

SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC

2026 Press File

22-24 June 2026 | La Rochelle, France

37th edition



**sunny
side** of the
doc

In partnership with



**DOCUMENTARY
CAMPUS**

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About Sunny Side of the Doc

For 37 years, Sunny Side of the Doc has been where the international documentary community comes together to shape what's next for factual storytelling.

As the industry evolves at unprecedented speed, Sunny Side stands at the centre of the global conversation, bringing together producers, broadcasters, streamers, distributors, funders, digital creators and decision makers navigating a rapidly changing media landscape. From television and streaming to digital-first and emerging platforms, the market reflects the new realities, new audiences and new opportunities transforming documentary storytelling worldwide.

The editorial theme for this edition, *The Right Move*, speaks to a defining moment for the sector. In a market shaped by shifting business models, technological innovation and changing viewer behaviour, the focus is not simply on reacting to change, but on recognising where the next opportunities lie – creatively, strategically and internationally. Across the programme, conversations will explore the partnerships, ideas and bold decisions driving the future of factual content.

Each year, Sunny Side transforms La Rochelle into a hub of ideas, creativity and international exchange. Over three days, the market hosts high-level keynotes and sessions, curated meetings and networking through Meet & Match, Speed Dating and the CoPro HUB, and events designed to spark co-productions, financing opportunities and global partnerships. It is where projects gain momentum, where creators connect with commissioners and where international collaborations begin.

This year also marks a new strategic partnership with Documentary Campus. Together, the two organisations have created a reimagined market with new opportunities for creative exchange, industry insight and professional growth, while supporting both emerging and established voices across the documentary ecosystem.

Sunny Side of the Doc has long been recognised as a launchpad for innovation within the factual sector. Alongside established broadcasters and production companies, the market increasingly welcomes streamers, immersive creators, digital studios and emerging talent redefining how documentaries are made and experienced. Across all genres and formats, the event reflects the diversity, ambition and global reach of today's documentary industry.

More than a market, Sunny Side of the Doc is a catalyst for connection and collaboration; a place where ideas move forward, partnerships take shape and the future of documentary storytelling is built by those ready to make the right move.



Editorial

All Is Sunny!



Aurélie Reman

Managing Director of Sunny Side of the Doc

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the 37th edition of Sunny Side of the Doc, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary in La Rochelle!

This return speaks volumes: there is currently no equivalent to this international space entirely dedicated to the documentary genre for television, streaming and digital platforms. This is what Sunny Side of the Doc is and remains an accessible, efficient and deeply open-minded market, designed to enable projects, in all their forms, to find partners, funding and opportunities.

The past few months have been intense. Voices have been raised in our support, and strong commitments have been made. We've had to be combative, demanding and agile. This movement is already The Right Move, and it is this that brings us together from 22 to 24 June in La Rochelle.

This conviction underpins the 2026 edition. In an industry seeking new points of reference, the aim is to work together to build a coherent and virtuous strategy, without falling into the trap of fragmentation or adopting an adversarial mindset. Those tasked with greenlighting original works have understood this. Alongside the key players in the ecosystem – France Télévisions, ARTE, PBS, ZDF, the BBC and NHK – this year sees the arrival of around sixty decision makers who were absent last year, ranging from National Geographic to Paramount, and from RTL Television to the MBC Group. It's a more diverse line-up, which speaks volumes about the real influence of Sunny Side of the Doc.

Several new formats reinforce this ambition, such as the Copro HUB to facilitate co-production meetings around thematic issues, Speed Dating between buyers and distributors, and the Meet & Match programme developed with Documentary Campus, to enable over 100 new projects to access the right partners in targeted meetings.

Documentary is a major genre, an essential antidote to misinformation, capable of innovating without ever breaking its bond of trust with audiences, across all screens. But this potential will only be realised if we remain united and clear-sighted about the state of the market and adapt, delivering real stories in the most accessible, ethical and virtuous way possible for all stakeholders, particularly independents. It is for this reason that Sunny Side of the Doc will continue to exist.

I would like to thank all our French and international partners, the eight members of our advisory board, and Donata von Perfall and her teams at Documentary Campus. Three days to seize the moment, turn a corner, and find new momentum.

Welcome to this world of documentary, where otherness and authenticity are shared, nurtured, and bring us closer together.

Editorial

A New Vision for Sunny Side of the Doc



Donata von Perfall

Managing Director of Documentary Campus

When I heard that Sunny Side of the Doc had been cancelled, I was in Rio de Janeiro managing World Congress of Science & Factual Producers. Surrounded by the energy and momentum of the international documentary community, I immediately felt that I had to act quickly. I knew this was a moment to come together with Sunny Side of the Doc – not only to save the market, but to reimagine it for the future of the industry.

