

20th МЕЖДУНАРОДЕН ФЕСТИВАЛ
НА ЧЕРВЕНОКРЪСТКИТЕ
И ЗДРАВНИ ФИЛМИ

Варна, България

Под патронажа на вицепрезидента
на Република България г-жа Илиана Йотова

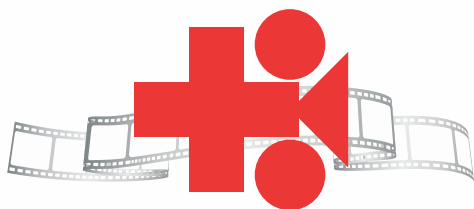


20th INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
OF RED CROSS
AND HEALTH FILMS

Varna, Bulgaria

Under the patronage of the Vice President
of the Republic of Bulgaria Mrs. Iliana Iotova

Чрез хуманизъм към мир и приятелство | Through humanity for peace and friendship



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BULGARIAN
RED CROSS



MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY
VARNA

14 - 18

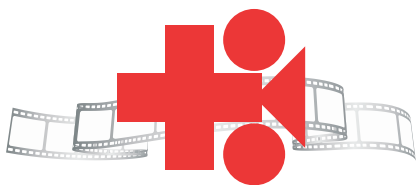
ЮНИ 2023 JUNE

SCREENINGS OF THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

Radio Varna | Festival Culture Center | ReBonkers

PROGRAM

redcrossfilmfest.org



20th INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF RED CROSS AND HEALTH FILMS

THANKS TO



Национален
фонд
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WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL CULTURE FUND / WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE CULTURE FUND OF VARNA MUNICIPALITY
The support of the NFK is under the Program for the Reconstruction and Development of Private Cultural Organizations, contract VRCHKO-22-146 03/09/2022



ORGANISERS



**BULGARIAN
RED CROSS**



**MEDICAL
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VARNA**

**14-18 June 2023
Varna, Bulgaria**

**International Festival
of Red Cross and
Health Films**

**BULGARIA
9000 Varna
3 Bratya Shkorpil Str.**

e-mail: ircfilmfest@redcross.bg

redcrossfilmfest.org

The organizers reserve the right
to make changes to the program.

CONTENTS

1

PROGRAM

2

OFFICIAL OPENING: BALANCE (1983)

3

RED CROSS FILMS

4

RCRC MAGAZINE FILMS

6

DOCUMENTARIES

8

FEATURES

12

CROSS-SECTION

17

SHORT DOCUMENTARIES

18

SHORT LIVE ACTION

20

DISCUSSION FORUM

23

**20th JUNE - WORLD
REFUGEE DAY**

24

**SILVER SCREEN /
CINEMA IN BED**

25

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

26

BULGARIAN RED CROSS

30

**MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY - VARNA**

31





14 June 2023 / Wednesday /

The square of Festival and Congress center

17:00 Concert of Berkovitsa's brass band

Festival and Congress center - Hall 1

18:00 OFFICIAL OPENING

BALANCE (1983) Bulgaria 130'

from the X-th Festival selection

15 June 2023 / Thursday /

Festival and Congress center - Hall Europe

18:00 BACKWARDS (2022) 112'

feature film, Poland

Radio Varna

10:00 ROUND TABLE: „The role of the Bulgarian Red Cross in providing psychosocial support to vulnerable groups and mental health“

Conference with REGISTRATION

17:00 Competition program of Red Cross films

19:00 SOME NEW BROADWAY (2021) 87' documentary, Bosnia and Herzegovina

ReBonkers

18:00 Competition program short documentary films №1

20:00 DRIVING MADELEINE (2022) 101' feature film, France

16 June 2023 / Friday /

Festival and Congress center - Hall Europe

18:00 LAST DANCE (2022) 84'

feature film, Swiss - Belgium

Radio Varna

17:00 Competition program short feature films

19:00 AGAINST THE PASSAGE OF TIME (2020) 63', documentary, Bulgaria

ReBonkers

18:00 AMUKA (2021) 71'

documentary, Belgium

20:00 SUNFLOWER SPACESHIP 2023 (2023) cross-section, Bulgaria

17 June 2023 / Saturday /

Festival and Congress center - Hall Europe

18:00 KLONDIKE (2022) 100'

