



WELCOME TO FIPADOC

Dear Italian friends, we are very pleased to invite you to the 6th edition of the FIPADOC during which Italy will be under the spotlights as our 2024 Focus territory!

► **About FIPADOC**

FIPADOC is the first major documentary film festival in the circuit of international events. Held in January in Biarritz, it gathers members of the public along with professionals and offers more than 180 documentaries screened (short, one-offs, feature length and immersive experiences), with more than 50 countries represented, 15 awards and +32.000 spectators.

Within the festival, the Industry Days are the not-to-be-missed professional event where decision-makers and talents meet up and connect for creative projects in development or in production, with more than 2.300 attending professionals, +50 sessions (workshops, round tables, case studies, pitch sessions, conferences, meetings, and special screenings) and +200 experts, speakers, and moderators. Being an undisputable European hub for professionals, FIPADOC also relies on a stable and regular French participation (directors, producers), due to its support from the French institutions, film institutes & guilds (CNC, LaScam, SACEM, PROCIREP) and broadcasters (France Télévisions, ARTE, Canal +, LCP, Public Sénat, Mediawan, Ushuaïa TV and Histoire TV).

► **Location**

The festival takes place in Biarritz (France), located on the Atlantic coast near the Spanish border. The city provides a welcoming and intimate atmosphere. The municipality generously opens its doors to the historical buildings for the event. One of the highlights is the venue for the Industry Days, the Bellevue, a spacious 19th-century structure with windows overlooking the ocean.

► **Dates**

Festival: **January 19th – 27th, 2023**

Industry Days: January 22nd – 26th, 2023

THE FOCUS TERRITORY

To emphasize its European dimension, FIPADOC celebrates every year the richness and diversity of documentary creation in a particular European region.

We were delighted to welcome key professionals and audiovisual funds/organizations from Germany (2019), Sweden (2020), Visegrad (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia; 2021) and Benelux (2022). Last year, we welcomed Finland and the Baltic countries (2023) with the support of key partners such as the Finnish Film Foundation, the Estonian Film Institute, the National Film Center of Latvia, and the Lithuanian Film Center.

In 2024, our Focus turns towards **Italy** and will be the opportunity for new connections and beautiful discoveries.

► FOCUS across programmes

FIPADOC will offer a specifically designed programme for Italy within the Festival, the Industry Days and Campus. It will create visibility by displaying Italian documentaries to a large French audience during the Festival, through screenings of a curated selection of films and a special mention to all the films from this territory.

► Coproduction at FIPADOC

There will be an emphasis on coproduction and staging formal and informal networking events for attendees. A through line will be to explore the coproduction opportunities between France and Italy as our Focus territory.

THE FESTIVAL



► FOCUS included in the selection:

A specially curated Focus Selection will showcase **six films** from Italy, in order to highlight the contemporary Italian creation. Presented as part of the main programming, the films will be screened twice during the whole festival, the first screening of each film being followed by a Q&A session with the invited director.

We also ensure the presence of Italian documentaries across all competitive selections:

- International (€5,000)
- Musical (€5,000)
- Impact (€5,000+ €5,000 in license)
- New Talent competition (€3,000)
- European Stories (€3,000)
- Shorts (€3,000)
- Smart (2 x €3,000)

All film submissions from Italy will get a 50% discount.

Highlights of the 2024 edition:

✔ Taste of Doc

Our Taste of Doc section, focusing on films featuring gastronomy, food, and the environment, might also be an opportunity **for Italian docs to be highlighted**. Basque Country is known for its unique cuisine with local products and top chefs. FIPADOC wants to bring together the local food culture and international films about food, gastronomy, and better alimentation.

✔ Impact Films

One of the pillars of FIPADOC' is showcasing and stimulating films that are made with impact in mind. The festival will screen a unique selection of impact films, and the IMPACT Lab will bring together creators to work on their impact strategy.

✔ Noncompetitive selection on sports

Because of Olympic Games taking place in France in summer 2024, we will have a selection of films on sports.

CAMPUS

✔ Education at FIPADOC

We believe that image appreciation and the discovery of documentary film through unique and emotionally powerful works are essential for creating interest and engaging future generations.

Our educational program labeled under the name "CAMPUS" is a great opportunity for people to gain exposure to the documentary genre, to spark dialogue through various works, and to meet creators from all over the world.

Our target audience varies from pupils in primary to high school, to students in higher education and training (film, audiovisual and journalism), young professionals with first projects as well as education and cultural mediation professionals.

✔ CAMPUS is at work both during the Festival and the entire school year for youth and up-and-coming film professionals. The activities include:

- NEW TALENT selection
- YOUNG EUROPEANS JURY
- School screenings



INDUSTRY DAYS – FORUM



International Co-production Forum

Over the course of two days, 24 international projects will be presented to a large professional audience (commissioning editors, distributors, sales agents, producers, and funds).



Among this selection 2 to 4 Italian projects will be presented and highlighted.

Italian filmmakers are invited to submit their projects until mid-November. Submissions of projects that are produced in Italy are free of charge.

Producers meet Producers

During this 2-hour long session of one-to-one meetings, **6 Italian producers will meet their French counterparts** to exchange about their slate of documentary projects and broaden their networks. These meetings are prearranged by FIPADOC in collaboration with its partners upon application by the participants and their meeting wishes. Coordinated by experienced and renowned matchmakers, these sessions are also an opportunity to mingle with participants of the two other sessions (Spain and the Visegrad countries).