As Managing Director of Documentary Campus, I have spent over two decades supporting the global factual ecosystem through training, market development and international networking, helping creators, producers and decision makers build meaningful connections across the industry. I have always believed that when the right people connect at the right moment, ideas become projects, and projects become real opportunities.

That feels especially important today.

Despite the challenges facing the sector, I strongly believe this is also a moment of opportunity. New platforms are expanding global reach. Digital-first storytelling is reshaping formats and creative possibilities. AI is accelerating development and production workflows. International co-production is becoming increasingly central to how our industry operates.

The opportunity is already here. The question is how we respond to it.

That thinking shaped my ambition for Sunny Side of the Doc 2026: to create a market that helps professionals turn opportunity into action. At the centre of this reinvention is Meet & Match, a curated networking space designed to create focused, relevant conversations between producers and decision makers that can lead to real collaboration. Alongside this, Speed Dating sessions between buyers and distributors offer fast, targeted exchanges that open doors efficiently and create tangible next steps. The goal is simple: arrive in La Rochelle with ideas, and leave with new partnerships and concrete opportunities.

The conference programme, also developed by Documentary Campus, has been built with the same ambition. Every session is designed to offer practical insight into where the industry is heading and how we can move forward together.

At the heart of all of this is one principle I care deeply about: opportunity only matters when access is open. I strongly champion new and diverse voices, and the next generation of talent. This year's market has been designed to encourage open conversations, meaningful connections and equal access to the people shaping the future of the industry.

This partnership is about far more than two organisations working together. It is a recognition that our industry is evolving, and that progress happens when we collaborate, share ideas and build the future together.

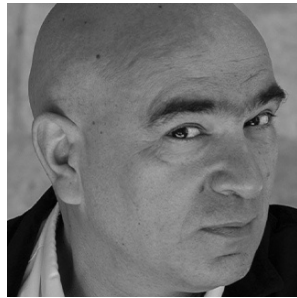
It is my pleasure to welcome you to La Rochelle to be part of that conversation.

An Industry Mobilised Around Sunny Side

Advisory Board

Members of the advisory board:

- **Caroline Behar** (France) – Head of International Coproductions and Acquisitions, France Télévisions
- **Laurent Duret** (France) – Producer & Founder, Bachibouzouk
- **Paul Heaney** (United Kingdom) – Chief Executive Officer, Bossanova
- **Elvira Lind** (Germany) – Consultant, Independant
- **Wangeci Mūrage** (Kenya) – Chief Executive Officer, Media Pros Africa
- **Emmanuel Prosnier** (France) – Business Development Manager, Broadcast Department, Getty Images
- **Myriam Weil** (France) – Head of Documentary, Federation Studios
- **Ellen Windemuth** (United States) – Chairwoman, WaterBear Network



“Stronger together”; this founding vision of the Global Doc alliance resonates more than ever with Sunny Side of the Doc 2026. Traditional funding sources are becoming increasingly fragile, and new players are emerging. This paradigm shift calls for new forms of cooperation.

To remain proactive and continue building bridges between French producers and international partners, it has become essential to understand these new challenges and meet those who embody them. Sunny Side is the place to find this new environment together.”

– **Caroline Behar**

An Industry Mobilised Around Sunny Side

Advisory Board

"Sunny Side of the Doc is bouncing back, it's agile! Just like we need to be on a daily basis to make our films exist in a rapidly changing world, which this main documentary market, in France as in Europe, helps us to understand."

- **Laurent Duret**

"In this changing climate, some things – thankfully – can be relied upon: The rebirth of Sunny Side of the Doc in this new edition will do what it's always done, serving our global community of channels and producers/content creators by bringing us all together, debating as always but mainly inspiring us to collaborate on great projects."

- **Paul Heaney**

"Sunny Side of the Doc remains one of the most important global platforms for shaping the future of factual storytelling. I am proud to contribute to the 2026 Advisory Board as we work to strengthen its role as a market-driven space where meaningful partnerships, innovative financing, and global opportunities can flourish."

- **Wangeci Mūrage**

"After nearly being cancelled, the 2026 edition of Sunny Side of the Doc has become a symbol of the documentary genre's resilience in a struggling sector. The fact that this edition was able to take place demonstrates that in Europe we are capable of mobilizing to keep the entire genre ecosystem alive through the collective reflection stemming from these upcoming meetings."

This focused and concentrated version will further facilitate connections between producers and broadcasters, while also highlighting the new business opportunities opening up for this genre."

- **Emmanuel Prosnier**

"Welcome to the first and best copro market in the world!"

