistic director at different publishing houses, creating many collections for them. He is a graduate of the Gobelins school.

The directors' commentary:



"We dedicate this award to the memory of the Palestinians and victims of the war against Gaza in January 2009, during which, as the famous Goldstone report states clearly, war crimes and crimes against humanity were committed.

"The film symbolises a victory over the embargo of images coming out of Gaza, and over the siege which the one and a half million people who live on this tiny territory of 350 square kilometres have had to live with for far too long.

"Peace and Justice in Palestine, these are indeed the central issues in MARE NOSTRUM, our shared sea, the Mediterranean....To quote our friend Abdelhalim, the Palestinian delegate for Human Rights: this film has showed us images of war against Palestine and the Palestinians, I hope that in the years to come you will see films which speak of love, of life and joy in Palestine."

Award for "Mediterranean Memories". sponsored by INA

LES CHEMINS DE LA MEMOIRE

(Roads of Memory)

91 minutes, 2009

Director: José-Luis PENAFUERTE (Belgium/Spain)

Production Company: Man's Film Productions (Belgium)



Spain 1975: the death of Franco, the end of 40 years of a repressive regime which claimed hundreds of thousands of victims – orphans, prisoners, people exiled, deported, tortured. Today, more than 30 years after his death, Spain has only just begun to lift the veil on this troubled period and bring some justice to Franco's victims. For the first time, a film records the process of recognition and grieving which should allow Spain to live in peace with its terrible past.

José-Luis PENAFUERTE

Born in Brussels in 1973, of mixed Spanish and Belgian nationality, **José-Luis PENAFUERTE** spent his childhood in Brussels. In 1984 his exiled parents felt able to return to Spain, land of their birth and he spent several years there before returning to Belgium. He assisted in creating Brussels' first Spanish film festival. In 1993 he went to IAD (the Belgian film school), specialising in cinema and documentary making. His end-of-study thesis is about the political and artistic evolution of the Spanish film industry.

In 2001 he made his first personal documentary "**Niños**", which retraces the exile of Spanish civil war orphans. His second film "**Aguaviva**" (2005), is about immigration: it looks at a small Spanish village with a fast dwindling population. The few remaining inhabitants launch an appeal for foreigners to come and restore life to the place. With his third film "**Les Chemins de la Mémoire**", he continues questioning Spain's past and present, creating a bridge between the two cultures of his origins.

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The director's commentary



“Can a country re-invent its history every day? Although certain circumstances seem to invite political amnesia, reality always ends up proving the opposite. So lifting the veil of forgetting imposed by Franco, going beyond the terrible cost paid by the young democracy, Les Chemins de la mémoire tries to shed light on our recent past by letting those who have had to live an enforced silence for more than half a century finally tell their story.

It took nearly three years to make the film, but at least now we have a dusted-off, more accurate picture of this dark period of European history. With Les Chemins de la mémoire I wanted the public to be able to see and understand the hidden truth about Franco's repression and the crimes against Humanity, so quickly stifled by the urgent needs to bring democracy to everyone.”

Award for "First Film". sponsored by RAI

IO, LA MIA FAMIGLIA ROM E WOODY ALLEN

(Me, My Gypsy Family and Woody Allen)

50 minutes, 2009

Director: Laura HALILOVIC (Bosnia)

Production Company: Zenit Arti Audiovisive (Italy)

"Me, My Gypsy Family and Woody Allen" is about the Halilovic family. They came to Italy in the 1960's, from ex-Yugoslavia. For twenty years they lived in wooden caravans. This is a very personal story about the end of a nomadic life and the difficulties of living in council tower blocks. The story is told with irony by Laura, a young Romany woman.

According to the rules of her family she should be married, but she is determined to make her own decisions and to continue to fight to make her dreams come true.

A portrait of a small community, a personal and intense vision of the Roma culture.



Laura HALILOVIC

Born in 1989, Laura HALILOVIC has been working since January 2007 at the Audiovisual Laboratory in Turin (ITER project). In 2007 she made her first short film, *"Illusion"*, given a prize at the Sottodiciotto Film Festival and then broadcast on Rai3. *"Me, my Romany Family and Woody Allen"* (2009) is her first documentary.

The director's commentary



"I am happy to see my film win a prize at Marseille. For me the most important thing is that as many people as possible see the film and understand what the life of a young Roma is like. The situation of the Roma in Europe has been getting worse and it is important that people see that not all "gypsies" are delinquents. With this documentary I have been able to provide a more accurate picture of my community. A look from the inside, personal, deep and committed."

Award for "Mediterranean Art, Heritage and Culture". sponsored by Marseille Provence in 2013

LA MANO E LA VOCE

(The Hand and Voice)

54 minutes, 2009

Director: Anush HAMZEHIAN (Italy)

Production company: Zoulou company, France 3 (France)



With its origins doubtless in antiquity, the game of the Morra is making a come back, having been muted by certain moral considerations. It involves two (or four) players, who each put up a hand in front of them at the same time, showing 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 fingers while shouting out the number which, in their opinion, will be the combined total of their fingers with those of their opponent. A simple game, but extremely fast, demanding concentration – and it always generates a particular and fascinating tension. Anush Hamzehian, from Padua and director of a documentary on the subject, offers to take you into the game of Morra, from Trentin near Nice, Frioul in Corsica passing through Sardinia and the Italian Marches. "Seven! Eight! Seven! Seven! Three! Five! Morra!"

Anush HAMZEHIAN

Anush HAMZEHIAN was born in Padua, Italy, in 1980. Having studied communication he began his career as a video director and editor. He has made: "24 ore con la civiltà occidentale", a short film, 2001 ; 'Le città continue', 26 minutes, 2004 ; 'La dolce tragedia di Martone', 26 minutes, 2008 ; 'La mano e la voce', 52 minutes, 2009 ; 'Appunti su Sorrentino', 26 minutes, 2009.