feature film, Ukraine

Radio Varna

17:00 Competition program short documentary films №2

19:00 MAN OF DEEDS (2022) 105' feature film, Romania - Bulgaria

ReBonkers

16:00 MARCOS (2023) 80' cross-section, Brazil

18:00 MAYOR, SHEPHERD, WIDOW, DRAGON (2021) 97', documentary, Germany - Bulgaria

20:00 NO PLACE FOR YOU IN OUR TOWN (2022) 81' documentary, Bulgaria

18 June 2023 / Sunday /

THE HOLE / 7 Archimandrit Philaret Str./

19:30 FLASHMOB - BYRC

20:00 OFFICIAL CLOSING

Award ceremony

A PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL (2022) 104' documentary, Germany - Bulgaria

20 June 2023 / Tuesday /

Radio Varna

18:00 20th JUNE - WORLD REFUGEE DAY & film „CHILDHOOD 2.0“ (2023) 45'



BALANCE

(1983) Bulgaria 130'

Director: **Ludmil Kirkov**
 Screenwriter: **Stanislav Stratiev**
 Music: **Boris Karadimchev**
 Cast: **Georgi Georgiev-Gets, Plamena Getova, Konstantin Kotsev, Katerina Evro, Pavel Poppandov, Vanya Tsvetkova, Stefan Danailov, Lachezar Stoyanov, Ivan Jambazov, Maria Stefanova, Stefan Iliev and others.**

In a banal love triangle, everyone strives to maintain balance in their lives. The actual human drama played out in front of a camera crew poses the "fundamental" question of truth and falsehood in art.

A film crew is filming on the Black Sea coast. The writer and director of the "film within the film" overflows with the filming of pretentious insipidities.

Relations between team members are strained. Everyone witnesses the drama that develops between the production driver - Milko and his wife, Elena, a cashier in the team. The "other woman" is the assistant director Maria, beautiful and frivolous. In the usual love triangle, the three individually unsus-

cessfully search for balance in their lives. Elena refuses to accept Milko's infidelity, defines what happened as weakness and escape in a non-committed relationship. Milko and Maria hide behind their fake self-defense. Unable to deal with the situation, Elena surrenders and commits suicide. Filming continues. The screenwriter and the director have food for thought with a question - whether they really manage to reflect the real problems of the people in their film...

AWARDS:

Award for directing from the Union of Bulgarian Filmmakers /1983/;
First prize at the Festival of the Bulgarian feature film in Varna /1984/;
"Silver Medal" at the International Film Festival in Moscow /1983/



14.06.2023 (Wednesday) FCC - Hall 1



15.06.2023 (Thursday) Radio Varna

RED CROSS FILMS PROGRAM



FACES OF COURAGE

(2022) Romania 21'

A Crucea Rosie Romana film

Autor: **Raluca Mihalache**

What would your bag look like if you had to leave your country right now? Once the conflict in Ukraine intensified, Yuliia, Alla, Svitlana and Maria grabbed their children and

never looked back. With truly inspiring courage, they reached and passed the frontier and started a new life. They didn't have a choice. With help from the Red Cross' volunteers and employees, who demonstrated that humanity knows no border, they are integrated into romanian community and now they're helping others who need help. This is a story about courage and humanity: "Faces of Courage".



DO GOOD - 100 years of the Bulgarian Red Cross Youth

(2021) Bulgaria 33'

Screenplay: **Mikhail Ivanov**

Director: **Stanislav Terziev**

Cinematographer: **Miglena Gaidarova**

Producer: **Bulgarian Red Cross**

The documentary "Do Good" is dedicated to the 100th years of the establishment of the Bulgarian Red Cross Youth. The film follows the history of the organization through documentary sources and personal stories of some of its volunteers and leaders. Their story shows why it is important not to lose faith in the humanity and in those who are willing.



DOES THE HUMANITY GENE EXIST?