- **Ellen Windemuth**

"In a complex context for documentaries, both in France and internationally, the new format of Sunny Side of the Doc promises to be a particularly stimulating and useful event for producers and decision makers alike. It is together, through international co-productions, new forms of storytelling, and renewed artistic approaches, that we will find ever more opportunities for documentaries!"

- **Myriam Weil**

An Industry Mobilised Around Sunny Side

An Expanded Panel of Decision Makers

In 2026, 200+ decision makers are expected to attend Sunny Side of the Doc 2026, with figures so far representing 25 countries and 82 companies.

The lineup confirms the presence of key players in documentary and factual media, with strong representation from France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the United States.

Among the groups already present are France Télévisions, ARTE, CANAL+, ZDF, ARD, ORF, BBC, Channel 4, RAI, NHK, RTVE, RTBF, PBS, and National Geographic.

Compared to 2025, the 2026 panel includes 60 decision makers who were not present last year and 20 new companies, while confirming the presence of major players in the sector.

Among the newcomers and notable figures at this year's event are Lauren Billingsley for National Geographic Channels (USA), Damian O'Hara for Paramount, Carolyn Payne for National Geographic Europe & UK, Simone Theilmann for RTL Television, Christian Hensgens for RTL Television Germany/NTV, Troels Branth Pedersen for TV 2 Denmark, Lina Matta for MBC Group, and Manuel Villanueva for TVUNAM.

This momentum confirms Sunny Side of the Doc's appeal to international decision makers involved in acquisitions, pre-sales, and co-productions, with a platform that is both strong in its established markets and enriched by new profiles and high-value companies.



An Industry Mobilised Around Sunny Side

Key Figures

- ☀️ 2,000 participants
- ☀️ 60 nationalities represented
- ☀️ 53% female professionals
- ☀️ Between 6% and 10% of new entrants each year (proof that Sunny Side of the Doc is renewing itself, opening up, attracting new talent and continuing to make its mark)
- ☀️ 84% of participants are European (making Sunny Side of the Doc a true gateway to the continent's documentary market)
- ☀️ With an equal split between French and international participants, it is also a truly global event
- ☀️ Over 1,000 independent producers
- ☀️ Almost 300 writers and directors
- ☀️ 200+ decision makers are in attendance including buyers, commissioners and co-financers
- ☀️ Independent distributors are on the rise: +63% between 2024 and 2025, a trend that is continuing this year



An Industry Mobilised Around Sunny Side

International Delegations Sunny Side as the Gateway to the European market

Sunny Side of the Doc welcomes international delegations from across the global factual industry, creating a space where different perspectives, storytelling traditions and professional cultures converge.

By connecting creators, broadcasters, distributors and decision-makers from diverse markets, the programme opens doors to new talent and cross-cultural collaboration, fostering a richer, more inclusive future for factual storytelling.

International Delegations

-  APA - Audiovisuel producers association (Italy)
-  Canada Pavilion (Canada)
-  Canada Pavilion (Canada)
The China Pavilion (China)
-  DAE Documentary Association of Europe (Europe)
-  German Documentaries (Germany)
-  Hellas Doc - Greek Documentary Association (Greece)
-  Docs from Spain (Spain)
-  Navarra Film Industry (Spain)
-  Wallonie Bruxelles Images (Belgique)

French Institutions & Unions

-  CNC - Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée
-  La Scam - Société civile des auteurs multimédia
-  Piaf Images
-  Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine - ALCA
-  SATEV - Syndicat des agences de presse audiovisuelles
-  SPECT - Syndicat des producteurs et créateurs de programmes audiovisuels
-  SPI - Syndicat de la production indépendante
-  Unifrance
-  USPA - Union syndicale de la production audiovisuelle

The Right Move

New Features

Sunny Side of the Doc 2026 introduces a more focused three-day format, designed to help attendees spend less time navigating the market and more time building partnerships and creating real opportunities.

In a context where attention and resources are increasingly limited, the emphasis is on precision: fewer but more relevant connections, in spaces designed for them.

Three new features shape this year's market experience:

Meet & Match

Developed with Documentary Campus, this curated matchmaking system connects producers and decision-makers through pre-qualified, high-relevance meetings designed to turn introductions into partnerships.

Copro HUB

A central, accessible space on the exhibition hall floor dedicated to co-production exchanges, case studies and informal daily networking. Each morning from 9:30 to 10:00, Pauline Mazonod (Windrose) moderates a case study showcasing the best of international partnerships:

- **Monday:** *Athens, Birth of Democracy* feat. Fabrice Estève (YUZU Productions) & Merit Jensen Carr (Merit Motion Pictures)
- **Tuesday:** *Leopard Dynasty – The Rise of Rana* feat. Jacqueline Farmer (Ouragan Films Production) & Christian Cools (ARTE G.E.I.E.)
- **Wednesday:** *European Migrants: The Making of the Modern World* feat. Cédric Bonin (SEPPIA), Laurent Filiung (ARTE G.E.I.E.) & Caroline Hocquard (ARTE France)

Distributor Track

A structured programme for buyers and distributors, featuring Meet the Buyers sessions and fast-paced Speed Dating meetings to accelerate deal-making and collaboration.