The directors' commentary



"Marseille was my headquarters all the time I was filming "La Main et la voix"

So it really is an honour to be invited back to the Vieux Port to receive an award.

Thank you Marseille, thank you Zoulou Compagnie and France 3 Corsica, my producers who were far-sighted enough to put their money on a 52 minute film entirely about a game....I imagine they must have read Huizinga: one can deny the existence of almost everything abstract: justice, beauty, truth, goodness, wit and God. One can deny the serious. But one cannot deny the game."

Young Persons Award, sponsored by the Urban Community of Marseille Provence Metropole

ADIEU JERUSALEM ?

(Goodbye Jerusalem?)

52 minutes, 2009

Director : Alexandre FRONTY (Italy)

Producer: Zoulou Compagnie (France)



More and more native Christians are leaving the Holy Land, even though it was hoped Pope Benedict's official visit in May 2009, at the invitation of Israeli President Simon Peres, would make life easier for them.

For 2,000 years these Christians have survived every war, but for the past few decades those living on the West Bank in particular have been fleeing their ancestral lands. In Bethlehem they now represent only 10% of the population, against 45% in 1931. In Jerusalem there are no more than 0.5%. At this rate there won't be any more Christians in Palestine in the near future. "Soon there'll be nothing left but stones," says an inhabitant of Bethlehem, bitter and resigned. One of his sons has already left. The three others will probably follow him. "We're an endangered species," adds a priest, with a certain resentment. Shot mainly in Jerusalem and Bethlehem in March 2009, Alexandre Fronty's documentary takes us right to the heart of Palestinian families, showing how hard they find it to live with the rise of radical Islam and the hardships of the Israeli blockade, their "security wall" impeding all movement.

The Christians of Gaza are an even smaller minority, subject to the law of the Hamas. They dream of getting out to the West. Paradoxically the Israeli Arab Christians of Galilee live better than their Palestinian colleagues in the occupied Territories. This film gives them the chance to speak out in the places where the Pope went, mainly in Nazareth, after Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Alexandre FRONTY

Working for 20 years as a Europe 1 radio reporter, Alexandre FRONTY covered many international news situations before deciding to move into television, where he became a director in 1985. A specialist in religious and ethnic minorities in the Middle East, Africa and Asia, he has made some forty films of either 26 or 52 minutes for TF1, France2, France 3, France Ô, Arte, M6, Histoire, Odyssée, KTO, 13^{ème} RUE, la TSR, la RTBF, ... He also runs a production company, Zoulou Cie, which he created 14 years ago.

Director's Commentary



“This award touches us deeply because it's given by lycée students doing cinema as an option. They are often accused of being futile or superficial, but it's not true. These young people in their pre-exam year are clearly touched by the distress of the Christian Palestinians forced to leave their country.”

Special Jury Award. sponsored by the Local Authorities in Corsica

DEADLY HONOUR

58 minutes, 2009

Producer and director: Lipika PELHAM (Israel)



Narrated by Salma, a 15-year old girl, and based on an authentic survivor of honour killing, '*Deadly Honour*' documents multiple murders and attempted murders of young women in the Israeli city of Ramle. Juarish is a closed neighbourhood in Ramle where young girls grow up in fear anticipating their turn to face the killers. This fear is sealed with a code of silence – no one talks about the murders, no one goes to court. But everything changed on the day the body of a murdered woman was found in a disused well in the forest.

Lipika PELHAM

Lipika PELHAM is a British-Bengali journalist and writer who worked for the BBC in London for 12 years, before moving to Jerusalem in 2005. She has compiled and presented numerous programmes for the BBC World Service and BBC Radio 4 from Jerusalem. She was making a radio documentary for the BBC on honour killing in the Israeli city of Ramle when she decided the images were so powerful the subject had to be treated as a film.

Apart from being a journalist and film maker, Ms Pelham has also written a book, currently with a UK literary agent.

This is Lipika Pelham's first documentary. It took two years to make with extensive research and filming in a closed neighbourhood in Israel, where lawlessness and clan rule prevail to the extent that girls and women are killed, often with the permission or with the active participation of their family, because they have supposedly sullied their family honour. During the making of the documentary, the director and her cameraman were threatened numerous times and were attacked by men throwing stones. It was an ordeal, but a worthwhile one, as the film documents the testimony of the women who survived family honour killing.

Director's Commentary



"I would like to thank the CMCA for this award. It is a great honour for me and a wonderful recognition of the work. It took three years to make Deadly Honour. A dozen women dared speak up, appalled by the honour crimes committed in the town of Ramle in Israel. Others, who had survived this horrible crime, wanted to tell their story. My film, and with it now the CMCA award, is a homage to the courage of these women who confided in me and asked me to carry their story to the world."

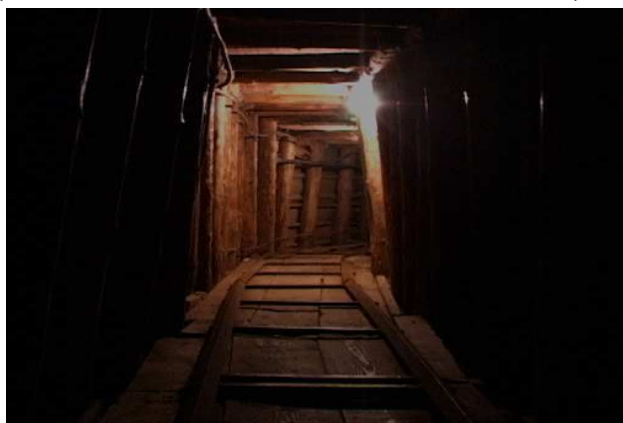
Award for "Investigative Documentary" sponsored by Radio France

LE TUNNEL, LE SECRET DU SIEGE DE SARAJEVO

52 minutes, 2009

Director: Nedim LONCAREVIC (France)

Producers : *8 et Plus Productions* (France) / *Lb Productions* (France) / *Archipel Productions* (France) / *Exclusivement Audiovisuel* / *RTBF* (Belgium) – with the participation of *Public Sénat* (France) and *France Télévisions Pôle France 3* (France)



Spring 1993, Sarajevo is under siege. Its inhabitants eat the final reserves of food, its defence force has no more ammunition.

