

EU SUPPORT FOR TV SERIES

The EU has supported the production of TV series since 1991, by financing some of the best works and by helping to strengthen the sector as a whole by investing in Development, TV Programming, Market Access and Training. It has contributed to the growth of high-quality TV productions broadcast across several territories, and has given to independent television producers artistic freedom to make cutting-edge content.

This factsheet presents some successful stories of EU-supported TV series and projects.

BABYLON BERLIN BY TOM TYKWER, HENK HANDLOEGTEN & ACHIM VON BORRIES

Babylon Berlin, produced by X-Filme, is a crime series set in the 1929 Weimar Republic. When the first episode premiered on Sky in 2017, it proved to be the second most successful launch in the channel's history (after Game of Thrones), with an audience of 1.2 million. The series has been sold in more than 100 territories, including most Europe.

- Support €60.000 under the Development Scheme, €1.000.000 under the TV Programming Scheme.



MY BRILLIANT FRIEND (L'AMICA GENIALE) BY SAVERIO COSTANZO

My Brilliant Friend, co-produced by Wildside (IT) and Umedia (BE), is a TV drama series based on the acclaimed novel by Elena Ferrante. The eight episode miniseries is an example of a creative collaboration between European broadcaster RAI and US based network HBO. The series, which premiered in November 2018, was sold to around 150 territories worldwide and a second season was confirmed in December 2018.

- Support €1.000.000 under the TV Programming Scheme.



DEUTSCHLAND 86 BY ANNA LEVINE & JÖRG WINGER

DEUTSCHLAND 86, produced by UFA Fiction, is the second season of cult spy series Deutschland 83. The series picks up the story of an East German Agent and his compatriots in the Stasi Foreign Intelligence in 1986. It is one of the very first German shows to be co-financed by Amazon and internationally exploited in SVOD. Additionally, UFA Distribution joined into a cooperation with Fremantle Media International, who have already distributed very successfully the first season.

- Support €500.000 under the TV Programming Scheme.



STATE OF HAPPINESS (LYKKELAND) BY PETTER NÆSS & PÅL JACKMAN

State of Happiness, produced by Maipo Film and Lunanime, is a TV drama series of eight episodes telling the story of the discovery of the first oil deposits in the North Sea and skilfully combines the destiny of a nation with that of four young people who are thrown into a whirlwind of opportunities. The project is a European co-production, between Norway and Belgium, and had pre-sales to Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia and The Czech Republic.

- Support €45.000 under the Development Scheme, €500.000 under the TV Programming Scheme.



SUPPORTING PROFESSIONALS

TRAINING

Creative Europe MEDIA funds many training courses helping TV series makers.

A successful example is **Series Eyes**, which prepares the next generation of European TV writer-producers to bring first-class storytelling to tv screens. Trainees get experience in working as a team and assuming the role of head writer in the creative process, and get a solid understanding of the dramaturgic and narrative strategies used in successful fiction series.

• Support in 2019 € 202.550

TFL 360° is a year-round multidisciplinary lab hosting **SeriesLab**: a 6-month course targeting European scriptwriters, directors and producers working on original TV series projects. It follows the whole process of creation of a TV series concept: from generating ideas and structuring the material, up to a final pitch in front of major key players of the international TV industry.

• Support in 2019 € 145.000

INDUSTRY EVENTS

The Series Mania European Forum for Talent and Projects aims to create a unique meeting place in Europe for TV series creators and funders. The Forum acts as a project incubator and it is an ideal place to discover new talents, grasp new ideas and invest in development. It is built around the different phases of the creation process (development, production and distribution) and it also covers digital innovation for webseries and new formats.

• Support in 2019 € 320.000

TV Drama Vision is an annual international seminar and co-production event focusing on the Nordic TV drama scene with a European outlook. It features discussions on current trends, presentations of works in progress, an overview of upcoming Nordic TV-series and master classes with key international professionals. The aim is to strengthen the European TV drama industry, enable competitive co-productions and increase the international circulation of works. Broadcasters, producers, financiers, writers and sales agents are the usual participants.

• Support in 2019 € 60,000

REACHING AUDIENCES

SUPPORT FOR ONLINE DISTRIBUTION

Creative Europe MEDIA also supports projects that reach out to new audiences.

Closing the Digital Gap - The Best of European TV is a project by Lumière proposing a catalogue available worldwide of 24 series and 614 TV series episodes, most of them European. This platform functions on the transactional model (EST) and has already more than 6.000 registered users.

• Support in 2018 € 202.936

Filmin is a similar project, but only available in Spain and Portugal. It offers 243 series and 4719 episodes, many of which are European projects.

• Support in 2017 € 339.633

In the UK and Ireland, Channel 4 launched in 2016 on its "All 4" platform a free advertising-supported VOD service called **Walter Presents**, featuring 87 series and 849 episodes. In the US, also with the support of Channel 4, Walter Presents was launched in 2017 as a subscription based service offering 34 series. Most of the proposed series are European and are available in other languages than English.

• Support in 2018 € 458.222

CREATIVE EUROPE MEDIA: HOW DOES IT WORK

Creative Europe MEDIA supports the European audio-visual sector, including the film, documentary, TV and videogames industries. It provides funding for the development, promotion and distribution of European works within Europe and beyond; invests in the training of professionals in the field; and helps companies from the cultural and creative sectors get access to finance via the Guarantee Facility mechanism. Each year, Creative Europe MEDIA supports around 2,000 European projects.

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SeriesLab 2018