



# AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCTIONS

INCENTIVES - LICENSING  
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES  
FOR INCENTIVES,  
RECEPTION & FACILITATION



**EKOME S.A.**  
National Centre  
of Audiovisual Media  
and Communication



**HELLENIC**  
FILM COMMISSION



INCENTIVES  
FOR THE  
PRODUCTION OF  
AUDIOVISUAL  
WORKS

## A. Incentives for the production of audiovisual works

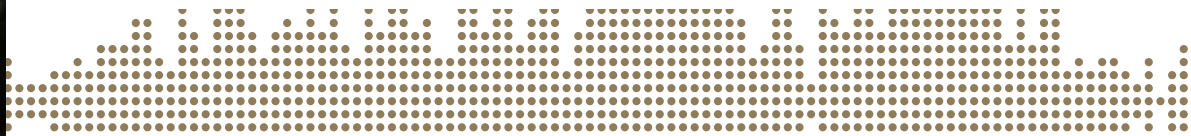
### A1

#### Investment incentive – Law 4487/2017 (Cash Rebate)

Law 4487/2017 and the relevant amendments thereof (Law 4563/2018), Joint Ministerial Decision No. 923 (*Government Gazette B` 1138/28.03.2018*), the relevant amendments thereof by Joint Ministerial Decision No. 9.128 (*Government Gazette B` 5810/24.12.2018*) and Joint Ministerial Decision No. 59 (*Government Gazette B` 1228/11.04.2019*), on the implementation of Law 4487/2017 in digital games), establish the legal framework for incentivizing the production of audiovisual works in Greece, by providing a **State grant (cash rebate) for an amount of up to 35%**. The incentive regards the reimbursement of a monetary amount covering eligible expenses incurred in Greece, for the purposes of producing audiovisual works in Greece, e.g. feature films, TV series, documentaries, animation, as well as digital games.

#### General requirements for inclusion in the investment program:

- Inclusion of an investment plan in the incentive program requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least one hundred thousand euro (€ 100,000.00) for said expenses, regardless of the economic operator's size.
- Production of an episode or season of episodes for a fiction, documentary or animated television series or mini television series, regardless of duration, requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least thirty thousand euro (€ 30,000.00) per produced episode.
- Production of an independent audiovisual work, the contents of which consist of a digital game, requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least sixty thousand euro (€ 60,000.00) for said expenses, regardless of the economic operator's size.
- The eligible and ineligible investment plans, as well as the beneficiaries of eligible investment plans, are respectively described in articles 24 and 25 of Law 4487, as currently in force.



### Incentive rates:

- The sum of the incentive is calculated after the certified completion of the investment plan and amounts to 35% of the total eligible expenses for the production.
- The incentive may be combined with other public incentives, subject to the condition that the total sum of the public incentives granted may not exceed 50% of the total cost for the audiovisual work.
- This rate is increased to 60% of the total cost for the audiovisual production in case of cross border productions and to 70% of the total cost for the audiovisual production in case of a “difficult” audiovisual work.

### Eligible expenses:

As eligible expenses are considered all expenses for the production of the audiovisual work, incurred in Greek territory and not exceeding 80% of the total production cost for the audiovisual work (eligible production cost).

For fiction, documentary and animation works, the following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses;
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation;
- Royalties (screenplay / soundtrack), up to 25% of the total eligible cost;
- Director, scriptwriter, producer, two leading actors fee, up to 25% of total eligible cost;
- Production Design and Realization;
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel (travel expenses from-to Greece and domestic), Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing – Processing;
- Other expenses (e.g. general expenses, rent, stationery, office equipment, fees, duties, etc.) and
- Subtitling / dubbing.