The Right Move

The Essentials

At the core of Sunny Side 2026, the sessions programme brings together keynotes, broadcaster line-ups and fireside conversations designed to provide clear market intelligence on how the documentary and factual industry can build sustainable business in a rapidly changing landscape.

Developed with Documentary Campus, the programme offers practical solutions and innovative partnerships, diving into financing, international coproduction, distribution strategies, new funding opportunities, and the growing market demand for series and scalable formats, cutting through uncertainty and offering direct insight into the right move.

Ben Zand, Founder and CEO of Zandland, will deliver a keynote on what truly connects with audiences today, and how creators can build lasting engagement across an increasingly fragmented media landscape. Oscar-winning producer **Helle Faber** (*Mr Nobody Against Putin*) will explore international co-production in a time of major industry change, examining how producers can navigate shifting financing models and evolving global partnerships. And **Patricia Boutinard Rouelle** (Nilaya Productions) and **Emmanuelle Guilbart**, President of SEDPA, will sit down for a conversation about the challenges of fragmented revenues, shrinking rights value, and maintaining creative and commercial sustainability in an increasingly algorithm-driven market.

Broadcasters including **NHK, France Télévisions, ARTE, PBS, Paris Première & Teva (Groupe M6) and RMC Découverte & RMC Story** will share transparent insights on budgets, co-production priorities, and partnership expectations for the next 12 to 24 months.

Across the programme, discussions will move from the practical to the visionary: digital-first strategies, audience behaviour, international coproduction, new distribution models, the evolving economics of platforms and broadcasters, and the emerging collaborations reshaping the industry's future.

Every session is designed to deliver insights that professionals can apply immediately — **for a global community that continues to drive innovation across the factual world.**



The Right Move

Peer-to-Peer Discussions

Across the three days in La Rochelle, a curated series of sessions developed with Documentary Campus, will bring together experts to exchange experience, challenge assumptions and share working solutions. These are not traditional panels, but working conversations designed to respond directly to the pressures and opportunities shaping the industry right now.

The Right Move: Welcome to #SSD26

Sunny Side's Managing Director, Aurélie Reman, and Documentary Campus's Managing Director Donata von Perfall set the tone for the 37th edition of Sunny Side of the Doc, a reimagined edition. Three days of business, new formats, and the connections that keep the documentary world moving forward.

The New Driving Forces of International Co-Production

This session explores how to rethink international co-production in a changing market, sharing practical insights and new collaborative strategies for building sustainable cross-border partnerships.

Funding Models of the Future!

Explore how to unlock new funding opportunities through partnerships with NGOs, foundations and impact investors, especially for projects with global scope, social relevance and unconventional narratives.

New Revenue Streams: Rewriting the Distribution Playbook

What can traditional distribution companies and platforms concretely deliver for independent producers in 2026 and onwards in financing, in reach, in revenue? This session explores a collaboration in practice with straight talk and numbers.

Meet the Buyers: The Ultimate Marathon

Top buyers from key European and international markets share their current editorial priorities, acquisition strategies, and what they are actually looking for. Featuring RTVE, SVT, Warner Bros. Discovery UK, RTL Television Germany / ntv, WELT Germany, Channel 5 / Paramount Plus UK, National Geographic Channel Europe & UK, BBC, and Channel 4 UK.

AI Free or AI Made: The New Documentary Grammar?

Where do you sit on AI? This session maps real uses, emerging rules, and industry boundaries including audience trust.

Digital First, Broadcasting Second – and Making it Pay

This session cuts through the hype to examine what digital-first actually means in practice, from financing structures and rights strategies to the rise of shorter formats and the algorithms who rule it all.



The Right Move

Peer-to-peer discussions

Global Doc: International Co-production in the Digital Shift

Join Global Doc for a conversation about how this alliance is evolving its cooperation model to meet the demands of a shifting market and what independent producers can learn from it.

Archives and New Alliances

Pioneering alliances Progress History & Protege AI, and Getty Images & Little Dot Studios, showcase how they are monetising archives into active content engines, offering a practical blueprint for archive holders and producers looking for new revenue streams and content strategies.

New From the Archives: 2026 Showcase

Rather than a traditional catalogue showcase, this session reimagines the archive pitch as a creative encounter. **Getty Images, British Pathé and Reuters Connect** each present one recent discovery — unseen footage, a restored gem, an exclusive that hasn't yet found its story. For the producers in the room: an open invitation to curiosity and collaboration.

