



# ***EWA Network Annual Report 2019***

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# INTRODUCTION

BY ALESSIA SONAGLIONI

On the thorough task of providing a recap about last year, we realized how incredibly packed it was.

Not only we have consolidated the network by the steady growth in members but also with our presence requested in many international festivals and Gender-centered events. We were in Trieste, Berlin, Belgrade, Madrid, La Palma, Barcelona, Brussels, Cannes, Strasbourg, Casablanca, Odessa, Karlskrona, Prague, Rabat, Leipzig, Thessaloniki, Amsterdam, Sevilla, Tampere, Reykjavik. Our partnerships with WEMW, Fest Forward and DOK Leipzig Co-pro Market continued successfully to find and acknowledge female talent.

In 2019 we continued the Mentoring Programme for Emerging Producers, which has evolved with renewed partnership with AGORA market in Thessaloniki and the third edition will be launched in 2020. Also, we launched the 4th edition of the Scriptwriters Residency in Berlin, extended to two writers.

As a professional network, we are devoted to our members and therefore we have launched the Online Hang-Outs, a widely acclaimed initiative fostering networking for EWA members, particularly for those who cannot travel easily. The four Hang-outs in 2019 were quickly sold-out and members were able to suggest relevant topics they would love to discuss in forthcoming Hang-Outs during 2020.

We have welcomed the strategist and partnership manager Tamara Tatishvili, who has reinforced our networking activity at a higher institutional level particularly in Brussels and represented EWA at the Voices of Culture forum, a framework for exchanging views and information between the European Culture commission and the cultural sector to ensure that the voice of civil society organisations is heard.

2019 was also very fruitful for the consolidation of our relations with other women's networks and women's festivals. We continued our collaboration with South Med WiA, the Spanish festival Cine por Mujeres, we were godmothers of the new collective in the MENA region, Sisters in Film and continued our alliance with Wifti (Alliance of Women's Networks) to coordinate the actions of European women's networks. We are proud to announce that at the end of 2019, our network counted members from 45 different countries worldwide.

With great pride we have seen that women-helmed projects, that EWA Network awarded in markets, have finally been made and selected to prominent festivals such as Berlinale, Tribeca and Leipzig. We continue our effort to find outstanding projects directed by female and encouraging festivals to care more for gender balance in their selections. This year WEMW achieved 50/50 and women's films and projects scooped the main awards. Our members success in festivals and markets, and furthermore, witnessing how many co-productions among EWA members are being developed, is truly rewarding for us.

2019 has also been a year during which EWA Network has been more aware than ever of the scope of its mission and how it might be reframed after UN Sustainable goals, since our quest for greater Gender Balance in the Audiovisual sector, is truly a Human Rights cause.

We can be proud of our collective work and of the community that we helped to create across Europe and beyond. To more years to come.

- Alessia Sonaglioni

# ACTIVITIES FOR MEMBERS

## ANNUAL EVENT IN BERLIN

On February 2019 the annual members meeting in Berlin was held at the Collegium Hungaricum, continuing the tradition. The signing of the Pledge, equal pay and greater gender equality were key topics in the 2019 Berlinale.

EWA Network's executive director Alessia Sonaglioni, greeted the crowd of members and provided a recap about EWA's activities throughout the year, before inviting the winner of the Scriptwriter's Residency, Ivona Juka, to the stage. Ivona Juka shared the teaser of her project "*Lambs in Wolfskin*", as well as her experience after working hand in hand with Suzanne Pradel during a month in Berlin, and attending the European Film Market.

During the 2019 Berlinale, the EWA team and members were part of four different groups according to the topics of interest approached in each circle.

- > Private and Professional Life Balance with Kate Kinninmont.
- > Networking in Festivals and Markets with Brigid O'Shea.
- > Self-Promotion in the Industry with Francine Raveney.
- > Chasing the Money with Alessia Sonaglioni.

After a coffee break the members took part in a Speed-Networking event in order to make sure that every member present could meet and interact with each other at least once. Thanks to this event, members discussed their respective projects together and exchanged contact details in order to hook up again later on.



EWA Network event for members at Berlin International Film Festival.

Alessia Sonaglioni introduced the talk with a focus on women composers. The composers Christine Aufderhaar and Jasmine Reuter shared the way they craft their music for films and audiovisual content with the audience.

They spoke of the challenges they are facing in the industry, being a mere 3% of working film composers and sometimes having their expertise put into question. Unequal pay is often a subject that women working in the audiovisual sector have to face.

The meeting ended with a cocktail open to all members and EWA Network friends.



Christine Aufderhaar and Jasmine Reuter at Berlin International Film Festival.



## BERLIN SCRIPTWRITERS' RESIDENCY

In January 2019, EWA Network launched its third edition of the scriptwriters' residency programme, which takes place over one month in Berlin. The programme is an initiative dedicated to supporting the next generation of screenwriting talents among EWA members for their second or subsequent feature, and helping them enter the industry with the best script possible. The residency programme also offers networking opportunities at the Berlinale's European Film Market. Suzanne Pradel is the script consultant attached to the residency.

Ivona Juka, a Croatian film director and scriptwriter, was selected to work on her project *"Lambs in Wolfskin"*, an anti-war drama.

"For my project it was valuable to work with someone who is not Croatian, because the subject of my movie is connected with war and real historical events that happened in Croatia. So as I want to approach a wider audience, it was really great to have someone who hadn't any knowledge about it, who really could work with me on my characters for any foreign viewers to follow the story"

- Ivona Juka

The selection of the participant for the third edition was a close call between Ivona Juka, Estefania de la Chica with the project *"Al Alba"* and Cecilia Ștefănescu with the project *"The Great Adventure"*.

The call for the 2020 edition was launched in September 2019, with a deadline set for 20th October. The selection was finalised in November: Celia Rico and Oonagh Kearney from Spain and Ireland, respectively, will be the participants in the fourth edition of EWA's scriptwriter's residency. Celia will be working on the project *"The Little Loves"* while Oonagh on her project *"Snow On Beara"*.



Suzanne Pradel and Ivona Juka at Berlin International Film Festival.

## MENTORING FOR EMERGING FEMALE PRODUCERS

In 2019, EWA Network continued with its second edition of the mentoring programme for female producers. The mentoring programme is specifically aimed at female film producers who already have relevant experience at national level and who wish to have more of a European/International dimension in their work. In most cases this growth also involves a strategic and business development of their company.

