

# Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmothly · CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations · October 2000 / Issue 11

Digital technology-Successful programs-Regional interactivity

## Three topics are the main focus for the 2001 CR conference in Porto

Chaired by Djalme Neves of PTP Porto, Portugal the organizing committee of the 2001 CR conference had a meeting in Opatija, Croatia, September 15. Present members were: Zoran Medved, Olivier Brumelot, Tim Johnson, Reimar Allerdt, Marie-Paule Urban, Lefty Kongalides and Boris Bergant.

The organising team agreed in an initial discussion on some basic standpoints to be followed when setting up the conference schedule:

- topics have to be selected carefully and be of high relevance
- a good balance between practical matters and discussion of ideas has to be found
- pictures and examples have to be an essential part of conference sessions
- the Prix CR as one of the main assets of CR will be devoted one whole day (discussions, screenings)
- the training workshop participants are regular conference participants and shall therefore enjoy and participate the social part of the conference as well
- diplomas to the trainees shall therefore be handed out the last day of the conference - during the actual closing session

In a thorough discussion, the organising committee agreed to focus on the following topics which reflect issues of relevance to broadcasting:

- the PRIX CIRCOM Regional

Responsible organiser: David Lowen

- **Digital** (How does digital technology influence and change the work of the producer or the journalist? Do the practices we have differ? Practical examples of what our stations really do / digital equipment they use; interactive TV; experience of transmitting picture, sound, etc.). Responsible organiser: Tim Johnson (tijo@tvsvd.dk)

- **Successful, Fresh Regional Programmes and Formats** (Examples of new, exciting, innovative regional programmes (Why, what is the idea behind it?) providing examples for other members to be copied) Responsible organiser: Olivier Brumelot (olivier.brumelot@exchange.france3.fr)

- **How do we stay in touch with our local audience/environment?** (Regional TV stations

as a brand name inside a local community or a region /examples (cartoons in local dialect, answering services in local dialect, ...). Responsible organiser: Zoran Medved (zoran.medved@rtvslo.si)

Furthermore, the conference needs to leave time to discuss the training seminar (trainees presenting their report in plenary, including discussion on further seminars) and the co-productions workshops (the Committee felt it essential to give the participants more time for a more profound discussion of co-pro projects).

Away from the contents of the conference, hotel bookings stands, as well as the draft social programme. The training workshop before the conference will be held in a less expensive hotel, yet the trainees will join the conference at the first day.

As far as the training workshop in Porto is concerned, Sony confirmed its support.

In parallel to the conference, exhibition stands of CR sponsors shall be set up in the hotel lobby, as well as potential happy hour sponsors shall be pursued.

The idea of an art exhibition proved to be too demanding and was therefore dropped, whereas the CR poster exhibition will be kept as an consisting art of the conference.

Mr. Lefty Kongalides (pr@ert3.gr) will through the Circom Report keep the membership up-to-date about the evolvement and call upon them for ideas and proposals, as well as remind them about details to be considered (like the required early booking of flights, etc.) The deadline for submitting conference proposals (to responsible organisers or the General Secretariat) was set for November 1, 2000.

The next full meeting of the Organising Committee shall be held in Porto on November 24, 2000 (the EC sitting on November 24 and the EB on November 25, 2000).

### The Porto CR conference dates in June

The CR annual conference dates, in Porto, Portugal, next June have been decided by the Executive Committee and will be as follows:

- Executive Committee meeting: June 19
- European Board meeting: June 20
- Conference dates: June 21-23

The price of hotel accommodation will amount to about 100 Euro (breakfast included). Meals will most probably be sponsored.

Delegates will stay at the Sheraton and the Meridien Hotels.

The CR training seminars will last from June 11 to June 24 (departure day).

Next year's MAT festival, usually held in Azores, will take place in Porto, June 18-20.

### Early reservations for Porto required

The earlier CR members reserve their flights for next years CR conference in Porto the better it is. Although Porto's airport is well connected with the rest of Europe, it should be underlined that the conference dates (June 21-24) coincide with the start of the peak summer season.

### Photos from Potsdam conference needed

CR's Deputy General Secretary Marie-Paule Urban urgently need 5 photos (not by e-mail) from the Potsdam conference to be used for the Porto exhibition, next June.