YouTube Economics for Factual by Jen Topping

An honest and practical look at what YouTube can and cannot do for documentary producers, from optimizing content for discovery and understanding the algorithms that drive growth, to developing monetization strategies and strengthening audience engagement.

Docuseries: Building Dream Teams and Strategic Partnerships

Practical insights on how to share roles and responsibilities between producers, directors/editors, broadcasters and distributors, how to meet new greenlight criteria in a digital-first market, and how to build the kind of partnerships that turn bold ideas into projects that get made, sold and seen across borders.



The Right Move

Breaking Down Barriers to Documentary Deal-Making

In a market increasingly shaped by limited access, tighter timelines and fragmented decision making, Sunny Side of the Doc partners with Documentary Campus to introduce new market formats designed to break down some of the structural barriers facing the documentary industry today.

Through initiatives such as **Meet & Match** for producers and decision makers, and **Speed Dating** sessions for buyers and distributors, Sunny Side offers more direct, accessible and efficient pathways for real deals. By facilitating targeted conversations and reducing the distance between decision makers and creators, these formats are designed to help projects move faster from idea to collaboration. More than networking tools, these initiatives reflect a broader shift in how the industry connects and works together. At a time when access, visibility and strategic partnerships are more critical than ever, Sunny Side of the Doc creates spaces where meaningful dialogue can happen quickly, openly and with practical outcomes in mind.

The Signature Debate of SSD26

Europe's Right Move: Defending Independent Documentary (Wed. 24 June, noon)

Independent documentary is far more than a genre: it is an irreplaceable lens on European lives, a space of freedom that no other medium can occupy. Yet the conditions for its creation, circulation and survival remain precarious, fragmented and insufficiently defended.

What instruments are in place – and what instruments are still needed – to protect what independent documentary contributes to our democracies, our cultures, and our common story?






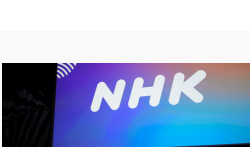









Agenda

All time references are set on **Central European Summertime** (CEST)

Agenda as of 01/06/2026

monday 22 june

	<p>09:00 - 10:00</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Meeting Area</p>	<p>First-Timers Breakfast</p>	<p>Networking Times</p>
	<p>10:00 - 10:30</p> <p>30 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>The Right Move : Welcome to #SSD26</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>
	<p>10:30 - 11:00</p> <p>30 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>KEYNOTE #1 Interfacing Between The Two Worlds: TV & Digital</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>
	<p>11:00 - 12:00</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Conference Room</p>	<p>The New Driving Forces of International Co-Production</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>
	<p>11:00 - 13:00</p> <p>120 min</p> <p>Meet & Match Room</p>	<p>Meet & Match (Commissioning Editors)</p>	<p>Meet & Match</p>
	<p>12:00 - 12:45</p> <p>45 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>NHK: Bridging Asia to the World</p>	<p>Lineup & Showcase</p>

 <p>CREATE WITH CANADA: DOC & LUNCH MONDAY, JUNE 22 • 1pm - 2pm</p>	<p>12:30 – 14:00 90 min Lounge</p>	<p>Create with Canada: Doc & Lunch</p>	<p>Networking Times</p>
	<p>14:00 – 15:15 75 min Auditorium</p>	<p>Le soutien du CNC au documentaire audiovisuel : bilan et perspectives</p>	<p>Lineup & Showcase</p>
	<p>14:00 – 16:00 120 min Meet & Match Room</p>	<p>Speed dating (Buyers and Distributors)</p>	<p>Networking Times</p>
	<p>15:00 – 15:30 30 min Conference Room</p>	<p>Funding Models of the Future: How to Get Your Documentary Made</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>
	<p>15:30 – 16:30 60 min Lounge</p>	<p>First Voices, All Nations</p>	<p>Networking Times</p>
	<p>16:15 – 17:15 60 min Auditorium</p>	<p>Lineup France Télévisions</p>	<p>Lineup & Showcase</p>
	<p>17:30 – 18:30 60 min Conference Room</p>	<p>New Revenue Streams: Rewriting the Distribution Playbook</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>



17:30 - 19:00

90 min

Lounge

**La Scam presse
conference / Rendez-vous
avec les auteurs et
autrices de la Scam**

Industry Talks



18:00 - 19:00

60 min

Others

Happy Oyster Hour

Networking Times



19:30 - 22:30

180 min

The Georges
Pernoud Congress
Centre

#SSD26 Opening Cocktail

Special Events

tuesday 23 june



09:00 - 10:30
90 min
Lounge

SPI Presentation

Industry Talks



09:00 - 10:00
60 min
Sunny Room

Sunny Ladies - The New Generation

Networking Times



09:00 - 11:00
120 min
Meet & Match Room

Meet & Match (Commissioning Editors)