Seven mentees out of forty two applicants were selected for the programme. The matches were made between the following producers :

- > Laura Briand (France) mentoring Aleksandra Kostina (Ukraine)
- > Martichka Bozhilova (Bulgaria) mentoring Emanuela Barbano (Italy)
- > Carlotta Calori (Italy) mentoring Silvana Santamaria (Germany)
- > Francesca Feder (France) mentoring Nancy Kokolaki (Greece)
- > Martina Haubrich (Germany) mentoring Laurine Pelassy (France)
- > Christina Zumarraga (Spain) mentoring Maité Wokoeck (Germany)
- > Zeynep Atakan (Turkey) mentoring Maria Ibrahimova (Azerbaijan)



Mentoring programme for emerging female producers at WEMW.

The seven selected candidates for EWA's female mentoring scheme for producers met their mentors for the first time in January 2019 in Trieste; a meeting hosted by the When East Meets West co-production market. On the schedule, a masterclass held by Linda Beath on "Women Leaders: Running Sustainable Production Companies", where the group found out more about setting goals for the future, how to reinforce one's own company by working with other producers and building long-term professional relationships with successful creative teams.

Later on, an in-depth one-to-one meeting session between each mentor and mentee took place, where the younger producers could present their projects and ambitions, taking in constructive career advice from their mentors and building strong professional connections. The mentees attended WEMW pitching events and ceremonies to become acquainted with other projects and professionals.



Mentoring for female producers at WEMW.

Two further informal gatherings of the group were organised during the Berlinale and Cannes Film Festival, for those who were travelling to the festivals. These two meetings allowed the group to give their feedback and gather some input on how to develop the programme for future editions.



Mentoring for female producers at Thessaloniki International Film Festival

The second official meeting was held in Thessaloniki by Thessaloniki Agora Market in November 2019. On the schedule, the mentees debriefed EWA and Linda Beath on their progress and they accessed their accomplishments and failures in pairs with their mentors. Linda Beath presented extensively the market and the available solutions for the difficulties that were discussed by the mentees and one-to-one meetings were held between mentees, Linda Beath and EWA's executive director, Alessia Sonaglioni. The participants were also given the opportunity to attend Agora's Talks and Masterclasses in addition to the project presentations at the Pitching Forum.

Over the rest of the year, the mentoring couples met over Skype, phone or they had other contact on a monthly basis. Upon request of the group, emails were sent from the EWA team to follow up on the group and ask about their monthly meetings.

As for the third edition of the programme, the call was postponed, so that it can be organised for future editions in even more detail. The new enlarged edition was presented in Trieste at WEMW in January 2020. The group of mentors and mentees will meet for the first session in Thessaloniki International Film Festival in November and for the second session in Trieste at the WEMW co-production market in January 2021.



## COCKTAIL IN CANNES

On May 19th, EWA Network organised the traditional networking drinks event at the Romanian Pavillion, hosted by the CNC: all EWA Network members and friends were invited. This year EWA welcomed the collective Cinéastes Non-Alignées (Non-Aligned Filmmakers Collective) as guests of honour

EWA Network felt honoured to promote the fundamental work the collective is undertaking regarding a revolution in representativity and visibility in the free and independent form of cinema that they offer - whether it be freedom of tone, of its subjects, of its forms or aesthetics.



Ada Solomon, Yubai Zhang, Rahma El Madani, Alessia Sonaglioni and Rahmatou Keita at Cannes Film Festival.



Ivona Juka and Anita Juka at Cannes Film Festival.



Alexia Muiños and Francine Raveney at Cannes Film Festival.

## GATHERING AT IDFA

On Tuesday November 26th, Brigid O'Shea (Head of DOK Industry) and Tamara Tatishvili (EWA's strategy and partnership manager) hosted a networking event organised in partnership with IDFA. The event took place at the Brakke Grond venue.

More than 50 participants gathered at round tables, shared their experiences of working in a male-dominated industry and discussed concrete steps that can be taken to tackle issues of access to women-led content, quotas for funding, workplace inequality, need for mutual support, and necessary structural changes.

The round tables looked at:

>Funding parity and access to women-led content for festival programmers, led by Montreal International Documentary Festival film and industry programmer Selin Melek Murat.

>Workplace inequality and identity, led by Head of DOK Industry, Brigid O'Shea.

In a conversation after the event, Brigid O'Shea explained how it is exactly the documentary scene that actually might be able to offer an approach that can be applied more universally.



IDFA gathering.

## ONLINE HANG - OUTS

During our annual meeting in Berlin, EWA Network launched four Daring Circles. After listening to our members' needs, we are committed to continuing these circles, by offering the same opportunities to all members, including those who cannot travel regularly to festivals and markets.

The new EWA initiative is called Online Hang - Outs. By joining our forces with Rossscammm Films & Marketing and through the online platform Zoom, EWA members from all around can connect and get to know each other.



Since September 2019, once a month, an online meeting has been organised, where an expert introduces a topic followed by Q&A and members can interact.

Each meeting lasts 90 minutes and includes 20 members maximum. An invitation to join including all information is sent to all members several weeks in advance so they can reserve a place.

The first session was held on September 25th with the main topic “*5 Things You Need to Know to Co-Produce in Europe*” presented by Alessia Sonaglioni (EWA’s Executive Director).

The second session, on October 29th explored the topic “*The Road to Success: Key Points in Building a Successful International Film Festival Strategy.*” with the valuable help of Noa Cacharel (International Marketeer, Distributor and Consultant)

The third edition was on November 25th. This month’s topic was dedicated to project development, with the title “*From the Idea to the Project: Tips to Develop Your Film*” and it was moderated by Ada Solomon (EWA’s Board President and producer at Hi Film Productions).

The last 2019 edition was held on December 16th, discussing the topic of authors’ rights. “*Stand Up for Your Rights*” was presented by Cécile Despringre (Society of Audiovisual Authors Executive Director).



Online Hang-Outs promotional material.

Since the members have showed true interest in the discussions, the Online Hang - Outs will continue running in 2020 in a monthly basis.

The next edition will be held on January 23rd and it will be based on the topic of “*Documentary Film Markets and Events: Planning Your Calendar in 2020*”, introduced by Brigid O’Shea (Head of DOK Industry).



# ACTIVITIES IN THE INDUSTRY

## EWA NETWORK DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

In 2019, EWA Network continued its initiative to award cash prizes and personalised consulting for the development of female-led projects.

In January 2019, the first prize was awarded at the When East Meets West (WEMW) Trieste co-production market to Floor van der Meulen for her project *“Methusalem”*.



Floor van Meulen received WEMW Award by Marie Pierre Vallé.

EWA Project Manager Cecilia Johnson-Ferguson and EWA Board member Marie-Pierre Vallé were the 2019's Jury for EWA's development prize for the best project led by a female director at the WEMW co-production market. Out of 12 projects, the EWA award went to a project that sheds light on a societal taboo, with no judgement and even with a touch of humour.

