

## Rules and Regulations

### I. Formula and mission of the Festival:

#### §1

**FREEDOM Film Festival** (hereinafter referred to as the "**Festival**") is an event that presents short films from around the world. The **Festival** incorporates artistic, cultural and educational aspects within its programmatic structure. The **Festival** features premiere screenings, panels discussing innovations in the film industry, specialized film workshops, as well as meetings with recognised artists and authorities of Polish and international cinema. The mission of the **Festival** is to cultivate and promote the concept of FREEDOM in its various aspects, primarily in the field of exchanging thoughts and views.

#### §2

The objective of the **Festival** is:

1. to introduce into the public debate reflections about FREEDOM, understood in multiple contexts and dimensions: personal, social, geopolitical and artistic – FREEDOM, which will serve as the thematic link of all planned programmatic events;
2. to present short films about the subject of FREEDOM, made by filmmakers from around the world, which are not available in standard distribution;
3. to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences among young representatives of the audiovisual industry;
4. to support development of filmmaking, with particular emphasis on Polish and international arthouse cinema;
5. to popularize film education as a method of promoting culture among youth;
6. to promote the city of Radom by initiating innovative artistic and cultural activities;
7. to create positive models through cultural activities in environments threatened by exclusion and social marginalisation;
8. to promote and award films of special artistic and social value.

#### §3

The program of the **Festival** consists of:

1. The International Short Film Competition;
2. The National Short Film Competition;
3. film workshops and training sessions;
4. events held for young members of the film industry;
5. meetings of filmmakers with the audience;
6. open film screenings;
7. accompanying events and special events.

### II. Organisers of the Festival:

#### §4

All proprietary copyrights to the formula and the artistic concept of the **Festival** (full name: "**FREEDOM Film Festival**") are owned by the FILMFORUM Association, hereinafter referred to as the "**Organiser**".

#### §5

The **Festival Directorate** is in charge of all aspects related to the preparation and conduct of the **Festival** and has the decisive vote in disputed matters, not included in the **Regulations** or requiring additional interpretations.

#### §6

To supervise the substantive and organisational work related to the realisation of the **Festival**, the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** appoints the Organizing Committee, consisting of:

1. members of the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association**;
2. the **Festival Directorate**;
3. other persons and institutions invited by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association**, making a significant contribution to the preparation and realization of the Festival.

#### §7

The **Organiser** invites state, social and private organisations to participate in the organisation of the **Festival** with the intention of organisational, substantive, material or financial support.

### III. Date and place of the Festival

#### §8

The **Festival** is a cyclical event, held annually in Radom, at a location and date designated by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association**.

#### §9

The **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** is obliged to publicly disclose the location and the date of each subsequent edition of the **Festival** to the public as well as to publish this information on the website: [www.freedomfilmfestival.pl](http://www.freedomfilmfestival.pl), each time with a minimum of 90 days' notice.

### IV. Rules for submitting film to Festival competitions:

#### §10

1. The terms of participation in the annual editions of the **Festival** are exclusively defined in this regulation. Any promotional materials or advertisements are of informative character only.
2. The submission of a film for participation in the **Festival** implies unconditional acceptance of the provisions outlined in these **Regulations**.

#### §11

There will be 2 film screenings held as the competitive part of the **Festival** (hereinafter referred to as "**Competitions**"):

1. **International Short Film Competition**, allowing short films of all forms and genres to participate regardless of the country of production, on condition that the sanctions enforced in the territory of the Republic of Poland and the European Union are observed;
2. **National Short Film Competition**, allowing short films of all forms and genres to participate, produced on the territory of the Republic of Poland and created by a Polish producer or co-producer.

#### §12

The theme of the films submitted to the **Competitions** is arbitrary. The **Organiser** will prioritize films focused on the broad subject of FREEDOM, understood in various contexts and dimensions.

#### §13

A film will not qualify for the **Festival** if:

1. it was produced more than 24 months prior to the closing date of the call for entries for a particular edition of the **Festival**;
2. it participated in the **Competition** screenings of the previous editions of the **Festival**;
3. it was produced with the involvement of the members of the **Qualification Committee**, the **Jury of the Festival** or representatives of the **Organiser**.

