

## Alternativa Film Awards Rules & Regulations

Date of Approval: August 25, 2023  
Term: August 25, 2024



### 1. KEY PROVISIONS

1.1. The Alternativa Film Awards present an alternative system for recognizing professionals from different countries and provide a platform for exchanging experiences. The Alternativa Film Awards seek to support early or mid-career authors who have yet to be widely recognized. The award provides monetary and symbolic prizes to filmmakers from developing film industries and aims to make them more visible on a global scale. We honor films that bring change to the world and society while appealing to a broad audience.

1.2. **Hybrid Concept.** Alternativa Film Awards combine methods used by film and impact awards. The awards evaluate both the artistic merits of the films and their social impact. We seek to find and support films that address important social and cultural topics and positively affect the lives of people and local communities.

1.3. **Nomadic Awards.** The award is part of the nomadic Alternativa Film Project. The focus region of the project changes every few years, while the city of the awards ceremony changes each year. In 2023, the ceremony will be held on December 1 in Almaty (Kazakhstan)

1.4. **Focus Region.** As an international initiative, the award aims to strengthen cultural ties between various regions. Having chosen Central Asia as our focus region in 2023, we invite other Asian countries to join our initiative.

Due to the project focus in 2023, one of the Alternativa nominations is dedicated to films exclusively from Central Asia, and the Selection Commission and the International Jury will be based on professionals from this region.

### 2. ORGANIZERS

2.1. inDrive is an international technology company that provides transport and household services according to a fair and transparent model: users directly agree on terms and conditions. The company operates in more than 40 countries and 614 cities and towns.

2.2. The mission of inDrive is to contribute to the fight against injustice and inequality worldwide and support local communities by offering fair business models, access to new opportunities, and social elevators. It is implemented both in business and through inVision, which unites international non-profit initiatives of inDrive.

2.3. The award was established by an independent company and is not supported by state institutions.

### 3. MISSION AND VALUES

3.1. **Alternativa Awards Mission:**

To find brave, new, unheard voices and amplify them on a global scale.  
To support filmmakers who need it most by providing resources and networking within the international community.  
To strengthen the ties between cinema and social change.

### 3.2. **Alternativa Awards Values:**

**Courage:** We dare people to follow a path of their own.

**Empowerment:** We support local communities by giving them a voice in the film industry.

**Cooperation:** We foster respectful dialogue and collaboration within the industry and among different cultures.

**Openness and transparency:** We are transparent about our work and encourage others to do the same.

**Inclusiveness:** We provide equal opportunities and strive to eliminate discrimination.

**Social impact:** We promote positive social change through the films and authors we support.

**Involvement:** We look for engaged cinema that aims to speak to a wide audience worldwide.

## 4. **IMPACT COMPONENT OF THE AWARD**

4.1. The Alternativa Film Awards combine methods used by film and impact awards. The awards evaluate both the artistic merits of the films and their social impact.

4.2. By impact, we mean positive changes that have occurred or may occur under the influence of the artistic statement of the director and/or the film team. These changes may impact individuals and local communities, public opinion, social or cultural areas, and the film industry in a city, country, or region.

4.3. We are interested in accepting applications from authors from various countries with different social and cultural backgrounds. The Selection Committee and the International Jury evaluate the context of the creation of the films, including the filmmakers' access to professional resources such as education, industry networking, financing, as well as their personal connection with the film's topic or story.

4.4. The impact of the awards is a contribution to developing local film industries through supporting authors who touch upon important cultural and social topics in their works. Our goal is to make such authors visible on a global scale and provide them with a path to a wide audience.

## 5. **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPANTS**

5.1. Feature films, documentaries, animation, and hybrid films made by directors from Asia (born or living in one of Asian countries) and **completed after January 1, 2022**, are eligible for the awards. The production date is defined by copyright.

### 5.2. **The Selection Committee considers**

**Full-length films created by directors from Asian countries** (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Brunei, Bhutan, East Timor, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Georgia, Israel, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, DPRK, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, Qatar, Kyrgyzstan, China, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Pakistan, Russia, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Taiwan, Turkmenistan, Turkey,

Uzbekistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Republic of Korea, Japan).

**Short films – exclusively from Central Asian countries** (Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Uzbekistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan).

5.3. The following categories of films **made by directors from Central Asia** are eligible for the awards:

- Fiction (from 60 minutes), animation (from 60 minutes), documentary (from 40 minutes), and hybrid films (from 40 minutes).
- Short fiction, animation, documentary, and hybrid films (up to 40 minutes).

5.4. The following categories of films **made by directors from other Asian countries** are eligible for the awards:

Feature films (from 60 minutes), animation (from 60 minutes), documentaries (from 40 minutes), and hybrid films (from 40 minutes).