In the house belonging to the Sloboda family (meaning freedom), a group of people begin to dig a tunnel towards freedom in the greatest secret.

Five months later a narrow passage is open, allowing food, ammunition and weapons into the besieged town.

It was a true life-line between Sarajevo and the outside world. French soldiers later discovered the existence of the tunnel and protected access to it.

Thanks to the tunnel, the Bosnian capital managed to survive the siege which lasted 130 days.

Nedim LONCAREVIC

After studying political science at Sarajevo University, Nedim LONCAREVIC began his career as a journalist in Yugoslavia. Between 1985 and 1990, he was head of the documentary magazine series *Black on White* for Sarajevo TV. In 1992, he was named Senior Editor for Sarajevo Television. He is also the author-director of several documentaries chosen to represent Yugoslavia in international festivals.

Director's Commentary



“Showing this film in Marseille is an invaluable recognition. It proves the story I tell is worth listening to. On top of that, the fact the jury obviously appreciated the film. Coming from all round the Mediterranean, they are clearly motivated by the same feelings as I am. And that immediately creates a strong link between professionals.”

TV5 Monde Broacasting Award for “Première Passion”

PREMIERE PASSION (First Passion)

54 minutes, 2010

Director: Philippe BARON (France)

Production Company: *Vivement Lundi!* (France)



Shot in Palestine in 1912, “From the Manger to the Cross” is the first full-length feature inspired by the Gospels.

An investigation taking us to Jerusalem, Nantes and New York, “Première Passion” unearths this film and helps us relive the place and period in which it was made, in Palestine at the start of the 20th century

By questioning this first cinematic attempt to show the life of Christ, Baron's documentary takes us on a journey to the origins of the cinema, making us think about the relationship between the image and religion.

Philippe BARON

Philippe BARON was born in 1963 at Rennes. He studied history and journalism. From 1987 to 1992 he was freelance, working on the television news of Antenne 2. From 1993 to 1998 he worked on programmes for France 3 “*Faut pas rêver*” and “*Strip-tease*”.

Amongst his documentaries: ‘*Deux Papas à Manhattan*’, 65 minutes, 2007 ; ‘*Neuf récits d’avortements clandestins*’, 54 minutes, 2005 ; ‘*Rue des Mésanges*’, 55 minutes, 2002 ; ‘*Andréa, née à 35 ans*’, 59 minutes, 2001 ; ‘*Robic & Bobet, duel sur le Tour*’, 60 minutes, 2000.



Director's Commentary

***“We make films to reach out to other people, in the hope that our films will cross the world and encourage others to travel.*”**

“I am very pleased I came to these two days of Mediterranean meetings. By showing Première Passion on TV5 Monde, the CMCA award will help the film reach a wider audience. And that makes me very happy!”

Via-Stella-France 3 Corsica Broadcasting Award "The Call of the Mountain"

THE CALL OF THE MOUNTAIN

52 minutes, 2009

Director: Stelios APOSTOPOULOS (Greece)

Production Company: Anemon Productions (Greece)



"The Call of the Mountain" is about a man who abandons his wife and child in Athens, after the murder of his cousin Helias in the White Mountains of Crete. Yannis comes back to this small, isolated community to confront his own past. He decides to honour his cousin's death by taking up his profession: in the White Mountains, which plunge into the Libyan sea, being a shepherd is a dying tradition, maintained by a handful of men.

Stelios APOSTOPOULOS

Stelios APOSTOPOULOS is a cameraman. For more than 15 years he has been photographing wild-life films, particularly underwater. He is a permanent collaborator with WWF and Greenpeace.

He is also a founder member of ANEMONA Productions in Athens.

"The Call of the Mountain" is his first long film.



Director's Commentary

"Winning the Via-Stella France3 Corsica Broadcasting Award is a great honour. But what is even more important is that The Call of the Mountain should be seen by French viewers who, I am sure, have many points in common with Greek viewers. The CMCA has also given me the invaluable opportunity to meet film-makers from all round the Mediterranean, to share our experiences and to exchange our ideas about documentary films and ways of telling stories."

RA1 3 Broadcasting Award for “Les Chemins de la mémoire”
See the synopsis above in the “Mediterranean Memory” category



José-Luis Penafuente : *“I am very honoured to receive this second award this evening. As a film-maker I make films so that the greatest number of people can see them. Thanks to this Broadcasting Award, Italian viewers will discover the horrors of 40 years of Spanish Fascism. And this wider knowledge of European history will give Italians additional means to consolidate their own democratic values and thus fight every form of intolerance and injustice.”*

**EXTRACTS FROM ALL THE FILMS, THE KEY MOMENTS
OF THE FESTIVAL ARE ACCESSIBLE ON OUR BLOG:**

www.prixcmca.wordpress.com

**Come and discover the winning films from this 15th Festival of Mediterranean
Documentary and Current Affairs Films at the Alcazar at Marseille, Saturday the 15th
January 2011 from 11.00 o'clock onwards**

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)



On Wednesday December 1st, thanks to the European Commission, there was a conference on “Telling the Story of the Mediterranean”.

In the presence of **Sixtine Bouygues**, pro-tem communications director at the European Commission and **Jean Réveillon**, Chairman of the CMCA.

Hosted by **Paul Amar**, the conference brought together members of the jury, all the filmmakers of this 15th Festival, producers from the region and many members of the public.

