**ONE WORLD FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES COMPLETE PROGRAMME AND HOMO HOMINI AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Press Release

Prague, 5 March 2024

**Each year, One World brings to light numerous narratives surrounding human rights violations and oppression, alongside the courageous acts of individuals within our communities. From issues like climate change to the struggles for freedom of speech, an independent judiciary, identity struggles, and interpersonal relationships, the importance of informing audiences about the themes explored in our films cannot be overstated, particularly in our current times. This year, the festival will showcase 96 feature-length films and 10 virtual reality experiences. Additionally, a diverse debate programme will welcome guests from across the globe, alongside short films catered specifically for children. The twenty-sixth edition of One World International Human Rights Film Festival is scheduled to run from 20 March to 21 April 2024, spanning across 48 cities throughout the Czech Republic. In Prague, the festival will run from 20 March to 28 March 2024.**

In traditional fashion, the opening ceremony of the twenty-sixth edition of One World will be held at Prague Crossroads. Central to the ceremony will be a presentation of the prestigious **Homo Homini** human rights award. This year, the honour goes to the editorial team of **Abzas Media**, a prominent independent Azerbaijani online media outlet renowned for its coverage of political affairs, human rights issues, and corruption within the country's governmental institutions. Accepting the award at the ceremony will be Leyla Mustafayeva, the newly appointed editor-in-chief who resides in exile, on behalf of journalists including co-founder Ulvi Hasanli and editor-in-chief Sevinje Vagifgizi, both unjustly imprisoned by the regime.

The festival will kick off at Prague Crossroads with the screening of [***Terrestrial Verses***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53702-terrestrial-verses), directed by the talented duo Ali Asgari and Alireza Khatami. **This captivating film will be unveiled** to the public on Wednesday, March 20th, at the iconic Cinema Lucerna in Prague. Additionally, audiences will be treated to the gripping documentary [***20 Days In Mariupol***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53552-20-days-in-mariupol), noted for its Oscar nomination. This powerful film not only offers a glimpse into the world of war journalism, but also provides a poignant portrayal of the lives of ordinary people amidst conflict. Director Mstyslav Chernov and the dedicated news team from the Associated Press (AP) were awarded the Pulitzer Prize for their exceptional reporting from the besieged city.

The film programme boasts an impressive lineup of 96 feature-length films, 10 immersive projects segmented in virtual reality (VR), and 7 short films tailored for children. Audiences can anticipate One World’s traditional, beloved competition sections (i.e. [**International Competition**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/451-international-competition)**,** [**Czech Competition**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/460-czech-competition)**,** [**Right to Know**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/452-right-to-know)**,** [**Immersive Film Competition**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/462-immersive-films-competition)) as well as the addition of **7 non-competitive categories** that group films thematically into the following sections: [**Ecosystems**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/458-ecosystems)**,** [**The Middle East**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/453-middle-east)**,** [**Searching for Freedom**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/459-searching-for-freedom)**,** [**On the Edge of Maturity**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/454-on-the-edge-of-maturity)**,** [**Identities**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/456-identities)**,** [**Communities**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/457-communities)**,** and [**Structures of Power**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/455-structures-of-power). New this year will be the inclusion of **fictional feature films** centred on human rights themes, thereby adding a new dimension to the festival’s diverse cinematic offerings.

**Competition Sections: A land of lost children, escaping a utopia, and the Greek #MeToo movement**

The [**International Competition**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/451-international-competition) will showcase the latest compelling documentaries from around the globe. One such standout is [***Venezuela: Country of Lost Children***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55093-venezuela-country-of-lost-children), directed by Juan Camilo Cruz and Marc Wiese, which intimately follows two single mothers struggling to survive in a country ravaged by hunger, violence, and poverty. Meanwhile, director Silje Evensmo Jacobsen transports viewers to a serene farm nestled in the heart of the Norwegian forest in [***A New Kind of Wilderness***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55836-a-new-kind-of-wilderness). A winner at this year’s Sundance Film Festival, the film chronicles a family's journey as they grapple with the pressures of modern-day living following a tragic loss. Joining us in Prague will be the film’s editor Kristian Tveit, offering audiences a deeper insight into this compelling narrative.

