

Press release of the 48th EKOFILM International Film Festival, 17 February 2022

## Submissions for the 48th EKOFILM International Film Festival have opened

*Submit films on today's major environmental issues, calls on the festival president*

BRNO/PRAGUE/CZECH REPUBLIC (17 February 2022)

From today until 31st May, filmmakers and production and distribution companies can submit films to the 48th EKOFILM International Film Festival concentrating on environment and ecology. The oldest environmental film festival in Europe will traditionally take place in Brno from 12th to 15th October 2022 and its organisers have decided to be as open as possible this year. Filmmakers can submit films about the environment and natural and cultural heritage that have not yet been screened at EKOFILM and were made after 1st January 2020 to the portal [www.filmfreeway.com](http://www.filmfreeway.com). The dramaturgy board will select 25 films to be presented to the public.

*Ecological and climate issues are moving the public in Europe and in the Czech Republic because we are also seeing the effects of climate change more and more clearly. Big droughts, unusual temperatures in summer and winter, extreme weather events, we have to learn to live with all this. The big question for the guests at this year's EKOFILM will be how to prepare our landscapes and cities for changing conditions, how to keep water in the landscape, provide enough food and energy, and at the same time reduce the impact of our activities on the planet. The films and panel discussions should highlight environmental problems, openly look for possible solutions and reveal hope for the future,"* says Environment Minister Anna Hubáčková about the upcoming 48th EKOFILM.

*We welcome films that deal with the major environmental problems of today. The key for us is the boundaries of the individual competition sections, i.e. films about the beauty of nature, the work of Central European filmmakers and short films about the environment. For the festival's accompanying programme, we decided to focus on the opportunities we have in the Czech Republic to further reduce emissions and adapt to ongoing climate change. As in previous years, the festival will take place at the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University, the Scala University Cinema, Brno City Hall and Brno's Liberty Square (náměstí Svobody),* says festival president Ladislav Miko.

For the competition part of the festival, which will take place in Brno from 12th - 15th October 2022, the dramaturgical team led by Jitka Kotřelová will select the 25 best films to compete in three categories - The Beauty of Nature, Central European Films and Short Films. The Festival President's Prize and especially the Grand Prix - the Main Festival Prize of the Minister of the Environment will be awarded. Filmmakers can submit their films on the [filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com) website until the end of May and, like last year, there is a fee to enter. Proceeds from the entry fees will serve as a reward for the award-winning filmmakers.

EKOFILM is organised by the Ministry of the Environment and hosted by Key promotion, Masaryk University and Ekolnkubátor.

Festival website: [www.ekofilm.cz](http://www.ekofilm.cz)

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