- The first part was **an assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Euromed News**, presented by the project's creators: **France Télévisions, the ASBU and COPEAM**
- The second part was about **communication tools and the media networks**, illustrated by two existing projects: a study of Mediterranean broadcasting production, carried out by RAI; and INA's MED-MEM project.

Finally, the debate posed the question “**Producing for whom? Viewers and broadcasters, trends and expectations**”.



LIFE IN THE CHANNELS

[Turkey / TRT to launch a channel in English](#)

[Morocco / Medi1 Sat becomes Medi1 TV](#)

[Morocco / Media war with Spain](#)

[Tunisia / a third TV channel?](#)

[France / Al Asqa suspended by the CSA](#)

[Euronews installs a permanent office at Qatar](#)



[Turkey / TRT to launch a channel in English](#)

Turkish Radio and Television is maintaining its drive for expansion by launching a third foreign language channel, this time in English, early in 2011.

Over the past two years TRT has launched two channels: one in Kurdish, the other in Arabic. TRT English will be an important addition to promoting Turkey, continuing TRT's drive to develop in non-Turkish speaking countries.



[Morocco / Medi1 Sat becomes Medi1 TV](#)

Medi1Sat, the Moroccan satellite TV channel based in Tangier since 2007, has become Medi1 TV. From now on it will also broadcast in analogue, competing against foreign channels like France24 (Arabic) and Al Jazeera.

Medi1 TV's schedules focus on news, debate, investigation, youth, sport, discovery and entertainment. Covering 74% of Morocco, Medi1 TV broadcasts 24 hours a day in Arabic and French.



[Morocco / Media war with Spain](#)

The Moroccan newspaper *Al Andath Al Maghribia* is taking the Spanish channel Antena 3 to court, accusing it of broadcasting a photograph in the wrong context. The image in question shows a domestic drama in Casablanca in January 2009, but was presented as showing events in Laâyoune last month. A few weeks earlier, the

Spanish national press published a photograph supposedly showing the violence of Moroccan authorities at Laâyoune, whereas in fact the picture was taken in Gaza in 2006. Diplomatic relations between the two countries are rarely easy, but these events have strained them further.



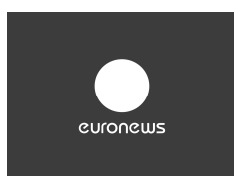
Tunisia / a third TV channel?

The project for a third television channel, "Carthage TV" could soon be a reality. Presenter-producer Sami Fehri and business man Belhassen Trabelsi are the driving force behind the channel.



France / Al Aqsa suspended by the CSA

On November 3rd 2009 the CSA issued a warning to the Palestinian channel Al Aqsa – which supports Hamas – that they risked infringing the ban on inciting hatred or violence for reasons of race, religion or nationality. Since Al Aqsa TV continued broadcasting without taking any notice of this warning, the CSA has asked Eutelsat to suspend the channel as part of the start of legal proceedings.



Euronews installs a permanent office at Qatar

The international news channel has decided to extend its presence by setting up a bureau in Doha. Maha Barada, a Lebanese journalist, will cover current events across the whole Middle East.

Euronews is the premier news channel in Europe. Broadcasting 24 hours a day, it has ten language editors and 350 journalists. Watched by 7.5 million viewers a day, it is received by 335 million homes in 155 countries.

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

PROGRAMMES

[France / “Web-series” arrive on Arte](#)

[France / Inquiry into the documentary “La cité du mâle”](#)

[England / A documentary on the death of Rafic Hariri cancelled by the BBC](#)

[France / A documentary on France-Africa](#)



[France / “Web-series” arrive on Arte](#)

The Franco-German channel's web-site has launched a web-series about young people in a sensitive area north of Bordeaux. Filming began in June, the drama is called *Addicts* and began transmission in November. In fact it began life as a short, financed by Arte – now it has become a web-series with a budget of €1.2 million. 90% of its actors are amateurs from the Aubiers neighbourhood. After the web-doc, the web-series confirms Arte as a major innovator on the Net.



[France / Inquiry into the documentary “La cité du mâle”](#)

Following the uproar provoked by the documentary “*La cité du mâle*” (The City of the Male) shown on Arte last September, revealing the macho culture prevalent in the mixed ethnicity tower-block estates round French towns, the film-maker Ladji Real decided to make his own investigation. Shocked by the film, which he considers “a caricature and staged” because it associates macho attitude and the homophobia of French society only with young men from the deprived areas and of foreign roots, Ladji Real went to Vitry sur Seine where the original documentary was made. He filmed witness statements by people living in the area “traumatised” by the enormity of the clichés put about by the “socially-deprived people” interviewed in the original film. The young director of short films and documentaries denies having made a militant film, saying he simply wants to set the record straight, far from the image of these estates common in the media and the collective imagination. Ladji Real hopes that his self-produced documentary will find a broadcaster – he has already contacted Arte.



[England / A documentary on the death of Rafic Hariri cancelled by the BBC](#)

The BBC has put a hold on a documentary about the death of former Lebanese prime minister Rafic Hariri, killed in 2005. The British public service company has decided to delay transmission of the film (the first in a series of three) to be sure it conforms to their editorial guidelines. Recently tension in the Lebanon has been building again, amid speculation that the Special Tribunal for Lebanon is about to issue an indictment blaming Hezbollah for the murder. This could provoke a new outbreak of violence and the end of the current government of national unity.



[France / A documentary on France-Africa](#)

The Frenchman Patrick Benquet has made a documentary investigating the links between France and Africa since independence. The film delves into the hidden Franco-African networks and takes another look at the incidents which have stained French diplomacy. The director wanted to "show that there is continuity from De Gaulle right up to Sarkozy....that there is a pattern and coherence to everything."

The film has two 80 minute episodes and will be available on DVD in December. It will also be shown on France 2 on December 9th and 16th.