The [**Right to Know**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/452-right-to-know) category remains steadfast in its mission to shed light on stories of paramount importance and expose cases of human rights violations. In the riveting film [***Tack***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55920-tack), director Vania Turner delves into the life of an Olympic sailing champion whose world is completely upended after accusing a high-ranking sports official of rape, thereby pioneering the #MeToo movement in Greece. Both the director and a key figure from the film are set to make an appearance at the festival to offer insights into this bone-chilling narrative. Exploring the depths of human resilience, [***Beyond Utopia***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53593-beyond-utopia) by director Madeleine Gavin takes audiences on an electrifying journey, chronicling the harrowing experiences of refugees fleeing from the oppressive regime of North Korea. The documentary also follows the endeavours of a courageous pastor aiding in these perilous escapes, posing profound questions about the pursuit of freedom.

Audiences will embark on a journey into virtual realms through the captivating films featured in the [**Immersive Film Competition**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/462-immersive-films-competition) section. In [***Remember This Place: 31°20’46’’N 34°46’46’’E***](https://www.oneworld.cz/filmy/56180-), Spanish artist Patricia Echeverria explores the eye-opening theme of home against the backdrop of war occupation. Through the collected testimonies of Bedouin women determined to safeguard their homes, culture, and heritage, Echeverria offers a fascinating narrative. Meanwhile, director Juanita Onzaga transports viewers into the enchanting world of Mexico’s Day of the Dead with her project [***Floating With Spirits***](https://www.oneworld.cz/filmy/56167-floating-with-spirits), where the veil between the realms of the living and the dead is believed to be at its thinnest, breathing life into the mystical spirits of nature.

**Categories centred on identities and structures of power**

The thematic category [**On the Edge of Maturity**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/454-on-the-edge-of-maturity) delves into the delicate transition from childhood to adulthood. In the feature film [***Monster***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55460-monster), acclaimed Japanese director Hirokazu Koreeda skillfully navigates the complexities of morality through the intertwined stories of a student and teacher, challenging our tendency to make black-and-white judgments in situations where the truth is elusive. Having won the award for Best Screenplay at Cannes Film Festival, this modern masterpiece offers a nuanced exploration of ethical dilemmas. Offering another perspective on the threshold of adolescence, director Jenn Markowitz takes audiences to [***Summer Qamp***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55193-summer-qamp) in Alberta, Canada. The aptly named documentary explores the importance of this summer retreat where queer adolescents find solace and empowerment.

In the [**Searching for Freedom**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/459-searching-for-freedom) section, audiences will be captivated by [***Io capitano***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/56166-io-capitano), directed by Matteo Garrone, which follows the journey of two teenage boys from Dakar, Senegal, as they set out for Europe. Nominated for an Oscar in the Best Foreign Language Film category, this enthralling film prompts reflection on the quest for a better future. Similarly, the film [***Hotel Metalurg***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55481-hotel-metalurg) raises profound questions about the passage of time and the longing for progress, as it chronicles the lives of individuals displaced by the Georgian-Abkhazian war, now enduring decades of uncertainty in deteriorating, Soviet-era hotels. Directorial duo George Varsimashvili and Jeanne Nouchi will personally introduce this gripping narrative in Prague.

In [***La Singla***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55587-la-singla), which is featured in the [**Identities**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/456-identities) section, director Paloma Zapata takes audiences on a quest to unravel the mystery of a captivating flamenco dancer gone missing who was known for enchanting audiences with her dance, charisma, and enigmatic allure. Meanwhile, director Agniia Galdanova explores themes of empowerment and resistance in [***Queendom***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53602-queendom), where performative art becomes a powerful tool for advocating equality amidst the challenges of the oppressive Russian regime.

In the documentary [***For the Time Being***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55688-for-the-time-being), the protagonist attempts to navigate the intricate web of impenetrable [**Structures of Power**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/455-structures-of-power) to prove her husband’s innocence. Director Nele Dehnenkamp and producer Christine Duttlinger will bring this fascinating tale of love and wrongful accusations to Prague, sparking discussions on themes of racism and the pursuit of justice in the United States. Offering a thought-provoking exploration of our legal system, [***Dogs Are People Too***](https://oneworld.cz/films/56032-dogs-are-people-too) challenges conventional notions of animal ownership and rights, shedding light on the complexities of our relationship with other living beings. Director Hendrik Faller and producer Tom Miller will be present to engage audiences in discussions surrounding the film's world premiere, providing insight into its compelling narrative and timely themes.