Deadline mid-December



INDUSTRY DAYS – TALKS

A selection of panels that will be organized during the Industry Days:

► Meet the Frogs

French Broadcasters: This 2-hour session gives an overview of the different slots of the French Broadcasters (Arts/Culture, Science, History and Society & Politics) and what are the coproduction opportunities with major broadcasters (France Télévisions, ARTE, Canal +, LCP, Public Sénat, Mediawan, Ushuaïa TV, Histoire TV).



► **How to coproduce with France:** This 1-hour long session moderated by CNC (Centre National du Cinéma), will introduce the French documentary industry, including rules and regulations on how to work within the country, followed by a Q&A. Case studies brought by French producers will shed a light on this specific topic.

► **Thematic Session on Italy:** In collaboration with our partners and staging an Italian expert, we would like to host a organize one-to-two-hour long sessions that explore the rich creative documentary landscape of Italy with highlights on successful films and potentially coproductions with France. Such as we did in 2023 wit the *Dive into the Baltic Sea* session, moderated by Zane Balcus (Baltic Sea Forum, Riga). This session should be a balanced mix of **How to coproduce with Italy** (during which Italian funds (national & regional) representatives will introduce the documentary industry of their territory, rules, and regulations on how to work within their territory) and **Italian broadcasters** (to present the broadcasting opportunities in Italy for international professionals).

DELEGATIONS & MATCHMAKING

Each year FIPADOC invites delegations from strategic regions to its Industry Days and the Festival in order to enhance networking opportunities. Each delegation, including the Italian one, would be accompanied by a dedicated matchmaker before and during the event. Matchmakers organize informal meetings and gatherings among delegations.

► Visegrad-group Countries

In 2021, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary were our Focus Territory. Due to the success of the Focus, we regularly invite a delegation of key professionals from Visegrad since then. We will set up pre-arranged meetings between Visegrad producers and French producers during the Industry Days. This delegation should be mentored by Zdenek Blaha (IDF, East Doc Platform).

► Basque Country / Euroregion and Spain

A group of producers from the Euroregion Basque Country, Navarra and Nouvelle Aquitaine region are each year invited to participate in one-on-one meetings and programming. Biarritz is located next to the border with Spain and this Euroregion favors cross border cooperation and coproduction. This delegation should be mentored by Diego Mas Trelles (Docs Barcelona).

SESSIONS IN FRENCH

DOC A LA PAGE!

Pitching session for book publishers who will pitch a selection of non-fiction books with potential for adaptation to a panel of audiovisual producers.

IMPACT LAB

The FIPADOC IMPACT Lab has been designed to support committed film teams aiming to develop a proper IMPACT campaign and strategy. In collaboration with Think Film, the FIPADOC's IMPACT Lab is a workshop intended for author - producers duos taking place over two days, during which the selected projects will benefit from a tailor-made and personalized training by one of the leading IMPACT producer among the community.



FOCUS COUNTRIES' VISIBILITY

▼ **FOCUS Night**

FIPADOC holds a special dinner/drink dedicated to Italy, taking place in a spacious venue. To optimize networking opportunities and create further links outside the professional events, the participation to this night is allowed only by invitation, sent exclusively to the Focus delegation and key professionals in the French & European industry.

▼ **FOCUS Selection Catalog**

The 15–20-page catalog presents all the films in Focus selection and other selections of the festival as well as the projects selected for the International coproduction Forum. The Leaflet will also include a description of key film festivals and funding opportunities of the region and a Who-is-Who of the delegation.

▼ **FOCUS Lounge**

For the entire duration of the Festival and Industry Days a specifically designed lounge promotes Italian documentaries, projects, institutions, and delegation members (with posters, flyers, and head shots) and offers a cozy space for encounters centrally located inside the Industry space Bellevue.

▼ **FOCUS Advertising Opportunities**

FOCUS partners will have promotional pages in the Festival, Industry and Campus catalogue. FOCUS activities and selected films will receive a Italian Focus logo. The website and social media channels will be used to promote Focus before, during and after the event. A dedicated page in our website and promotional work through social media. If accurate we will ask the embassies to support our initiative.

▼ **Matchmaking lunch/dinner**

A private lunch or dinner will be organized among all producers that will join producers meet producers session (i.e., French, Visegrad, Baltics states and Finland, Spain). In order to provide them with an environment where they can freely network among European peers.

And many chances for meetings and encounters....

IN SHORT...

In line with the above program, we expect the Italian delegation to be at a minimum composed of:

- Four (4) to eight (8) directors selected for the festival.
- Four (4) to eight (8) producers selected for the festival.
- Four (4) to eight (8) directors/producers selected for Forum.
- Representatives of national & regional Funds and institutions
- TV Representatives of the documentary industry
- Festival Representatives, among which our partners from Biografilm / Bio to B (Bologna) and MIA (Roma)
- Italian documentary professionals such as distributors, sales agents, directors, and producers

The overall costs of the Focus includes:

- **6 to 8 films** included in the Festival: discount on festival submission fee (50%)
- **Two (2) to Four (4) projects** included in International Pitching Forum: Submission to Forum free of charge
- **Six (6) producers** included in producers meet producers (free accreditation)
- Focus Night
- Focus Lounge
- Matchmaking lunch/dinner
- Included in all publications and online
- Invitations to all the social events
- Industry Badges for delegation members

We expect to find financial support from Italian partners.

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