

## OPEN LETTER TO THE PUBLIC

Following the blocking of the screening of films at the 34th Istanbul Film Festival, filmmakers have displayed a determined act of solidarity against censorship. Demanding a festival without censorship, many films in the festival program, and also the juries of the national and international competition have withdrawn from the festival, and all the competition-related programs and the closing ceremony of the festival have been cancelled. A first in the history of the festival, this is the latest link in the chain of censorship and control mechanisms both film and other branches of culture and arts are being subjected to. Filmmakers and professional organizations have previously presented many proposals to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism for the laws and related regulations that enable censorship to be changed; however, unfortunately, no concrete step has been taken on behalf of the Ministry to provide a solution.

Our film industry has achieved many significant successes in the international field in recent years. One of the most important tasks of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism should be to produce and implement policies necessary to sustain this advance in our cinema. Within this scope, the primary responsibility of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism is to encourage free artistic production by filmmakers and enable films thus produced to freely meet with their audience.

In the light of this recent event, we would like to remind the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and the public, of our demands regarding the issue:

1. Classification and evaluation regulations related to the official registration of cinema films must be rearranged in the light of scientific criteria and international practices.
2. Local films screened at film festivals, or all types of similar cultural and artistic events should, as is the case with foreign films, meet their audience without the requirement of any official documents, on the basis of the account of the filmmakers, and under the responsibility of the managements of such festivals or events.
3. The authority of the assessment boards of the Ministry to issue prohibition decisions regarding the commercial circulation and screening of films must be revoked.
4. The Film Law, currently in draft, should be revised in consultation with film institutions and must come into force in the shortest possible time.
5. Work must be carried out with the ultimate aim of founding the Film Institution of Turkey.

We invite the Minister of Culture and Tourism to organize an urgent meeting with professional bodies for the immediate change of laws and regulations that enable censorship.

We, the filmmakers, film critics, professional bodies, unions and festivals that have signed below, declare in the presence of the public once again that we stand against all types of implementations that constitute censorship, and that we will continue with determination and solidarity to defend our professional freedom under any condition whatsoever.

15 April 2015

SIGNATORY INSTITUTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENTS

If Istanbul Uluslararası Bağımsız Filmler Festivali (If Istanbul International Independent Film Festival)

Altyazı Aylık Sinema Dergisi (Altyazı Monthly Film Magazine)  
Anadolu Kültür  
Ankara Sinema Derne i (ASD–Ankara Cinema Association)  
Ankara Uluslararası Film Festivali (AUFF– Ankara International Film Festival)  
Belgesel Sinemacılar Birli i (BSB– The Association of Documentary Filmmakers in Turkey)  
Büyülü Fener Kültür Sanat Derne i (BFKSD– Society for Culture and Arts Magic Lantern)  
Canlandırılar Yetenek Kampı ve Festivali (Canlandırılar Talent Camp and Festival)  
Ça da Sinema Oyuncuları Derne i (ÇASOD–Contemporary Screen Actors' Guild)  
Canlandırılar Derne i (Canlandırılar Animation Association)  
Documentarist Uluslararası Belgesel Film Festivali (Documentarist International Documentary Festival)  
Filmmor Kadın Filmleri Festivali (International Filmmor Women's Film Festival)  
Film Yönetmenleri Derne i (FLMYÖN–Film Directors Guild)  
Gezici Festival (Festival on Wheels)  
Görüntü Yönetmenleri Derne i (Turkish Cinematographers Guild)  
Hangi İnsan Hakları Film Festivali (Which Human Rights? Film Festival)  
İnönü Üniversitesi Uluslararası Kısa Film Festivali (Inonu University International Short Film Festival)  
İşçi Filmleri Festivali (Labor Film Festival)  
İstanbul Film Festivali (Istanbul Film Festival)  
İstanbul Uluslararası Kısa Film Festivali (Istanbul International Short Film Festival)  
Kısa Filmciler Derne i (Short Filmmakers Association)  
Oyuncular Sendikası (Actors Union)  
Senaryo ve Diyalog Yazarı Sinema Eseri Sahipleri Meslek Birli i (SENAR STB R– Screenwriters and Dialog Writers Film Works Owners Guild)  
Senaryo Yazarları Derne i (SEN-DER–Screenwriters Association)  
Sinema Emekçileri Sendikası (S NESEN–Film Laborers Union)  
Sinema Eseri Yapımcıları Meslek Birli i (SE-YAP– Film Producers' Association of Turkey)  
Sinema Oyuncuları Derne i (SODER–Screen Actors Association)  
Sinema Oyuncuları Meslek Birli i (B ROY–Film Actors Society)  
Sinema Yazarları Derne i (S YAD– Turkish Film Critics Association)  
Siyah Bant (Black Ribbon)  
Türkiye Sinema ve Audiovisual Kültür Vakfı (TÜRSAK– Turkish Foundation of Cinema and Audio-visual Culture)  
Uçan Süpürge Kadın Filmleri Festivali (Flying Broom International Women's Film Festival)  
Uluslararası 1001 Belgesel Film Festivali (International 1001 Documentary Film Festival)  
Uluslararası Suç ve Ceza Film Festivali (International Crime and Punishment Film Festival)  
Yeni Film Fonu (The New Film Fund)  
Yeni Film Dergisi (Yeni Film Cinema Magazine)  
Yeni Sinema Hareketi (YSH–The New Film Movement)  
Ye ilçam Sineması (Ye ilçam Movie Theatre)