**The wild shores of a virtual island and nuclear nomads**

[**Communities**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/457-communities)have woven the fabric of human existence since time immemorial, shaping our collective experiences and identities. Delving into one such community, the film [***Knit’s Island***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/54888-knit-s-island) embarks on a captivating exploration of the gaming community within the immersive world of the DayZ video game. Creators Guilhem Causse, Ekiem Barbier, and Quentin L'helgoualc'h lead audiences through a fictional post-apocalyptic landscape, where what begins as a seemingly ordinary journey unfolds into profound spiritual discussions and jarring encounters with unexpected violence. Director Guilhem Causse, alongside producer Boris Garavini, will grace the festival with their presence, inviting viewers to ponder whether this virtual realm represents a groundbreaking innovation or merely a fleeting, short-lived phenomenon. Continuing in this theme, director Ana Ramón Rubio offers a comedic take on the world of cryptocurrency trading in [***Bull Run***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55814-bull-run), sharing her own humorous yet insightful journey into this volatile market. Audiences attending the Prague segment of the festival will have the unique chance to engage in lively discussions with the director, exploring the film's themes of obsession and financial speculation.

How do humans and nature coexist? In the [**Ecosystems**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/458-ecosystems) category, which explores this topic, the documentary film [***Fauna***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53619-fauna) prompts reflections on the intricate relationship between humans, animals, and scientific progress. Director Pau Faus, who is due to come to Prague to discuss the film, transports viewers to the serene landscapes where sheep graze alongside cutting-edge laboratories researching anti-COVID vaccines. Likewise, [***Nuclear Nomads***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/53560-nuclear-nomads) offers a glimpse into the nomadic lives of nuclear power plant personnel, who travel in caravans from plant to plant, hoping to earn enough cash before reaching their annual maximum limit of radiation exposure. Directors Kilian Armando Friedrich and Tizian Stromp Zargari provide a groundbreaking exploration of this unique world, shedding light on the hopes and challenges faced by those within it.

In the [**The Middle East**](https://www.oneworld.cz/film-categories/453-middle-east) category, the festival will present the world premiere of [***Nila's Dream in the Garden of Eden***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55172-nila-s-dream-in-the-garden-of-eden)*,* which offers a captivating glimpse into life in a paradise garden. In it, director Niloufar Taghizadeh weaves the tale of an Iranian mother, struggling to navigate the complexities of temporary marriages in Iran all whilst fighting for her only daughter’s future. The director is scheduled to make an appearance at the festival. Additionally, director Jude Chehab provides a captivating insight into women's communities in the film [***Q***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55205-q), offering audiences a rare glimpse into these often-veiled worlds hidden in plain sight.

**Debate Programme: Intimate debates and film dissections**

Post-screening debates have become an integral part of One World, and this year is no different as esteemed guests from across the globe will once again convene for these engaging conversations. Audiences can anticipate a diverse array of discussion formats, ranging from intimate dialogues to in-depth film analyses. For instance, there will be a thorough examination of [***Life Is Not a Competition, But I'm Winning***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55689-life-is-not-a-competition-but-i-m-winning) with sports sociologist Vojtěch Ondráček, as well as a thought-provoking debate on [***Sorry/Not Sorry***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55976-sorry-not-sorry) with the organisation Konsent. Audience members will also have the opportunity to delve into the themes of [***Tehachapi***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55735-tehachapi)with artist Lenka Tyrpeklová, who collaborates with prisoners.

As part of its commitment to various educational initiatives, the longstanding festival’s key partner, the Abakus Foundation, lends its support to the debate programme as well. Once again, festivalgoers will be invited to cast their votes for the Abakus Foundation Audience Award for Outstanding Debate.

