

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS OF THE NEIGHBOURS

during COVID-19 time

#9May2020

INFORMATION PACKAGE



As the current Covid-19 crisis is keeping the majority of the world's students out of school and universities and confined into their homes – the European Union encourages youth from both Member States and partner countries to find creative ways to keep cultivating their inner self. For that reason, a communication initiative named **"Meet the Neighbours of the Neighbours during COVID-19 time"** has been initiated by the Commission (DEVCO, NEAR and FPI) in close collaboration with EEAS through the project **"Support to EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVALS"**.

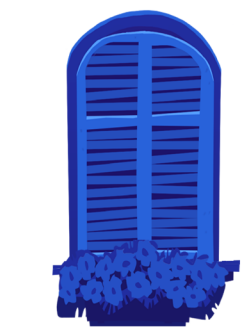


A digital window will be opened to enable students and youth from Africa, the Mediterranean and Europe to have free access - through the streaming platform FestivalScope.org – to a selection of high-quality films about the respective cultures, providing for a mutual understanding and build solid basis to strengthen fertile inter-cultural dialogue.

The proposed initiative will be launched on 9th May (on the occasion of 70 years of Schuman Declaration, and with a special screening highlighted for Africa Day on May 25th) and will last 27 days (as the Member States of the European Union), until 4th June. The access to the streaming platform will be **free of charge**, providing for a secured on-demand access to around 40 feature films, changing the offer each week with a different films. Around 20 **European feature films** will be accessible in **Africa and the Mediterranean**, and another 20 **African and Mediterranean feature films** will be accessible in **Europe and the Balkans**. Audience will be able to watch the selected films on a first-come first-served basis for up to **1000 users for each film**.

The approach of the initiative is to "open this virtual window" through stimulating and entertaining films that could inspire young generations and include contents that can inspire reflection and independent thinking about other cultures and the diversity of situations and societies. A carefully selected catalogue of audio-visual contents will then be made available in free streaming or broadcast through local networks within a properly announced weekly programme.

The initiative is jointly implemented in collaboration with the European Film Festival support programme, the Cineteca of Bologna, the Creative Europe/Media supported Festival Scope platform, the ACP-EU Culture programme and the LUX prize of the European Parliament.



The films can be accessed on the following address, from 9th May:

For audience from Africa and the Mediterranean: www.festivalscope.com/meeteu

For European audience: www.festivalscope.com/meetafrica

For more information and the screening schedules, see also platform CultureXchange.eu and the associated social media accounts: www.culturexchange.eu Facebook: [@cultureexchangeplatform](https://www.facebook.com/cultureexchangeplatform) Instagram: [cultureexchange_platform](https://www.instagram.com/cultureexchange_platform)

Please use following hashtag: **#MeetTheNeighbours**

For more information, please contact:

DG DEVCO: Maja.LAY@ec.europa.eu / Giorgio.Ficcarelli@ec.europa.eu

DG NEAR: Kristina.Prunerova@ec.europa.eu/Christophe.MASSON@ec.europa.eu

FPI/European Film Festival: Laura.Fiore@ec.europa.eu

EEAS: Diego.Marani@eeas.europa.eu/Carine.Borel@eeas.europa.eu