The project resonates with the universal issue of ageing and death and how to confront it when it happens to a family.

In March 2019, EWA Network gave a second prize, together with the Film Center Serbia, at FEST Forward, the industry section of the Belgrade International Film Festival FEST FORWARD. The prize went to the project *“Aurora's Sunrise”* by Inna Sahakyan, a project produced by Bars Media Documentary Film Studio.

The Jury, composed of producer Laura Briand, EAVE programme manager Satu Elo, EWA Network Deputy Director Alexia Muiños awarded the prize for the way the director addressed an extremely painful subject, a genocide. The film focuses on a survivor, a Hollywood star and a woman who refused to be reduced to a victim or an object. What set the project apart was that it dealt with such a delicate subject and transformed it into a film with a strong poetic vision using powerful and diverse cinematic language.



Inna Sahakyan received FEST Forward award by Alexia Muiños Ruiz and Satu Elo.

For the fourth consecutive year, EWA Network gave a prize the best female-directed project at the DOK Leipzig Co-production Market. Since 2019, the winner has been selected among the participants of Circle Women's Doc Accelerator training programme.

Circle is a programme for female directors and producers of documentary films. After last year's successful launch, it has continued its mission and beyond the region of South and East Europe by providing them with a platform for consultation, collaboration, sharing ideas, creating contacts and improving their skills with the support of leading experts in various fields of film art and industry.

CIRCLE 2019 Module 1 was organized by the production company Wake Up Films from Novi Sad and UnderhillFest from Podgorica in collaboration with DOK Leipzig and EWA Network.

The main goal of Circle is to empower women who work in the film industry through the development of their own projects, as well as through the fine-tuning of their professional skills and finally introducing them to the current trends, tools and positioning at the DOK Co-Pro Market Leipzig.

This year's jury, composed by Tamara Tatishvili, from EWA Network, Brigid O'Shea, from DOK Industry and Aleksandar Govedarica honoured the Ukrainian director Alina Gorlova for her directorial achievement with the Women's Talent Award for her project "*Between Two Wars.*"

The Jury decided to award an additional mentorship to the outstanding project, "*72 hours*" by Belarusian director Anna Savchenko, who will be mentored by Alessia Sonaglioni.



CIRCLE 2019 at DOK Leipzig.



## EWA NETWORK PRESENCE IN THE INDUSTRY



Berlinale Co-production Market Talk, Berlin Film Festival.

**9th February, Berlin** - Berlinale Co-Production Market talk on “*(UN)Equal Pay - Participation & Percentage*” moderated by Alessia Sonaglioni (EWA’s Executive Director). Anna Serner (Swedish Film Institute), Pauline Durand-Vialle (FERA), and Kirsten Schaffer (Women In Film/ReFrame) took part in the round table.

**1st March, Belgrade** - FEST FORWARD panel discussion on “*Gender equality in the European Audiovisual Sector.*” with Susan Newman (Eurimages-Project Manager), Laura Briand (Les films d’ici-Producer), Alexia Muñoz Ruiz (EWA’s Deputy Director), Roshanak Behesht Nedjad (In good company-founder, managing director and producer), Snezana van Houwelingen (This and That Production-founder and producer) and Nevena Negojevic (Head of Media Desk, Serbia)

**26th-27th March, Madrid** - Cine Por Mujeres round tables. On 26th, Virginia Yagüe, vice-president of CIMA, moderated a talk raising the question: “*Are public gender policies in the audiovisual industry and in the culture sphere necessary?*”



Taking part in this discussion were Silvia Buabent Vallejo, (Director of the Institute for Women and Equal Opportunities at the Ministry of the Presidency, Parliament Relations and Equality), Anna Serner (General Director of the Swedish Film Institute), Beatriz Navas (General Director of the Instituto de la Cinematografía y de las Artes Audiovisuales), and Alessia Sonaglioni (Executive Director of EWA Network).

On 27th March a second topic was presented by Alessia Sonaglioni about “*Access to Financing and Distribution at Film Festivals.*”. Pablo Pérez de Lema Sáenz de Viguera (Spain representative at Eurimages and Head of Service of the General Subdirectorate of Promotion and International Relations of the Institute of Cinematography and of the Audiovisual Arts), Nadia Dresti (Director of Locarno Pro), Isabelle Giordano (General Director of UniFrance), and Annouchka de Andrade (Director of the Amiens Film Festival) took part.

**10th -13th April , Brussels - Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival.** Alexia Muiños (EWA Network Deputy Director) represented EWA at the biggest European Genre Market.

**17th May, Cannes - Women in Motion Talks.** Ada Solomon, president of EWA Network moderated the panel discussion “*Action For Change. Reframe and activate New narratives*” that was hosted by the Israeli Pavilion at Cannes Film Festival 2019.

Participants included Nicole Ackermann (Wift Germany), Christa Dickenson (Telefilm Canada), Iole Maria Giannattasio (MiBACT), Helene Granqvist (President of Wifti), Sabina Kodra (Albanian Women in Audiovisual), Iris Zappe-Heller (Austrian Film Institute), Susan Liddy (WIFT Ireland), Rafaela Roca (Balkan Film Market) and Daphne Tepper (UNI MEi).

Iris Zappe-Heller pointed out how the pan-European research on female directors was a milestone and it was

**WOMEN IN FILM**

**ISRAEL**  
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LE PAVILLON DU CINÉMA ISRAËLIEN  
ISRAEL FILM PAVILION | ביתן הקולנוע הישראלי

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

ACTION FOR CHANGE – REFRAME AND ACTIVATE NEW NARRATIVES - WOMEN GENDER BALANCE

MODERATED BY MS. ADA SOLOMON, PRESIDENT OF EWA, EUROPEAN WOMEN'S AUDIOVISUAL NETWORK | MS. NICOLE ACKERMANN, CHAIR OF THE BOARD, WIFT GERMANY AND MEMBER OF THE BOARD, WIFT INTERNATIONAL | MS. CHRISTA DICKENSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TELEFILM CANADA | MS. IOLE MARIA GIANNATTASIO, RESEARCH UNIT COORDINATOR, MINISTERO PER I BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI DIREZIONE GENERALE CINEMA, ITALY | MS. HELENE GRANQVIST, PRODUCER, PRESIDENT, WOMEN IN FILM & TELEVISION INTERNATIONAL WIFT SWEDEN | MS. SABINA KODRA, PRODUCER, FOUNDED THE ALBANIAN WOMAN IN AUDIOVISUAL(AWA) | MS. IRIS ZAPPE-HELLER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE AUSTRIAN FILM INSTITUTE AND CHAIR OF EURIMAGES' GENDER EQUALITY WORKING GROUP | DR. SUSAN LIDDY, (MIC. LIMERICK), CHAIR OF WIFT IRELAND & CHAIR EAC | MS. RAFAELA RICA, MANAGING DIRECTOR BALKAN FILM MARKET, AND BOARD MEMBER OF AWA | MS. DAPHNE TEPPER, PROJECTS DIRECTOR AT UNI MEI AND COORDINATOR OF A JOINT INDUSTRY PROJECT ON GENDER EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IN THE EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL SECTOR