For digital game productions, the following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses [script, source code, music, famous persons (actors, musicians, athletes, etc.) image and voice licensing fees, character design];
- Design and realization of production [specialized services during shooting and on site (playtesters, physicians, nurses, etc.), research and development department, copyrighters, scriptwriters, script consultants, Executive Producer fees];
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation [Game development department – Game design department – Game production department – Art Direction and Design department – Translation department – Music technology department – sound design, dialogue re-recording and ambient sound effects – Actors and Dancers for motion capture – Technical installations department – Character design department (all categories of animation, 3D, etc.)];
- Game Design Document;
- Technical Design Document;
- Technical installations consumables;
- Technical equipment – equipment lease and consumables for motion capture, rendering, 3D scanning, sound and video recording, etc., equipment lease and consumables for testing;
- Playtesting – specialized equipment lease and consumables (VR, smartphones for testing etc.);
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel, Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing – Processing; and
- Other expenses (e.g. general expenses, rent, stationery, office equipment, fees, duties, etc.).

### Important note:

**All expenses must be presented NET of VAT** with the exemption of accommodation, transportation and feeding costs. Expenses for financial assets, fixed assets and their depreciation, as well as marketing, promotion and communication costs, **are excluded**.

# INCENTIVES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AUDIOVISUAL WORKS

## Procedure for the submission of the qualification application:

The applications are submitted during the entire year at the **National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (EKOME S.A.)** through the **State Aid Information System** at the Ministry of Finance and Development.

- A. The interested parties are entitled to submit a qualification application at least sixty (60) days before the start date of the investment plan.

The “start date of the investment plan” is defined as:

- The beginning of shooting for the independent audiovisual work in Greek territory
- Specifically for animation independent audiovisual works, the start of production works is the start of the animation visualization works (ANIMATIC).
- The above mentioned definitions of “start date of production works” for individual audiovisual works do not affect the possibility of qualification and aid for eligible expenses associated with the production works incurred after the submission of the qualification application for this investment scheme and prior to shootings and/or the pre-visualization works.

- B. Specifically for digital games: The start of production works for digital game independent audiovisual works is the start of drafting the game design document that includes the list of game features, the mathematical statistical analysis of the mechanisms and the game level design. The above mentioned definition does not affect the possibility of qualification and aid for eligible expenses related to production works incurred after the submission of the qualification application for this investment scheme and prior to the beginning of drafting the game design document.

**The qualification application must also include the following, as described in Joint Ministerial Decision 923 (Government Gazette B` 1138/28.03.2018) and the relevant amendments thereof in Joint Ministerial Decision 128 (Government Gazette B` 5810/24.12.2018):**

1. Qualification application submitted electronically through the State Aid Information System, which must include the following:
2. Details of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
3. Brief presentation and description of the investment plan, the total budget of the project, the expenses that will be incurred in Greek territory and the financial plan.
4. Economic study.
5. Financing sources.
6. Solvency documentation of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
7. Financial details of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
8. Technical description of the investment plan, budget.
9. Presentation of the location (or locations) of setup for the production process.
10. Employment data.
11. Documentation of cultural criteria.
12. Qualification application submission fee.

The same applies to the production of digital games, pursuant to Joint Ministerial Decision 59 (Government Gazette B` 1228/11.04.2019).

**The qualification application is accompanied by the following supporting documents:**

1. Written statement by the investment operator, which includes self-assessment regarding the cultural criteria met by the investment plan.
2. Audiovisual project works schedule, specifying the shooting dates required in Greece.
3. Detailed budget, specifying the eligible expenses incurred in Greece.
4. Financial plan that mentions any other state aid and the rate thereof.
5. Summary of the script or script.
6. Written statement – report by the investment operator regarding the main artistic contributors, as well as the employees who will be employed during the activities in Greece.
7. Fee, the amount of which is set at 0.0002 of the eligible expenses for the investment plan (it cannot be less than two hundred (200) euros and more than one thousand (1,000) euros).

**Specifically for digital games**, the qualification application **is accompanied** by the following supporting documents:

1. Written statement by the investment operator, which includes self-assessment regarding the cultural criteria met by the investment plan.
2. Investment plan works schedule.
3. Detailed budget, specifying the eligible expenses incurred in Greece.
4. Financial plan that mentions any other state aid and the rate thereof.
5. Summary of game design document.
6. Written statement – report by the investment operator regarding the main artistic contributors, as well as the employees who will be employed during the activities in Greece.
7. Fee, the amount of which is set at 0.0002 of the eligible expenses for the investment plan (it cannot be less than two hundred (200) euros and more than one thousand (1,000) euros).

