



GROUP STATEMENT

**FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACTS OF
GENDER-BASED DISCRIMINATION
AND VIOLENCE AT FESTIVALS AND
EVENTS IN COLOMBIA'S FILM AND
AUDIOVISUAL SECTOR, AND THE
DEVELOPMENT OF RESPONSE
PROTOCOLS FOR THE ISSUE**

Cartagena, April 2, 2025

We, signatory festivals and events of the film and audiovisual sector, aware of our nature as spaces for coexistence and interaction, believe that the safety and wellbeing of all people - and particularly of those in more vulnerable situations who participate in our events, such as children and young people - is of vital importance. For this reason, we have joined together to make this group statement, in line with the strategies that have been implemented across the world in recent years to raise awareness and take action regarding social interactions that result in presumed acts of gender-based violence and discrimination. As such, we declare that:

1. It is an imperative to promote festivals and events in the film and audiovisual sector that are free from all forms of violence. As a consequence, we declare ourselves to be spaces of ZERO TOLERANCE for any kind of action and/or behavior that threatens the dignity or the physical, mental, and/or emotional wellbeing of the people involved in our activities, including the specific safeguarding of minors.
2. It is important to prevent the occurrence of favoritism, hateful language, discrimination, abuse, marginalization, and insulting behavior due to reasons of gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic background, religious or ideological beliefs, socio-economic status, physical appearance, disability, or age.
3. For this reason, we stand against sexism, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, biphobia, interphobia, transphobia, hostility, religious hatred, fascism, discrimination due to age and disability, and all other forms of intersectional discrimination.
4. We do not tolerate any acts of violence, abuse, or harassment of any nature, be it verbal, symbolic, physical, sexual, or of another kind, towards and/or by the people present at our events, whether they be participants, guests, partners, service providers, or employees.
5. We promote the creation of spaces for dialogue and exchange in the film and audiovisual sector that will result in actions for the prevention of incidents of gender-based violence and discrimination, and the strengthening of prevention and response protocols to such incidents. These aspects will aid the development of clear strategies for the protection of minors in our activities.

When faced with any acts or behavior of this kind, we, the signatory film and audiovisual festivals and events, will report them and request the intervention of the authorities if appropriate. We will share information regarding the events publicly and/or internally, depending on the case, and we will take all necessary measures for the safe running of our spaces. The protection of children and adolescents will be prioritized at all times, ensuring that our actions are aligned with the legal and ethical principles of child protection.

This applies to all the people present at our events - whether they be participants, guests, partners, service providers or employees – who, by agreeing to participate in them, declare that they understand and accept the conditions of ZERO TOLERANCE for violence of any kind.

Article 67 of Law 96 of 2004 of the Code of Criminal Procedure states that “all persons must report to the authorities any crimes of which they have knowledge and into which an investigation must be opened”. As such, when encountering actions or behavior of this type, we invite all the participants in our spaces with knowledge of the incident to immediately inform the organizing team so that they can take appropriate action as called for by law for the case. In cases involving minors, their protection and wellbeing will be prioritized and the relevant protocols will be activated to ensure their safety.

This means that if someone is a victim of or witness to violence, discrimination, or unacceptable behavior of any kind, reporting it is of great help. It also means that anyone who engages in offensive or inappropriate behavior towards others must be prepared to acknowledge the issue and take responsibility for any proceedings that may result from said behavior. The report can be made publicly or anonymously, and the festival or event will strive to protect and safeguard the wellbeing of the person who reports and/or provides evidence of the events. This includes taking the necessary measures to ensure the safety and protection of any children and adolescents involved.

As part of this commitment as signatory organizations, we have added a resource list to this statement that will enable interested parties to discover more about how to handle these issues, which are so relevant to our sector.

Constructing spaces free from violence and discrimination is a collective task, and through this statement we make a commitment to developing our own internal protocols. This document is not only a declaration of principles, but also a call for action to ensure that our events continue to strengthen the sector and reflect our values of respect, equality, and justice.

Likewise, we send out an invitation for the different public and private entities and organizations that deal with these issues to use their knowledge and expertise to

contribute towards the development of our prevention and response protocols, including those related to the protection of children and adolescents.

RESOURCE LIST (IN SPANISH)

Guide to the mainstreaming of the gender focus. DACMI. Ministry of the Cultures, Arts and Knowledge (2023 - 2024):

https://www.mincultura.gov.co/direcciones/audiovisuales-cine-y-medios-interactivos/Documents/enfoques-transversales/DACMI_Guia_Transversalizacion_Genero_202312.pdf

Raising the curtain: A guide to prevention, response, and reparation for gender-based violence in the performing arts and living arts (2024):

<https://eneldelia.gov.co/guia-abriendo-el-telon/>

Purple Lens. Communications Regulatory Commission (2023):

<https://www.crcm.gov.co/sites/default/files/webcrc/noticias/documents/LENTE-PURPURA-FINAL.pdf>

Everyone Shout 'Cut': Guide to preventing violence in the audiovisual sector (2022):

<https://filmingbogota.gov.co/sites/default/files/2022-03/guia-gritemos-corte.pdf>

RecSisters Best Practice Manual (2021): <https://recsisters.com/#documentos>