

#7

European Workshop for Film Criticism

Regulations

Framework

The European Network for Film Discourse (The END) and short film magazine Talking Shorts are organising the **7th edition** of the European Workshop for Film Criticism: **two week-long workshop sessions** for aspiring film critics set during film festivals in Vila do Conde, Portugal (**Curtas Vila do Conde, July 2025**) and Ljubljana, Slovenia (**FeKK, August 2025**).

The two workshop units will explore short film criticism and festival coverage in a variety of formats, both written and audiovisual. At Vila do Conde, participants will work on the fundamentals of conducting and writing **interviews**, which they will arrange with some of the filmmakers invited to the festival.

Parallel to that, the participants will be mentored on the art of **video essays**, and will begin crafting their own, which they will continue to work on and complete at FeKK. Video essays aside, this second workshop unit will move away from interviews to embrace more discursive and essayistic types of coverage, like **festival correspondences** and **dispatches**.

Participants will receive 1:1 editorial guidance from the workshop's tutor and guest mentors throughout the two festivals. A selection of their texts and video essays 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

13.07 – 19.07.2024

Workshop at Curtas Vila do Conde (Portugal)

17.08 – 24.08.2024

Workshop at FeKK Ljubljana Short Film Festival (Slovenia)

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

Tutor

The tutor of this tandem workshop will be Leonardo Goi. A film critic and editor, he is a staff writer and columnist at MUBI Notebook, an editor at Senses of Cinema, and a regular contributor to The Film Stage, Reverse Shot, *Film Comment*, and *Filmmaker Magazine*, among others. Goi also runs the Berlinale Talent Press, as well as the Critics Campus at the Golden Apricot International Film Festival in Yerevan, Armenia.



Eligibility

The workshop is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 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 Vila do Conde and Ljubljana.

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.) or an audiovisual file (a video essay or podcast episode) that you worked on and was published after January 1, 2024—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 March 12 to April 11, 2025**.

The results will be communicated by April 18, 2025.

Selection Process

Six participants will be selected for the European Workshop for Film Criticism #7.

- 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 any feedback, comments, or any other information regarding the selection or non-selection of any application.

Fees and Logistics

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

In return, the hosting festivals offer:

- accommodation in Vila do Conde and Ljubljana;
- partly covered travel expenses (up to €150 per festival);
- breakfast, lunch, and dinner 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)

The European Network for Film Discourse consists of 8 unique and diverse European short film festivals—**Filmfest Dresden** (DE), **Vienna Shorts** (AT), **Curtas Vila do Conde - International Film Festival** (PT), **Lago Film Fest** (IT), **FeKK Ljubljana Short Film Festival** (SI), **Bucharest International Experimental Film Festival** (RO), **Kortfilmfestival Leuven** (BE) 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.