Please send the photos to Mrs Urban, France 3, Alsace, Place de Bordeaux, 670005 Strasbourg.

# CR National Co-ordinators: the top ten priorities

CR's Peter Zimmerman a couple of years ago wrote about the task of a national co-ordinator, which describes completely and accurately this role.

Zimmerman writes "CIRCOM Regional has gained a Europe-wide reputation - and more than 400 public regional stations as members of the organisation - because it offers so much more than the corporate representation of regional and local television on an international level. The most valuable service CIRCOM Regional can provide, is helping regional broadcasters to save funds by sharing professional know-how and production capacities for the common benefit. For the majority of public TV companies in Europe, cooperation with partners has become a must for survival.

CIRCOM Regional's contribution to this aim is its network of national co-ordinators. They represent the backbone of the organisation, the link between the producer from the small regional station somewhere in Europe and the central offices of CIRCOM Regional, and perhaps foreign partners of common projects. The personal efforts made by the national co-ordinators keep CIRCOM Regional alive and guarantee its success. The 10 essential functions exercised by the national co-ordinators are:

## **1. PROMOTING CIRCOM REGIONAL IN YOUR OWN ORGANISATION**

The management of your company must be informed about all activities. Moreover, it is necessary to extend this information to all heads of departments which may be involved.

If your organisation represents more than one regional station, you will have even more tasks to perform: all stations have to be included in the distribution of information and be encouraged to make use of it. This can only be secured if you find reliable co-operators in every one of those stations. You have to be prepared to give them the freedom to work independently.

**Important:** CIRCOM Regional's activities are not limited to regional programming. They can also serve as a contribution to nation-wide programmes!

## **2. THE DIRECTORY**

All records in this handbook must be correct and immediately updated in the case of changes. The reliability of the directory is essential for all activities.

## **3. CO-PRODUCTION**

This sector may be a means of saving money for your company. You can serve this purpose in two ways:

- a) encouraging co-production proposals by the stations belonging to your organisation;
- b) motivating colleagues to participate in projects stemming from CIRCOM members abroad.

## **4. ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

This is the most important event during the year. You should encourage as many participants from your station as possible. You are expected to propose topics for discussions and workshops which are of special interest to

your country and CIRCOM Regional as a whole. This should be done at least 6 months before the date of the conference. Perhaps you can even find someone to lead and organise the debates and workshops.

## **5. PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL**

Try to ensure a broad participation of programmes from the stations of your country. This will give them the right to use the winners of this contest in their own programming. Furthermore, your company has the opportunity to participate in the juries of PRIX CIRCOM Regional.

## **6. EUROPEAN SATELLITE PROGRAMME**

All CIRCOM Regional members are invited to use the satellite of the European Commission in Brussels to transmit programmes (free of rights). The CR PROJECT BUREAU in Munich, Germany, handles this activity.

## **7. TRAINING COURSES**

Graham IRONSIDE (address in the Directory) organises professional instruction mainly for younger colleagues. Companies in Eastern Europe can benefit from special funds given to CIRCOM Regional by the European Commission.

## **8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES**

It is part of the responsibility of the national co-ordinator to monitor payment. Partner: Secretariat CIRCOM Regional, Ljubljana - SLOVENIA.

## **9. PUBLICATION CONTACTS**

Good contacts with the local and national press are always helpful. Similar relations should be established with the political authorities of your region. In terms of internal communication, the Deputy General in Strasbourg, France, relies on receiving information from the national co-ordinators about developments in their countries for the quarterly CIRCOM newsletter.

## **10. CIRCOM REGIONAL EVENTS IN YOUR COUNTRY**

The best means of promoting CIRCOM Regional is to have an official meeting in your area. This may serve both as publicity for your company and an opportunity to find sponsors for the organisation. Since the Annual Conference is quite a large (and costly) event, there are also other options: the European Board meeting, the Jury Session of PRIX CIRCOM Regional, the EUROMUSICA Concert or a smaller meeting of the Executive Committee. Arrangements should be made well ahead of time (about 18 months) with the Secretary General.