PLEASE JOIN US

**FRIDAY | MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> | 11:00 AM**

**PAVILION 206 | VILLAGE INTERNATIONAL PANTIERO**

HOSTED BY: ISRAEL CINEMA PROJECT, RABINOVICH FOUNDATION

Ministry of culture and sport | EWA | ISRAEL CINEMA PROJECT

time to take it to its next phase and get updated figures now for 2014-2020. Iole Maria Giannattasio conveyed the firm support of the MiBACT for diversity of voices and praised the alliance of women's networks working together.



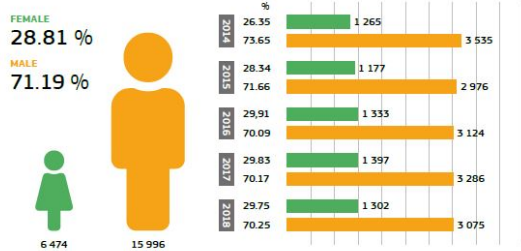
Iris Zappe- Heller, Ada Solomon and Helene Granqvist at Women in Motions Talks, Cannes Film Festival.



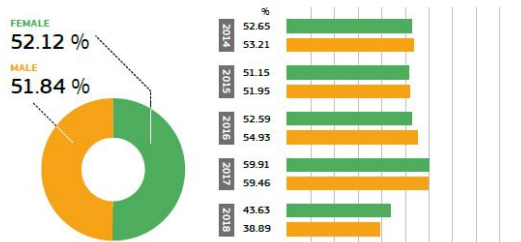
## WHAT MEDIA DATA TELLS US

### GENDER BALANCE AT A GLANCE

#### GENDER BALANCE OF MEDIA APPLICANTS 2014-2018

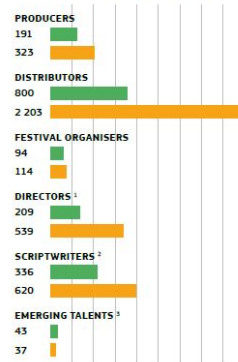


#### SUCCESS RATE BY GENDER 2014-2018

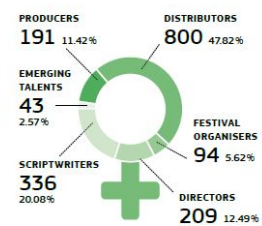


\* The success rate of submitted projects, including those featuring female applicants, show that there is no negative gender bias in the selection process

#### GENDER BALANCE OF MEDIA-SUPPORTED PROFESSIONALS PER ACTIVITY 2017-2018



#### WOMEN SUPPORTED BY MEDIA PER ACTIVITY 2017-2018



“The pan-European system of training programmes created by MEDIA has been incredibly important for my professional career – from the practical learning to the network and friends and collaborators, it essentially provided me with a roadmap through the European audiovisual landscape, and for this I am incredibly grateful. It also opened the doors to the industry for me when I was starting out, because it sets in place relationships where young and first-time filmmakers can easily access their more experienced colleagues which made me feel like a welcome member of the community.”

MILA TURAJLIC  
Serbian Filmmaker, Director of MEDIA-supported film "The Other Side of Everything"

- 1 This refers to directors working on film and/or TV projects
- 2 This refers to scriptwriters working on film and/or TV projects
- 3 This refers to directors and scriptwriters working on short films

All-day conferences and conversations pertaining to achieving greater gender balance were held at the Media Stand: good practices from EU industry and policy makers. We are proud of EWA Network's contribution to the **Best Practices brochure** issued by the European Commission.

The “*Gender Parity Pledge: where are we one year later?*” was organised by Collectif 50/50 in association with MEDIA and moderated by Melissa Silverstein. EWA Network was represented by Iris Zappe-Heller.

In the context of **DOC day**, EWA Network's director, Alessia Sonaglioni, was invited to give a speech to the audience of documentary makers.

After mentioning how shocking it was to see that the European film sector was characterised by high entrance barriers, precarious and harassment-filled working conditions, subjective decision making, dependency on chance-givers highly influenced by networks and with a low presence of women in directing and other key

creative positions, Alessia Sonaglioni pointed out the studies that had made the industry become aware of the gender imbalance, thus provoking the adoption of some gender-balanced measures by film funds.



Alessia Sonaglioni at Doc day, Cannes Film Festival.

EWA Network was in the media from the first day, after Screen International talked to our director Alessia Sonaglioni among other women's networks reps to find out what had been achieved one year after the signing of the **Gender Parity Pledge**.

**12th July, Casablanca** - SouthMed WiA Final Conference. In the panel *“Enhancing the image of women in the audiovisual products to guarantee sustainable development”*, experts Isabel Castro Martinez (EWA Network), Rahama Benhamou El Madani (Cinéastes non alignées), Khedija Lemkecher and Carlota Alvarez Basso (Festival Cine Por Mujeres) discussed how the media can contribute to changing audiences' social and cultural attitude and perceptions. SouthMed WiA video - project was coordinated by Interarts Foundation, co-funded by the EU and produced by



Odessa International Film Festival panel members.



Isabel Castro Martinez at SouthMed WiA conference.

the Ecole Supérieure de l'audiovisuel et du cinéma. EWA Network is a proud partner of a project helping female professionals in the audiovisual sector in South Mediterranean countries.

**18th July, Odessa** - Odessa International Film Festival's panel discussion on “Gender Equality Plan in Action” took place within this year's programme with speakers including Tamara Tatishvili (representative of EWA Network), Francine Raveney (representative of Eurimages and gender expert), Dominika Stojanoska (Programme Specialist of UN Women Ukraine), and Julia Sinkevych, (Odessa's General Manager) who moderated the debate.



Carla Think Tank.

