

**FERA**

Fédération Européenne des Réalisateur·s de l'Audiovisuel  
Federation of European Film Directors

## **Press Release**

### **FREE OLEG SENTSOV !**

Brussels, September 2 2015

The Federation of European Film Directors has written to the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the EU to call for the immediate release of Ukrainian Film Director Oleg Sentsov following his twenty year sentence by a Russian military court on August 25 on charges of terrorism.

In the letter, the FERA Executive Committee writes:

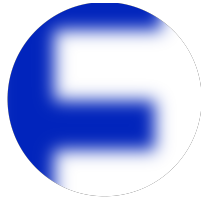
*„It is clear to us beyond all doubt that Mr Sentsov has not had a fair trial; that there is strong evidence he was tortured during his detention; and that the case against him has been trumped up to gain a conviction.“*

It continues:

*„It is clear to us that this entire trial is a politically inspired action against a Ukrainian activist determined to exercise his legitimate right to protest against Russia's illegal occupation of Crimea.“*

**In line with the European petition initiated during his arrest, FERA's film directors wish to express their unwavering support to Oleg Sentsov and call on Russian authorities to remedy this disreputable and illegal targeting of a fellow filmmaker and artist.**

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**Note to editors :**

The **Federation of European Film Directors (FERA)**, founded in 1980, is the only organisation representing film directors at the European level. With 35 directors associations as members from 29 countries, we speak for more than 20,000 European screen directors, representing their cultural, creative and economic interests at the national and European level. FERA works to promote policies that maximize the creative, social and commercial potential of the audiovisual industry.

*Honorary President* – **Sir Alan PARKER** (UK)

*Executive Committee* – **Dan CLIFTON** (UK), *Chairman* ; **Sverre PEDERSEN** (Norway), *Honorary Treasurer* ; **Christophe ANDRÉL** (France), **Peter CARPENTIER** (Germany), **Klemen DVORNIK** (Slovenia), **Adela PEEVA** (Bulgaria), **Birgitte STÆRMOSE** (Denmark), **Maurizio SCIARRA** (Italy)

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*CEO* – **Pauline DURAND-VIALLE**

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