## SIGNATORIES

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Ayça Çiftçi  
Aycan Çetin  
Aydın Orak  
Aydın Ye ilyurt  
Aysun Erdoğan  
Ay e Bengi Çelik  
Ay e Betül Tekeli  
Ay e Çetinba  
Ay en Günsu Teker  
Ay e Özer  
Ay in Akbulut  
Ayten Ba er  
Azize Tan  
Bahriye Kabadayı Dal  
Banu Karaca  
Baran Güler  
Barbaros Altu  
Barı Atay  
Belma Ba  
Belmin Söylemez  
Benan Baf  
Berat lk  
Berk Asal  
Berke Ba  
Berke Göl  
Berna Gençalp  
Betül Esener  
Biket lhan  
Bilal Babao lu  
Bilge Elif Turhan  
Bingöl Elmas  
Bulut Reyhano lu  
Burak Acar  
Burcu Över  
Can Candan  
Canda Ba  
Caner Alper  
Caner Canerik  
Caner Erzincan  
Caner Yalçın  
Can Kılıcı lu  
Can Yılmaz  
Ceyda A ar  
Ceylan Özçelik  
Çiçek Kahraman  
Çi dem Mater  
Çi dem Vitrinel  
Cihan Aslı Filiz  
Co kun Irmak  
Cumhur Canbazo lu  
Cüneyt Cebenoyan  
Deniz Akçay Katıksız  
Deniz Koçak  
Deniz Ye il  
Dersu Yavuz Altun  
Derya Alabora  
Derya Durmaz  
Derya Tarım  
Devrim Nas  
Didem Ayberkin  
Dilde Mahalli  
Dilek Aydın  
Do a Kılıcı lu  
Duygu Kaban  
Ebru Ceylan  
Eda Gecikmez  
Emel Çelebi  
Emin Alper  
Emine Dursun  
Emine Emel Balcı Tunçel  
Emine Yıldırım  
Emre Erkmen  
Emre Yalçın  
Emre Yeksan  
Emre Yetim  
Emre Yurtsever  
Ender Özkahraman  
Ender Ye ilda  
Engin Yi itgil  
Enis Köstepen  
Enis Rıza Sakızlı  
Ercan Kesal  
Ercan Mehmet Erdem  
Erdem Murat Çelikler  
Erdoğan Akduman  
Erkan Birgören  
Erkan Tunç  
Erol Minta  
Ersan Çongar  
Ersan Ocak  
Ertu rul Karşıo lu  
Ertu rul Mavio lu  
Esra Kızıldo an  
Esra Saydam  
Esme Madra  
Evren Lu  
Evrin Kaya  
Eylem Akın  
Eylem Ertürk  
Eytan peker  
Eyüphan Erkul  
Ezel Akay  
Ezgi Balta  
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Fikret Bekler  
Filiz Algezmen  
Fulya Emek Tanrıkulu  
Funda Ödemi  
Fırat Aygün  
Fırat Yücel  
Gaye Boralıo lu  
Gerçek Taslıoglu  
Gökçe nce  
Gökçe İl Tuna  
Gökçe Suvari  
Gökhan Horzum  
Gökhan Mezarci  
Gökta Özgül  
Gözde Onaran  
Gül Abus Semerci  
Gül Büyükbe e  
Güldenay Sonumut  
Gülden Çakır  
Gülizar Irmak  
Güliz Kucur  
Hakan Karsak  
Haktan Pak  
Handan pekçi  
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Hasan Özsoy  
Ha met Topalo lu  
Hatice Yakar  
Hikmet Ya ar Yenigün  
Hilmi Etikan  
Hülya Sungu  
Hüseyin Karabey  
Iraz Yöntem  
Iker Barı  
Iksen Ba arır  
İmre Tezel  
İnan Temelkuran  
İnci Demirkol  
İrfan Demirkol  
İsmail Çen  
İsmail Murat Akman  
İsmet Kurtulu  
İl İl Özgentürk  
Janset Paçal  
Jülide Kural  
Kaan Ege  
Kaan Korkmaz  
Kadir Beycio lu  
Kadir nanır  
Kasım Uçkan  
Kaya Özkaracalar  
Kemal Alptekin  
Kemal Öner  
Kemal Sevimli  
Kemal Ural

