



Introduction

FAGA – Forum de Asociaciones de Guionistas Audiovisuales is a nonprofit organization founded in 2007. Its main objective is the **coordination and cooperation of professional associations of Spain to defend the professional, labor, socioeconomic, and author rights of the screenwriters both of cinema and television, nationally and in Europe.**

Works to represent the general interests of the profession, enhance the image of the writer as creator. To establish channels of communication within the sector. To do so, is involved in strategic meetings and negotiations, promotes studies, organizes activities, establishing links with European professional associations. FAGA also collects and disseminates information of interest to the sector.

It currently comprises the following four professional screenwriters guilds: **A.GA.G** – Asociaci3n de Galega de Guionistas with 35 members, **EDAV** – Escritors de l'Audiovisual Valencià with 56 members; **EHGEP** - Euskal Herriko Gidoigileen Elkarte Professional with 73 members, **GAC** – **SiGC** Guionistes Associats de Catalunya- Sindicat de Guionistes de Catalunya with 208 members.

The interests of 372 scriptwriters are represented under its umbrella, a fact which makes it the organisation with the greatest level of representation for the profession in Spain.

2009 Projects

FAGA works around two axes,

- Improving the conditions of professional writers
- The union of the collective, both in Spain and in Europe

We are involved in the following actions and activities listed below:

1. Participation in the Collective Agreement for Audiovisual Production Industry

A “Special Commission of the Script” has been created to regulate among others, the salaries regarding television screenwriters.

2. Promote the signing of a “Memorandum/Accord of Understanding “ between the various associations of scripwriters, PROA (catalan producers federation) and FAPAE (spanish producers federation) for the establishment of minimum commercial contracts rules

3. Promote the change of the "Law on Freedom of Association” in order to participate in negotiations of collective agreements

For further information, please contact with

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FAGA will join the call for reform of current legislation on trade union representation. We want to ask for a special representation, adapted to the idiosyncrasies of the work of professional groups such as actors, writers or musicians, among others. All of them work intermittently which doesn't allow to join the committees, nor to participate in union elections. Therefore their rights are not defended as should be, they are, but through the trade unions, who are often unaware of the specifics of the profession. Moreover, this does not permit to participate and have an active role (to vote) in the negotiation of collective agreements.

4. First Congress of Scriptwriters

FAGA together with FIA (Foundation for Research on Audiovisual) and ALMA will organize the First Congress of Scriptwriters in Valencia. Although the terms of this collaboration and the dimensions of the act are being defined, the objectives are:

- Project in Spanish society the key role of the writer on culture and audiovisual industry
- Recognize the value of the scriptwriter as an author
- Discuss about the challenges of the new technological era
- Create a platform to meet and exchange experiences concerning the professionals
- Analyze the current situation of the Spanish writer in comparison with other European and American countries.
- Give information on the work of the scriptwriters' associations.

5. Strengthening relations with Europe as a member of the FSE

6. Publishing a website

It is currently finalizing the design of our web. Besides presenting FAGA, partnerships and projects, the new website will include documentation of interest to the writer in the field of copyright, learning, interesting links, among others. It will also include the possibility to join a mailing list of FAGA in order to receive the bimonthly newsletter and other useful documentation. It will be also available in English.

FAGA wants to favor as much as possible cooperation with other Spanish organizations, and with Europe. The exchange of information should be the best strategy to join forces; work together for the collective.

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