**Submission of applications and Evaluation Procedure.**

- The completeness of the submitted applications and the respective supporting documentation is verified by EKOME, based on a standardized completeness verification system, within fifteen (15) working days from the submission of the application.
- If the application is complete, its legality is examined and it is evaluated by a Committee, on a time precedence basis and based on available funds.
- The legality examination and evaluation procedure is completed within thirty (30) days from the completion of the completeness verification.
- Investment plans that meet the legal requirements are included in the aid scheme of Law 4487/2017, with a decision by the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media, following a proposal by the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.



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- Investment plans that do not meet the legal requirements are rejected with a reasoned decision by the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media, following a proposal by the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.
- The applicant may lodge an appeal against the rejection decision, electronically through the State Aid Information System, within an exclusive deadline of ten (10) days from the notification of the relevant act.
- A Special Appeals Examination Board will decide within a deadline of fifteen (15) days from the appeal lodging date and will report accordingly to the Minister who shall issue the relevant decision.

## **Approved plans audit procedure for aid payment.**

The investment plan operator, no later than sixty (60) days from the investment completion date, submits to EKOME an application for the certification -by issuance of a decision by the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media- of the investment plan completion (i.e. the production of the audiovisual work) at the date of the audit request submission, in order to initiate the aid payment procedure.

The deadline for the investment plan completion cannot exceed three (3) years from the publication date of the affiliation decision.

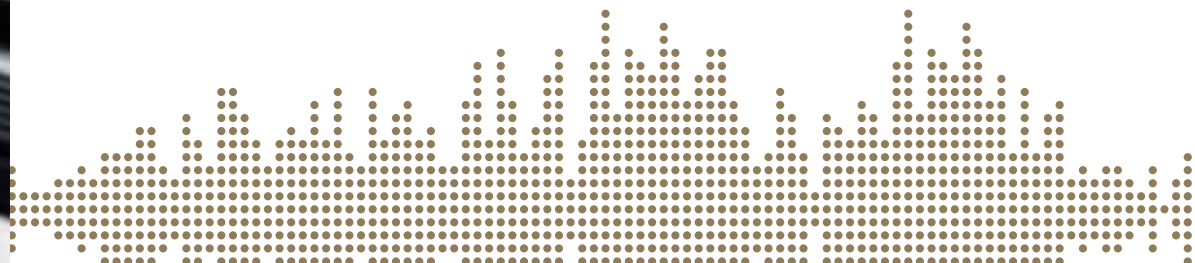
The investment plan completion audit application is accompanied by the following supporting documents:

- Proof of compliance with the cultural criteria.
- The final list of employees in the production.
- The final schedule of the shooting dates and locations in Greek territory.
- A solemn declaration by the investment beneficiary stating that the submitted information is true and accurate.
- A final report by a certified accountant, the cost of which is borne by the beneficiary.

An EKOME dedicated audit committee examines the submitted supporting documentation and prepares a relevant report which is submitted to the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.

The total duration of the final audit procedure may not exceed thirty (30) days from the submission of the application. In case of missing documentation, the deadline is extended by thirty (30) days from the submission date of the supplementary information.

The completion of the investment is certified by issuance of a relevant completion decision by the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media.



## Payment of aid

- The aid is paid as a lump sum, following the certification of the investment plan completion and the issuance of the relevant decision.
- The subsidy is paid within two (2) months, by electronic payment to a bank account of the scheme beneficiary.
- By exception, it is allowed to assign the claim on the subsidy to domestic bank institutions for the provision of a loan with a value equal to the sum of the assigned subsidy, to be used for the realization of the investment plan.

# A2

## Tax incentive for production of audiovisual works

In accordance with article 71E of Law 4172/2013 as amended by Law 4549/2018 (Income Tax Code), a fiscal incentive is provided for the production of audiovisual works. Furthermore, Joint Ministerial Decision 1007/17.1.2019 (Government Gazette B' 38) determines the eligible expenses, the categories of audiovisual works, the procedure and the schedule for the verification of compliance with the terms and conditions of the provisions in Article 71E.

