



Documentary film 48th CINEMED Competition 2026 Regulations

1. Date and duration

The 48th Cinemed - International Festival of Mediterranean Film will be held in Montpellier, France, from **Friday, October 16th to Saturday, October 24th 2026**.

2. Aims and means

The documentary film Competition was set up at the initiative of Cinemed, the Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film and the Médiathèque centrale Émile Zola (Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole) in Montpellier in the aim to promote documentary creation of the films in the Mediterranean basin, including Portugal, Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia and Armenia.

3. Official Selection

The documentary film competition consists of films selected by Cinemed selection committee on an entirely independent basis and with no possible appeal. The committee reserves the right to accept only films that have the required characteristics (cf. Article 5 below).

Each film in the documentary film competition will be shown at least twice during the festival. The Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film will draw up the programme of showings.

Documentary films not in French must be submitted to the selection committee with French or English subtitles.

During the festival, the film could be shown at **the film library** accessible to professional accreditation holders only on site at the festival, and only during the event. The last version of the film will have to be provided on digital file.

The films in the Official Selection (Competition and Panorama) and the films presented in "Regards d'Occitanie" are provided to the festival free of charge.

4. Jury and prizes

The organizers of Cinemed will appoint an official jury for documentary films made up of personalities with a reputation in the cinema and the arts.

The jury will award the **'Ulysses Prize' for the best French or international documentary film**. This prize consisted in 2025 of **€2,500 for the director**.

Student's Award (CCU-Crous of Montpellier) for a first film (minimum 60 minutes) in competition features or in competition documentary.

This prize consisted in 2025 of **€1,500 for the director**.

The rights owners of a film that has received an award undertake to include the full name of the prize/s received and the corresponding logo/s, together with the logo of Cinemed, **in the credits of the film concerned** when it is distributed and in all publicity and promotion material. Other prizes or mentions may be awarded.

The owners of the films winning awards at the Festival undertake to lodge a DVD or Blu-ray with French subtitles copy of their film at the Médiathèque Émile Zola.

After the festival, the awarded film will be shown in one of the media centres in the 'Community of Greater Montpellier in November. A file (5 Go max) of the definite version with French subtitles will have to be provided.

5. Conditions for entry

- Documentaries made since **1st July 2025, and that have not been broadcast on French TV channels or released in French cinemas**, and that have the following characteristics:

- running time: **minimum 50 minutes**

- the subject and the treatment should reflect a personal and artistic point of view of the Mediterranean in the social, political, historical, cultural or environmental domain (with the exception of purely tourist, scientific, industrial and training films or news reports)

- the director must be from one of the states in the Mediterranean Basin, Portugal, Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia or Armenia – or the subject of the film must be located in the Mediterranean area or express the cultural features of the latter.

• **Accepted screening formats:** see article 7

• **Note:** films presented for selection at the **2025 Montpellier Festival cannot be entered in 2026.**

6. Entry procedure

Registration for preselection **is online only** on the festival site: www.cinemed.tm.fr.

The registration fee is €30 (VAT not included).

Payment must be made online via a secure payment gateway during the registration process.

Only credit card payments are accepted.

All payments are definitive and no refunds of the registration fee will be issued.

Deadline for registration: 17th July 2026.

7. Films chosen for the documentary competition

The following items should be sent **by 10th September 2026 at the latest** for films chosen for the Official Selection:

- Artistic sheet of the film
- Technical sheet of the film
- 1 photo of the director (Digital photo: minimum size 6 x 8 cm / 750x1000 px, 300 dpi, .jpg format)
- 1 photo of the film (Digital photo: minimum size 12 x 8 cm / 1500x1000 px, 300 dpi, .jpg format)
- Subject of synopsis of the film: 700 characters max
- Biographical note and filmography: 700 characters max
- Trailer
- And any other promotional stuff such as poster or goodies

• **Film prints**

Representatives of selected films must send by the 1st of October 2026:

- Film print of the film, **with french subtitles.**
- Blu-ray (same version as the film print)
- Digital file (.avi, mp4 or .mov) of the film final version with french and/or english subtitles for the festival video library.

If the DCP is encrypted, a set of KDM opening for the whole festival period must be sent for every server to the following addresses: kdm@cinemed.tm.fr and regie@cinemed.tm.fr

The organizers cannot guarantee the scheduling conditions of any film received after these dates and reserve the right to withdraw the film from the competition.

8. Shipment of prints

**Prior to any shipping it is essential to
contact Cinemed office to choose the most suitable shipping method**

Tel. +33 (0)4 99 13 73 78

regie@cinemed.tm.fr

1) Transportation costs will be paid by the participants. Customs charges in France on arrival and dispatch will be paid by Cinemed. Customs and transit charges in the sending country or outside France will be paid by the participants.

2) If, in order to speed up temporary import into France, the costs involved are settled by the Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film, the participant undertakes to reimburse the Festival with the sums involved on presentation of justification.

3) Items must be shipped in suitable containers which bear the following information: title of film, number of tracking, in colour or black and white, French sound-track or French or English subtitles, name and address of the participant, length of the film and full information concerning projection conditions.

4) All shipments must be notified to the organizers of the festival by e-mail (see address above) with clear details of the sender's name, the date sent, the type of transport, identification of the air waybill, the type of item (number of reels, printed documents, etc.) and any other information concerning the shipment.

5) In the case of a dematerialized shipment (FTP, Cloud based file transfer service, etc.), please get in touch with the festival organization.

6) Films selected for the competition will be returned at the latest twenty days after the end of the festival.

9. Insurance

The cost of storage and insurance in France will be covered by the Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film. The liability of the festival for the films entrusted to it will begin when the films are delivered to it by the carriers and will cease when these films are handed over to the carriers for return shipment.

10. Damage

In case of damage or loss of material between the receipt and return shipment of the films, the liability of the Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film cannot exceed the cost of reprinting the film calculated on the basis of net prices at the rates applied in the various countries. Any complaint by the lender of the print must reach the Festival at the latest one month after he has recovered the print. In case of complaint, the Festival has the right to put forward the possible poor condition of the print entrusted to it on condition that any damage observed is notified by letter, fax or e-mail as soon as the print is received.

Cinemed accepts no liability in the event of registration forms being received incorrectly or not at all, regardless of the method of transmission or the reason for this.

11. General

The present regulations are drawn up in French and English. The French version will prevail in case of dispute concerning interpretation of the text. The organizers of the festival reserve the right to take any decision concerning matters not covered by the present regulations. In particular, the organizers of the Montpellier International Festival may, for serious reasons whose importance will be judged by the said organizers alone, cancel, postpone, cut short or interrupt the progress of the event without it being possible for any claim to be made. Requests to participate in the Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film imply unconditional acceptance of the present regulations. Any disputes will be settled by the Montpellier Civil Court only.