**24th August, Karlskrona** - Carla Think Tank. A women's network summit was held at Carl International Film Festival with the aim of embracing and strengthening sustainable innovation, entrepreneurship and gender equality in the film industry. WIFT chapters in Sweden (Helene Grandqvist), Germany (Nicole Ackermann), Finland (Jenni Koski), Denmark (Nanna Rasmussen), Iceland (Dögg Mósedóttir), Norway (Ingebjørg Torgersen), Lithuania (Eva Brazdzionyte), Vancouver (Susan Linton), Italy (Kissy Dugan), Georgia (Tsiala Abesadze) and EWA Network (Alexia Muiños) shared their point of view on the gender equality situation in their respective countries and at pan-European level.





Voices of Culture meeting.

**4th - 5th September, Prague** - Voices of Culture first meeting and **6th -7th November, Brussels** the second Dialogue Meeting with the European Commission. Tamara Tatishvili (Strategy and Partnerships Manager of EWA), representing EWA Network among 35 organisations, participated in the structured dialogue on “*Gender Balance in the Cultural and Creative Sectors*”. This dialogue with the culture sector provides a framework for exchanging views and information, and ensures that the voice of civil society organisations is heard. The intense work resulted in the Brainstorming Report on “*Gender Equality: Gender Balance in the Cultural and Creative Sectors*”, which will be publicly available soon.



Sisters in Film. MENA Workshop.

**17th - 19th September, Morocco** - Sisters in Film MENA Workshop took place in parallel to the Salé Women International Film Festival and it revolved around the theme of building a network and developing projects in the industry. Alexia Muiños Ruiz (deputy director of EWA), producer Lamia Chraïbi (La Prod, in Casablanca and cofounder of the Tamayouz Foundation), sales agent Delphyne Besse (Urban Distribution International in Paris and cofounder of the Collectif 5050), filmmaker and cultural activist Tsitsi Dangarembga (active member of African women Filmmakers Hub in Zimbabwe), and lawyer and film professional Lydia Idakula Sobogun (Director of the Film Academy of the Ladima Foundation in Lagos) were invited to share their experience and expertise.



Brainstorming Report on “Gender Equality: Gender Balance in the Cultural and Creative Sectors”.



Conférence Permanente de l'Audiovisuel Méditerranéen (COPEAM).

**21st September, Rabat** - Conférence Permanente de l'Audiovisuel Méditerranéen (COPEAM) in collaboration with WiA Network organised the conference “*Towards Gender Equality in the Audiovisual Industry in the Maghreb-Mashreq Region*” during the 13th edition of the International Women Film Festival of Salé. This was the closing event of the project “*Strengthening a Gender-Sensitive Film Sector in the Maghreb-Mashreq Region*”. COPEAM and EWA Network, represented by Isabel Castro and Alexia Muiños Ruiz, participated in a conference in Rabat to present the WiA (Women in Audiovisual) network as an example of sharing experiences and mutual support between female audiovisual professionals in the MENA region. The main objective was to explore possible synergies with the main results of the UNESCO project, notably the Arab Women in films catalogue, as well as any initiative aimed at capitalising and perpetuating these achievements through new funding from the European Union.

At the conference, Alexia Muiños was invited to share her insight on Gender Equality as a key note speaker. A round table followed with the producer Doura Bouchoucha (President Sud Ecratures), Souad Rahmouni El Tayeb (President of Rencontre du Film Arab de Marseille), producer/director Laila Kilani and Alexia Muiños.

**16th October, Strasbourg** - Eurimages’ Gender Equality Outreach Meeting. Tamara Tatishvili represented EWA in the panel event: “*Virtual Reality – the springboard for more female Audiovisual content?*”. The panel discussion focused on “*VR vs cinematographic content. Where is the future female?*” and was moderated by Francine Raveney (Eurimages Project Manager).



Eurimages Gender Equality Outreach event.



Conférence Permanente de l'Audiovisuel Méditerranéen (COPEAM).



**12th November, Seville** - this year's edition of Seville European Film Festival hosted a special meeting with the executive president of EWA Network, Ada Solomon. The topic of the meeting concerned "European Policies on Gender Equality" and was presented with the valuable contribution of the organisation of Andalusian Women in Film (AAMMA).

**20th November, Brussels** - A working group meeting of organisation, including UNESCO, FERA, European Music Council, Artists at risk, Jeunesses Musicales International, Freemuse, Culture Action Europe, Human Rights Watch, IETM and EWA Network met in Brussels to deal with the matter of artistic freedom in Europe. Specifically, Tamara Tatishvili represented EWA in the discussion on *"How to defend artistic freedom within the framework of the EU according the Council Culture Plan and address the most urgent issues in dire need in Europe"*.

**3rd December, Tampere** - Gender Equality Seminar in Tampere. The aim of the Seminar was to raise awareness on Gender Equality and to generate concrete ideas (in group work) for projects that can contribute towards gender equality in the cultural sector. The seminar ended with a panel discussion where EWA Network, represented by Tamara Tatishvili was invited to contribute to a discussion on how cultural organisations, institutions, networks, NGOs and local authorities can take on board projects.

The four main themes of the seminar were:

- > Equal access for women to the labour market and leadership positions.

Presented by Zita Holbourne (Barac UK, Artists Union England, Roots Culture Identity).

- > Education and training: gender stereotypes, representation and role models.

Presented by Tamara Tatishvili (EWA Network).

- > An end to sexual violence.

Presented by Imogen Gunner (FairPlé).

- > Systemic discrimination demands systemic change.

Presented by Christine Langinauer (Culture for All).

The panel discussions analysed *"How can the recommended actions and project ideas work in the field?"*.



Tamara Tatishvili at Gender Equality Seminar in Tampere.



Gender Equality Seminar in Tampere.

## ALLIANCE OF WOMEN'S NETWORKS

In 2018 it was decided to create the Alliance of Women's Networks, bringing together national and supranational women's networks active in the audiovisual sector in Europe and beyond (WIFT International, WIFT Germany, WIFT Sweden, WIFT Iceland, WIFT Norway, WiFT & M Italy, WFT Ireland, 5050x2020, EWA Network). The official presentation of the Alliance took place during the 2019 Berlinale.

Part of this year's action was a cocktail reception during Cannes Film Festival to meet and mingle among the invited participants. A second meeting was hosted at the Carla Think Tank programme at Karlskrona during the Carl International Film Festival at the end of August. EWA Network was represented by Alexia Muiños Ruiz (Deputy Director).

The objectives of the Alliance of Women's Networks are:

### >A Sustainable Way Forward

Our mission is to facilitate the path to parity in the film and TV industry through advocacy and lobbying based on research and legislations.

### >Building Networks

As a strong European foundation, we help to share knowledge, build support and make women's work in the film industry visible.

### >Engagement

We work with film institutes, regional funds and public broadcasters to promote a more diverse and sustainable film industry in Europe and beyond.