## **6. APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

6.1. The right holder of a film (director, producer, production company) or the authorized representative of the right holder can apply for participation in the awards.

6.2. The application is submitted through [the FilmFreeWay](#) platform in English or Russian.

6.3. The application must include:

- A copy of the film intended for review;
- Shots from the film (3-4 images with a resolution of 300 dpi);
- Poster;
- Trailer (if available, in HD format);
- Photo, biography, and filmography of the director;
- Film crew list;
- Completed form.

6.4. Films shot in languages other than English shall be provided with English subtitles.

6.5. By submitting an application, the participant agrees to the use of its materials for advertising purposes of the Awards in print and online and also confirms that he/she is the authorized right holder of legal age.

## **7. SELECTION COMMITTEE AND JURY**

7.1. A shortlist of award nominees will be selected by a committee consisting of film critics and journalists, curators, and artistic and programming directors of film festivals from Central Asia and other Asian countries.

7.2. The winners will be chosen by an international jury of film directors and producers from Asia and Europe, as well as social activists, community leaders, and NGO representatives.

7.3. The members of the International Jury change every year. The list cannot include persons involved in creating or promoting any films nominated for the awards. The jury members undertake to refrain from public statements about the films from the shortlist and not disclose information about the winners until the awards ceremony.

7.4. The complete list of the Selection Committee members can be found on the Alternativa website. The list of the International Jury members will also be published on the Awards website.

## **8. SELECTION PROCEDURE**

8.1. Prize winners are determined through a two-stage process: nominees are selected by the Selection Committee, and laureates are chosen by the International Jury. The organizers of the Awards do not participate in the selection of nominees and laureates.

8.2. The shortlist of the films will be published on the awards website by November 1, 2023. Authors of selected works will be notified by e-mail specified in the application form. If you do not receive a response from the organizers by November 1, 2023, your work has not been selected.

8.3. Taking into account the expected number of applications, the awards' organizing committee does not undertake to comment on applications for films that will not be included in the shortlist.

## **9. NOMINATIONS**

9.1. The Alternativa Film Awards are presented in **five categories**. As we do not want to establish a hierarchy, all awards are equivalent in status, each with **a prize fund of 20,000 USD**. We also present one special award, which does not come with a cash prize.

9.2. Nominations **for filmmakers from the entire Asian region**

### **Spotlight**

This recognizes a film highlighting a topic or story that would otherwise have remained below the public's radar. The award stresses the importance of putting those who are less noticed on the screen.

### **Future Voice**

This is awarded to a filmmaker who has the potential to contribute to change, both in the film industry and society in general. The award aims to support new talent and is given for a first or second feature.

### **Alter**

This recognizes a film that encourages social change. The award is given to a film that addresses critical issues (human rights, migration, wars, environment, etc.) and has the potential to impact society.

### **Nativa**

This award goes to a film that touches on national or cultural identity topics. The award is given for representing a country or a region and putting that place or community on the map.

9.3. Nomination **for filmmakers from Central Asia**

### **Shorts Award**

For a short film produced in a focus region. The award aims to support local talents in their pursuit of new paths.

#### 9.4. Special Prize **for Central Asian Filmmakers**

##### **Resonance**

A special prize for a film that has achieved outstanding success with an audience outside its home region. This prize is not part of the open call and does not carry a monetary reward.

### **10. SCHEDULE / KEY DATES**

10.1. Start date for accepting applications: September 7, 2023  
Finish date for accepting applications: October 1, 2023, 23:59 (UTC + 3)  
Extended Deadline: October 8, 2023, 23:59 (UTC + 3)

10.2. Work of the Selection Committee: September 7 – October 24  
Work of the International Jury: November 1 – November 15

10.3. Awards ceremony: December 2, 2023

### **11. PRIZE FUND**

11.1. The total prize fund of the Alternativa Film Awards 2023 is 100,000 USD. The cash prize for the winners in the Spotlight, Future, Alter, Nativa, and Shorts awards is 20,000 USD.

11.2. The monetary prize will be paid to the winner as a one-time payment and provided for entering into an agreement that defines possible ways of using the award.

11.3. Directors whose works are included in the shortlist will be invited to the awards ceremony. The invitation will be sent to the e-mail specified in the application form. It covers the transportation costs from the place of residence to Almaty, accommodation in a hotel (up to three nights) for one person, and the ability to invite one guest to the ceremony. If a director cannot attend the ceremony, he/she may transfer his/her invitation to another film crew member after consulting with the organizing committee.

11.4. In accordance with the mission and values of the awards, we expect that the winner will spend the monetary prize on professional development, education, and promotion of existing or creation of new film projects.