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

ECONOMY

[France / Bonus channels. a bone of contention at Brussels](#)

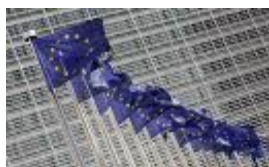
[France / Channel audiences](#)

[France / Battle ahead for football league TV rights](#)

[France / Cutbacks announced for RFI and France 24](#)

[Tunisia / Nessma TV maintains its third position in Tunisia](#)

[TV5 Monde: A budget increase in 2011](#)



[France / Bonus channels. a bone of contention at Brussels](#)

The European Commission has launched an infraction procedure against France for non-conformity with community law. TF1, M6 and Canal Plus are the three channels cited. Under a 2007 French law, each of the three private channels will automatically receive a so-called bonus channel when analogue broadcasting is shut-down on November 30th 2011. However the new DTT broadcasters (NRJ, BFM and others) have complained that this is "privileged treatment", and in 2008 alerted the European Commission. Having investigated the complaint, the EC has given its verdict: the allocation of the three bonus channels violates EC rules of transparency and non-discrimination. France therefore has one month to convince the Directorate General for Competition, otherwise Brussels will serve a reasoned opinion. If nothing is done within three months, the affair could go to the European Court of Justice, which is unlikely and, according to the French Ministry of Culture, undesirable.



[France / Channel audiences](#)

In November the long-established channels again captured less than 70% of the national audience, according to the latest *Mediamat Hebdo de Mediametrie*, while the DTT channels saw a rise of 0.9%. TF1 recorded the largest drop: 0.4 points against the previous month and 1.5 against 2009 – in real terms less than 25% of the audience.

Of the public service channels, France2 managed the highest increase in November (15.9% of the audience) and France 5 an average of 3.4%, the best monthly audience figure since the channel has been on-air 24 hours a day. France 3 consolidated its 3rd national position with 10.6% of the audience in 2010.

Of the DTT channels, W9 and TMC are in front, with Direct 8 getting the largest increase with the best score since its launch.



France / Battle ahead for football league TV rights

With so much money at stake, the next round of bidding for the television rights of the national league soccer matches for 2012 to 2016 is likely to draw blood. Several chairmen of the powerful League 1 clubs (including two former heads of TF1, Patrick Le Lay of Stade Rennais and Jean-Claude Dassié of OM) want to prevent Canal Plus getting control of the TV rights.

Since Orange dropped out, Canal Plus has no competition, so would be able to set the rights fee as low as possible. To avoid this risk, the Football League (LFP) has a project to start its own channel on DTT pay-TV, and this has the backing "without reserve and unanimously" of the union of professional clubs (UCPF). The LFP chairman presented the project to the CSA on December 13th. We shall know on January 11th whether this new football channel, called "C Foot", is going to be created.



France / Cutbacks announced for RFI and France 24

Cutbacks for broadcasting outside France have started, with the state grant slashed by 10%: €33.7 million over two years in real terms. To counter this, the group is planning to develop its own resources through advertising and by cutting staff.



Tunisia / Nessma TV maintains its third position in Tunisia

According to the latest opinion polls from the Sigma agency, Nessma TV remains the 3rd most watched channel in Tunisia, after TV7 and Hannibal TV. In November Nessma had 9.7% of the audience. The channel's directors worried that the publication of this last figure would result in a drop in advertising income.



TV5 Monde: A budget increase in 2011

TV5's budget for next year will reach €106.6 million, a 3.7% increase from last year's €102.7 million. This increase will be funded from two sources: public contributions and their own resources, which should represent €11.2 million, of which 5 million comes from advertising.

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

CINEMA

Italy / RAI increases its investments

Algeria / New funding available for the cinema?

Morocco / The problem of theatres remains while the cinema continues its progression

Algeria / The short “Garagouz” given 4 awards in 3 months

Algeria / Shooting a documentary about Abdelmoune Ben Ali El Koumi

Lebanon / Nadine Labaki is shooting her second feature film

Italy / “Bienvenue chez les ch'tis” does very well in Italy

Algeria / “Hors la Loi” receives two awards at Damascus

A Tunisian documentary confronts the taboo on virginity

Luc Besson wants to buy the rights to “Les Etoiles de Sidi Moumen”

Lux 2010 award for “We are Leaving”



Italy / RAI increases its investments

After 10 years' activity, RAI Cinema has announced it will increase its investment in cinema production by an extra €8 million a year for three years. There will also be special support for young filmmakers, with an annual grant of €2.5 million for low budget films screened on alternative platforms. RAI is also bringing back into

the fold “01 Distribution”, 100% owned by RAI and which now becomes a branch of the company.



Algeria / New funding available for the cinema?

Faced with an alarming situation in the Algerian cinema industry, the Minister of Culture has tabled a bill prioritizing the renovation of 300 cinemas and creating a 1% tax on advertising which will boost the Fund to Help Cinematic Production (FDATIC).

Tax exemptions for investors who put money into film projects are also being considered, as is making public money available for production

companies, distributors, cinemas and broadcasters and to finance training for people already working in the industry. However, the bill is contested by some parliamentarians who accuse the minister of offering state finance in order to control cinema production. An accusation rejected by the minister. As a reminder, only 10 to 15 films are made a year in Algeria, and there is no film school in the country.



Morocco / The problem of theatres persists, even though the cinema continues to progress

In 2010 the kingdom produced nearly 18 films, 100 short films and organised several now well-established film festivals. However, despite the "favourable seed-bed" in which Moroccan cinema is developing, the director of the CCM, Nour-Eddine Saïl, admits the lack of decent cinemas is a thorny problem. For example, the Tangier *cinémathèque*, which opened in 2006 in the former Rif Cinema, is going through a financial crisis because of the non-payment of public money promised for the last 8 months. Today there are 72 cinemas in Morocco as oppose to 250 in 1975.