(2022) Russia 43'

Host: **Ivan Dobronravov**

Directors: **Alexandra Govorchenko, Viktor Der, Margarita Zariuta, Roman Isak, Sergey Klein, Catherine Klein**

Cinematographers: **Maxim Strukov, Anton Khimoroda, Timur Akbarov, Anton Veselovsky, Yevgeny Razumenko, Brook Amsalu, Alexander Tashiro, Semyon Shorokhov, Anton Yunkin**

Sound engineer: **Alexander Shatsky**

Producers: **Catherine Klein, Sergey Klein, Valeria Krylova, Alyona Salimyanova**

Creative producer: **Sofia Safonova**

Lecturers: **Anton Romanov, Anzhelika Pryakhina, Zabil Alekperov, Elena Platina, Pavel Savchuk, Olga Kamaeva, Alexander Voronin, Yoanna Karabayeva, Nagima Omurzakova, Buz Kalulu, Victoria Tuaeve, Elena Tkachenko, Oksana Ogoltsova, Larisa Khrameeva, Olga Grechko, Valentina Grishina, Stefania Romanova.**

The purpose of our film is to answer the question "Does the humanity gene exist?". The film touches on the themes of saving lives, searching for missing people, donating, responding to emergencies and dealing with epidemics. The film also tells about the history of the noble activity of the Russian Red Cross.

The film was created with the support of the Internet Development Institute.





RCRC

Red Cross Red Crescent magazine

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FILMS / RCRC MAGAZINE



FACES OF YEMEN: OUR LIVES BEYOND CONFLICT

HIS THEATRE DESTROYED, ACTOR FINDS A NEW STAGE
2022, 3', documentary

A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY: SEHAM'S DAILY WALK FOR WATER
2022, 2', documentary

'I CAN PUT MYSELF IN THEIR SHOES'
2022, 1', documentary



QUIET CRISES, QUIET HEROS

'I WANT THEM TO LIVE A FULL LIFE'
2022, 5', documentary

EMPOWERING WOMEN WITH SKILLS FOR LIFE
2022, 3'21", documentary

'WHAT LIVING REALLY MEANS'
2022, 3', documentary



BANGLADESH: RISING ABOVE

RAISING THE FLAG AHEAD OF DISASTERS
2023, 2', documentary

'NOWHERE TO GO IF THE RIVER GROWS AGAIN'
2023, 2', documentary

'WE ARE THE BEDE, THIS IS OUR IDENTITY'
2023, 2', documentary



RCRC MAGAZINE SINGLE STORIES

UGANDAN YOUTH PUT ECO-FRIENDLY FUTURE 'IN THE BAG'
2023, 2', documentary

SOLFERINO COFFEE, GUATEMALA
2023, 2', documentary

FLOODED TO THE ROOF
2023, 2', documentary

MARIBEL'S BAKERY, HONDURAS
2023, 2', documentary

GUATEMALA'S MOST DANGEROUS ROAD
2023, 2', documentary

'A LITTLE RELIEF' DURING A BRUTAL JOURNEY
2023, 2', documentary

www.rccrmagazine.org



In its role as a state port operator and an integral part of the face of the city of Varna, "Port of Varna" EAD considers it important to support initiatives such as the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, known for its long history and constant participation in the cultural poster of Bulgaria and Europe. "Port of Varna" EAD wishes you luck at this year's anniversary edition of the festival!



16.06.2023 (Friday) ReBonkers

**AMUKA (2021) Belgium 71'**Director/writer: **Antonio Spano**Producer: **Benjamin Stienon**Editor: **Virginie Messiaen**

The Democratic Republic of Congo could feed almost 1 in 2 people on Earth. Yet one in six Congolese people suffer from hunger. Yet one in two Congolese suffers from moderate acute malnutrition. Yet agriculture accounts for 70% of the population there.

Faced with this paradox, the peasants regroup in agricultural cooperatives. A handful of them share their daily lives with us, that of all those they represent. Even if they don't know each other, live thousands of hundreds of kilometers from each other, participate in different agricultural sectors, their voices resonate in this powerful, sensitive and sincere documentary.