Kerem Deren  
Kerem Topuz  
Kibar Da layan Yi it  
Korcan Derinsu  
Kurtulu Özgen  
Levent Çetin  
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M. Sadık Arslankara  
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Marsel Kalvo  
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Mehmet Kurtulu  
Mehmet Özgür Candan  
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Melek Özman  
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Melisa Sözen  
Melis Behlil  
Melis Birder  
Meltem Cumbul  
Meltem Savcı  
Memik Horuz  
Meral Efe  
Meriç Demiray  
Meriç Özen  
Mert Akbal  
Mert Fırat  
Merve Kayan  
Merve Öner  
Meryem Yavuz  
Mesrure Melis Bilgin  
Mete Gümürhan  
Mete ener  
Metin Gönen  
Mihriban Cumralı  
Mihriban Sezen  
Münir Karata  
Murat Akagündüz  
Murat Ayman  
Murat Düzgüno lu  
Murathan Mungan  
Murat Özer  
Murat Özya ar  
Murat Uyrkulak  
Murat Yaykın  
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Mustafa Ünlü  
Mustafa Uzuner  
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Nalan Sakızlı  
Nazlı Elif Durlu  
Nazmi Ulutak

Necati Sönmez  
Necmettin Çobano lu  
Nefes Senem Polat  
Nejla Demirci  
Nermin Aytekin  
Nermin Er  
Nesimi Yetik  
Neslihan Aka  
Ne e Akku  
Ne e Cehiz  
Nezahat Gündo an  
Nida Karabol  
Nihal Emeksiz  
Nilbanu Engindeniz  
Nil Güleç  
Nilgün Öne  
Nurcan Güzel  
Nurhan Özenen  
Nuri Bilge Ceylan  
O uz Kaynak  
Ömer Tuncer  
Ömür Atay  
Önder Çakar  
Onur Gülen  
Onur Ünlü  
Orçun Ok ar  
Orhan Eskiköy  
Övgü Gökçe  
Oya Özden  
Oya Yüce  
Ozan Emre Yurdakul  
Özge Akkoyunlu  
Özgür A ao lu  
Özgür Do an  
Özgür Erkök  
Özgür Oruç  
Özkan Küçük  
Özkan Maho  
Özkan Yılmaz  
Özlem Yılmaz  
Pelin Ba aran  
Pelin Esmer  
Pelin Turgut  
Peri Johnson  
Pınar Bulut  
Ramin Matin  
Rasim Do an  
Ra it Çelikezer  
Redife Zerener  
Rena Lusin Bitmez  
Rodi Güven Yalçinkaya  
Rodi Yüzba ı  
Rojda Akbayır  
Rıza Kocao lu  
Rıza Kıraç

Saatleri Ayarlama Enstitüsü  
Sabahattin Çetin  
Sabri Ku konmaz  
Sava Emrah Özdemir  
Sava Güvezne  
Seda Derinsu  
Sedat Yılmaz  
ehbal enyurt Arınlı  
Selen Domaç  
Selda Asal  
Selen Uçer  
Selin Tunç  
Selin Vatansever  
Selma Köksal Çekiç  
Semih Dindar  
enay Aydemir  
Senem Aytaç  
Senem Tüzen  
Sercan Gidi o lu  
Serdar Güven  
Serdest Vural  
Serra Yılmaz  
Seren Yüce  
Serkan Çakarer  
Serkan pekören  
Serkan Turhan  
Serra Ciliv  
Sevda Kantarcı  
Sevil Demirci  
Seyfettin Tokmak  
Seyhan Kaya  
Sibel Tekin  
Sinan Güngör  
Sinan Yurdakul  
Sinema Altında  
Sinem Sakao lu  
Soysal Demir  
Süleyman Gürkan Anıl  
Süleyman Turan  
ahika Erkıran  
ebnem igüzel  
Tahsin bilen  
Tamer Baran  
Tangül Sınav  
Tankut Kılınç  
Tarkan Gözübüyük  
Tayfun Pırselimo lu  
Tilbe Saran  
Tolga Af in Kaya  
Tolga Esmer  
Tolga Karaçelik  
Tül Akbal Süalp  
Tülin Özen  
Tunç Davut  
Tunç ahin

Turgut Yasalar  
Türker Korkmaz  
Ufuk Özenate  
U ur Vardan  
U ur Yüksel  
Ula Ak  
Ülkü Songül  
Ümit Köreken  
Ümit Kıvanç  
Ümit Topalo lu  
Ümit Ünal  
Vecdi Sayar  
Veli Kahraman  
Veysel pek  
Veysel Kerem Hun  
Vincent Bouvard  
Vural Çavuo lu  
Yamaç Okur  
Yasemin Özcan  
Yasin Ali Türkeri  
Yasin Semiz  
Yavuz Özkan  
Ye im Burul  
Ye im Tabak  
Ye im Ustaolu  
Yılmaz Boran Kılıç  
Yılmaz Okumu  
Yoel Marenda  
Yonca Ertürk  
Yusuf Güven  
Zafer Ayden  
Zaferhan Yumru  
Zeynel Do an  
Zeynep Akın Korkmaz  
Zeynep Dadak  
Zeynep Güzel  
Zeynep Ünal  
Zeyno Pekünlü  
Zümrüt Burul