

EUROPA DISTRIBUTION OPEN PANEL

San Sebastian International Film Festival – 25 September 2017

Brussels, 20 September 2017.

Continuing a partnership established in 2007, **Europa Distribution** will host a **distribution workshop** in the scope of the **San Sebastian International Film Festival** in collaboration with **the Industry Club**. More than 30 independent distributors, all members of Europa Distribution, will participate in an open panel and closed Think-Tank session focusing on new approaches to public film funding.

The workshop will begin on **Monday 25 September** with an **open panel entitled *The Bigger Picture: A fresh approach to public film funding***, taking place from **10.00-11.30** at the San Telmo. Whilst public film funding has been largely focused on production in Europe, there is now a growing consensus that public policy and funding could evolve and assist in negotiating the new challenges that face the industry by dedicating more funds to the marketing, distribution and screening of films. Experts from across the value chain, public funds, policy makers and industry stakeholders will debate the issues at hand and examine the possibilities for the industry to move forward across the board, from creation and production, to distribution and beyond.

Confirmed as panelists are **Artemio Benki** (Artcam Films/Sirena Film, CZ), **Jeanne Brunfaut** (Centre du Cinéma, Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, BE), **Bérénice Honold** (FFA, DE), **Lucia Recalde** (European Commission, EU), **Enrico Vannucci** (Eurimages, EU) and **Ilse Schooneknaep** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, BE). The panel will be moderated by **Michael Gubbins** (SampoMedia/Ffilm Cymru Wales, UK).

Attending Europa Distribution members will then have the opportunity to further the discussion during a **closed Think Tank session on Tuesday 26 September**, as well as participate in meetings, screenings and professional activities such as Cine en Construcción and Glocal in Progress.

***NOTE FOR THE EDITORS:** Europa Distribution is the association of independent film distributors, created in 2006. With more than 120 leading independent distributors representing 29 countries in Europe and beyond, it serves as the voice of the sector and acts as a network and a think tank. Since its creation, Europa Distribution has accompanied and reinforced the integration and collaboration process between its members through information, brainstorming and training sessions. The network's aim is to strengthen the existing ties to improve the curation, promotion and distribution of independent films.*

CONTACT: For more information about the presence of Europa Distribution in San Sebastian, contact: communication@europa-distribution.org