

Civil Pitch 2.0

Films that bring us closer to victory

DUE TO RUSSIA'S FULL-SCALE MILITARY INVASION OF UKRAINE, THE COMPETITION REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN CHANGED

Civil Pitch is:

- **a competition of ideas for short documentaries on relevant social issues;**
- **a platform that brings together documentary filmmakers and civic sector activists;**
- **a laboratory for documentary short films that can be a tool for changes.**

Representatives of the civic sector, as well as directors, strive to achieve changes in society each in their way. Combining their experience, knowledge, and efforts, they will be able to create films on important and complex topics of interest to a wide audience.

Docudays UA invites representatives of civil society organizations, directors from Ukraine to submit projects of documentaries at the stage of development or pre-production for an all-Ukrainian competition, the winners of which will receive funding for film production.

What ideas are we looking for:

We are waiting for bold stories with extraordinary protagonists who can surprise and capture the attention of a wide audience. Topics of primary interest are:

- inclusion: ensuring equal access to opportunities and resources for people from vulnerable and marginalized groups and those groups whose interests are insufficiently represented at the national and local levels, people with disabilities; gender equality and non-discrimination; inclusive space;
- the post-pandemic world: new human rights challenges that arise during a pandemic; robotization of employment; development of health care system and new technologies;
- anti-corruption;
- civic activism: the path to democracy.

The format of the upcoming film

The upcoming film should be a documentary story of length from 8 to 15 minutes. There are no genre limitations: it can be a portrait film or an investigation, a film essay or a film made from archival materials, or even a docufiction.

Who can apply?

- Human rights activists or public activists who are looking for a film crew to make a documentary and are ready to provide informational and organizational support (the Festival will help you find a director to create a team that will participate in the programme *).

- Directors with documentary projects at development or pre-production stages who are interested in working with civil society organizations or are looking for informational and/or organizational support (the Festival will help to find a human rights activist/civic sector representative to build a team, that will participate in the programme *).
- A team of human rights activists or civic sector activists and a director who wants to develop their project.

We welcome experience in film production, but this is not the main criterion for selection. First of all, we will evaluate the potential of the film's idea.

**The Festival will help with finding a director or human rights activist (or civic activist) in case the project passes the pre-selection stage.*

What will Civil Pitch 2.0 look like?

As the country is at war, the workshop for the participants and the pitching of finalist projects have been canceled.

The winners will receive funding in the amount of **UAH 250,000** for the production of their films. The condition for receiving the funding is that the film should be premiered at the 20th Docudays UA in 2023.

In addition to financial support, each team will receive **mentoring support from international tutors** who will help go through all the stages of filmmaking.

Deadlines and important dates

13.12.2021 – 18.02.2022* – applications submission period.

**closing of submission period – February 18, 2022, 23:59 Eastern European Time.*

The winning projects will be announced **on 12 May 2022** on the Docudays UA website.

The screening of the finished films will take place at the 20th Docudays UA in 2023.

What are the funding conditions for the winning projects?

Financing of the production of the winning projects will be effectuated after the signing of the production agreement with the NGO Docudays. Money will be transferred in hryvnia equivalent.

If the creation of the Film is fully funded from the Civil Pitch 2.0 project fund, the Implementer transfers all the exclusive property rights to the Film, except for the Implementer's materials which have not been used for creating the final version of the Film (working materials).

The Contractor shall retain all prior intellectual property rights to the works created or owned by such Party or licensed for use prior to the signing of this Agreement.

If my project already has confirmed funding, can I get additional funding under Civil Pitch?

No. The project policy does not involve other donors. However, after Civil Pitch 2.0, you are free to continue working on the topic and develop your ideas in other formats (such as feature films or documentaries).

Docudays UA is the only international human rights documentary film festival in Ukraine and one of the largest in Eastern Europe. It takes place every year in the last week of March in Kyiv. Following the end of the festival, Docudays UA traditionally presents the best films in Ukrainian regions during the Travelling Festival. Every year, the Festival Industry Platform DOCU/PRO presents the best Ukrainian projects to the international professional community and is actively involved in the promotion of Ukrainian documentaries abroad.