Algeria / The short "Garagouz" given 4 awards in 3 months

"Garagouz", a short film made by the Algerian Abdenour Zahzah, added another two awards to its list at the "tous courts" festival at Aix-en-Provence. So far selected by 11 international festivals, it continues its career between Belgium, Spain, Canada, the Lebanon and Dubai. Some say it is favourite to win the Gold Ahggar at the next Arab Film Festival in Oran, starting on December 16th.



Algeria / Shooting a documentary about Abdelmoune Ben Ali El Koumi

In the wake of of "*Tlemcen, 2011 capital of Islamic culture*", a documentary about the life of Abd al Mu'min al Kumi has begun. This historical figure lived in the 12th century, during the Almohad Dynasty. A very well-educated man, he was the driving force behind the conquests which spread Islam across northern Africa. 52 minutes long, the film is being financed by the ministry of culture and is produced by *El Kanki*, an arts co-operative from Mostaganem. Ahmed Haroun is the principal actor.



Lebanon / Nadine Labaki is shooting her second feature film

After her first feature *Caramel*, which was an international success, the actress, script-writer and director Nadine Labaki has started making a new film, again with non-professional actors. *Et maintenant où ?* (And Now Where?) is a musical, both a burlesque comedy and a tragedy, shot in the Lebanon. It will be completed in the spring of 2011 and will be released a few months later.



Italy / “*Bienvenue chez les ch'tis*” does very well in Italy

The Italian adaptation of the French cinema's major success is doing very well in Italian cinemas. “*Benvenuti al Sud*” is about a northern Italian who has to move to the Naples area. Directed by Luca Miniero, the film is already top of the national box office for 2010 with a box-office take of €20.9 million.



Algeria / “*Hors la Loi*” receives two awards at Damascus

Rachid Bouchareb's latest film has won the Gold Award and the prize for Best Arab Film in the 18th Damascus International Film Festival. It will also open the Arab Film Festival in Oran on December 16th.

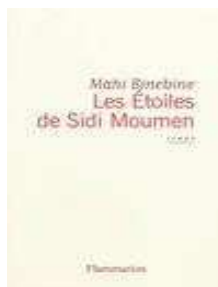
“*Hors-la-loi*” is about three Algerian brothers living in Paris after the Sétif massacres, following their careers at the heart of the FLN until Algeria's independence. In September the Franco-Algerian director was accused of plagiarism by two script-writers – the case has been dismissed by the *tribunal de grande instance* in Paris.



A Tunisian documentary confronts the taboo on virginity

The Belgian-Tunisian director Jamel Mokni has made a political film about the suffering of Muslim women who lose their virginity before marriage and resort to hymenoplasty. Large numbers saw the film when it opened in Tunis, though it was not selected for the *Journées Cinématographiques* at Carthage. The subject matter is one of the great taboos of the Arab world. Jamel Mokni, aware that many people are upset by his film, claims it was censored by the *Journées*

Cinématographiques, an accusation denied by the festival organisers. In the meantime he hopes that his film will cause debate and reasoned discussion. “*National Hymen – an Islamic problem*” will be shown soon on TV5 Monde.



Luc Besson wants to buy the rights to “*Les Étoiles de Sidi Moumen*”

EuropaCorp, Luc Besson's production company, is currently negotiating to buy the rights to the Nabil Ayouch's next film.

Les Étoiles de Sidi Moumen, named after the largest shanty-town in Casablanca, is about the people who planned Morocco's first suicide bombing in 2003. Mahi Binebine's novel of the same name has won several prizes and had a lot of success. A script taken from the book was selected by the *Cinefondation du Festival de Cannes*, which means it gets

seen by professional investors who will boost its international visibility.



[Lux 2010 award for “When we Leave”](#)

The European Parliament's Lux Award has been given to Feo Aladag's German film “*Die Fremde*” (When we Leave”). The film is about a young German woman of Turkish origins who flees Istanbul and an oppressive marriage to go back to Berlin with her son. But that's where her problems begin.

The Lux Award is given by members of the European Parliament. The winner receives the equivalent of €87,000 in the form of specific post-production work so the film can get full European distribution: translating it into every official EU language with a version for the visually impaired and hard of hearing.

Last year *Welcome* won the award and in 2008 *Le silence de Lorna*.

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

FESTIVALS

CLOSE UP ON.....KARAMA, Human Rights Film Festival



Karama is Jordan's first Human Rights Film Festival. It opened on December 5th and closed on the 10th, which was also Human Rights Day across the world. The Festival took place in, amongst other places, Amman's Royal Cultural Centre. There were also screenings and debates outside the capital.

27 films were screened, as well as debates and artistic events related to the films.

Many issues were tackled: the rights of Egyptian women to live their sexuality freely outside marriage; a first experience in China of a democratic vote by young children in primary school; images of Gaza after Israel's "Operation Hardened Lead"; the status of women in Syria and their difficulty in being able to work; life in Baghdad over the past four years; Liberia's new start after 14 years of war and the election of their first ever president.

As part of Karama's educational programme, and in collaboration with the Royal Film Commission, there was a workshop to make people aware of Human Rights issues at the local and regional level.

Various side events were organised to give the Jordanian public a taste of different forms of art: photography through the exhibition "The Conscience of Art", music with Kamilya Jubran and Werner Hasler in concert, theatre with "Gaza Monologues", dance with "Dame un Segundo" (Give me a Second) and a collection from the Gaza Video Art Festival.

For more information: <http://karamafestival.org/>

Other Festivals



Algeria / 4th International Festival of Arab Film

This year's Festival will be held in Oran from December 16th to the 23rd. A total of 13 feature films and 21 short films are in competition, the guests of honour are the Gulf states, which now organise two international festivals themselves, one at Dubai and the other in Abu Dhabi. The Algerian novelist Rachid Boudjedra will be chairman of the feature film jury and the Tunisian producer/director Brahim Letaief chairman of the short film jury.



