



Factsheet

Lithuania

and the European audiovisual sector

MEDIA budget invested in Lithuania (2007-2015): €4 million

Since 1991, **MEDIA** has provided support to strengthen Europe's audiovisual sector, including the film, TV and videogames industries, so that it can creatively convey the breadth of Europe's rich cultural diversity to audiences around the world. Over €2.4 billion has been invested in enhancing the careers of audiovisual professionals and in giving new audiences access to Europe's wealth of creative and cultural achievements in cinemas, on TV and on digital platforms.

EXAMPLES of success stories

Many Lithuanian projects have benefited from the help of the MEDIA programme:

- ▶ Summer Media Studio (2004-2013; €1 million) – Training
- ▶ Vilnius International Film Festival "KINO PAVASARIS" (2003-2015, €321,000) – Film Festival
- ▶ Moving Cinema (2014-2015, €70,000) – Audience development

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▶ MEDIA co-financed **Vilnius International Film Festival (Vilnius IFF) "Kino Pavasaris"** is the largest cinematic event in the country, known and loved for its high quality film programme and rich offer of cinema-related events, workshops, and special initiatives. Each year in March, Vilnius IFF presents more than 200 films divided into a range of categories. The public's interest in independent international cinema has been growing since 2005, when the 10th edition of the festival welcomed a record number of visitors: over 41,000, an increase of 40% compared to the previous year. In 2015, 107,195 people attended the festival – a truly impressive number in a country of less than three million people.

Summer of Sangailė (2015)
Winner of World Cinema Dramatic
Competition for Best Director
at Sundance Festival

Back to Your Arms (2010)
8 Lithuanian Film awards

You am I (2006)
Official selection "Un Certain
Regard" at Cannes Festival

▶ **ACME Film** was established in 1999 and is the leading independent film distributor in Baltic countries. The company has partnership with important players such as Summit Entertainment, Lakeshore International, Studiocanal, Wild Bunch, Lionsgate, Focus Features and EEAP. Over the period 2003 – 2015, the company received €649,237 in support for distribution of non-national European films. With this MEDIA support the Lithuanian audience had a chance to see films such as *2 Days in Paris*, *Nymphomaniac* and *Only Lovers Left Alive* to mention just a few.



▶ Aurora / Vanishing Waves



▶ Sangailės vasara
The Summer of Sangailė



▶ Losejas / The Gambler

FOCUS on Lithuania

Number of inhabitants: **2,921,262**

Box-office in 2014 (€): **14,373,356**

Cinema admissions in 2014: **3,234,595**

Share of European films in admissions in 2014: **12,7%**

Share of national films in admissions in 2014: **23,1%**

Number of feature films produced in 2014: **10 (100% LT)**

Number of co-produced films in 2014: **5**

Number of Europa Cinemas theatres in Lithuania*: **4**

Number of available VoD services in Lithuania: National: **5** European non-national: **7** Total: **15**

* Europa Cinemas, supported by Creative Europe MEDIA, is a network of cinemas committed to screen a majority of European content



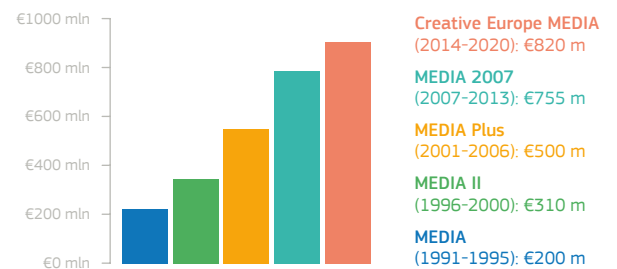
Shooting Star-MEDIA also supported the career of young European talents such as Aistė Diržiūtė in 2015

MEDIA throughout Europe

The EU has invested €2.4 billion in the past 25 years in the Audiovisual industry. Over €800 million has been earmarked to support the competitiveness and the diversity of the industry for 2014-2020. In 2016, no less than €103 million are due to be invested in a number of actions, including:

- Training to audiovisual professionals
- Support for the development of TV series/drama
- Support for non-national distribution of films
- Support for the development of video games
- Support to access markets
- Support for the development of films
- Support for film festivals showing European content
- Support for cinema networks
- Support for International Co-production funds
- Support for audience development projects
- Support to online distribution

The €121-million Cultural and Creative Industries Guarantee Facility will be launched in 2016 with the objective of stimulating availability of loan financing to initiatives in these sectors; and aiming to increase the competitiveness of these key European industries. The European Commission (responsible for strategy, budget, communication), the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (responsible for operational management of the funding schemes) and the Creative Europe Desks (local information points in States taking part in the programme) work together on the implementation of Creative Europe MEDIA actions.



Since Lithuania joined the programme in 2003, 35 Lithuanian films have been supported through the MEDIA Development schemes, as well as receiving support from the TV Programming scheme. Since 2003, 27 Lithuanian emerging filmmakers have participated in the Berlinale Talents, an initiative of the Berlin International Film Festival. The share of European films showed in 2015 in Lithuania was of 17.8% compared to the 13.2% in 2013.

By stimulating collaboration, co-production and non-national distribution, **Creative Europe MEDIA** greatly contributes to cultural diversity on Europe's screens.