"The task of a national co-ordinator is more than just a centralising function. It requires a willingness to contribute to the well-being of the organisation as a whole and serve the individual interests of colleagues from other departments and even outside your own company. Being a national co-ordinator also means sacrificing some of your spare time. During the past years, numerous colleagues from all over Europe have done this job. CIRCOM Regional owes its success to them all. It is through their achievements that CR has grown to become an effective and internationally respected organisation."

# In need of a webmaster

Participants of 16 countries from all over Europe presented 22 co-productions, during the last CIRCUM Regional Conference.

There was vivid interest in the following proposals:

- “Euro-Jobs” presented by France 3, Normandie and Tele-Bruxelles. It’s a series of short films explaining the social and working conditions for people looking for a job all over Europe.
- “City-Folk” presented by ORF, yet running for 4 years with seven partners, but open to new participants. “City-Folk” presents “strong faces”, personalities from all levels of urban society, chosen irrespective the color of their skin or their country of origin. This multi-cultural programme achieves very high rates, ie in the Netherlands 20% at prime-time. There were five new partners interested.
- “Minorities-The wealth of Europe & the Roots”, presented by CIRCUM & EEBA & Institute for Ethnic Studies. Five new partners were interested to participate in this very well known co-production
- “Euroland II”, presented by RAI and the Mediterranean Women Journalists Network.
- For the first time “Euroland” travelled through Western Europe by boat to show the daily life and the female impact on European structures and politics. The second part of this co-production will present the eastern countries which will enter the EU.

## Other proposals and new developments:

- “Modern Europe”, presented by Center TV Moscow. A series will show how difficult it was - and is - for the western countries to build the European Union and why they achieved it anyway. Center TV is very much interested to profit from the enormous archives existing related to the history of the EU and European topics as social problems, agriculture, migration, ethnic conflicts and so on.
- “Alice”, this very well known magazine changes profile. In the future it will be a 27’ minutes documentary about European artists.

From the European Parliament, Audiovisual Division, Mrs. Kirsten Tingstedt informs: CIRCUM - members are invited to use the technical facilities of the European Parliament and the financial co-production aids destined to



films about parliament topics or members of the EP.

Madame Cauchie, DG 10 of the council of Europe, says:

- Financial support will be more complicated to achieve. The central budget of DG 10 will be reparted to cover special topics. So you have to address the interested press officers, for example of the DG of Environment or Consumers etc.
- Next year there will be the Media-Plus Programme, - this is the good news - more financial support for independent producers linked with regional stations.

## Ways for contracts

The idea is to develop a common form for all CIRCUM members and for different types of co-production.

There were three principal suggestions to start in this field:

- Could CIRCUM install a consulting service for legal questions?
- To think about a solution for the contracts with independent producers, involved in co-production between regional stations. Who pays for their rights? Would the head station of a project pay it for all the others? This is the German ARD model, but not very practicable on the European level. So, everyone has to pay the rights, even if it is a so-called “cost free” production. One solution may be that the participants of a co-production decide together which independent producer they will employ and fix and repart the copyright costs in advance.
- To discuss these questions on the web-side. All of us know how much work it means to do it properly. So nobody dared to enregister himself as a webmaster spontaneously.

**SUSANNE STERZENBACH, SWR**

# 50 years: European Broadcasting Union

The EBU has a new President, Arne Wessberg from Finland, Boris Bergant again elected Vice-President. CR's sister organisation EBU (European Broadcasting Union) is this year celebrating 50 years of its existence. The organisation, the biggest and oldest broadcasting union in the world and a constant sponsor and collaborator of Circom Regional, is well known through its Eurovision and Euroradio. The EBU unites 69 active broadcasting organisations from 50 states and 48 associate members from 29 non-European states. The 51st ordinary General Assembly was held in Lucerne, Switzerland. The new Presidency has been elected there.



After 18 years as President, Prof. Albert Scharf, Intendant of the ARD (Bayerischer Rundfunk, Munich) took his leave. YLE's Arne Wessberg has been elected the new President. Furthermore, they have elected the new Vice-Presidents. Boris Bergant from RTV Slovenia and Secretary General of Circom Regional was the only to be re-elected as EBU Vice-President.

## Festival of Audiovisual Programs in Biarritz

The 14<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Audiovisual Programs (FIPA) will take place in Biarritz, January 16-21. The festival was created to recognize, honor and promote exceptional work in the audiovisual media and contribute to the development of the audiovisual arts throughout the world in a spirit of cooperation and exchange.