#### §14

The screening time of films submitted for participation in the Festival should not exceed 40 minutes.

#### §15

1. The films may be submitted for participation in the **Festival** by legal or natural persons (hereinafter referred to as the "**Applicant**") who have full legal capacity to enter into legal transactions and the right to dispose of the submitted film on the day of joining to the **Competitions**. The **Competitions** are also open to groups of individuals, entering as the collective **Applicant**. In such case, they will be treated as co-authors of the submitted films.
2. Each **Applicant** may submit an unlimited number of films to each of the **Competitions**, provided that they meet the formal requirements specified in these **Regulations**.
3. One film may be submitted only to one **Competition**.
4. The film submission is free of charge. The **Applicant** is responsible for covering any expenses associated with the submission.

#### §16

The formal requirements for submitting a film to the **Festival** is:

1. publishing the film on-line, on any Internet platform presenting film materials, in the form of a link inaccessible to casual viewers (access to the film should be password-protected), and inserting the link to the film (along with the password) in the appropriate field in the **ENTRY FORM**;
2. submitting the electronic **ENTRY FORM** to the **Organiser** within the time frame determined each year by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** (at the pre-selection stage, it is required to submit the **ENTRY FORM** only electronically).

#### §17

The submission of a film to the **Festival** takes place in the following manner:

1. **ENTRY FORM** must be carefully completed on the website:  
<https://www.filmforum.pl/en/submissions/events/freedom-film-festival/>
2. After completing and submitting the **ENTRY FORM** on the website, the generated PDF will be delivered to the email address given in the **ENTRY FORM**.
3. The **Applicant** should attach to the electronic version of the **ENTRY FORM** the following:
  - a) the frame illustrating the submitted film (minimum size: 1920x1080 px, resolution: 300 dpi),
  - b) director's photo (minimum size: 1500x1000 px, resolution: 300 dpi),
  - c) excerpt of film (approx. 30 seconds) or a trailer in the form of a ProRes file or H.264 file.
4. The **Applicant** agrees to the publication of the materials indicated in points 3a, 3b and 3c in the information materials about the **Festival** (e.g. the **Festival** catalogue, the **Festival** website, promotional materials).
5. At the stage of pre-selecting films for the **Competitions**, no paper documents are required.
6. The deadlines for submitting films for each edition of the **Festival** are set each year by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association**. These deadlines are final and non-negotiable.

#### §18

1. The link to the film published on-line must be valid until **Organiser** announces the list of films qualified for participation in all **Competitions**, and in the case of films qualified for **Competitions**, until the last day of the respective edition of the **Festival**.
2. The technical quality of the film is one of the criteria of admission to participate in the **Festival**.
3. In exceptional cases, the **Applicant** may deliver a workprint of the film for preselection purposes, upon previous consultation with the **Festival** Organizational Office.
4. Each submitted film should have opening credits and ending credits (title, names of creators).
5. The **Applicant** is obliged to supply subtitles in English of the qualified film (as a supplement in an .xml file or an .srt file with timecode, synchronized with the screening copy). Additionally, the **Applicant** should supply a Polish dialogue script or synchronised Polish subtitles (supplementary .xml or .srt file).

#### §19

1. The **Applicant** accepts full responsibility for the correctness and truthfulness of information provided in the **ENTRY FORM**.
2. Copyrights of the film submitted for participation in the **Competitions** must not be limited in any way. Additionally, they must not infringe third party copyrights or personal rights.
3. The **Organiser** acts in good faith and disclaims responsibility in case of concealment of any information related to legal status of the film submitted to the **Festival**. In such case, all consequences and costs of legal services resulting from possible claims for infringement of the right of third parties shall be borne by the **Applicant**.

#### §20

1. The films submitted for participation in the **Competitions** will be evaluated by the **Qualification Committee** appointed by the **Organiser** each year.
2. Information on the results of the work of the **Committee** indicated in paragraph 1 will be published on **Festival's website** ([www.freedomfilmfestival.pl](http://www.freedomfilmfestival.pl)) at least 30 days prior to the date set each year by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** for the implementation of the **Festival**.