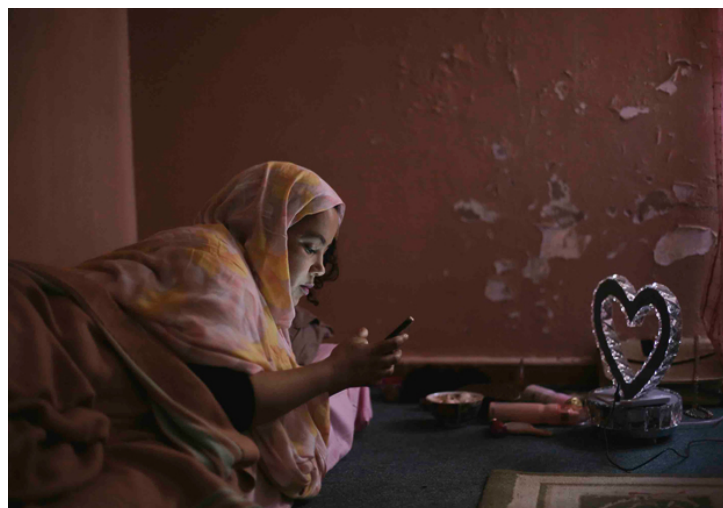
# FOLLOW - UP WITH PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY EWA

## *FLESH OUT* BY MICHELA OCCHIPINTI

*Flesh Out* or *Il Corpo della Sposa* is a fiction feature film written and directed by Michela Occhipinti. It tells the story of a woman who risks her health in order to satisfy an aesthetic canon imposed on her by others. The project had its world premiere in the Panorama section of Berlinale 2019, and was part of the International Narrative competition at Tribeca Film Festival later in 2019.

*Flesh Out* was given the First Development Award by EWA Network for the best female-directed project in Trieste 2017 (When East Meets West). It was produced by Marta Donzelli and Gregorio Paonessa for Vivo Film with RAI Cinema and in association with the German company Films Boutique.

The film received contributions from MIBAC - General Directorate of Cinema, the Region of Lazio and Creative Europe - MEDIA Programme. International sales are being handled by Films Boutique, while Lucky Red will be distributing the film in Italy.



Still from "*Flesh Out*"

## *LEFTOVER WOMEN* BY SHOSH SHLAM AND HILLA MEDALIA

*Leftover Women* is a feature documentary written, directed and produced by Shosh Shlam and Hilla Medalia. It gives a voice to well-educated women who are excluded from Chinese society because their personal desire goes beyond getting married and settling down. The project tackles the universal issue of women who struggle to find their own path against social dictates.

*Leftover Women* competed in the Documentary section of Tribeca Film Festival 2019.

The project produced by Shosh Shlam and Hilla Medalia, received a Development Award from EWA Network at the 2016 edition of the DOK Leipzig Festival.





Still from “*Leftover Women*”

## ***WATERPROOF*** BY DANIELA KÖNIG

*Waterproof* is a feature documentary by the German director Daniela König and her producer Michaela Pnacekova. The project explores the daily lives and challenges of two female plumbers in Jordan, one of the driest countries in the world, and documents the fight of these women as well as their struggles with water.

Two women, two worlds, one occupation: Khawla and Aishe are plumbers in Jordan. Will they be able

to make their friendship waterproof again after the whirlwind of events?

*Waterproof* had its world premiere in the competition section of DOK Leipzig 2019.

The project, produced by Stefan Kloos and Michaela Pňáčeková, received a Development Award from EWA Network at the 2017 edition of the DOK Leipzig Festival.



Still from “*Waterproof*”



## PROJECTS IN PRODUCTION

> “*The Encounter*” by Tatia Skhirtladze, which received the 2018’s Fest Forward Award from EWA Network, is currently in post-production with the new title, “*Glory to the Queen*”.

> “*Fortnight*” by Aga Woszczyńska, which was given the 2017 Fest Forward Award, changed its title to “*Dry Land*”. The project has been funded and it is scheduled for production by Spring 2020.

> 2018 DOK Leipzig winner, “*We are Inside*” by Farah Kassem, is in post-production and will be finished by March 2020. The project was funded by:

- the (Egg)celerator Lab award,
- the Doha Film Institute for production funding,
- the New Century prize by pitching to Cairo Film Connection,
- the Lebanese Ministry for production
- the AFAC production fund,
- and Sundance Institute for documentary production funding.



Still from “*We are Inside*”



Still from “*Skiing in Scarves*”

> As for the WEMW EWA Awards, the 2019 award-winning project “*Methusalem*”, directed by Floor van der Meulen received funding from Italy and Slovenia and it is currently working on pre-production and rehearsals.

> “*Skiing in Scarves*” by Haidy Kancler, the winner of WEMW EWA Award on 2018 is in post-production stage, currently being edited.

> 2019 Scriptwriter’s Residency Winner, Ivona Juka, received funding for “*Lambs in Wolfskin*” by the Croatian Audiovisual Center and the Bosnian Film Foundation. The project is now being pitched in international markets.

> 2018 Scriptwriter’s Residency Winner, Andrea Culkova, changed the project’s title to “*The Fragile Beauty of Masculinity*”. It has successfully secured a co-producer and was selected at MIDPOINT Feature Launch 2020

> “*Sugarcane Flower*”, written by the 2017 winner, Murielle Thierrin, is still being developed in her new work base in LA.

# COMMUNICATION

## NEWSLETTER

Over the year, 81 posts were published in the website.

Mailings were sent out to members and newsletter subscribers regarding:

- > the introduction of new members,
- > articles about EWA's activities or
- > calls for applications.

## MEMBERS ONLY



A total of 54 mail-shots were sent to EWA Network members and all newsletter subscribers over the year (excluding the renewal requests). In addition, EWA members were sent 98 emails.

Our weekly introduction to members has a rate of opens ranging from 38% to 56%

The most successful campaigns (measured by % opens) which were sent only to our members, were:



#1 Job opportunity: Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF, with 61 % opens.

#2 EWA Online Hang-outs : Key Points in Building a Successful Int'l Film Festival Strategy with 51.7% opens and 25% clicks.

	<b>Job opportunity: Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF</b> Regular · EWA Network Newsletter Tags: members Sent jue., agosto 22nd, 2019 12:18 p. m. to 390 recipients by you	<b>Sent</b>	<b>61.0%</b> Opens	<b>2.1%</b> Clicks
	<b>EWA Online Hang-outs : Key Points in Building a Successful Int'l Film Festival Strategy</b> Regular · EWA Network Newsletter Tags: members Sent vie., octubre 18th, 2019 9:00 a. m. to 416 recipients by you	<b>Sent</b>	<b>51.7%</b> Opens	<b>5.8%</b> Clicks

## MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

For the mailings to all the subscribers, the Berlinale events focused on Gender Equality peaked with 50% opens and the Upcoming deadlines: film markets, reached 46.7% opens.

