

REGULATIONS OF THE FIRST BRICS+ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Article 1. General Provisions

BRICS brings together leading world civilizations with deep cultural and historical traditions. Each BRICS country possesses a unique cultural heritage developed over centuries. Cultural values shape ways of life, beliefs, customs and traditions. The Festival is established to promote cultural dialogue through cinema and strengthen cooperation among BRICS and BRICS+ countries.

Article 2. Organization of the Festival

The BRICS+ International Film Festival is organized by the Arctic Youth Foundation with the support of the BRICS House International Network.

Article 3. Festival Programme

International Competition: feature fiction and documentary films (50–120 min), short fiction and documentary films (up to 50 min), and popular science films. All films must be completed no later than 1 January 2026. Films completed on or after 1 January 2024 are eligible for participation.

English subtitles are required for all films whose original language is not English. For Russian-language films selected for competition, English subtitles are mandatory. For films in other languages, Russian and English subtitles are required.

Special Programmes

Special programmes are curated by the Festival Organizing Committee. Films selected for special screenings are requested directly from rights holders. Screening license fees may be paid by the Festival based on invoices issued by rights holders.

Article 4. Selection Committee

The Organizing Committee appoints a Selection Committee annually. Selection begins in January of the festival year and concludes 30–60 days before the Festival. The Festival Directorate reserves the right to determine submission deadlines annually. Competition screening copies must be submitted in the original language with English subtitles where required. Films are screened in DCP format.

Article 5. Jury and Awards

The Jury consists of film scholars, critics and film professionals from Russia and abroad. 2026 Awards: Grand Prix for Best Film – RUB 250,000; three Special Jury Awards – RUB 200,000 each; Special Festival Award 'For Contribution to BRICS+ Cinema'. Additional awards and diplomas may be presented by the Jury, Festival partners, sponsors and public organizations.

Article 6. Submission Process

Submission period: 1 June 2026 – 31 August 2026. Applications are submitted via the official Festival website: bricsfilmfest.com. Required materials include a screening copy, director biography and filmography, cast and crew information, running time, synopsis, production year, still photographs, poster, age rating and information on previous festival participation. Completed submission forms must be received no later than 31 August 2026.

Additional Materials

Applicants must also provide the film in its original language together with Russian or English materials, subtitle files where applicable, synopsis, publicity materials, trailer, stills and catalogue materials.

Article 7. Screening Copies

Selected films must provide screening copies by 20 September 2026 via internet transfer. Accepted formats include DCP (preferred) and HD files such as Apple ProRes. The Festival may remove a film from the programme if the screening copy is not delivered on time.

Article 8. Festival Guests

The Festival undertakes to provide accommodation for one representative of each competition film, preferably the director. If the director cannot attend, another member of the film crew may be invited upon agreement with the Organizing Committee. The Festival provides invitation letters for visa purposes. Transportation expenses are not reimbursed.

Article 9. Promotion and Distribution

The Festival may use excerpts from competition films for promotional purposes up to 10% of the film's duration and no more than 3 minutes. The Festival may screen selected films up to three times during the Festival and up to two additional cultural presentations within six months after the Festival.

Article 10. Acceptance of Regulations

By submitting an application, the applicant confirms that they are authorized to represent the rights holder of the film and accept all provisions of these Regulations.

Article 11. Transportation and Insurance

The Festival covers transportation and insurance costs for films included in special programmes and special screenings. Film copies are returned within three weeks after the Festival closes.

Article 12. Industry Programme

The Industry Programme includes exhibitions, creative meetings, round tables, master classes, non-competition screenings and other cultural activities. Invited industry guests may receive travel, accommodation and visa support from the Festival.

Article 13. Final Provisions

The General Producer may resolve issues not specifically covered by these Regulations. Amendments may be introduced by the Organizing Committee when necessary. Eligible participants are filmmakers from BRICS+ countries aged 20 and above.

Festival Information

Venue: Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation. Festival Dates: 14–19 October 2026. BRICS countries: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, UAE, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia and Indonesia. BRICS+ countries include Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Uzbekistan and others.

Article 14

The Festival Directorate reserves the right to make decisions regarding Festival organization. Important announcements will be published through official Festival communication channels.

Contact Information

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