

#6

# European Workshop for Film Criticism

## Regulations

## Framework

The European Network for Film Discourse (The END) and short film magazine Talking Shorts are organising the **6th edition** of the European Workshop for Film Criticism: **two week-long workshop sessions** for aspiring film critics set during film festivals in Leuven, Belgium (**Leuven International Short Film Festival, December 2024**) and Vilnius, Lithuania (**Vilnius Short Film Festival, January 2025**).

Both workshop units will explore different forms of **written film criticism**. In Leuven, participants will work on the fundamentals of writing a solid film **review**, strengthening their skills through individual exercises and group discussions. In Vilnius, the focus will be on **essayistic**, long-form texts.

In addition to group sessions covering different review formats, essayistic writing possibilities, language, and style, participants will receive 1:1 editorial guidance from the workshop's tutor and guest mentors. A selection of the texts they craft will be published on Talking Shorts.

The workshops will be held **in English**. There will be tasks before each workshop and additional editing in between or after the workshop tandem.

## Timeline

**03.12 – 08.12.2024**

Workshop at Leuven International Short Film Festival

**15.01 – 20.01.2025**

Workshop at Vilnius Short Film Festival

\* Arrival and departure dates may vary depending on your place of residence. A more detailed workshop schedule will be shared before the start of the first workshop leg.

## Tutor

Savina Petkova will be the principal tutor of this workshop. Savina is a Bulgarian film critic and programmer based in London with a PhD in Film Studies. As a critic and journalist, she has been writing for Cineuropa, Variety, Sight and Sound, MUBI Notebook, Little White Lies, and BBC Culture, among others. Savina is also an editor for Talking Shorts, a programmer for the Cambridge Film Festival and Sofia Film Festival, a staff writer for Locarno's daily publication, and a mentor for emerging critics at short film festivals under the European Network for Film Discourse (The END). She is also a member of the European Film Academy, FIPRESCI, BIFA, and the London Critics Circle.



## Application

The workshop is aimed at anyone over 18 who is interested in critical and discursive work about (short) films and can participate in both units of the tandem workshop.

The application is available for European residents who:

- are over the age of 18;
- have a strong interest and motivation to gain insight into journalistic and criticism practices;
- are eager to learn/be mentored by industry professionals;
- are proficient in English (speaking and writing);
- can attend the programme fully, i.e. participate in both units of the tandem workshop in Leuven and Vilnius.

Please, note:

- applications in languages other than English will not be accepted;
- incomplete applications will not be accepted;
- during the application process, additional materials will be required to be attached, such as a curriculum vitae (CV) in English;
- a (writing) sample is compulsory to help evaluate the candidate's (writing) skills: please include a piece of writing (a film review, interview, essay, dispatch, etc.) that you worked on and was published after January 1, 2023—don't forget to include a brief description of the outlet it appeared in, and include a valid URL to its original version.

Applications are open **from September 2 to 30, 2024**.

The results will be communicated by October 4, 2024.

## **Selection Process**

Six participants will be selected for the European Workshop for Film Criticism #6.

- a minimum of two different readers will process each application;
- applications can not be withdrawn after selection, except at the sole discretion of the workshop organisers;
- the workshop organisers reserve the right not to provide feedback, comments, or other information regarding any application's selection or non-selection.

## Fees and Logistics

The participation fee is **€150,-** in total.

In return, the hosting festivals offer:

- accommodation in Leuven and Vilnius;
- partly covered travel expenses (up to €150 per festival);
- meals during the workshop;
- full accreditation that grants access to all screenings and other festival events.

## Contact

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Project Coordinator



## **A Project By**

### **The European Network for Film Discourse (The END)**

Founded in 2023, The European Network for Film Discourse consists of six leading European short film festivals—Filmfest Dresden (DE), Vienna Shorts (AT), Lago Film Fest (IT), Kortfilmfestival Leuven (BE), FeKK Ljubljana Short Film Festival (SI) and Vilnius Short Film Festival (LT)—and is funded by the Creative Europe MEDIA programme.

The network's primary purpose is to promote critical film discourse by and for a younger generation and to familiarise new audiences with a flourishing European film landscape. Talking Shorts is the network's official outlet.