

One World

International Human Rights Film Festival 2025

ONE WORLD FESTIVAL UNVEILS THIS YEAR'S VISUALS AND TRAILER, PLUS A SNEAK PEEK AT THIS YEAR'S FILMS – INCLUDING A SECTION "THE SLOVAK JOURNEY"

Press Release

Prague, January 20, 2025

Every year, One World Festival draws our attention to human rights violations, placing current global events into a broader context. This year's lineup features films that tackle the impact of social media, Russian propaganda, and other major societal issues—all told through powerful personal stories. The festival is also turning the spotlight on social and political shifts in neighboring Slovakia. The 27th edition of the International Human Rights Film Festival is hitting 57 cities across the Czech Republic from March 12 to April 27, 2025. In Prague, the festival runs from March 12–20, 2025, to be followed by the special program Prague Echoes.

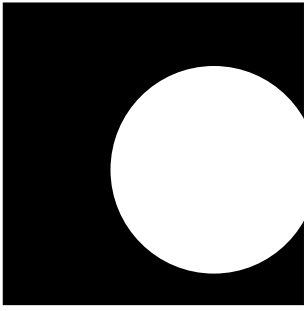
This year's [visual design](#) and [the festival trailer](#) build on last year's signature style. The core design still features a square intersected by a circle—which, especially in the festival trailer, is a nod to a camera lens capturing what's usually hidden in plain sight.

Two well-established Czech Designers, Martin Odehnal and Petr Hruza, are once again behind this year's bold new look. *"The imagery we chose relays an urgent message about current events while leaving space for personal interpretation. Everyone will find a meaning in it that resonates most with their own questions and concerns,"* said the duo. In this year's visual design, you can find tenderness, hope, as well as the concern for the fragile world that calls for our protection. It can be seen as a symbol of sympathy and humanity.

The Slovak Journey

This year's festival is placing special focus on the social and political upheavals in neighboring Slovakia. A special non-competitive category, **The Slovak Journey**, highlights the fragility of democracy, the role of civil society, and the complex realities of a country that Europe has been watching with bated breath.

"Slovak filmmakers and creatives have always been an integral part of One World. The turbulent events of the past few months have made it clear that we must take a closer look at Slovakia's social and political evolution from a broader perspective, which is not commonly covered in mainstream media," said festival director Ondřej Kamenický on **The Slovak Journey**. *"We'll be showcasing works from established filmmakers as well as student films from the younger generation,"* he added.



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One standout film in this section is ***Question of the Future*** by director Maroš Brázda. This time-lapse documentary follows a high school class in Bratislava over several months, capturing their senior prom, which just so happened to coincide with the results tally for the 2023 parliamentary elections. On the brink of adulthood and graduation, these students find themselves at a significant crossroads—should they stick it out in Slovakia or pack up and leave it all behind? The film draws attention to the country's ongoing brain drain trends as young Slovaks continue to emigrate abroad.

From Personal Recordings to Courtrooms: The Many Faces of Protest

One World isn't shying away from hard-hitting topics, diving into the lives of people standing up to political injustice and oppression in various ways. Take, for instance, ***Mr. Nobody Against Putin***, a doc that follows Russian teacher Pavel Talankin. After Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Pavel found himself entangled in the national propaganda machine. But while he recorded school lessons teeming with war propaganda, he also secretly shot footage of his private life, where he wasn't afraid to express his increasingly critical political views. This film pulls back the curtain on what day-to-day life looks like during wartime and lays bare the pervasive mechanisms of Russian propaganda.

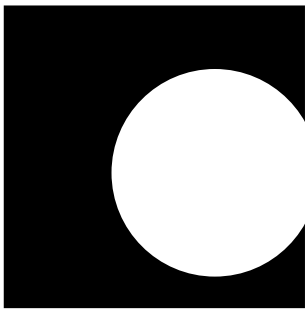
Switching gears to Hungary, ***Democracy Noir*** takes us inside the stories of three women fighting back against Viktor Orbán's corrupt government, environmental destruction, and brutal budget cuts to healthcare and education. Directed by Connie Field, it's a reminder that even under authoritarian rule, the dream of democracy isn't dead yet.

Next, let's talk about the U.S.. With Donald Trump back in the White House, ***Zurawski v Texas*** feels even more urgent. Denied a life-saving abortion by Texas law, Amanda Zurawski teams up with her lawyer to take on the system. It's a gut-punch of a story about seeking justice in a country where women's rights are still up for debate.

(In)Justice in the Digital Age

Technology is now an inseparable part of our lives, but what's lurking behind our screens? One World is tackling the murky side of the online world, starting with ***Can't Feel Nothing***, a deep dive by David Borenstein into the ways social media manipulates our emotions. Featuring perspectives from both experts and influencers, this documentary delves into the massive industry of buying and selling human feelings.

Then there's ***My Sextortion Diary***, Patricia Franquesa's personal account of how a stolen laptop led to her intimate photos being sent out en masse. It's raw, real, and sheds light on one of the least talked-about forms of online blackmail.



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But hey, social media isn't all bad. ***All I Know About Teacher Li*** demonstrates that platforms like Twitter can be powerful tools against censorship. This immersive, interactive documentary lets you experience the story of a Chinese student whose tweets during the early days of COVID-19 sparked global protests against the Chinese government.

One Story Out of Many

Sometimes, it's the most personal stories that pack the biggest punch. Take ***The Other One***, directed by Marie-Magdalena Kochová. It tells the story of 18-year-old Johana, who's the pillar of support for her younger sister with disabilities. But Johanna's high school graduation, college entrance exams and dreams of her own future could change everything. The teenage girl faces yet another challenge - putting herself first. This sensitive portrayal offers a deep look into the lives of "glass children," whose needs can often be overlooked within family dynamics.