18.06.2023 (Sunday) THE HOLE

**A PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL (2022) Bulgaria - Germany 104'**Directed / Screenplay : **Ilian Metev, Ivan Chertov, Zlatina Teneva**cast: **Dr. Evgeni Popov, Evelina Arsova, Maya Filipova, Daniel Kadifkin, Emil Stoyanov - Chemata**producers: **Martichka Bozilova, Ilian Metev, Ingmar Trost**

Kyustendil - a sleepy town in the Bulgarian mountains, has been severely affected by Covid-19. In the tight-knit community, patients meet former classmates in the same hospital room. Banter is often

heard in the corridors, but death is not far away. Many patients live in constant fear that they will deteriorate and be sent "up". "Upstairs" is the intensive care unit, where few survive. At the head of the continuous stream of emergencies is Dr. Popov. Tall and good-natured, he has a witty line for some and a Kant quote for others. His jokes don't always work, but in the quiet horror of the hospital, he exudes an abundance of human warmth. Suddenly, light and laughter reverberate through the hospital corridors.

15.06.2023 (Thursday) Radio Varna

**SOME NEW BROADWAY (2021) Bosnia and Herzegovina 87'**

Director, writer: **Denis Bojic**
 Cinematographer / DOP: **Slavisa Brankovic**
 Editor: **Ognjen Bogdanovic**

The film follows six people with Down syndrome in Bosnia and Herzegovina who, overcoming numerous obstacles, are among the first in Southeast Europe to

become students in a professional acting school, thus breaking down prejudices and barriers about the possibilities and abilities of people with Down syndrome.

An amazing film story about the steadfastness of the human spirit and faith in your own abilities will take you on a journey after which you will not be the same.

16.06.2023 (Friday) Radio Varna

**AGAINST THE PASSAGE OF TIME (2020) Bulgaria 63'**

Screenplay: **Fani Zurakova**
 Directed by: **Dimitar Sardzev**
 Cameraman: **Kiril Prodanov, Vesselin Hristov**
 Sound design: **Alexander Stefanov**

Producer: **Screening Emotions**
 With the support of the **National Film Center.**

The story of a doctor, awarded as Doctor of the Year by the Bulgarian Medical Union, who devoted his life to one of the most difficult parts of medicine - replantation. And to his willingness to pass on his knowledge, honesty and dedication. But it turns out that other things are important in today's world.



MAYOR, SHEPHERD, WIDOW, DRAGON (2021) Germany - Bulgaria 97'

Director, screenplay: **Eliza Petkova**
Cinematography: **Constanze Schmitt**
Music: **Hannes Marget**
Cast: **Iliya Lazarov, Georgi Vlahov, Maria Klecheva, Rossen Klechev**
Production : **Wood Water Films – Jasper Mielke, Karoline Henkel, Arto Sebastian**
Co-production: **DFFB, Reka Pictures, rbb, Eliza Petkova, Constanze Schmitt**

Pirin is a remote village that will be extinct in 20 years. We accompany four indigenous people who deal with it in different ways. Pirin is the last village in Europe where a dragon still exists.

Georgi is Pirin's mayor and tries to fight against its extinction - he has the dream to turn the village into a tourist attraction. Maria is widowed and still lives together with her over 40 year old son. They even share a room, but he should find a wife and give birth to children as soon as possible.

Iliya is a shepherd and an alcoholic. He can no longer bear the decay of the village and has decided to live in the forest, surrounded by goats and sheep, without electricity and running water. The dragon named Gincho is on everyone's lips and is feared and honoured by the inhabitants of Pirin.



17.06.2023 (Saturday) ReBonkers



NO PLACE FOR YOU IN OUR TOWN (2022) Bulgaria 81'

Director: **Nikolay Stefanov**

Producer: **Ralitsa Golemanova**

Script: **Mariana Sabeva, Nikolay Stefanov, and Ralitsa Golemanova**

DOP: **Nikolay Stefanov**

Executive producers for HBO MAX: **Hanka**

Kastelicova and Tereza Keilova

Production companies: **Smarty Pants Shooter (Bulgaria) and HBO MAX**

In the observational documentary film *No Place for You in Our Town* director Nikolay Stefanov takes the audience in the football gang from the roughest city in Bulgaria — Pernik.

A once flourishing industrial center that used to provide energy to the whole country, today Pernik is mostly known with the jokes about its citizens' roughness. Having exclusive access, Nikolay Stefanov's camera follows the communal and personal crises to show life beyond the tough image and the clichéd jokes. Tsetso, Mimeto, