Screen Directors: **Shaping a Rich and Diverse Future Through Stories**

MAKE AGORAEU WORK FOR CREATORS



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As filmmakers, we start with a set of tools and start crafting a project which will take shape within the frame of what we have at hand.
Give us a pair of actors and a fridge in an empty apartment and we'll start from there, knowing what we have to work with.
Give us an old-fashioned wedding dress and the entry to the Natural History museum and here's the stage for something else.
The thing is : now things are on their way, we need the fridge or the natural history museum or the wedding dress that were initially announced.
Support structures are just the same, they are part of the **economical and political landscape** we work in, and which shape from the start the way we tailor our films. **Knowing what we can count on is key to a solid creative process.**

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We are going through a difficult period for culture and cinema in Europe. Now is not the time to cause a stir, introduce uncertainties or change the funding conditions. We **need stability** so that we can continue to plan ahead and stay on track despite the hardships we are all facing. If we start merging budgets, mixing funds for cinema with those for other audiovisual activities, we will lose our way. **Budgets earmarked for cinema must remain so.** Flanders, for example, scrapped its regional fund overnight. The entire Belgian film ecosystem was thrown into turmoil.

We need **funding** that is clearly **identified**, **protected** and **predictable**. Without this, it is impossible to plan, take artistic risks, or guarantee the continuity of European filmmaking.

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