#### §21

1. The **Festival Directorate** reserves the right to invite selected films to participate in the **Festival**. Films invited by the **Festival Directorate** are not subject to the pre-selection procedure.
2. The **Festival Directorate** has the right – in agreement with the **Applicant** – to transfer the submitted film to the **Competition** other than the one selected by the **Applicant** in the **ENTRY FORM**.

#### §22

1. In the case of qualifying a film to participate in each of the **Competitions**, the **Applicant** is required sign the **ENTRY FORM** and deliver it to the **Organizer** at least 14 days prior to the date set each year by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** for the implementation of the **Festival**:
  - a) in electronic form to the following e-mail address: **info@filmforum.pl** (for electronically signed documents),
  - b) in paper form (for documents signed by hand) to the following address:

**FILMFORUM Association**  
**ul. gen. Wladyslawa Andersa 35**  
**00-159 Warsaw, Poland**  
**with the postscript: "FREEDOM Film Festival"**

2. **THE SCREENING COPY OF THE FILM** following the guidelines of §18 (5) should be delivered to the **Organiser** by e-mail or by post (at the cost of the **Applicant**), at least 14 days prior to the date set each year by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** for the implementation of the **Festival** to the following address:

**FILMFORUM Association**  
**ul. gen. Wladyslawa Andersa 35**  
**00-159 Warsaw, Poland**  
**with the postscript: "FREEDOM Film Festival"**

#### §23

Films qualified for the **International Short Film Competition** and the **National Short Film Competition** will be screened exclusively from a Digital Camera Package (DCP).

#### §24

1. The **Applicant** consents to promoting the film submitted for participation in the **Festival** and its authors by publishing the logo, portfolio, jingle or other audiovisual composition on TV, radio or the Internet.
2. The **Organiser** reserves the right to publish parts of the competition films (up to 50 sec.) on TV and the Internet as a promotional campaign of the **Festival**.

3. The **Applicant** consents to the processing and presentation of personal data for the necessary purposes of promoting the submitted film on TV, radio, press, Internet platforms during the **Festival**.
4. The administrator of personal data is the **Organiser** (FILMFORUM Association, with registered office: ul. gen. Władysława Andersa 35, 00-159 Warszawa, Poland, NIP: 778-141-37-39, REGON: 634536362).
5. Personal data processing will be conducted in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).
6. The Administrator of personal data appointed the Data Protection Supervisor who inspects the correctness of data processing and is available to contact via e-mail: rodo@filmforum.pl.
7. The personal data of the **Applicant** will be processed for the purposes of organizing the **Festival** and for marketing purposes. The data will be processed until the obligation to store them expires as mandated by the legal provisions, in particular the obligation to store formal documents related to the organization of the **Festival** as well as in connection with the activities related to the operation, promotion and dissemination of the film submitted for participation in the **Festival**.
8. In connection with personal data processing by the **Organiser**, natural persons have the following rights: access to data, rectification of data, deletion of data, restriction of data processing, lodging a complaint against the processing of personal data, data portability and lodging a complaint to the supervisory authority.

#### §25

The **Applicant**, by submitting a film for participation in the **Competitions**, simultaneously agrees to two free of charge public screenings of the film during the **Competitions** or special screenings.

#### §26

1. The film copies submitted for the **Competitions** shall be transported as follows:
  - a) carriers containing the films are sent at the cost of the **Applicant**,
  - b) films stored on hard disk drives will be returned to the address provided in the **ENTRY FORM** within 30 days after the end of each edition of the **Festival**, at the expense of the **Festival**.
2. The **Applicant** agrees that the **Organiser** may keep copies of the submitted films for archiving purposes.
3. In the case of films stored on hard disk drives, the **Organiser** assumes responsibility for the media only from the moment of receipt of the copy to the moment of its return. This responsibility applies solely to the data carrier and not its content.