**One World in Schools**

Every spring, thousands of students eagerly leave their classrooms behind to partake in the enriching experience of One World Festival in local cinemas. Throughout the morning hours, we orchestrate tailored screenings at educational institutions across all cities hosting the festival. For younger students, the programme presents two curated compilations of short films, spanning a diverse array of subjects, from cultural diversity and life with disabilities to family dynamics and civil activism. Meanwhile, older students in middle school and high school are treated to a selection of five compelling feature-length documentaries, delving into the multifaceted landscape of human rights issues. Among these include ***We Will Not Fade Away***, which sheds light on the enduring conflict in Ukraine, and ***Who, If Not Us?***, which chronicles the fight for democracy in Belarus, alongside a **collection of documentaries about Afghanistan** where people live under a cruel and undemocratic regime. Enhancing the educational experience for schools in Prague, our programme also includes a captivating lineup of virtual reality films and exclusive screenings at the esteemed Chamber of Deputies Cinema Hall, which is combined with a tour of the premises. Following each screening, thought-provoking discussions ensue. Schools must register for screenings in advance: in Prague through the JSNS.CZ portal and in other cities through local coordinators. More information at [www.jsns.cz/festival](http://www.jsns.cz/festival).

**East Doc Platform**

During the One World festival, the 13th edition of the premier gathering for professionals in the realm of documentary filmmaking from Central and Eastern Europe, East Doc Platform, will unfold its offerings. Included within is the culminating session of the renowned international documentary lab Ex Oriente Film. Distinguished as the sole platform offering training not solely for feature-length documentary films, but also featuring a specialised programme for docuseries. Creators will present projects in various stages of development alongside completed films through the dynamic pitching and networking programs of East Doc Forum, East Doc Market, and East Silver Market. Furthermore, the esteemed tradition of spotlighting the five most impactful Czech documentary films, slated for imminent release in Czech cinemas under the banner Czech Docs: Coming Soon, remains an integral part of the event. Additionally, the alternative distribution platform KineDok will hold a conference dedicated to bolstering communities, complemented by the ceremonial launch of the instructive manual, **How to Create a Screening Venue**.

As part of East Doc Platform’s open programme, Ibrahim Nash'at is also set to hold a masterclass in which he will share insights into his multi-award-winning, feature-length directorial debut, [***Hollywoodgate***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55196-hollywoodgate), which garnered critical acclaim including a nomination for Best Debut Film at the Venice International Film Festival. Apolena Rychlíková will delve into her latest work, [***Limits of Europe***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55261-limits-of-europe), set to premiere at the festival, whilst director Kumjana Novakova will offer a revealing masterclass on her celebrated film, [***Silence of Reason***](https://www.oneworld.cz/films/55268-silence-of-reason), for which she was awarded Best Director at the IDFA festival. The East Doc Platform will unfold at the French Institute in Prague (Štěpánská 35), welcoming attendees without the need for accreditation. All events are conducted exclusively in English. For the complete programme, visit <dokweb.net>.

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**●** Ticket presale begins online on Tuesday, 5 March via GoOut. Audience members can purchase tickets at the Lucerna infostand from 19 March, and at cinema box offices from 20 March. The uniform ticket price is 130 CZK.

● This year will also see the return of discounted ticket packages on GoOut. Three such packages will be on offer. The first is 3 tickets for 350 CZK, the second is 5 tickets for 550 CZK, and the third is 10 tickets + 2 film rentals on One World Online for 1100 CZK.

● Holders of disability cards (ZTP, ZTP/P) and audience members over the age of 65 are entitled to a 50% discount on all screenings.
● Accompanying persons of ZTP/P cardholders have free entry.
● The press centre, where we will issue press accreditations during the festival, can be found on the 1st floor of the People in Need Centre - Langhans (Vodičkova 37, Prague). It will be open from 20 to 28 March from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.
● Three infostands will be open throughout the festival - one in the Lucerna arcade, the second in the foyer of the Prague Municipal Library, and the third at the Pilotů Cinema box office. Here you can obtain all the necessary information about the festival and purchase festival merch, which is also available for purchase in the One World e-shop.
● This year, we will also be offering direct ticket sales at infostands. Audience members can purchase tickets to any cinema for any screening here. The tickets will also be printed out on the spot for your convenience.

For details about the festival and downloadable materials, visit [www.jedensvet.cz](http://www.jedensvet.cz).
You can also play this year's festival jingle [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfZhppIAPjA).

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**Partnerships and Sponsorships**

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Co-organiser: Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

General Partner: Abakus Foundation

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Key Partners:

State Cinematography Fund

City of Prague

Creative Europe – MEDIA

European Parliament – Department for Civil Society Relations

CDN77

Technical and VR Partner: Alza

General Media Partner: Czech Television

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