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Why and what

Why the LUX FILM PRIZE?

Every year since 2007, the European Parliament LUX FILM PRIZE has shone a spotlight on films that go to the heart of European public debate. The Parliament believes that cinema, as a mass cultural medium, is an ideal platform for debate and reflection on Europe and its future.

What does it offer?

The films selected for the LUX FILM PRIZE competition raise awareness about some of today's main social and political issues and, as a result, help to build a stronger European identity. By illustrating the diversity of European traditions and shedding light on the process of European integration, they help celebrate the universal reach of European values.

The LUX FILM PRIZE has become an indicator of quality in backing European film productions. Its winning films have become hits within the EU and beyond, helping to publicise films that otherwise may not have been seen or discovered by many people and highlighting urgent issues.

When the Parliament created the LUX FILM PRIZE, it decided to focus on distribution because it believes that this is the 'Achilles heel' of European cinema. Unlike the largely unified North American market, the film industry in European countries faces huge organisational and economic difficulties, which are rendered even more difficult by language barriers.

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