Six categories comprise the competition: 1) drama, 2) series and serials, 3) creative documentaries, 4) reportage and current affairs, 5) performing arts, 6) short programs.

Deadline for the submission of tapes is November 18. Internet: [www.fipa.tm.fr](http://www.fipa.tm.fr) E-mail: [info@fipa.tm.fr](mailto:info@fipa.tm.fr)

## The 6<sup>th</sup> Forum for News Executives in Barcelona

News World, the 6<sup>th</sup> global forum for the convergent news industry, is to be held in Fira Palace Hotel, Barcelona, November 14-17.

Each year more than 500 senior news executives discuss how they bring the world to the world. The event examines the ethics, business and technology of news. The conference will also focus on the latest developments in Broadband, the coverage of Africa, Public Service Broadcasting, Business and Financial News, Newsroom digitalization and implementation, The perils of field journalism, Broadcast vs Internet based news, Low cost news production and distribution, Multi-skilling, The changing face of Current Affairs, Newsroom technology. [www.newsworld.co.uk](http://www.newsworld.co.uk)

## Awards for danger zone freelancers

With three journalists killed in Sierra Leone alone in the past few months-Miguel Gil Moreno de Mora for AP TV News, Kurt Schork for Reuters, and Saomon Conteh of Gambia and more than seventy journalists and cameramen so far this year-everyone salutes the bravery of those who work in war zones.

Such journalists are honored in the Rory Peck Awards which are open to all freelance cameramen and camerawomen in television newsgathering and documentaries. The winner of The Rory Peck Award is chosen from two categories: The Hard News Award and The Features Award.

Closing date for entries is over but the event will take place at the Barbican Centre, London EC2 on 26 October 2000. Information can be obtained from The Rory Peck Trust, 7 Southwick Mews, London W2 1JG, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7262 5272 Fax: +44 (0) 20 7262 2162 E-mail: [rptrpa@dial.pipex.com](mailto:rptrpa@dial.pipex.com)

The Rory Peck Trust exists to promote the safety and security of freelance broadcast journalists around the world and to help the dependants to those who are killed or seriously injured in the course of their work.



## BCE 2000 set for London, Oct. 17

BCE 2000, the Broadband Communications Europe, will be held at the Olympia, London, October 17-19.

The strategy conference programme is strong with keynote speakers such as Flextech/Telewest's CEO Adam Singer, Katherine Oliver, Bloomberg's Worldwide GM Radio & TV, as well as Richard Callahan, Chairman of Callahan, Chairman of Callahan Associates and many other senior speakers from leading global players.

BCE 2000 runs along an exhibition of hardware, software and content suppliers from around the globe, with more than 180 companies demonstrating state of the art technology.

## The 9<sup>th</sup> European Video Perspective in France

The 9<sup>th</sup> European Video Perspective is to be held in Arles, France, November 29-December 1, by PEVE, a not-for-profit company set up by the Int'l Video Federation chairman Jean-Paul Commin and Jean-Marie Beauloye. Supported by the European Commission's MEDIA programme, the event has also backing by the Centre National de la Cinematographie (CNC), the Int'l Video Federation, the French video industry association (SEV) and the city of Arles.

The programme of the conference includes three studies specially commissioned from research and consultancy company Screen Digest: 1) DVD Cross-Border Distribution, 2) Video-on-Demand in Europe, 3) The connected DVD: an assessment of the future market for Web DVD. E-mail: [transfair@skynet.be](mailto:transfair@skynet.be)

# Europe by Satellite: direct broadcasting in eleven languages

What is "Europe by Satellite" whose services have been so helpful in promoting CIRCOM Regional's programs coproductions? The answer is given by Diederick Bangert, editor-in-chief of "Europe by Satellite" (EBS):