### General requirement for inclusion in the investment scheme:

- A producer (legal entity or natural person) that wishes to subject its audiovisual work to the provisions of Law 4549/2018 must maintain a Dedicated Bank Account in a Greek Credit Institution and submit a Qualification Application to the National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (EKOME).
- A mandatory condition is that the payable invoices are issued by the main producer of the audiovisual work or by the executive producer of the Project or, in case of co-productions, by each producer, proportionally to its participation share in the production.

**Type of aid:** The investment plans that qualify for the law are supported with a tax relief scheme.

### Tax Relief

- 30% of eligible expenses incurred in Greece for each audiovisual work is deducted from the taxable income of a legal entity or natural person that is subject to taxation in Greece and invests in audiovisual works (article 20, Law 4487/2017).
- In case of co-production, the deduction amount is calculated based on the legal entity or natural person's participation share in the production.
- No aid is granted for the part of the budget originating from financial sponsorships for the production of audiovisual works.
- The cost rate deducted from the taxable income, added to any other aid received by the tax payer for the same audiovisual work, may not exceed 50% of the production cost of said work.
- If there are losses after the deduction of the incentive rate, the loss is carried forward in accordance with the general provisions of article 27 of the aforementioned law (Law 4549/2018).

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## Categories of eligible expenses for Tax Relief:

The following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses;
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation;
- Production Design and Realization;
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel, Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing - Processing; and
- Other expenses (e.g. general office expenses: office space rent, equipment lease, utility bills, etc.).

## The qualification application is accompanied by the following documentation:

- Special written application filled in and signed by the private producer of the legal representative of the applicant enterprise.
- Tax and Social Security Certificates of Good Standing for the applicant.
- Detailed budget of the audiovisual work and list of the main contributors thereof.
- Shootings schedule and locations, and processing laboratories.
- Detailed financial plan with breakdown of the financing sources accompanied by all the supporting documentation of coverage thereof
- (co-production agreements, decisions of national or international organizations, etc.).
- IP assignment agreements with the scriptwriter and the director.
- Co-production agreement.
- Executive production assignment agreements, accompanied by relevant details of third parties.
- Attestation of the competent Tax Office regarding the commercial activities exercised by the company.
- Fee amounting to one hundred (100) euros.





## B. Licensing Procedure

Article 36 of Law 3905 (*Government Gazette 219/23.12.2010*) determines the licensing procedure for cinema productions or other filming in Greece.

Filming on **private property** requires a permit issued by the owners of said property. The following procedure shall be followed regarding cinema productions in public spaces:

### B1

#### Filming in Open-Air Spaces

No permit is required for filming in open-air spaces, **subject to special permits provided for by law** and issued by the relevant archaeological, municipal or other authorities.

a.

#### Issuance of permit for the production of an audiovisual work (e.g. filming) in archaeological sites, museums and monuments

In order to issue a permit for the production of an audiovisual work in archaeological sites, museums and monuments belonging to the State, whether they form part of properties located at archaeological and historical sites or they are separate, or they constitute mobile monuments located at State Collections or Museums, the interested party submits an application at least one (1) month before the scheduled filming, as long as the filming does not concerns newsreel-news reports. Specifically:

##### a 1. Issuance of permit for the production of an audiovisual work in sites, museums and monuments subject to the authority of the same Service at the Ministry of Culture and Sports

- The interested part submits an application to the competent Service of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, according to the relevant form provided by the Service

##### a 2. Issuance of permit for the production of an audiovisual work in more than one archaeological sites, museums and monuments subject to the authority of different Services at the Ministry of Culture and Sports

- The interested party submits an application to the General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (gda@culture.gr), according to the relevant form provided by the Service

##### a 3. Issuance of permit for the production of an audiovisual work in a monument included in the List of World Heritage Sites and as long as there are no special reasons for protecting the monument

- The competent Regional Service forwards the application to the competent Directorate at the Ministry of Culture and Sports, which then refers it to the competent Central Council; the decision on the application is issued by the Minister of Culture and Sports, following the Council's opinion