Meet & Match



09:30 - 10:00
30 min
Auditorium

KEYNOTE #2 Still Worth It? Global Documentaries in an Age of Uncertainty

The Right Move



10:00 - 11:15
75 min
Conference Room

Meet the Buyers : The Ultimate Marathon

Industry Talks



11:00 - 11:30
30 min
Auditorium

In Conversation with ARTE's Bruno Patino








Industry Talks







11:00 - 12:00
60 min
Side Room

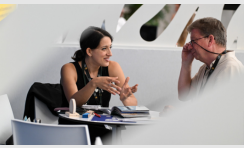






SATEV Presentation

Industry Talks

	<p>12:00 - 14:00</p> <p>120 min</p> <p>Lounge</p>	<p>USPA Press Conference & Cocktail</p>	<p>Industry Talks</p>
	<p>12:00 - 12:30</p> <p>30 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>In Conversation with PBS's Geoff Daniels</p>	<p>Industry Talks</p>
	<p>14:00 - 15:00</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>AI Free or AI Made: The New Documentary Grammar?</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>
	<p>14:00 - 16:00</p> <p>120 min</p> <p>Meet & Match Room</p>	<p>Meet & Match (Alternative Funding)</p>	<p>Meet & Match</p>
	<p>15:30 - 16:30</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Lounge</p>	<p>China Hour</p>	<p>Lineup & Showcase</p>
	<p>15:30 - 16:30</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Conference Room</p>	<p>Lineup Paris Première & Téva (Groupe M6)</p>	<p>Lineup & Showcase</p>
	<p>17:00 - 18:00</p> <p>60 min</p> <p>Auditorium</p>	<p>Digital First, Broadcasting Second - and Making it Pay</p>	<p>The Right Move</p>

	17:30 - 18:30 60 min Conference Room	RMC Story, RMC Découverte & RMC Life: the documentary, knowledge and curiosity channels	Lineup & Showcase
	18:00 - 19:00 60 min Lounge	Meet the Commissioners	Industry Talks
	18:30 - 20:00 90 min Others	Projection Grand Public : "Moitessier, l'homme qui refusa la gloire"	Special Events
	19:00 - 20:00 60 min Others	Happy Oyster Hour	Networking Times

wednesday 24 june

 <p>09:00 – 11:00 120 min Meet & Match Room</p>	<p>Meet & Match (Commissioning Editors)</p> <p>Meet & Match</p>
 <p>09:30 – 10:00 30 min Auditorium</p>	<p>KEYNOTE #3 Hyperdistribution: Saving Broadcasters, Sinking Creators?</p> <p>The Right Move</p>
 <p>10:00 – 11:00 60 min Lounge</p>	<p>Global Doc: International Co-production in the Digital Shift</p> <p>The Right Move</p>
 <p>11:00 – 12:00 60 min Conference Room</p>	<p>Archives and New Alliances</p> <p>The Right Move</p>
 <p>12:00 – 13:00 60 min Auditorium</p>	<p>Europe's Right Move: Defending Independent Documentary</p> <p>Industry Talks</p>
 <p>12:30 – 14:00 90 min Lounge</p>	<p>New From the Archives: 2026 Showcase</p> <p>Lineup & Showcase</p>
 <p>14:00 – 16:00 120 min Meet & Match Room</p>	<p>Meet & Match (Distributors)</p> <p>Meet & Match</p>



14:00 - 15:00

60 min

Conference Room

YouTube Economics for Factual

The Right Move



15:00 - 16:00

60 min

Auditorium

Docuseries: Building Dream Teams and Strategic Partnerships

The Right Move



17:00 - 18:00

60 min

Lounge

Closing Drinks

Networking Times



centre national
du cinéma et de
l'image animée

Le CNC soutient Sunny Side of the doc pour sa 37^e édition.





Société des Producteurs
de Cinéma et de Télévision

Le Sunny Side of the Doc, en 2026, rebondit et se transforme. Il est agile !
Comme nous, productrices et producteurs, devons l'être au quotidien pour faire
exister nos films dans un monde en pleine mutation.

La Commission Télévision de la Procirep sait combien le Sunny Side of the Doc est
un événement unique en Europe, particulièrement nécessaire, tant pour
appréhender ces changements, que pour les discussions éditoriales et financières
qui s'y tiennent, dans un climat bienveillant et chaleureux propre.

C'est pourquoi, malgré les tensions sur les recettes de la Copie Privée, la Procirep a
reconduit cette année son important soutien à cet indispensable marché
professionnel et suit de près le nouvel élan (*The Right Move*, titre de cette édition)
porté par l'association avec les équipes de Documentary Campus.

Je souhaite que ces trois jours, fin juin à la Rochelle, vous soient l'occasion de saisir
les nouveaux enjeux du marché, ses nouvelles perspectives, et les nouvelles
collaborations de cette nouvelle édition.

Longue vie au Sunny Side of the Doc !

Laurent Duret

Président de la Commission Télévision de la Procirep

37ème édition du Sunny Side of the Doc : la culture comme essencemême de nos territoires

La Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine est partenaire de la 37ème édition du Sunny Side of the Doc qui se déroule du lundi 22 au mercredi 24 juin à La Rochelle.

Les festivals sont des manifestations vibrantes qui rythment la vie de notre territoire, l'occasion essentielle de se retrouver, de continuer à tisser ensemble le fil d'une histoire en mouvement, de convoquer une humanité, un vivre ensemble si cruellement mise à mal. Pour notre Région, soutenir sans faille artistes, organisateurs, bénévoles qui œuvrent au quotidien pour faire exister ces musiques, pièces, danses, images, mots, œuvres dans toute leur diversité, leur vitalité, leur puissance de lien et d'émancipation.

Malgré une actualité économique des plus complexes, où de nombreux secteurs peinent à se relever, les festivals se réinventent sans cesse pour conserver un dynamisme. Ces manifestations attirent des centaines milliers de festivaliers, stimulent le tourisme, soutiennent de nombreuses entreprises locales, créent des emplois, de la valeur et du sens. Chaque spectacle, chaque exposition ou concert nourrit les échanges culturels, célèbre des moments forts, joyeux, essentiel par la rencontre entre artistes et citoyens.

Notre engagement est clair : nous soutenons et garantissons la liberté absolue de création artistique sous toutes ses formes, la liberté de programmation et la liberté de diffusion. Les artistes et compagnies qui animent nos festivals sont le reflet de notre société, en apportant un regard original, décalé, et sensible, et ils font naître des énergies nouvelles en région.

Le Sunny Side of the Doc est l'une des manifestations incontournables dans le monde du documentaire depuis sa création en 1990 par la société Doc Services. Chaque année, ce marché international B2B réunit les acteurs de filière, offrant ainsi un cadre propice au financement et à la diffusion de projets documentaires.

Soutenu par la Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, cet événement contribue à structurer un écosystème favorable au développement de l'audiovisuel et du cinéma sur le territoire, favorisant l'émergence de nouveaux talents et la diversité des œuvres produites, notamment à travers des coproductions internationales et la promotion de la francophonie.

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Communiqué de Presse

Mai 2026

Le Département, partenaire de la création artistique et culturelle – *Sunny Side of the Doc 2026*

Du 22 au 24 juin prochains, la 37^e édition du Sunny Side of theDoc est à La Rochelle. L'objectif est de permettre la rencontre entre les professionnels de l'industrie et d'offrir ainsi des opportunités riches et créatives via un marché du documentaire qui se veut sans frontières. Fidèle partenaire depuis 2006 (subvention de 4 500€ en 2025 pour le marché Sunny Side of the Doc), le Département, malgré des contraintes financières importantes, reste attaché à soutenir les projets de tournage qui se déroulent sur son territoire et qui utilisent les compétences techniques et logistiques locales, afin de développer la filière cinématographique et audiovisuelle.



Une politique au service du cinéma et de la filière audiovisuelle

Le Département de la Charente-Maritime soutient depuis plus de 20 ans, en partenariat avec l'État (DRAC), le Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image Animée (CNC) et la Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, la création et la production d'œuvres cinématographiques et audiovisuelles. Chaque année, la collectivité accompagne financièrement les créations, fictions, longs et courts métrages et documentaires grâce au fonds de soutien à l'audiovisuel et au cinéma.

Objectifs :

Soutenir la création et les auteurs.

Contribuer à l'émergence de nouveaux talents.

Développer la filière cinématographique et audiovisuelle générant de l'activité économique et des emplois.

Valoriser l'image de la Charente-Maritime par la mise en scène de ses richesses (patrimoine et paysages).

Renforcer la notoriété, le rayonnement et l'attractivité de la Charente-Maritime.

Soutien départemental en 2025

6 projets (fictions, courts-métrages, longs métrages et documentaires) pour un montant global de 141 026 €.

2 documentaires (après examen et sélection des experts ALCA Agence livre, cinéma et audiovisuel - Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine), pour un montant global de 12 000 € : « Petite guerre » de Maria Gorkovskaya (aide à l'écriture) et « L'île mouvante » par Les Valseurs de Bordeaux (aide à la production).

