

**ONE WORLD FESTIVAL IN PRAGUE BEGINS NOW. IT IS SET TO INTRODUCE FILMS FOCUSED PRIMARILY (BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY) ON UNDEMOCRATIC REGIMES****Press Release****23 March 2022**

Tonight in Prague, the 24th Annual One World International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival begins. This year's theme, "Journeys of Freedom", draws attention to places where illiberal things are occurring; things that have shaken the world of human rights and that remind us of how fragile freedom and democracy truly are. This year, the festival will offer 80 documentaries plus 6 films in virtual reality. It will also feature internationally acclaimed films previously screened at prestigious foreign film festivals. One World, in cooperation with the Institute of Documentary Film, will also support filmmakers in Ukraine with specially added screenings. The complete program can be found in full at www.jedensvet.cz/program.

The festival will open with a Polish film directed by Kacper Lisowski entitled [Judges Under Pressure](#), which exposes the current state of the Polish judiciary through a series of honest and courageous testimonies from male and female judges. The film shows just how quickly the "journeys of freedom" of an independent judiciary can be influenced by a government party and what awaits those who dare to defy it. A film about the steep fall of the independent judiciary in a country that's our neighbour and a member of the European Union is proof that we can never be sure freedom is always here to stay.

This very current documentary will be screened at the festival opening held at the Prague Crossroads and presented by a delegation composed of not only filmmakers, but, more importantly, also of those who face enormous pressure in the film. One such person is Judge **Igor Tuleya**. Audiences can also look forward to a debate with the creators and protagonists at the public opening screening in the Lucerna cinema or as part of the [Talking Cinema](#) series.

From 24 to 31 March, the festival will take over [a total of seven Prague cinemas](#). It will also fill the spaces of the Municipal Library with virtual reality (VR) projects.

The theme of this year's One World Festival, "Journeys of Freedom", also reflects this year's main thematic category of the same name. It will present documentaries from countries with undemocratic regimes from areas where minority rights are being suppressed. The films reflect on important social upheavals currently unfolding in these countries and give those who are forced to deal with them a voice to be heard. Audiences of this category can look forward to a documentary on Russia's former independent television station TV Rain entitled [F@ck This Job](#) — directed by Vera Krichevskaya who will be coming to Prague to introduce the film — as well as the film [Voice](#) by director Nadzeya Zaitsava on how anti-government protests in Belarus can turn a person's life upside down.

Additionally, the festival will also feature three annual competition categories (Czech Competition, International Competition, and Right to Know) and six additional [thematic](#)



categories. Films from each individual category can be found on the festival website where you can also browse showtimes.

Foreign films will also be competing for the jury awards, including the documentary **[Children of the Mist](#)** by filmmaker Diễm Hà Lê, which tells of a young Hmong girl who refuses to submit to the traditional kidnapping of brides that deprives local girls of agency over their own lives. Another competing film is Nahid Persson's **[Be My Voice](#)**, which follows Iranian activist Masih Alinejad and her immediate and unwavering struggle to liberate Iranian women from the obligation to wear a hijab. And then there's **[The Treasures of Crimea](#)** by director Oeke Hoogendijk, which links political conflict with museum exhibits. Films by domestic creators include Helena Třeštková's documentary **René: The Prisoner of Freedom**, Martin Trabalík's **Incendios**, and Vera Lacková's **How I Became a Partisan**.

And once again returning to One World for the fifth time is our **[Talking Cinema](#)** program, which will bring to Prague important figures and noted experts from various fields whose appearances will accompany select film screenings. The work of investigative journalists at the largest German daily, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, will be discussed by protagonists **Frederik Obermaier and Bastian Obermayer** in the film **[Behind the Headlines](#)**. Meanwhile, American anthropologist **[Mary L. Gray](#)** will talk about the gig economy, which is beginning to transform the labor market and how it treats employees, and she will also cover the problems and causes associated with this phenomenon. The protagonist in **[Be My Voice](#)** — activist and journalist Masih Alinejad — will debate the status of women in Iran and more, while environmental activist and expert **[Farhana Yamin](#)** will join the debate on the role individuals play in fighting climate change following the screening of the film **Rebellion**.

[PRACTICAL INFORMATION](#)

- The single price for tickets is 130 CZK.
- Tickets for the festival can be purchased in advance on the GoOut portal, where visitors will also find discounted packages that can help them save up to 300 CZK. There are two package types on offer: one type contains 5 tickets and costs 500 CZK while the other contains 10 for 1000 CZK. Individual full-price tickets cost 130 CZK.
- People with disabilities (ZTP and ZTP/P card holders) and audience members over 65 can enjoy 50% off the price of admission for all screenings.
- ZTP/P card holders will be escorted by a member of staff free of charge.
- This year, we offer direct ticket sales at the information stand in the Lucerna arcade. Here, the viewer can buy tickets to any participating One World cinema for any showtime and receive printed tickets right there on the spot.
- The Press Centre where we'll be issuing press badges during the festival can be found on the 1st floor of the Langhans - People in Need Centre (on Vodičkova 37 in Prague 1). It will be open from 23 to 31 March from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Two information stands will be open throughout the festival – one in the Lucerna arcade and the other in the foyer of the Municipal Library in Prague. Here you'll find everything you need to know about the festival and you can also buy festival merch here. The merch will also be available for purchase in the One World e-shop.

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