## LICENSING OF AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTIONS

- a 4. Issuance of permit as part of a newsreel-news report in one and/or more than one sites, museums subject to the authority of the same and/or different Services at the Ministry of Culture and Sports, even in case of monuments included in the List of World Heritage Sites
  - The interested party submits the application to the local competent Services at the Ministry of Culture and Sports, according to the relevant form provided; instead of the script, the interested party submits a brief description of the report or a show guide
- a 5. **Filming as part of a live or recorded television or Internet broadcast and showing of an event**
  - The interested party submits a relevant application which accompanies the request for the temporary use of the monument in order to carry out the event

The application must include the following information:

- Full details of the natural person or physical entity, whose name the permit and payment invoice will be issued under, including tax details, as well as the name of the filming manager
- Filming purpose
- Script in the Greek or English language, as well as a description of the scenes to be filmed in specific locations, as long as this is a fiction film or an advertising film of commercial nature or a television show (except for informative-news reports); in case of a documentary, a treatment is submitted
- List of contributors, description of the technical equipment to be used, as well as every description that will help comprehend the filming conditions
- Detailed list of the filming dates per monument, site, museum
- Solemn declaration of compliance with the provisions
- Solemn declaration on the proportional VAT in terms of paying the fees
- Attestation/solemn declaration on the amount of the budget for the production and on the crew list for the overall production
- In case of fiction films, advertising films of commercial nature, television shows (except for informative-news reports), additional attestation by the Greek Film Centre, attesting that the script/treatment does not promote violence, racism or sexism and does not violate applicable Greek law and human rights



#### Relevant Laws:

- Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟΑ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΔΙΠΚΑ/ΤΠΚΑΧΜΑΕ/56481/254593/7509/2927 (Government Gazette 2812/B/04.07.2019) “Terms, conditions, procedures and competent bodies determination for granting license for production, reproduction and dissemination to the public, in any way and by any means, copies and depictions of monuments belonging to the State”
- The payable fees, according to the nature of the application, are defined by Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟΤ/ΔΟΕΠΥ/ΤΟΠΥΝΣ/126463 (Government Gazette 3046/B/30.12.2011).

The **Ministry of Culture and Sports** has published **application forms** for permits to use images of, film and photograph monuments, archaeological and historical sites, and museums on its official website:

b.

## Issuance of permit to film by a Municipality

**Competent Authority:** The relevant Municipality

Issuance of a permit to film in public spaces requires approval of the relevant Municipality where the filming is to be performed. The request is submitted directly to the relevant competent Municipality.

The application must state the following:

- Details of the interested party, e.g. production company or television network (full name, address, telephone, email).
- Exact dates of filming.
- Exact locations of filming in the relevant Municipality.
- Detailed description of the scope of the request.

The Municipality examines and processes the application within the framework of applicable legislation and ensures compliance with the requirements set for the appropriate execution of audiovisual productions and proper use of public space.

The permit to film in public spaces is granted free of charge, if the audiovisual production serves social or cultural purposes. In all other cases, the filming permit is subject to payment of an advertisement fee, pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decrees.

**The City of Athens** has posted an **application form** on its official website:  
<http://www.cityofathens.gr/sites/default/files/khe/entypa/pdfs/00000085.pdf>

In some cases, the issuance of a permit for the temporary use of public space within the City of Athens requires the **approval of the Ministry of Culture**, in particular for locations in an archaeological zone or areas subject to article 10 par. 1, 3 and 6 of Law 3028/2002, as replaced by article 1, par. H of Law 4254, or the approval of any other competent service whose approval is deemed necessary. In some cases, the approval of other entities is required. The terms of approval by the aforementioned authorities will be expressly stipulated as conditions for the issuance of the aforementioned permit.

## LICENSING OF AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTIONS

C.

### Issuance of permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species by the Ministry of Environment and Energy

**Competent Department:** Directorate General for the Protection and Development of Forests and the Rural Environment, Ministry of Environment and Energy.

In case of submitting an application for the issuance of a permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species, the interested party must submit an application to the Directorate General for the Protection and Development of Forests and the Rural Environment.

