

GREECE

The Scriptwriters Guild of Greece was founded in 1989. The difficult economic situation in the country which affected the production of national and private TV, directly and strongly affected the work of screenwriters. So for many years, it had become very difficult for the guild to remain active and consequently involved in the FSE. However since 2014, due to its new President and Board of Directors, the guild is once again an active member of the FSE.

The new board of administration was elected in late October 2014 and the first thing we did was to send to the FSE the 2014 contribution of our guild and please do not find this amusing because things in Greece are worse than what they write in papers or report on TV. We are still indebted due to an inadequate policy of the precedent board but we chose to send the little money we have to the FSE showing in that way our decision to stay European.

The new, very active, guild has accomplished in a short time many things. Some of which are the following

In the beginning of 2015, unanimously, we changed the status and from now on anyone who has written a script for any kind of produced script may become a member of the guild. Due to the crisis unfortunately our members are less than 100 for the time being, but we are convinced that if we manage to achieve some important goals we have set for 2015 that would restore the faith of our colleagues in the Guild and they would become members again.

In March we presented 5 of our most talented TV writers and a month later a veteran writer/scriptwriter specialized into pulp, police stories and scripts.

In the summer for the first time in the history of Greece under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture we inaugurated a competition for original and adapted feature and short films

In July we honored one of the most distinguished and renown Greek scriptwriters, well known in Europe, Petros Markaris, co-writer of Teo Angelopoulos' recipient of Cannes' "Golden Phoenix" film, Eternity and One Day.

In the beginning of September the guild held a successful debate on the Greek TV police series with the participation of many professional scriptwriters.

In Drama short film festival we presented a rather bold venture. ESE's publishing house which will publish well documented studies which we believe will contribute to our growing political influence. We hope also that it will help us to gain some

money in order to settle our debts and maybe help some of our colleagues who have been hit hard by the crisis, by creating an automatic help fund.

In 2015 we intend to negotiate an agreement with the public broadcaster to improve the working relationship with writers. It should help the guild negotiate with private broadcasters.

We will also try to develop concrete proposals to improve the recognition of screenwriters at Greek film festivals.

And our most ambitious project of all. To inaugurate a private school for scriptwriting with tutors from Greece and the rest of Europe which will help Greek and European writers, and would be writers, to ameliorate their techniques and be able to compete on an international level.