

**Question for written answer E-004895/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Predrag Fred Matić (S&D)**

Subject: Female (in)visibility in European cinema

Freedom of artistic expression and equal opportunities are one of the core values of European identity. Studies show that the film industry is still male-dominated and that opportunities are stacked in the gender's favour.

Between 2015 and 2018, only 22 % of directors of European feature films were women. A north-south geographical gap is noticeable, as the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Sweden have a higher percentage of films directed by female directors (27-30 %), while Spain, Portugal and Italy have an average of 10 % to 14 % of films directed by women.

The eastern European countries – Lithuania, Estonia, Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Bulgaria and Romania – fall around the middle, with 15 % to 19 % of films directed by emerging female filmmakers.

There is no European country in which women direct more than a third of films.

1. Creative Europe has increased its budget to EUR 2.4 billion for 2021–2027. How much of this budget will be allocated to supporting specifically female filmmakers, especially those from eastern and southern Europe? Is there a strategy for addressing this geographical gap in European cinematography?
2. 2022 is the European Year of Youth. With this in mind, will the Commission provide funding for networking programmes and activities, which are of the utmost importance for the younger generation of emerging female filmmakers?