

Nicosia, 24 January 2017

## Human Rights Film Days

The European Commission will highlight the importance of human rights and democracy as universal values during the Human Rights Film Days during the period Thursday, 26 January 2017 to Wednesday, 1 February 2017. The opening reception will be held on Thursday 26 January 2017 at 19:00 followed by the screening of the Oscar nominee film *Fire At Sea* from Italy at 19:30. The films will be screened in their original languages with Turkish subtitles on 26, 27, 28 and 31 January, and 1 February. The Human Rights Film Days is organised by the EU Infopoint in partnership with the Turkish Cypriot Human Rights Foundation and Refugee Rights Association.

The Human Rights Film Days aim to highlight the importance of democracy and human rights as universal values, that are the cornerstones of inclusive, vibrant societies, where all are free to participate in the life of the community. Overcoming the obstacles that perpetuate the violation of these rights is crucial for the respect of human dignity, the fight against poverty, and the prevention and resolution of conflicts.

The programme for the Human Rights Film Days is as follows: *Fire at sea (26 January)*, *Amal (27 January)*, *So Far, So Near (28 January)*, *Natural Disorder (31 January)*, *The Crossing (1 February)*.

The first screening which will take place on the day of the opening reception (26 January) is about the story of Lampedusa in Italy that hit world headlines in recent years as the first port of call for hundreds of thousands of African and Middle Eastern migrants hoping to make a new life in Europe. The documentary focuses on 12 year old Samuele, a local boy who loves to hunt with his slingshot and spend time on land even though he hails from a culture steeped in the sea. The film will be screened in its original language, Italian, and there will be Turkish subtitles.

### **Background**

The European Union is founded on a strong engagement to promote and protect human rights, democracy and rule of law worldwide. Sustainable peace and stability, long-term development and prosperity cannot exist without respect for human rights and democratic institutions. This commitment underpins all internal and external policies of the European Union.

Interested individuals can get more information on these events on the EU Infopoint Facebook page [f/abbilgi](https://www.facebook.com/abbilgi) or by contacting the EU Infopoint: [info@abbilgi.eu](mailto:info@abbilgi.eu), 228 2577 and 11A Hasene Ilgaz Sokak, Köşklüçiftlik Nicosia.

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