- EBS is an initiative of the press, communication, audiovisual production and studios service of the European Commission.
- Our mission is both to meet the increasing demand for audio-visual material placed on the EU by existing channels (current affairs service, topic based programmes, magazines etc.) and by new channels (private, regional, local or specialist such as the growing number of parliamentary channels).
- EBS is a service that complements the activities of the general television agencies that distribute the uncut images and the broadcasting agencies that transmit the finished programmes directly to the audience.
- EBS targets radio stations and television channels providing them with relevant images for their programmes relating to Europe, but does not intervene in their programming choices.
- We offer direct broadcasting in eleven languages covering major events and with interactive briefing sessions.
- We also offer uncut images with their original sound relating to the news, current affairs as well as archived images.
- We have complete finished programmes in all possible languages, such as institutional films and European exchanges that are produced by the broadcasting agencies.
- We provide teletext (television programme, list of plans and scripts, current affairs, calendars, general information).
- The two major advantages of EBS are as follows: it is an inter-institutional information instrument (each institution has access to real time information relating to developments within the other EU institutions, in particular by way of press conferences) and it allows dialogue for interactive briefing sessions (telephone questions, immediate responses in the studio, broadcasting in the original language with interpreting etc).
- The services offered by EBS are free of charge and are not subject to any right of usage for information and educational purposes. The only condition imposed is that of acknowledging the source.
- EBS contributes to reducing the production costs of radio stations and television channels in their coverage of European affairs through the free use of its images etc. This is of particular significance for less-well and smaller channels.



# First Turkish-Greek TV documentary

The Turkish and the Greek Public TV Stations have decided to shoot a documentary on their own history. The documentary titled "The cordial face of the Aegean" will be based on the historical events of the 30's and 40's which brought two nations together and created great friendship among them. The common tastes, common beliefs and common attitudes of the Greeks and the Turks are going to be another issue to be evaluated in the documentary.

Almost all of the people living in both sides of Aegean, remember the bitter memories of the past. Kids grow up with the stories of atrocity which even today shadow the daily life. Days of remembrances are commemorated in solemn ceremonies of the nations. Well-known redundant stories tell the people about "how cruel was the other nation".

But if there is anything less-known among the people is the fact that Ataturk and Venizelos created a great friendship among two nations just 8 years after the calamity of Greek Anatolian Campaign which the documentary will try to tell.

The fact that Turks and Greeks have lived together for centuries affected people, their attitude, their daily life, their taste, their music etc. If a song becomes famous in Turkey it immediately goes to the otherside of the Aegean or vice versa. Well-known actresses of Greeks definitely become a goddess in Turkey. In 1963 a coup-d'etat attempt was stopped by the government forces in Turkey. Front pages of newspapers were full of the news about it. But in the same front pages there were other reports about the visit of Aliko Vuyuklaki a famous Greek actress to Istanbul.

In 1999 the biggest earthquake hit the industrial towns of the Marmara region in Turkey. Greek evacuation teams immediately were in the site. Turks welcomed their "neighbour"'s help. After that the Turks rushed to help in the Athens earthquake. That humanistic approach among two nations courage the politicians to do the

same and let bygones to bygones to a certain extent.

The documentary is aimed to catch this opportunity and contribute enhancing friendship between the two sides of Aegean.



In shortly, this documentary will make us remember "the full part of the glass" in relations of the two nations in a situation that everybody already knows its empty part.

Besides, "The Cordial Face of the Aegean" the two episode co-production documentary will be the first in Greek and Turkish TV history.

**RECEP GUVELIOGLU**

## Thai Cabinet bans smoking on TV

Thai Cabinet government banned scenes of people smoking on TV in an effort to keep children from picking up the habit. The ban, to be implemented by the Public Health Ministry in coordination with local TV networks, will apply to both local and international programmes. No starting date has yet been set.

Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai's Cabinet discussed the measure at its weekly meeting and was aware the ban might contradict constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression. But protecting nation's youngsters is an adequate reason to legitimise the ban, said Pan Peungsucharit, the deputy gov. spokesman.

## New mobiles open door to viruses'

Computer viruses that infect mobile phones could create even more havoc than the Love Bug, industry experts said last week. Hackers are thought to be developing malicious programmes that target the new generation of Internet-linked phones and palm-top computers. Mobile phone viruses could record conversations and forward them to others, store and pass on phone numbers and generate large telephone bills.

The danger will increase as mobiles become more sophisticated and programmable. The most common way for a virus to strike a conventional PC is when it lurks inside an attachment - a file such as a picture, piece of text or music, which accompanies an e-mail. When the attachment is opened, another application is usually activated.

