

Gildia  
Scenarzystów  
Polskich

Warsaw, 19.09.2024

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR FSE AGM 2024

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Związek Zawodowy Scenarzystów Polskich - Gildia Scenarzystów  
ul. Odolańska 30/1  
02-562, Warszawa,  
Polska

Mailbox: [kontakt@gildiascenarzystow.pl](mailto:kontakt@gildiascenarzystow.pl)

website: [www.gildiascenarzystow.pl](http://www.gildiascenarzystow.pl)

SM:

Established: 12.06.2019

### MEMBERSHIP

Number of members: 182 (all are screenwriters)

Two types of membership:

**Ordinary** – for screenwriters with at least one feature film, or 5 episodes of series, or 10 episodes of docu-soap

**Affiliated** – for screenwriters without a professional record, who graduated film school or one-year screenwriting course, or have at least 3 shorts.

The Screenwriters' Guild brings together only screenwriters of films and feature series. Screenwriting must be the dominant activity of the creator.

### BUDGET 01.01.2024-19.09.2024

Full income in 2024: 113 400 PLN (+/- 27 500 EUR)

Member fees: 73 400 PLN (+/- 17 500 EUR)

Donations: 40 000 PLN (+/- 10 000 EUR) - from Polish Film Institute – for AI training programme for screenwriters

There is no collective agreements for screenwriters in Poland.

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SCENARZYSTÓW**

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## CMO's

We have two collecting societies representing screenwriters' interests: ZAPA and ZAiKS. ZAPA is the leading organisation, bringing together more than 80% of screenwriters.

Both organisations deal with rights and revenues which must obligatorily be accounted for by the CMO, in particular royalties from EVERY field of exploitation.

## LINKS:

Copyright Amendment Act 2024: <https://isap.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/DocDetails.xsp?id=WDU20240001254>

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### January

The new board of the Writers' Guild has been elected for a three-year term, consisting of:

Board Chair: Maciej Sobczyk  
 Board members: Agnieszka Kruk  
 Kaja Krawczyk-Wnuk  
 Bartosz Staszczyszyn  
 Igor Brejdygant.

### February

Second Edition of the Screenwriters Guild Awards. The general membership, by popular vote, awarded the screenplay awards in the following categories: film ('Filip') and feature series ('1670'). By decision of the Guild's Board, after consultation with the members, the following awards were given: a lifetime achievement award (to Andrzej Mularczyk), and a special award for actions in favour of scriptwriters

The government announced a draft bill on amendments to copyright law, introducing the recommendations of the DSM Directive into the Polish legal system. The draft did not take into account the payment of a pro-social and fair remuneration to creators for online broadcasts and in VOD and streaming services. The film community, with the significant participation of members of the Screenwriters Guild of Poland, has launched a protest and numerous social and public actions, as well as lobbying efforts aimed at introducing provisions on royalties for Internet broadcasts into the draft act.

The Screenwriters Guild asked for support from screenwriters' guilds around the world, affiliated to the IAWG and directly to the FSE. Thanks to the strong reaction of screenwriters' guilds from all over the world and the numerous letters sent to the Polish Ministry of Culture, as well as the lobbying activities carried out by the creators' organisations in Poland, such strong pressure was generated that the Minister of Culture announced the introduction of the requested provisions on royalties from the Internet into the law.



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The Polish Screenwriters Guild has created a programme of practical training for screenwriters in the use of generative artificial intelligence tools and has received a targeted grant from the Polish Film Institute.

### **March**

The Screenwriters Guild of Poland has put forward the candidatures of lawyers cooperating with the Guild as arbitrators of the Copyright Commission, functioning at the Polish Parliament. The Copyright Commission is an advisory body, giving opinions on legislative processes in the field of copyright law, and also approving tables of rates and remunerations of collecting societies. The Copyright Commission will also participate in the process of determining the rules for the payment of royalties from the internet and their rates. The Writers Guild eventually brought two arbitrators to the Commission, which is a great success, as only three other organisations have more than one representative.

### **April**

The Polish Screenwriters Guild, together with the Directors Guild, began work on reforming the Polish Film Institute. The activities are aimed at increasing the transparency of the Institute's activities and creating an appeal body against the decisions of the President of the Institute.

Then the activities were extended to other film groups and organisations - the work continues to the present (19.09.2024), already in agreement with the new President of the PFI.

A training programme for screenwriters on working with AI tools has been launched. The programme has been very successful. It is scheduled to run until the end of 2024, with the possibility of extension until the funding pot is exhausted.

### **May**

Work on the Copyright Amendment Act, implementing the DSM Directive, has entered the parliamentary agenda. The Screenwriters Guild, together with other creative communities, started an intensive lobbying campaign aimed at politicians of all political options. Bilateral meetings with politicians were held with very high frequency, where the positions of the creative communities were presented and the arguments of the technology corporations and streamers were fought.

Under the auspices of ZAPA, bilateral talks were held between representatives of the Polish Screenwriters Guild and representatives of directors' organisations on changes to royalty quotas in the soap opera and docu-soap genres. The organisations reached an agreement - scriptwriters gave up 10% of royalties in the soap opera field, levelling the proportion somewhat, but still retaining a significant advantage over directors.

### **June**

The Polish Screenwriters Guild was a partner of the 'Young and Film' Film Festival in Koszalin. We held a panel discussion on the working conditions of scriptwriters in the industry with



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particular emphasis on the issue of working for free as a start-up in the industry. The second event under the auspices of the Screenwriters Guild was a panel discussion on good practices in the audiovisual market.

Elections were held for the president of the Polish Filmmakers Association - a very important institution in the market that cares for proper relations in the industry. A scriptwriter and member of the Polish Screenwriters Guild (former member of the Board), Grzegorz Łoszewski, became the new president.

Following the resignation of the predecessor, a new President of the Polish Film Institute was elected - Ms Karolina Rozwód.

Work began in the Ministry of Culture on a new draft law on social security for artists. The Polish Screenwriters Guild takes part in the work.

### **July**

After numerous and difficult battles, the Copyright Amendment Act implementing the DSM Directive was passed in Parliament and signed by the President of the Republic of Poland. The creative community, including screenwriters, achieved a great success, guaranteeing the right to remuneration for making works available on the Internet, and many other favourable provisions.

### **August**

The Guild is starting to take action around unifying the wording of the definitions of screenwriting terms found in copyright agreements. Unification is necessary in view of the different approaches to the same issues by different actors, which causes misunderstanding and tension.

*... to be continued...*