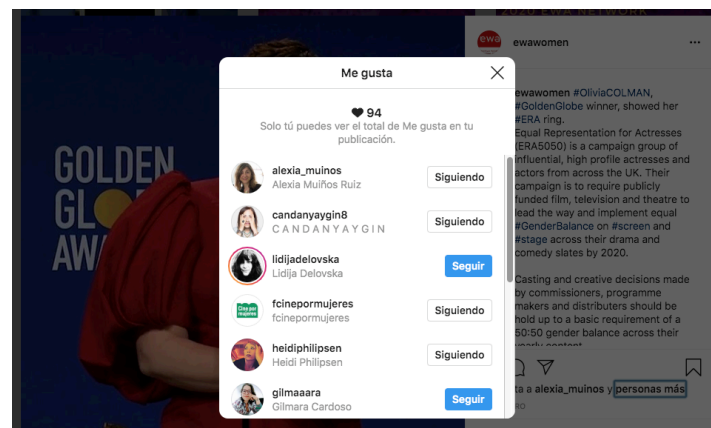
	<b>BERLINALE 2019: EVENTS FOCUSED IN GENDER EQUALITY</b> Regular · EWA Network Newsletter Sent jue., febrero 7th, 2019 10:02 a. m. to 1K recipients by you	<b>Sent</b>	<b>49.9%</b> Opens	<b>3.4%</b> Clicks
	<b>Upcoming deadlines: Film markets and Pitching</b> Regular · EWA Network Newsletter Sent mar., junio 18th, 2019 3:56 p. m. to 1K recipients by you	<b>Sent</b>	<b>46.7%</b> Opens	<b>2.8%</b> Clicks

## SOCIAL MEDIA NUMBERS: INSTAGRAM

Instagram is the newest addition to our social media accounts, created on September 2019. Since the end of 2019 we posted 84 pictures and reached 298 followers.

#1 post in interactions (94 likes) was depicting Olivia Colman at the Golden Globes showing her ERA ring.

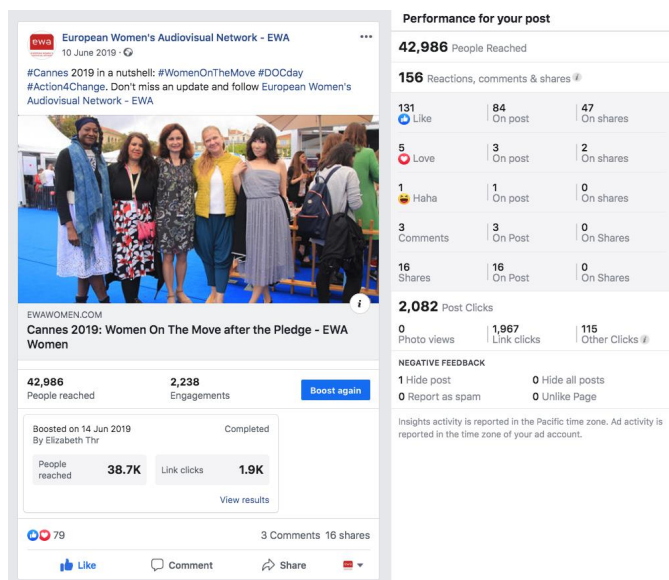
#2 most successful post (36 likes) was about Ada Solomon at the EFA.



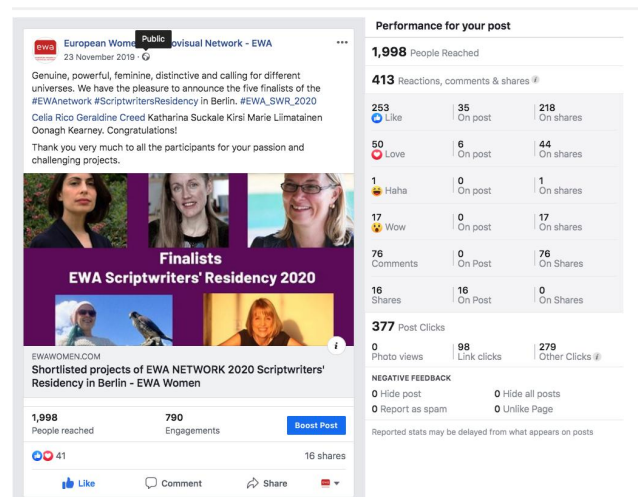
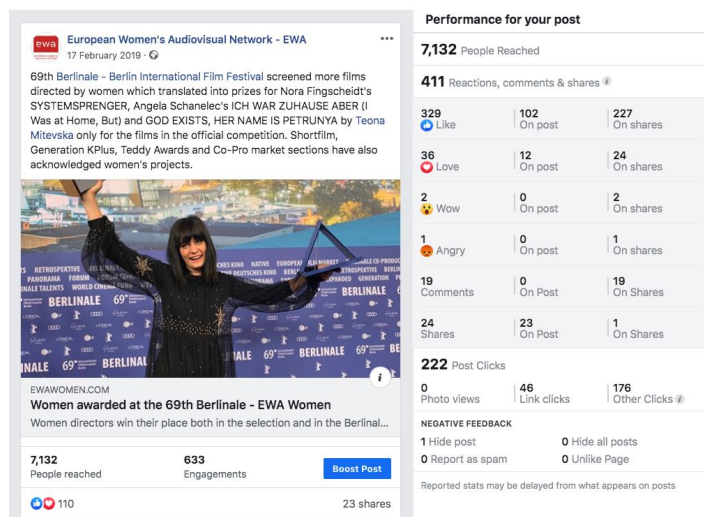
# SOCIAL MEDIA NUMBERS: FACEBOOK

On Facebook, EWA Network reached 8445 followers (2K more than in 2018), with an average of two post per day and 750 over the whole year of 2019. For the number of people reached and engagement we can affirm, we have increased our impact, both of original and shared content.

#1 The most successful original & sponsored post was our news about our event in Cannes, called Cannes 2019: Women on the move after the Pledge reaching almost 43K people and more than 2000 clicks on the post (thus increasing traffic to our website).

