



## **SENDER (TURKISH SCREENWRITERS ASSOCIATION)**

SENDER has been founded in 2005. It has 200 members currently. 90% of these members are TV series screenplay writers. The remaining 10% of the members are scriptwriters for feature films, who also direct the films that they write. A vast majority of the scriptwriters are also the directors of the film in Turkey. Unfortunately the number of directors who would direct a script written by another scriptwriter is much too small. This small number of directors, prefer to work in TV series rather than in motion pictures, because they get paid much better. 2014 is the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Turkish Cinema and many panels, conferences and workshops are being held to bring a solution to this dilemma and Sender is playing a major role in these activities.

### **2012-2014 Annual Report**

- We have continued in our efforts to pay our tax debts of previous years. Our efforts in fundraising, since the membership fees were not enough to cover the debts, were not very successful.
- A commercial entity has been founded within the association to pay tax debts, and workshops and courses have been organized. We have been able to pay a portion of debts with the income from these activities.
- Certificate programs have been organized with the collaboration of universities. Another portion of the debts has been paid with the donations from the universities that we have collaborated to organize these programs.

- A copyright law has not been legislated in our country yet. Script and dialogue writers, work on buy-out basis and can not receive royalty. They do not get a share of the income from replays, DVD sales, foreign sales, re-makes, product placements, or trademark rights. We have been working on this unjust treatment and our efforts are still continuing.
- For copyright unity, a new establishment, “Scriptwriters and Dialogue Writers, Cinematographic Work Owners’ Collecting Society” (SENARISTBIR) has been founded. As of now, more than 200 screenwriters have become members. The lobbying activities for the legislation of copyright law are carried on through this union.
- There are not enough scientific documents and researches, which can be used in Intellectual and Artistic Works Courts in our country. Thus our association has been contacting and holding meetings with universities on this issue and led the way for the universities to make their students write on this subject for their bachelor’s, masters and postgraduate thesis.
- The association’s tax debts still exist. If the obligation for paying the tax debts is not fulfilled, our association is facing the danger of termination. If this should be the case, then we will continue our efforts under the roof of Scriptwriters and Dialogue Writers, Cinematographic Work Owners’ Collecting Society (SENARISTBIR).