In the case of a Wap phone (wireless application protocol), the viruses could dial out, start recording software for personal surveillance, or wipe out the contents of files. Avi Ruben, a specialist in Internet security at the AT&T laboratories in New Jersey, said mobile phones would soon have many more applications to make them easier to use.

He said: "If somebody sends you a telephone number by e-mail, you want to be able to click on that number to dial it." Such an application would open the way to the threat of viruses. To defeat viruses, designers may be forced to limit the programmability of devices so that they are unable to run viruses.

## Video shrinks with MP4

What MP3 has done for music on the Internet, MP4 might do for films. After the software standard that compresses sound files comes one that shrinks video files into a more manageable size. Already pirated versions of films prepared with the MP4, or Mpeg-4 as it is known, software are turning up on websites.

The MP4 standard was developed by the Moving Picture Experts Group, the same group that developed MP3. But a version that can turn massive movie files into a handier size has escaped on to the Internet thanks to Microsoft. It developed the software to compress and decompress video, called a codec, to help the Windows Media Player programme handle moving pictures sent over the Internet.

Just like MP3, the MP4 standard strips out the information that people will not miss and only encodes the elements that change from frame to frame of video. Microsoft has now locked the codec software so it can only be used with the Windows Media Player. However, many websites are now offering MP4 versions of popular films such as The Wizard of Oz, Saving Private Ryan and The Matrix.



## Dubrovnik will host the 2001 Balticum Film & TV Festival

Croatia will be the venue for next year's Balticum film and TV festival. This was decided at a meeting in Dubrovnik with film professionals from South Eastern Europe and some of the organizers from the Festival as participants.

The new festival will be formed after the same basic concept as the Balticum Festival, including documentaries from both regions, a film school programme, seminars for professionals, selected programmes a forum, etc.

However, the films from the SEE and the Baltic Region will participate in separate competitions and the film school programme will consist only of documentaries.

Motivation for establishing the new festival is to stimulate the co-operation and contact between film professionals within the SEE region

### Nat'l Co-ordinators are also the CR correspondents

CIRCOM Regional National Co-ordinators should be reminded that the CIRCOM Report is their own publication. They are the correspondents and their stories concerning the TV stations (policies, co-productions, exchanges, co-operation, changes, etc.) is of interest to all readers within the CR family and the TV community around the world. Stories, reports, press releases and even one liners should be sent until the end of each month to Lefty Kongalides (ERT 3) in Thessaloniki, Greece. The fax number is (+3031) 299655. E-mail: pr@ert3.gr



and likewise with professionals from the rest of Europe-all in order to promote "a peaceful and stable development in the region".

The festival-which in Dubrovnik will have a different name-will change revue every second year between Dubrovnik and Gudhjem, Denmark. In 2002 will again return in Bornholm, the Danish island in the Baltic Sea, where it has been held in the past eleven years.

At the inaugural meeting of the board members film professionals from seven SEE countries and provinces participated, although this number will increase to 13 SEE members.

Igor Korsic from Slovenia was elected Chairman of the Board, whereas Ivan Paic from Croatia was appointed Director. The Danish representative on the Board is present Director of the Balticum Festival Kim Caspersen (phone +4570 20-2002/ www.bmc.dk).

The Danish Foreign Ministry's FRESTA programme is expected to cover about 1/3 of the funding, while the rest is still subject to funding from other sources.

## Around Europe Festivals, Workshops and More

### October

16-22 : Sheffield International Documentary Festival [www.sidf.co.uk](http://www.sidf.co.uk) Sheffield, U.K.

17-19 : Broadband Communications Europe. (National Hall Olympia, London) [www.broadband-convention.com](http://www.broadband-convention.com)

17-20 : Journadas Buenos Aires, Argentina

17-22 : Int'l Leipzig Festival of Documentary and Animation [www.dokfestival-leipzig.de](http://www.dokfestival-leipzig.de) Leipzig, Germany

24-27 : Columbus International Film & Video Festival [www.chrisawards.org](http://www.chrisawards.org) Worthington, U.S.

24-26 : Doclands [www.docos.com/doclands](http://www.docos.com/doclands) Dublin Ireland

25-26 : Digital Broadcasting Technologies (London) [www.ibctelecoms.com/digtech](http://www.ibctelecoms.com/digtech)

27 : IDA Awards [www.documentary.org](http://www.documentary.org) Los Angeles, U.S.

