

Festival Network Doc Alliance Presents Guest Festival 2026: Golden Apricot IFF in Armenia

Press Release
21 January 2026

The festival in Yerevan will be part of the association of key European documentary festivals for one year



GAIFF Opening 2025 | YantsImages / Aram Nersesyan

The festival network Doc Alliance is happy to reveal this year's guest festival. At the regular Doc Alliance meeting in December 2025, the seven partner festivals thanked the 2025 guest festival Punto de Vista for the fruitful collaboration and welcomed GAIFF, the Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival, as their partner for 2026.

As the DA guest festival, GAIFF will participate in joint events and meetings at which the network members exchange experiences and ideas regarding topics such as educational practices, supporting emerging talents, XR programming, inclusive programming and sustainability. Furthermore, the festival will nominate one short and one feature-length film for the Doc Alliance Award and co-select this year's jury.

Founded in 2004 in Yerevan, Armenia, the Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival (GAIFF) is guided by the principle of being a "Crossroads of Cultures and Civilizations." The festival's mission is rooted in building bridges and fostering meaningful dialogue between cultures through cinema. GAIFF welcomes films from across the world that reflect diverse ethnicities, religions, and national identities, united by a shared exploration of the human experience. The festival's programme brings together fiction and documentary films without distinction of form, and features International and Regional Competition sections, a short film programme dedicated to emerging Armenian filmmakers, as well as a range of non-competitive sections showcasing both contemporary works and classic masterpieces of world cinema.

The Doc Alliance network of documentary film festivals supports emerging talents in European documentary film. Each of the seven members (CPH:DOX, Doclisboa, DOK Leipzig, FIDMarseille, Ji.hlava IDFF, Millennium Docs Against Gravity FF and Visions du Réel) as well as the guest festival select one short and one feature-length documentary film to compete for the Doc Alliance Award.

69th International Leipzig
Festival for Documentary and
Animated Film

26 October to 1 November

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The shortlisted films for the 2026 Doc Alliance Award will be announced in late April. The winners will be presented at Cannes Docs (Marché du Film, 12 – 20 May).

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We would like to thank our long-standing institutional and project-supporting partners



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Gefördert durch das Sächsische Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft, Kultur und Tourismus. Diese Einrichtung wird mitfinanziert durch Steuermittel auf der Grundlage des vom Sächsischen Landtag beschlossenen Haushaltes.



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