Next, there's ***A Man Fell*** by Giovanni C. Lorusa, which follows 11-year-old Arafat, one of Gaza's refugees living in an abandoned hospital in Beirut. As Arafat wanders the hospital's winding streets, he listens to the stories of local residents. This poignant documentary offers a powerful account of the despair and trauma faced by the Palestinian people, seen through the eyes of a child struggling to find his place in a fractured world.

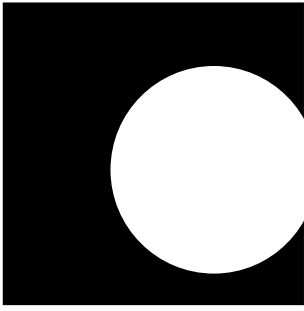
The fictional drama ***The Wolves Always Come at Night*** takes us into the Mongolian steppes, where extreme weather is increasingly impacting the lives of a young pastoral couple. It seems that severing ties with nature and moving to the city may soon become their only option. Directed by Gabrielle Brady, this film sheds light on the lives of those who are bearing the brunt of climate change in the harshest ways.

One World Across the Czech Republic

From March 12 to April 27, 2025, the festival will take place in a record-breaking 57 towns across the Czech Republic. For the first time ever, the festival will visit Vrchlabí, Humpolec, and Černošice. In Prague, One World will be held from March 12 to March 20, 2025, followed by the special program Prague Echoes, which this year will expand to five additional screening venues.

One World in Schools

This year, One World will again offer morning school screenings in all festival cities, featuring a diverse selection of documentaries for pupils and students of all ages. A new addition this year includes screenings designed for elementary school students, starting from the first grade. For elementary school students, there will be two short film programs showcasing the lives of children from various parts of the world. Middle schoolers and high schoolers



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will also have access to two blocks of shorter documentaries, as well as five feature-length films addressing key human rights issues. Highlights include *Mr. Nobody Against Putin*, which explores the impact of Russian wartime curricula on schools, and *My Sextortion Diary*, which raises awareness about the dangers of sexual extortion. Exclusively for school screenings, an abridged version of *War Correspondent*, focusing on the Ukrainian conflict and the work of war journalists, will be shown. The Prague program will also include screenings of immersive films and a special showing in the Lower House of Parliament, complemented by a guided tour. Each film will feature moderated panel discussions, often with the participation of experts or filmmakers.

Schools must register in advance—Prague schools via the JSNS.CZ portal, and schools in other towns through local coordinators. All information is available at www.jsns.cz/festival

The full festival lineup, along with its international and Czech guests, will be presented at the accreditation press conference on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 2:00 PM at the Edison Filmhub (Jeruzalémská 1321/2, 110 00 Prague 1 – New Town).

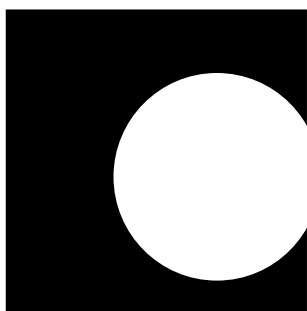
Ticket presale starts online on February 19, 2025. Tickets can be purchased on GoOut.

Further details about the festival and downloadable materials can be found at www.oneworld.cz, where you can also watch this year's festival trailer.

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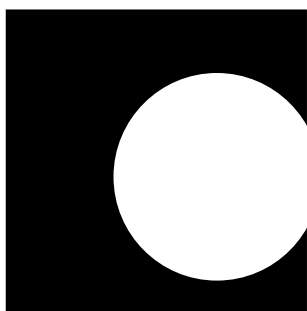


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One World Across Czech regions

Boskovice	March 27–29	Pelhřimov	April 4–5
Brno	March 20–27	Pízeň	March 20–26
Černošice	March 15–21	Podbořany	March 17–21
České Budějovice	April 1–5	Police nad Metují	March 28–30
Český Krumlov	March 27–29	Polička	April 10
Děčín	April 2–5	Příbram	March 17–21
Hodonín	April 24–26	Rakovník	April 8–10
Horní Benešov	March 24–April 1	Roztoky u Prahy	April 9–13
Hradec Králové	March 25–28	Rožnov pod Radhoštěm	March 31–April 2
Humpolec	March 31	Rychnov nad Kněžnou	April 2–3
Jihlava	April 9–10	Řevnice	April 3–5
Karlovy Vary	March 29	Semily	April 3–6
Kladno	April 3–5	Sokolov	March 24
Klatovy	March 19	Strakonice	April 22–26
Krnov	April 22–24	Šumperk	April 1–6
Kroměříž	April 9–12	Tábor	April 9–12
Liberec	April 7–16	Telč	April 11
Louny	April 10–11	Tišnov	April 22–23
Mikulov	March 28–30	Třebíč	March 22



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Mladá Boleslav	April 7–9	Třinec	March 25–27
Most	April 2–5	Uherské Hradiště	March 24–27
Netolice	March 17–19	Ústí nad Labem	March 18–22
Nové Město na Moravě	April 24–27	Ústí nad Orlicí	April 5–12
Olomouc	March 24–29	Vlašim	March 15–17
Opava	March 24–28	Vodňany	March 17–21
Ostrava	April 3–11	Vrchlabí	March 17–21
Pacov	April 3	Vsetín	March 20–22
Pardubice	March 25–29	Znojmo	March 18–28