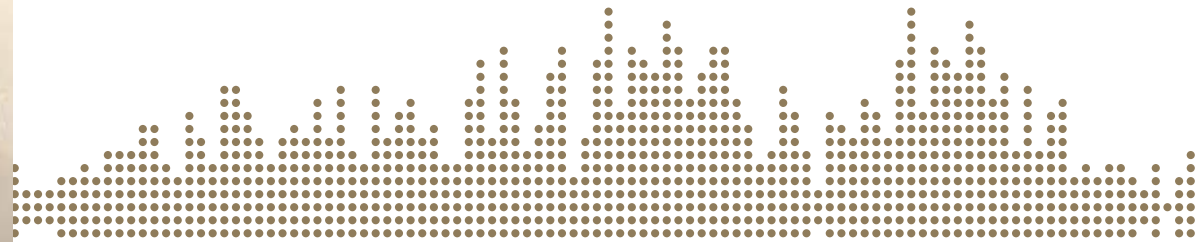
The application for permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species must include the following:

- Details of the interested party/ person in charge of photography - filming (full name and professional capacity of the applicant in case of natural persons, or official title in case of legal entity).
- Details of any cooperation with university, research institute, paper or electronic press.
- Subject of photography - filming.
- Purpose / Aim of photography - filming.
- Period of photography - filming / visit.
- Area of photography - filming.
- Members of the photography - filming team on the field.
- Reference -No. of previous (relevant) granted license, if any.
- Solemn declaration stating that the interested party:
  - a) is aware of the obligation to present a representative sample of the photographing / filming to the licensing authority in paper or electronic form upon completion of thereof, as required by the permit.
  - b) is aware that the permit application is independent of any applications for permits or certificates required by other departments, military authorities etc.
  - c) acknowledges that, pursuant to the provisions of National Law 3937/2011, article 11, § 3, a basic precondition for the issuance of a survey permit is the applicants' waiver of any licensing rights arising therefrom in favor of the State.

**The Ministry of Environment and Energy** has posted an application form on its official website: <http://www.ypeka.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=918&language=el-GR>

The application must be sent by email to the email address of the department **diaxeirisi.dason@gmail.com**, providing the aforementioned information.

Note that the interested party, upon completion of its work, is obligated to forward a representative sample thereof to the Department for its archives.



## B2

### Issuance of photography or filming permit to television crews

The International Media Support Department, subject to the Directorate of Media Policy under the Directorate General of Media and Communication at the Ministry of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media provides professional facilitation to foreign media TV crews and photojournalists for filming and photographing in the context of documentary productions and productions with informational, tourist, scientific and cultural content related to Greece.

The foreign TV crews that wish to photograph or film in Greece must submit their request to [public.relations1@mindigital.gr](mailto:public.relations1@mindigital.gr) in order to receive the **professional facilitation form**, if they so wish. Said form is equivalent to a letter of recommendation to the competent civil and police authorities and does not constitute a permit. It regards filming in open public spaces where the issuance of a permit by the competent authorities is not required.

The International Media Support Department subject to the Directorate of Media Policy undertakes mediation for the issuance of permits to TV crews for the following categories of requests.

Fees may apply in some cases of photography/filming.

a.

### Issuance of permit to film or photograph in archaeological sites and monuments

**Competent Department:** Ministry of Culture and Sports

The issuance of the permit requires filling the relevant application provided by the Ministry of Culture and Sports (<https://www.culture.gr/el/service/SitePages/view.aspx?iID=2691>) and sending it to [public.relations1@mindigital.gr](mailto:public.relations1@mindigital.gr)

The request to film/photograph in archaeological sites and monuments must be submitted **at least one month in advance** and must be accompanied by the following:

- Script - Description of work.
- List and description of the technical equipment.
- Details of the crew members (Valid ID card/Passport details: first name, last name, father's name, date of birth, passport number, passport expiry date, capacity of the crew member).
- Solemn declaration of the applicant stating that they will comply with the provisions of applicable law and that they are aware of the relevant statutory fees.
- A relevant authorization is required if the producer submits the application through a third party/representative.

Subsequently, the application is forwarded to the competent Department at the Ministry of Culture and Sports by the International Media Support Department.