Dubai / ARTE gives an award to the Dubai International Film Festival

The "ARTE award for International relations" will be given to the best feature film project presented at the "Dubai Film Connection", a pitching market to encourage Arab cinema and develop relations between Middle Eastern film-makers and international professionals. The "Dubai Film Connection" is part of the Dubai Festival, December 12th to the 19th 2010



Morocco / 12th Tangier National Festival

The next Tangier Festival will open its doors for 9 days from January 21st. The official competition will consist of feature-length and short films produced after September 1st 2009. The last day for registering is December 20th for short films and December 25th for long films.

Contact: <http://www.ccm.ma/fnf12>



Tunisia / Days dedicated to European cinema

From November 23rd to December 12th North African and European film-makers were able to discuss their work together, present their films and debate with the public in eight Tunisian towns as part of the 17th Days of European Cinema. The event was created by the European Commission in Tunisia to "strengthen the exchanges between Europe and the

Mediterranean". So through the 35 films from both sides of the Mediterranean the audiences got to know their neighbours from the north and from the south, inevitably improving inter-cultural understanding.



Italy / The Festival of Mediterranean Film had its 16th edition in Rome

Recognised by Italy's ministry of cultural activity as a Festival of national interest and a Historic Event in Rome, this year's MEDFILM Festival invited both Spain and the Lebanon as its guests of honour. In parallel with the screenings, there were "professional days of Euro-Mediterranean cinema", to foster co-productions between Europe and the Mediterranean countries and to improve distribution of films within the region.



Mauritania / 5th Mauritanian National Film Week

Held during the last week of the November, this year's Festival was based around the theme of African independence : "50 years of independence, 50 years of hope". More than 24 film-makers, African, European and Asian were present. 60 films were shown, including 48 from Mauritania itself.



Tunisia / A festival of environmental film

The 8th Kairouan Festival took place between December 4th and 8th with a slogan "The future is in our hands". 70 environmental films from the whole world were screened, many about global warming.



Belgium / Arab films given awards at the Brussels Festival of Independent Film

The list of winners of the 37th Brussels Festival of Independent Film, which took place between November 2nd and the 7th, included several in Arabic.

- The Tunisian director Raja Amari took two awards for his film "Secrets": the Special Jury prize and the "Tomorrow's Cinema" award.
- Yosri Nasrallah's "The Women of Cairo" won Best Script award.
- The Best Actor award went to Hassan Mrad for his part in "When the Rain Comes" by the Lebanese director Bahji Hoieii.



France / France Télévisions receives 8 awards at the International Scoop Festival

During the 25th International Scoop Festival at Angers, the public service group took 8 awards.

- **The Grand Prix** for Daniel Lainé and David Geoffrion's documentary "*Congo, le rafiote de l'enfer*" soon to be broadcast on France 5
- **The Special Jury Prize** for Bernard Nicolas and Jacques Massard's "*France Télécom: les apprentis sorciers*" broadcast in *Envoyé Spécial*
- **The Best Documentary award** for "*Nigéria: les forçats de la lagune*" by Philippe Lespinasse and Denis Bassompierre broadcast in *Thalassa*.
- **The Young Reporter award** for Cécile Tartakovsky and Claire-Marie Denis' report "*Un petit air de famille*" broadcast in *13h15* on France 2
- **Best Investigation award** for the documentary "*La juge et l'affaire des dioxines*" by Clarisse Feletin broadcast on France2
- **The award for Information and Scientific Investigation** for Yannick Rose and Stéphane Nicolopoulos' film "*La Terre perd le Nord*"



Morocco / 10th Marrakech International Film Festival

The Jury, chaired by John Malkovich, gave awards to the three following films, selected from the 15 in competition:

- The Grand Prix/Gold Star went to Park Jungbum's **THE JOURNALS OF MUSAN** (South Korea)
- The Jury Award was split between Alejandro Gerber Bicecci's **BECLOUDED** (Mexico) and Vanja d'Alcantara's **BEYOND THE STEPPES** (Belgium and Poland)
- The Best Actor award was split between David Michôd's **ANIMAL KINGDOM** (Australia) and Feo Aladag's **WHEN WE LEAVE** (Die Fremde) (Germany)

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

WEB-SITE OF THE MONTH

www.leJMed.fr

The Mediterranean people's newspaper



“All the Mediterranean, nothing but the Mediterranean”

Created in October 2009, *leJMed.fr* is a web-site dedicated entirely to the Mediterranean. In the spirit of the founding principles of the Union for the Mediterranean, established in Paris on July 13th 2008, the web-site's aim is to contribute to the humanist project of constructing a better way of life for everyone across the whole Mediterranean region, by fostering shared knowledge, respect and cooperation between the two sides of *Mare Nostrum* (or the White Sea as Arabs and Ottomans call it).

To do this, *leJMed.fr*'s first concern is to spread information about the people committed to this great project – men and women from every country of the region and every background – business people, academics, politicians, people working in culture....but also ordinary citizens from the world of associations and charities.

leJMed.fr is brought up to date every day, including Saturday and Sunday, since these are working days in some southern Mediterranean countries. *leJMed.fr* is a general interest information site: like a regional newspaper it looks at any subject of current interest – territory, economy, culture – across the whole of the Mediterranean area.

In its “*Persona Grata*” column, *leJMed.fr* publishes comment, academic analysis or portraits of people of every sort from every country who share an active commitment to the humanist ideal of a peaceful, prosperous and brotherly Mediterranean. In 2011 *leJMed.fr* will strengthen its editorial capacity thanks to partnerships with several Mediterranean media companies currently being concluded.

leJMed.fr was the brain-child of of Alfred Mignot de Campani, a “Mediterranean journalist living in Paris” whose previous claim to fame was as founder and senior editor of the French weekly “*Courrier International*” (1990) and the magazine and web-site *VoxLatina.com* (2000), both dedicated to the French language and the Mediterranean. He also established the magazine “*Paris Diplomatie*” (1983) published by the *Académie Diplomatique Internationale* (ADI, Paris).