28 Oct.-3 Nov.: 18<sup>th</sup> Int'l Festival Sport Movies & TV (Milan) . [ficts@starlink.it](mailto:ficts@starlink.it)

30 Oct.-1 Nov.: Broadband 2000 (Palais des Congres, Paris) [www.cabletoday.com/broadband2000/register.htm](http://www.cabletoday.com/broadband2000/register.htm)

### November

1-5 : Festival Mondial de l' Image sous-Marine ([www.underwater-festival.com](http://www.underwater-festival.com))

1-5 : Northampton Film Festival [www.hohofilm.org](http://www.hohofilm.org) Northampton, U.S.

3-5 : Rocky Mountain Women's film Festival [www.rmwfilmfest.org](http://www.rmwfilmfest.org) Colorado Springs, U.S.

3-11 : Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival [www.amnh.org/mead](http://www.amnh.org/mead) New York, U.S.

5-8 : Sportel Monaco. 11<sup>th</sup> Int'l Sports Television Convention (Monte Carlo, Monaco)

E-mail: [vitcomusa@earthlink.net](mailto:vitcomusa@earthlink.net)

6-9 : SATIS Sound and image technologies exhibition (Paris Expo) <http://satis.reed-oiip.com>

## Circum Report

The "CIRCOM Report" is a monthly publication of CIRCOM Regional, the European Association of Public Regional TV Stations - available on the CR Internet site and coming to CR member stations and personnel either through E-mail or as an A-4 size printed newsletter, through the CR General Secretariat from Ljubljana. The French version of the CIRCOM Report is conceived and published by the Strasbourg Secretariat with support from the Region Alsace, the Conseil General du Bas-Rhin and the City of Strasbourg.

Director of publications is Marie-Paule Urban, CR Deputy Secretary General (Strasbourg). Editor is Lefty Kongalides, member of the CR Executive Committee (Thessaloniki). The "CIRCOM Report" is planned and edited in ERT 3, Thessaloniki, Greece. Phone (3031) 299611-610 fax (3031) 299 655. E-mail : [pr@ert3.gr](mailto:pr@ert3.gr)

All member stations are considered as potential contributors for this publication, with stories about new and innovative ideas, co-productions, exchanges, modern technologies, etc. Especially welcome are short stories and one-liners.

**\*Sony and Eutelsat are the official CIRCOM Regional sponsors**

## Germany's WRK gets Grand Prix at Int'l Ethnic Festival in Krakow

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Ethnic Film Festival "At Home" was held in Krakow, Sept. 26-30. Prizes went to the following programs:

Grand Prix "Korzenie" ("Roots") - 1500 zL-funded by the president of Polish Television for the film: "Mein Herz zerreisst-Zwei bosnische Fluchtlingsfamilien suchen eine neue Heimat". Authors: Hermann Lorenz, Leslie Franke. Production: Westdeutscher Rundfunk Kohn. Country: Germany

Producer: Telewizja Polska S.A. Program 2, Warszawa. Country: Poland. The jury of the Journalism Workshop granted the awards for the periodical programmes:

Special award - 5000 zL-funded by the president of Polish Television for the film:

"Roma Magazin: Roma Holocaust". Authors: Janos Daroczi, Istvan Nagy, Janos Kovacs. Production: MTV Hungarian Television. Country: Hungary

Recommendation for the film: "24 Hours: The Horse Fair". Author: Robin Powell. Production: Carlton Television. Country: United Kingdom.

Second award - 10.000 zL-funded by Regional Polish Television for the film:

"Nuba-cisti ljudje". Authors: Tomo Kriznar, Maja Weiss. Producer: RTV Slovenia. Country: Slovenia

Third award - 5.000 DEM-funded by CIRCUM Regional for the film: "30 minutes: Forgive Us Our Trespassers".

Author: Pam Thompson. Producer: Carlton Television. Country: United Kingdom

Special award - 4.000 zL-funded by the Marshal of Malopolska Province for the film: "Inni to takze my". Authors: Andrzej Bialko, Malgorzata Skiba.