# LICENSING OF AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTIONS

b.

## Issuance of permit to film or photograph in Means of Public Transport in Athens - Attica - Thessaloniki and the Regional or National Railway Network

### I. Filming, videotaping and photographing within the premises and the railcars of METRO, Athens Electric Railways (ISAP), Tram.

**Competent Department:** Urban Rail Transport S.A. (ΣΤΑ.ΣΥ Α.Ε. - Σταθερές Συγκοινωνίες)

The terms and pricelist, as appropriate, are specified by decision No. 369/22.6.2012 (ΑΔΑ: Β4ΛΑΟΡΛΟ-4ΒΔ) of the Urban Rail Transport S.A.'s BoD. No fees are paid for journalistic video recordings.

1. If the activity is of a journalistic nature, e.g. a report, the request is submitted by email to the Press & Public Relations Office: [press@stasy.gr](mailto:press@stasy.gr)

The request must include:

- Description of the activity. relevant document.
- The Media Organization submitting the request. If the recording is performed by third parties (natural persons or legal entities) that act on a mandate of the media organization, this must be certified by a
- Desired dates and locations for filming/ videotaping / photographing.
- Details of the crew members and the crew manager (valid ID card/ passport details: first name, last name, number).

2. For any other recording, the request is submitted by email to the Commercial Operations Department: [commercial@stasy.gr](mailto:commercial@stasy.gr), Tel. +30-2144141192, +30-2144141206, +30-2144146432

The request must include:

- Description of the activity (request for test recordings or, in all other cases, summary of the script and detailed description of the scenes that will be filmed in Urban Rail Transport S.A. premises or vehicles.
- Details of the legal entity or natural person submitting the request.
- Desired dates and premises or vehicles for filming/ videotaping / photographing.
- Details of the crew members (valid ID card/ passport details: first name, last name, number).

### II. For recordings in Athens Road Transport S.A. (ΟΣΥ) Vehicles (Buses) or premises. Commercial Operations Department

Tel. +30-2104270810 - e-mail: [dimsxeseis@ethel.gr](mailto:dimsxeseis@ethel.gr)

### III. Recordings in the Regional or National Railway Network.

1. **Hellenic Railways Organization (ΟΣΕ).** For recordings in stations and lines. Press and Public Relations Department: +30-2105297826 - [press@osenet.gr](mailto:press@osenet.gr)

2. **TRAINOSE.** For recording using railcars. Corporate Communications Department: Tel. +30-2130121840 - [m.nasopoulou@trainose.gr](mailto:m.nasopoulou@trainose.gr)

### IV. ORGANIZATION OF URBAN TRANSPORTATION OF THESSALONIKI (ΟΑΣΘ)

For recordings using buses: Tel. +30-2310981204, +30-2310945811 - [oasth@oasth.gr](mailto:oasth@oasth.gr)



c.

## Issuance of filming or photographing permit in border areas, military/port installations and airports

**Competent Department:** the relevant entity per case

Filming in military/port installations, airports, border areas, as well as underwater or aerial filming, require a special permit by the competent bodies. The interested parties must submit their request to the International Media Support Department (public.relations1@mindigital.gr), **at least three weeks in advance**, mentioning the following:

- Script - description of project.
- Media organization represented.
- Arrival and departure dates in Greece.
- Filming/photographing dates and locations in Greece.
- Details of the crew members (Valid ID card/Passport details: first name, last name, father's name, date of birth, passport number, passport expiry date, capacity of the crew member).

Subsequently, the request is forwarded to the competent body for approval and verification of compliance with the relevant requirements and limitations.

d.

## Issuance of permit to video record using unmanned aerial vehicle systems (UAV - Drones)

**Competent Department:** Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority

The members of the filming crews that wish to film using **unmanned aerial vehicle systems (UAV- Drones)** are kindly requested to submit their request to the International Media Support Department (public.relations1@mindigital.gr), after filling the relevant application ([http://www.ypa.gr/en/HCAA\\_UAS\\_FLT\\_request\\_editable.pdf](http://www.ypa.gr/en/HCAA_UAS_FLT_request_editable.pdf)) of the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority (HCAA), **at least 10 days before filming**.