Le Département soutient le Bureau d'Accueil des Tournages, ainsi que des actions et événements visant à développer et valoriser le monde de la création et de la diffusion culturelle, cinématographique et audiovisuelle en Charente-Maritime.

CONTACT PRESSE : **Vanessa CHARTREUX**

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Gold Partner

France Télévisions

France Télévisions, the leading funder and broadcaster of documentary creation in France, is proud to be a major partner of the 37th edition of Sunny Side of the Doc 2026. From June 22 to 24, this international event offers essential insights and perspectives on the global documentary market.

The leading media outlet for the French public demonstrates daily the success of documentaries and the unparalleled ability of public service broadcasting to renew their narratives and universal power. Widely available on the france.tv platform and the Group's linear channels, documentaries resolutely address the challenges of our time, resonating with the direction and questions facing the world, our society, and our democracy.

From the most unique works to films aimed at the widest audiences, they tell us stories, move us, and enlighten us, thanks to the collective talent that shapes their production, writing and directing, and contributes to their impact, diversity and reach.



Partner Statements

ARTE

As a public media outlet dedicated to European culture, ARTE stands out as a key player in the documentary landscape. Its diverse and rich editorial offerings help foster a democratic cultural space across Europe. With a strong focus on current affairs, ARTE - through its digital platform, TV channel and social media presence - provides an insightful perspective on the world, prioritizing in-depth analysis, innovation, and investigative journalism.

In 2025, ARTE reached over 3.2 billion views, further expanding its influence across Europe. Today, it offers content in seven languages

The logo for ARTE, featuring the word "arte" in a bold, lowercase, orange-red sans-serif font.

Partner Statements

CANAL+

Europe and Africa. Over 40 million subscribers enjoy the CANAL+ entertainment platform, which brings together the best local and global films, live sport, TV series and much more. CANAL+ operates in over 70 countries and has approximately 15,000 employees.

CANAL+ operates across the entire audio-visual value chain, including production, broadcast, distribution and aggregation. In addition to its Pay-TV and streaming operations in Europe, Africa and Asia, the combined group includes: MultiChoice Group, Africa's leading entertainment platform; STUDIOCANAL, Europe's leading film and television studio, with worldwide production and distribution capabilities; Dailymotion, a major international video platform powered by cutting-edge proprietary technology for video delivery, advertising, and monetisation; CANAL+ Distribution, a production and distribution company specialising in creating and distributing diverse content and channels; telecommunication services, through GVA in Africa and CANAL+ Telecom in the French overseas jurisdictions and territories.

CANAL+ also has minority stakes in Viaplay (Scandinavia's leading entertainment provider), Viu (a leading OTT provider in Southeast Asia), and UGC, a leading French cinema group.

canalplusgroup.com/en

A note from CANAL+: Unfortunately, we have to cancel our participation at the 2026 edition due to an international seminar that is keeping our documentary teams tied up in Paris, which we regret. Nevertheless, we remain fully committed to our support for and partnership with Sunny Side despite this setback.



Partner Statements

The China Pavilion

Source of Great Ideas

The China Pavilion has been part of Sunny Side of the Doc for past years, with a view to bringing more appealing China stories and diverse collaborative programs to the global community of documentary professionals.

It has played an active role over the past decade or so in promoting the global presence of excellent Chinese film and television companies through its fruitful work to participate with them in a dozen of international events and festivals every year.



Partner Statements

NHK

NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) is Japan's sole public service media organization. Funded by receiving fees from Japanese households, NHK is widely recognized for its impartial, reliable, high-quality news and programming.

Operating across all major platforms, NHK is also a creative content powerhouse, producing a wide range of genres, including news, documentaries, children's and educational programs, music, entertainment, culture, animation, and drama. A pioneer of HD broadcasting, NHK is known for integrating cutting-edge technology into its creative output and is now actively producing content in 4K and 8K.

A large, bold, grey logo of the letters 'NHK' in a sans-serif font, positioned at the bottom of the page.

Partner Statements

PBS

PBS, with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 36 million adults on linear primetime television, 16 million users on PBS-owned streaming platforms, 56 million viewers on YouTube, and 10 million followers on social media, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs and to take front-row seats to world-class drama and performances.

As the number one educational media brand, PBS KIDS helps children 2-8 build critical skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS LearningMedia for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life.



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Sunny Side of the Doc Digital Platform

Participants are able to access the agenda, the projects and programmes, and the official guides on MySunnySpace, as well as prepare their meetings. At the end of the market, some sessions will be available on replay on MySunnySpace for a limited time.

Contact Fama Volat / Philippe Le Gall

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**For more information on Sunny Side of the Doc 2026
and press accreditation requests, visit our online Press Room.**

Sunny Side of the Doc photos © Jean-François Augé and Hugo Lafitte



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