### V. Awards:

#### §27

1. Films qualified for each of the annual editions of the **International Short Film Competition** and the **National Short Film Competition** will be judged by separate Juries which consist of professional filmmakers and experts in the field of cultural promotion.
2. Films qualified for the **National Short Film Competition** will also be judged by the audience of the **Festival**.
3. The decisions of Qualification Committee and **Festival** verdicts are final and indisputable.
4. The following statutory awards have been established:
  - a) **Grand Prix of the International Short Film Competition - the PLATINUM ARCHER** for the best film in the **Competition** - financial award for the director of the film, awarded by the Jury of the International Short Film Competition,
  - b) **Grand Prix of the National Short Film Competition - the GOLDEN ARCHER** for the best film in the **Competition** - financial award for the director of the film, awarded by the Jury of the National Short Film Competition,
  - c) **The Krystian Dulewicz Memorial Award** - financial award for the author of the best cinematography, awarded by the Jury of the National Short Film Competition,
  - d) **The Audience Award** - awarded by the audience of the National Short Film Competition.

5. Considering the genre and thematic diversity of the **Competition** films, the Jury of both **Competitions** may award Special Prizes and Distinctions, agreeing on their number and form with the **Festival Directorate**.
6. Other non-statutory awards funded by private persons, institutions or organizations may be awarded upon consultation with the **Festival Directorate**.
7. The audience awards the **Audience Award** through a voting, according to the rules established in a separate procedure by the **Organiser**.

#### §28

1. The winners have no right to convert material prizes into cash, share awards or change awards in any other way. The winners of the **Festival** are not allowed to transfer the right to claim the prize to third parties.
2. In case of receiving a financial prize, the condition for its payment is to provide the **Organiser** with the Winner's personal data, bank account number and bank name within a maximum of 14 days from the date of the end of the respective edition of the **Festival**.

#### §29

1. As part of each annual edition of the **National Short Film Competition**, nominations for the Jan Machulski Awards will be announced. These awards are the most prestigious Polish film awards dedicated to the short film creators.
2. Nominations to the Jan Machulski Awards are given in the following categories:
  - a) "Best Director",
  - b) "Best Screenplay",
  - c) "Best Cinematography",
  - d) "Best Editing",
  - e) "Best Actress",
  - f) "Best Actor",
  - g) "Best Documentary Film",
  - h) "Best Animated Film".
3. Nominations to the Jan Machulski Awards are given through a separate procedure, regulated by rules available on the website: [www.janmachulski.pl](http://www.janmachulski.pl).

### VI. Personal participation in the Festival:

#### §30

1. Admission to the screenings and events of the **Festival** is free of charge.
2. The **Organizer** provides a free stay (accommodation at the hotel) for two persons from the crew of each film qualified to participate in the **Competitions**. The **Applicant** is obliged to indicate the persons authorised to represent the film at the **Festival** at least 7 days before the date set by the **Board of the FILMFORUM Association** for the implementation of the **Festival**.

### VII. Other program sections of the Festival:

#### §31

The following accompanying events shall be organized during the **Festival**:

1. film workshops and training sessions;
2. meetings of filmmakers with the audience;
3. artistic outdoor events;
4. open film screenings;
5. events held for young members of the film industry.

#### §32

The rules of submission and participation in the above program points will be announced separately by the **Organizer** on the **Festival's** website ([www.freedomfilmfestival.pl](http://www.freedomfilmfestival.pl)).

#### VIII. Additional information about the Festival:

##### §33

In matters not covered by these **Regulations**, the provisions of the Civil Code, the Act on Copyright and Related Rights and other generally applicable provisions of law shall apply.

##### §34

Detailed information about the **Festival** is provided by **Festival** Organizational Office:

**FILMFORUM Association**  
**ul. gen. Władysława Andersa 35**  
**00-159 Warsaw, Poland**  
**ph.: +48 22 392 03 21**  
**e-mail: [info@filmforum.pl](mailto:info@filmforum.pl)**

##### §35

These **Regulations** are available on the **Festival's** website: [www.freedomfilmfestival.pl](http://www.freedomfilmfestival.pl).

*the Management Board of the FILMFORUM Association*

12.02.2025