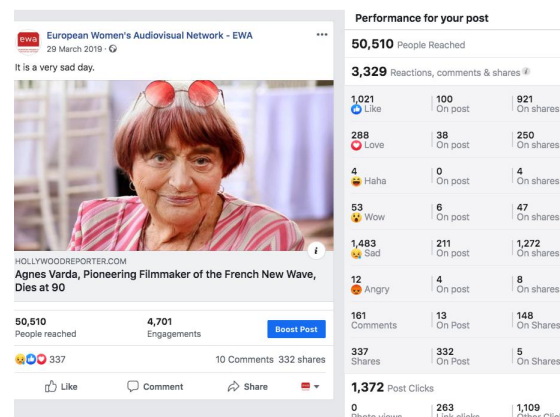


#2 Women awarded at the Berlinale, reached 7,132 people winning 411 reactions and 222 clicks on the post.

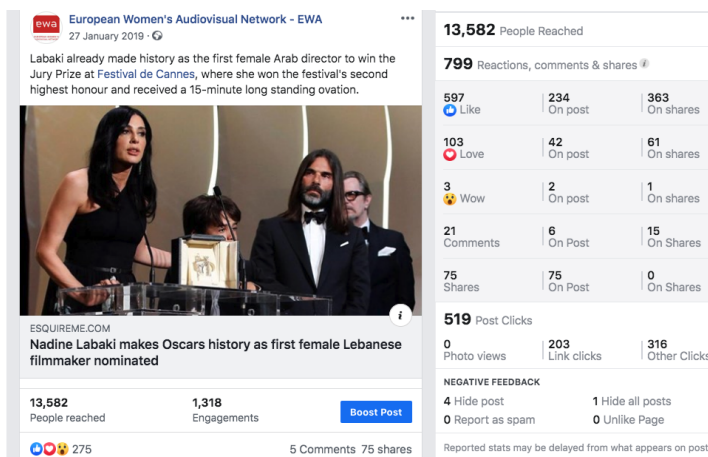


#3 Shortlisted projects of EWA Sriptwriters Residency, winning 413 reactions and 377 post clicks.

#1 Among the non original posts (meaning they were not EWA Network original content), Vardà's obituary has been the article which reached more people (50K) and sadly gained more reactions .



#2 Labaki's Oscar nomination reached 13,582 people and gained 800 reactions.





## SOCIAL MEDIA NUMBERS: TWITTER

In 2019, we published on Twitter 700 tweets and reached 1845 followers, a number constantly growing.

The greatest visibility was received by non original content with:

#1 Women - directed films for the Oscars' Best Foreign Film category (37,003 impressions, 117 engagements) .

The most engaging tweet of all, was the one about Celia Rico and Oonagh Kearney, the two writers who were selected for 2020's Scriptwriters Residency. It reached more than 50% engagement rate and total of 596 engagements (compared to last year's highest engagement of 180).



EWA @ewawomen · Sep 23

8 FILMS directed by women will compete for the #BestForeign Film at #Oscars #SonjaProsenc #HalinaReijn #TamaraKotevska #NoraFingscheidt #SelmaVilhunen #InesTanovic #MaryamTouzani #MouniaMeddour [bit.ly/2m9MsXt](https://bit.ly/2m9MsXt)

[View Tweet activity](#)



EWA @ewawomen

We are thrilled to announce the two writer/directors selected to participate in the next edition of EWA Network's #ScriptwritersResidency in Berlin. @CeliaRico from Spain and #OonaghKearney from Ireland. <https://bit.ly/37PbjDc> #WomenWriters #genderequality #EuropeanFilms [pic.twitter.com/5RmuiaterU](https://pic.twitter.com/5RmuiaterU)

#2 Anca Damian's French animated film "Marona's Fantastic Tale" which was selected for Cannes Film Festival (33,561 impressions, 7 engagements).

Impressions	1,142
Total engagements	596
Media engagements	513
Detail expands	37
Profile clicks	21
Link clicks	15
Likes	6

Overall, in terms of monthly engagement on Twitter, the average monthly impressions are approximately 40K with the lowest engagement in August with 23.2K impressions and the absolute best engagement in May with 95.5K impressions. May was also the month in which we published the tweet with the second greatest visibility for 2019, as mentioned above.

Our link clicks, describing how many times a person opened the link in our tweets, vary from 42 to 113, in March and July respectively. Our retweets, measuring how many times our tweets were re-published, vary from 19 in August (the month with the overall less engagement) to 97 in February ( a month with good overall engagement, 46,8K impressions, 86 link clicks).



EWA @ewawomen · May 4

Romanian writer/director #AncaDamian will show her French language animated film #Marona's FantasticTale at the @Festival\_Cannes after being nominate for #European Director of the Year at the #CARTOON Tributes 2019 Awards. [bit.ly/2IVLgRC](https://bit.ly/2IVLgRC)

[View Tweet activity](#)

Our #1 tweet of original content had more or less the same reach as last year's posts (4,982 impressions, 9 engagements) and announced EWA's interview with Caroline Link for her latest film after the Oscars.



EWA @ewawomen

Since the Oscar for her film NOWHERE IN AFRICA, #CarolineLink might be the best known German female director on an international level. She talks to #EWAnetwork about her latest filme DER JUNGE MUSS AN DIE FRISCHE LUFT. <https://bit.ly/2B4Kmg4> [pic.twitter.com/ovWT90EdFs](https://pic.twitter.com/ovWT90EdFs)

# FUNDRAISING

## FUNDING FROM INSTITUTIONS

In 2019, EWA Network was supported by the following funds:

- > the Swedish Film Institute,
- > the Austrian Film Institute,
- > the Film Center Serbia,
- > the Centre National du Cinéma et de l'image animée,
- > the Région Grand Est, and
- > the Ville de Strasbourg.



## MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to institutional funding, EWA Network could count on the membership contributions (50€/year), which increased from 255 paying members in 2018 to 421 paying members in 2019.

Since 2018, alongside the new website, a new payment system has been introduced for the membership payments, called Stripe.

Thanks to this system, members can now pay with a credit or debit card, which means that there are no more incompatibilities as there used to be for payments via PayPal with members based in Turkey for example. Members who subscribe via Stripe are now subject to automatic renewals, which will facilitate the renewal process and contribute to more renewals.

# STAFF

## EWA NETWORK TEAM

In 2019, the EWA Network Team included :

- > Alessia Sonaglioni, Executive Director
- > Alexia Muiños Ruiz, Deputy Director and Communication Manager
- > Francine Raveney, Special Adviser
- > Tamara Tatishvili, Strategy and Partnerships Manager
- > Elizabeth Thorne, Assistant Project Manager until August 2019
- > Maria Laskaridou, Intern from December 2019







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EUROPEAN WOMEN'S  
AUDIOVISUAL NETWORK