## C. Competent bodies for the reception and facilitation of audiovisual productions

### C1

#### EKOME S.A. - National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication S.A.

The mission of the National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (**EKOME S.A.**) (Law 4339/2015) is the promotion of public and private initiatives, foreign and domestic, in all sectors of the audiovisual industry. Its establishment constitutes one of the most important and innovative state policies aimed at the protection, support and promotion of audiovisual media and communications in Greece. The key elements of EKOME's strategy are the creation of infrastructures that will help boost entrepreneurship and attract foreign direct investments in the Greek audiovisual industry, the establishment and operation of the national repository of digitized audiovisual archives, and the development of an institutionally guaranteed framework for the promotion of Media and Information literacy in Greece.

Pursuant to **Law 4487/2017**, EKOME becomes the organization for the reception and processing of applications for the inclusion of investment plans in the framework of Law 4487/2017 for the promotion of audiovisual works production.

More information about EKOME S.A. is available at its official website <https://www.ekome.media>

#### a. **EKOME S.A. - National Network of Film Offices**

Pursuant to Law 4339/2015 (article 45, par. 2, passage (β)), EKOME S.A. becomes the competent body for the "national coordination of co-competent bodies, organizations, ministries and the regional and local governments for the establishment and operation of the appropriate infrastructure required for the realization of international audiovisual productions in Greece". In this framework, EKOME deploys the National Network of Film Offices in Regions and Municipalities across Greece, after securing a grant from the Public Investment Program.

The Film Offices in practice:

- Provide information for the area of their competence (locations, professional and business potential, infrastructure: tourist - technical – accessibility).
- Facilitate the contacts between the audiovisual production and the central and local authorities, e.g. for the issuance of access and use permits for locations, buildings, monuments, etc.
- Promote and highlight the comparative advantages of their Region and enhance the tourist and business background of the area.
- Take every action necessary for the support of the audiovisual industry, the enhancement of the microeconomy and the macroeconomy of their area of responsibility from pre-production to distribution of the audiovisual work, the adoption of best practices and the continuous upgrade of the domestic workforce's skills.

The Regions and Municipalities within the framework of their competencies, cooperate with EKOME for the design and implementation of the National Network of Film Offices.



## C2

### HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION - Greek Film Centre (GFC)

The Hellenic Film Commission, the Directorate of the Greek Film Centre (Legal Entity of Public Law supervised by the Ministry of Culture and Sports) and responsible for the attraction of international productions in Greece, is in line with the global recognition of the contribution audiovisual productions have in the promotion of a country worldwide. It is a member of the **Filming Europe – European Film Commissions Network** (EUFCN, [www.eufcn.com](http://www.eufcn.com)) and the **Association of Film Commissioners International** (AFCI, [www.afci.org](http://www.afci.org)).

The Hellenic Film Commission is the primary contact point for foreign filmmakers interested in shooting audiovisual productions in Greece. It issues FILMING FACILITATION LETTERS and GFC CERTIFICATES to producers, certifying that the script does not promote violence, racism and sexism and does not violate applicable Greek laws, in case of requests for filming in archaeological sites (pursuant to Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΑΡΧ/Α1-Φ42/1020/62, *Government Gazette B´ 1138/10.04.2012*).

#### Its main functions are:

- Interface between foreign producers and the Greek Industry Guide.
- Guidance on filming permits and incentives.
- Promotion of Locations and Industry Guide in international exhibitions and festival markets.
- Organization of training seminars for Greek professionals of the audiovisual industry.
- Support of location scouting trips for foreign producers.
- Cooperation with the competent Ministries and Public Authorities.
- Networking with local authorities.

The official website of the Hellenic Film Commission ([www.filmcommission.gr](http://www.filmcommission.gr)) provides all relevant information on filming audiovisual productions in Greece, financial incentives, Locations Photo Gallery, detailed Industry Guide with professionals of the audiovisual industry, Greece promotion showreels, news, etc.



[www.enterprisegreece.gov.gr](http://www.enterprisegreece.gov.gr)



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