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As the academic year winds down, here's a final GEECT update before we all scatter for the summer. A few bits of news, some dates for the diary, and a couple of things to keep an eye on as we head into the next cycle.

Join us for a GEECT Afterwork Webinar – 30 June @ 17:00 CET

Before we all escape for the summer, we're hosting a relaxed end-of-year Afterwork Webinar on **Monday 30th of June at 17:00 CET**. It's informal, open to all, and a nice chance to check in, share a few thoughts, or just say hello.

Feel free to bring whatever you consider an appropriate afterwork drink—be it sparkling water, a spritz, or something stronger—and join us online for an hour or so of light updates and good company.

Here's the **Teams link** and **QR code** to join:

https://bit.ly/GEECT_Afterwork



GEECT Regional Meetings at the CILECT Congress 27 - 31 October 2025 (Guadalajara)



The GEECT Regional Meetings will take place during the CILECT Congress in Guadalajara on October 28 and 29 at 16.30. These sessions are key moments in our calendar - please make every effort to attend.

We're asking members to **register as soon as possible** via the congress website: <https://www.cilectcongress2025.com>

Early registration helps the hosts enormously with logistics and planning, so thank you in advance.

Formal agendas and documents will be shared in due course, well ahead of the meetings.

These sessions will also include **elections for the GEECT Regional Council**. The call for nominations will open in August and close in September. The exact dates will be announced in the next Newsletter.

If you're interested or curious about what's involved, feel free to reach out to any member of the GEECT board - we're happy to talk informally and answer questions.

FAMU

FILM AND TV SCHOOL OF THE ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS IN PRAGUE

GEECT Thematic Meeting in Prague

Under pressure: Supporting Emerging Filmmakers in the Transition from Education to Industry, November 27-28, 2025

We're delighted to announce that **FAMU will host the next GEECT Thematic Meeting** in Prague this November. The meeting will focus on how we support the talent development and professional pathways of our graduates as they move from education into an increasingly complex and competitive industry.

It's a timely and important topic for all of us, and we're looking forward to some honest conversations and good practice-sharing. A detailed programme will follow in due course—but for now from the organisers:

Graduating from film school and completing a graduate film represent only the initial major professional challenges that emerging filmmakers encounter. Within the context of the audiovisual industry and the substantial financial demands associated with producing a debut feature film, graduates face considerable pressure. Will they be able to withstand the often years-long process of project development, repeated grant applications, and the search for adequate funding to realize their vision? Or will they be compelled to make professional compromises that may ultimately undermine their artistic integrity?

What role can audiovisual universities play in helping their graduates navigate this challenging transition? What proven and effective support mechanisms can they offer to talented young filmmakers? How can institutions provide a supportive environment for the critical phase of project development—an aspect frequently emphasized in various industry analyses? Moreover, is there potential for collaboration among universities to, for instance, increase the co-production opportunities available to their alumni?

The objective of the symposium is to examine these specific challenges, exchange experiences, share visions, and identify best practices that can positively influence the future of the audiovisual field—particularly in terms of retaining emerging talent and improving their career prospects. The event will bring together students to share their experiences, representatives from film schools with diverse pedagogical approaches, and stakeholders from organizations actively engaged in developing frameworks to support the integration of audiovisual graduates into the professional industry.

If questions please contact Vit Schmarc vit.schmarc@famucz

GEECT Film Schools' Rendezvous – Marché du Film, Cannes

This year we hosted GEECT Film Schools' Rendezvous, which took place during the Marché du Film at Cannes, where we co-hosted a lively cocktail reception in collaboration with CRESCINE, the Horizon Europe project focused on strengthening the competitiveness and visibility of the European film industry. With many GEECT member schools involved in CRESCINE, the event provided a great opportunity for networking, exchange, and celebrating the growing connections between education, research, and industry.



GEECT Thematic Meeting and Animation Schools Networking Event on 11 June 2025 at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival and Mifa Market



The **GECT Thematic Meeting and Animation Schools Networking Event**, titled *“Threat or Potential – AI in Animation Education”*, took place on **11 June 2025** at the **Annecy International Animation Film Festival and Mifa Market**, within the Campus Mifa – Salle 3 venue. Organised by the **Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Budapest (MOME)**, the event was initiated in the context of Hungary’s honorary guest status at the festival and aimed to facilitate academic discourse and institutional exchange within the field of animation education in the GECT community, with the support of GECT.

The programme featured a welcome session highlighting the Hungarian animation industry and its educational landscape, followed by the stimulant keynote of Zoltán Batho G, form BUas/Cradle address on the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on animation pedagogy. A panel discussion brought together representatives from academia, art and the animation industry to explore the challenges and opportunities AI presents in the context of higher education, particularly with regard to safeguarding creativity and artistic integrity in talent development. Balázs Kerek, from DIGIC Pictures, Hungary together with Uri Kranot, acclaimed visual artist, teacher at The Animation Workshop, Denmark and Joao Real, representing RE:Anima, the European Joint Master in Animation had a vibrant exchange. Both parts of the program encouraged the audience to continue exploring the topic through discussions during the break and after the sessions.

The event was attended by 46 registered participants from 16 countries, representing 24 universities, as well as a number of cultural institutions, embassies, and other professional organisations. This diverse international participation underscores the growing importance of cross-institutional dialogue in navigating the pedagogical and ethical implications of AI in film- and media education. The event successfully fostered meaningful academic exchange and inter-institutional networking within the GECT and beyond, which also contributed to promotion of the organization's activities.

We hope to see many of you at our Afterwork Webinar on 30 June—a relaxed way to round off the year together. But if you can’t make it, have a brilliant summer wherever you find yourself. We’re already looking forward to gathering again in Mexico for the CILECT Congress in October, and to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Barry, Guido, Joyti, Patrick, Jana + Kirsi



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