Email: contact.redaction@LeJMed.fr

[Return to contents](#)

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Directeur de publication : Francois Jacquel

Rédaction : Valérie Gerbault, Marianne Roux-Bouzidi

CMCA - 96 La Canebière 13001 Marseille Tel : + 33 491 42 03 02 Fax : +33 491 42 01 83

<http://www.cmca-med.org> - cmca@cmca-med.org

Le CMCA est soutenu par les cotisations de ses membres, la Ville de Marseille, le Département des Bouches du Rhône et la Région Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur

CALLS FOR PROJECTS

Call for Balkan short films

Competition for Mediterranean shorts and documentaries

Competition for short animation films on arte.tv

ARTE France launches a call for projects for a series of 40 26 minute documentaries to be broadcast during prime time

The Eurimages Prize announces a new rule for candidates

Third competition "The cinema and work"

Call for Balkan short films

Short Screens, a partnership between *Format Court* and *Artatouille asbl*, is looking for short films from the Balkan countries to put on the programme of the Balkan Trafik Festival, which will take place in April 2011 in Bozar. Send your films before February 28th 2011 to the address below:

Marie Bergeret
287 chaussée de Boondael
1050 Brussels (Belgium)



Competition for Mediterranean shorts and docs

"*Pêcheurs d'images*" (Fishers of images) is launching an appeal for films for the 11th **Competition of Short Drama and Documentary Films**, part of the *Mediterranean Film*

Weeks, held in Lunel, southern France from March 30th to April 12th 2011.

"*Pêcheurs d'Images*" tries to fight discrimination by encouraging integration through the cinema. It uses film as a vehicle for inter-cultural dialogue and as a tool with which to understand the world.

More information can be found at www.pecheursdimages.fr

The competition is open to all film-makers from the Mediterranean area. The film must have been made after January 1st 2009 and must not have won an award at any other festival. The maximum length is 18 minutes for dramas and 52 minutes for documentaries. These latter must be about some aspect of the Mediterranean.

The DVD's must arrive before the 31st December 2010 at the following address:

Pêcheurs d'Images
36 avenue Gambetta
34400 Lunel
France



[Competition for short animation films on arte.tv](http://arte.tv)

ARTE is launching its fourth competition for short animation films made by students on animation courses, and this year it will include French-speaking Switzerland.

The students of French, Belgian and French-speaking Swiss film schools or on university courses in those countries have until the 13th May 2011 to send their animation films to *Trois Fois Plus* (15 rue Martel 75010 Paris), co-producer of ARTE's magazine *Court-circuit* (Short circuit).

Web-surfers can watch and vote for the short films in the gallery of *Court-circuit's* web-site. For more information: <http://php.arte-tv.com/court-circuit-off/index.php?page=concours>



[ARTE France launches a call for projects for a series of 40 26-minute documentaries to be broadcast during prime time](http://www.arte-tv.com)

ARTE France is launching a call for projects for five documentary series (40 films of 26 minutes each) which will be broadcast at prime time as from the fourth quarter of 2011,

These series must have a French-speaking presenter (man or woman), show viewers original activities, places or territories and be attractive for ARTE's audience. The text of this appeal for projects is available at www.artepro.com. The closing date is 5.00 pm on January 14th 2011 (instead of December 22nd 2010)



[The Eurimages Prize announces a new rule for candidates](http://www.eurimages.org)

The Eurimages fund, through which the Council of Europe supports the co-production, distribution and exploitation of European films, has announced that a new rule will come into force on January 1st 2011.

From now on, candidates applying for production grants must already have 50% of their finance in place in each of the co-producing countries *before* they submit their application. This will reduce the time it takes to examine the projects from 11 weeks to 7. Although this new eligibility rule will be applied strictly, to take into account the particular demands of the industry there will be a certain flexibility about another rule, that filming must not begin before the Funding Committee has met.

Now producers will be able to start filming before the Committee meets – on condition they have received prior authorisation from the Eurimages office. They must not complete more than half the filming before the meeting.

At the moment, producers will only have one opportunity to represent their projects if they fail the first time. Finally, Eurimages will expect to be given one digital copy of the final cut of every grant-aided film.



Third competition “The cinema and work”

This competition is organised by the Autonomous Region of Sardinia's Work Agency.

The theme of each film must be the work situation in Sardinia, in any of its forms, including immigrants arriving in Sardinia looking for work or Sardinian emigrants working outside the island.

Maximum length for the films (drama or documentary): 30 minutes

Deadline: December 31st 2010

Download the rules and application form

<http://www.regione.sardegna.it/j/v/59?s=1&v=9&c=45&c1=45&id=21679>

[Return to Contents](#)
[Return to head of chapter](#)

STOP PRESS.....



On November 25th a Royal decree nominated **Bayan Tal** Managing Director of Jordanian Radio and Television.



On December 1st **François Guilbeau**, Director of France 3, was elected chairman of the *Communauté des Télévisions francophones*. The next annual meeting of the CTF will be in Geneva from May 26th to 28th 2011.

The fourth AGM of the **African Union of Broadcasting** was held in Algiers on November 29th and 30th with 25 countries taking part. The principal issue on the agenda was the move from analogue to digital broadcasting, a challenge for the future of African television. The meeting also tackled the question of sporting rights, particularly for soccer competitions.



Morocco wants more women in the media. A recent study by the national union of Moroccan press finds that women are under-represented in their media, being only 26% of the kingdom's journalists. A council of Gender and the Media has just been set up to try to correct this lack of equality.



On December 1st, as part of the 2010 International Press Awards, a **special award** was given to **Hervé Ghesquière** and **Stéphane Taponier**, who have been held hostage in Afghanistan for over a year.

[Return to contents](#)

Translated from the French
by
Tim King