## Showcase of CR's best twenty programmes in Thessaloniki

A showcase of CIRCUM Regional's best programmes, chosen for the PRIX CIRCUM 2000, will be hosted by ERT 3, in Thessaloniki, Oct. 21-22.

The showcase organised by ERT 3 and the prestigious Film Festival of Thessaloniki, with the assistance of CIRCUM Regional, will present the best twenty programmes in the categories: documentaries, news, cross border, European affairs, new technologies.

Programmes represent CR TV stations from Poland, Swiss, Sweden, Serbia, UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Norway, Lithuania, Denmark.

TV reviewers of the leading Greek newspapers, journalists, producers and technicians of TV stations, students of Media schools, etc.

## THE WAY TO FULL INTEGRATION

Reimar H. Allerdt, President CIRCUM regional, was present at the Ethnic Festival of Krakow and addressing the guests said:

"This is not the first time that CIRCUM regional has lent its support to the Cracow Ethnic Festival—we are proud to have been involved since years. The colleagues of CIRCUM regional hope that this festival will be full of new discoveries and encounters, as well as a successful event in this wonderful, traditional city full of European culture. CIRCUM regional's main objective is "to enhance and to promote European culture with all its diversity, helping people to become more familiar with others in readiness for tomorrow's multicultural society, characterised by democratic participation and tolerance" and also "to display, preserve and promote regional cultures and values for the ethnic and language groups".

This means that the aims of the Cracow Festival are the same of those of CIRCUM regional.

Generally speaking, journalists are committed to impartial reporting to providing information for all people, not just for single groups. In addition to this obligation to balanced reporting and neutrality, employees of public service broadcasting stations also have the task of using their medium to promote the social integration of all people, thereby creating a tolerant climate of public opinion offering equal opportunities and fully integrating social minorities.

This is an extremely difficult task indeed. Because some minority programmes can actually have a counterproductive effect on their ultimate goal of encouraging integration. On the other hand, it is imperative that programmes of public service broadcasting stations allow minorities to present their lifestyles, interests and opinions through self-portrayal and through portrayal by other people. Only in this way can they be a part of the formation of public opinion, of the process of democratic expression of will, which is vital for a free social order which respects the dignity of all people.

Minority reporting should protect minorities from prejudice and ensure their right to self-determination. This is basically a defensive measure, which clearly shows the structural subordination and disparagement of minorities and which provides their members with only limited help in their fight to live and feel as those people who belong to the majority. Even if the ruling majority were to comply with the oft-repeated demand of minorities for "reporting by us for us", the much fought for goal of integration would not be reached, because such programmes always seem to end up with a less attractive broadcasting slot, in the shadows - where most minorities are anyway.

I believe that minority programmes are only of limited use towards integration. I think it is much more important to broadcast the concerns of minorities over the whole range of information and entertainment possibilities offered by television and radio, an interplay between old and new cultures and culturally influenced social orientation. This can only be achieved with much patience and persuasiveness, in persistent dialogue with programme planners and makers. But it is the only way to achieve real integration, to achieve a multicultural society which is truly multicultural in life and feeling.

The focus of this year's Ethnic Festival is a minority which lives in many countries: the gypsies. They have a particularly tough time convincing the world of their real identity, their right to exist, even of their humanity. Even the officially correct word "gypsy" appears stigmatizing and prejudicial, and brings with it deep-rooted, apparently ineradicable prejudice.

How can such a minority present itself in television and radio? They have no realistic hope of integration into national, European society - whether they want it or not - but they can hope for tolerance and respect for their human dignity, man to man, presented with care and compassion in the programmes of electronic mass media.

The gypsy minority shows clearly how difficult it is to deal with all shades of minorities. Our Polish colleagues of TV Cracow are to be credited with the way in which they took up the challenge to present minorities in television, to follow them over the years, to encourage awareness and understanding and to demand tolerance.

The lives of our minorities must be continually reflected in the programming of public broadcasting television stations, not as a coldly calculated show of proportional representation, but - day by day - in the spirit of communicative relevance to the society in which we all live. Because: what is not shown in television does not exist.

CIRCUM regional wishes success to the 4<sup>th</sup> Ethnic Festival. We are highly interested to intensive relations with our colleagues in Poland who are interested in developing regional TV programmes of high standards."