11.5. The organizers reserve the right to demonstrate the films that have won the award as part of non-commercial audience screenings in Central Asia without any compensation for the copyright holders. The screenings are organized to acquaint a wide audience with the laureates' works. Each film may be shown no more than three times within a month after the ceremony. By submitting an application for participation in the awards, the right holder agrees to this condition.

11.6. The cash prize is subject to taxation in accordance with the laws of the country in which the Winner is registered as an individual entrepreneur or legal entity – the recipient of the cash prize. The Organizer will not be responsible for withholding and paying any taxes the Winner may be subject to after winning the award. Any applicable taxes arising for the Winner from the Awards is the sole responsibility of the Winner.

11.7. The Winner shall separately be liable and responsible for ensuring compliance with provisions of tax code and regulations as applicable to them, including the obligation of reporting, filing, and payment of any taxes, duties, or any other similar charges. The

prize includes any applicable taxes. Taxes paid by the Winner are not refundable by the Organizer.

11.8. If the legislation of the Organizer jurisdiction assumes the deduction of withholding tax in respect of the Winner's prize, but the tax agreement between the Organizer's and the Winner's jurisdictions provides for the possibility of tax exemption or reduction of the corresponding tax rate, in that case, Winner shall provide documents confirming the Organizer's right to such a benefit before the date of payment under this Terms and conditions. Otherwise, the Organizer will withhold the tax at the expense of the Winner's prize under these Terms and conditions.

## **12. REGISTRATION FEE**

12.1. The application for the awards is **free of charge**.

## **13. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

13.1. The Parties confirm that at the time of the provision of these representations and warranties and during the term of any business relations between them, they fulfill and undertake to comply with the requirements of all applicable laws related to anti-money laundering, anti-corruption and anti-bribery and countering illegal trade and terrorist financing, prohibiting the use of child or forced labor, proper and lawful use of confidential (including inside) information and not to take any action that may lead to a violation of such laws, not to facilitate, encourage or induce anyone to participate in such activities.

13.2. The Parties confirm and represent that none of the Parties, nor any person owning or controlling a Party, is a person included in any sanctions list approved by international organizations, unions of States, or separate countries (including but not limited to the list of citizens of special US categories and blocked persons) that prohibits or otherwise restricts a Party from properly performing its obligations under this Agreement. The Parties also confirm and represent that the activities of each of the Parties in the performance of this Agreement are not aimed at violating international sanctions regimes, trade embargoes, and other restrictions imposed by international organizations, unions of States, and separate countries.

13.3. The Parties represent that in the performance of their obligations to each other, the Parties themselves, their employees, agents, and affiliates (taking into account the reasonable ability of each respective Party to control the distribution of these obligations to these persons) do not participate in bribery, commercial bribery, do not pay, do not offer to pay and do not authorize the payment of any monetary funds or values, directly or indirectly, to any person, to influence the actions or decisions of these persons to obtain any unlawful advantages or to achieve other unlawful goals.

13.4. The Parties shall not cooperate and shall not enter into new contracts /extend existing contracts with counterparties who do not comply with ethical principles and values of common business conduct; discriminate based on, including, but not limited: origin, religion, color, creed, gender or age.

13.5. The Parties represent that they use all reasonable efforts to comply with applicable environmental, social, and governance ("ESG") laws and shall foresee any known or

expected future changes in the applicable law requirements and take all reasonable actions to ensure compliance with them.

13.6. By accepting the present document, the Parties confirm their compliance with the basic principles of the [Company's anti-corruption](#) and ethical business conduct policies and undertake to follow them.

13.7. All documents and information provided prior to the conclusion of any agreement with the Counterparty and/or during the preliminary verification of the Counterparty according to the internal procedures of the inDrive, including the due diligence, anti-money laundering, and sanctions compliance procedures (where applicable), were reliable and valid, accurate and not misleading.

13.8. If any of the Parties become aware of potential or existing violations in the field of preventing and combating corruption, money laundering, violations of sanctions, any export restrictions (including EAR) and illegal trade, violations of the requirements for the protection of confidential (including insider) information. The Counterparty immediately notifies the Company of this by contacting the Compliance "Integrity Line" by email at [compliance@indrive.com](mailto:compliance@indrive.com).

13.9. In the event of violation by one of the Parties of the representations specified in this section, the other Party has the right to unilaterally terminate all valid agreements as well as demand compensation from the other Party for losses incurred. The Party requiring termination of the agreement on the grounds of this section does not compensate the losses to the other Party.

#### **14. DATA PROTECTION CLAUSE**

14.1. If the Company receives any personal data, the Company shall use it solely to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

The Company shall process such personal data in full compliance with all applicable data protection laws, keep such data confidential, and return/destroy any copies of such data upon the termination of this Document.

#### **15. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Alternativa Film Awards  
[awards.info@alternativa.film](mailto:awards.info@alternativa.film)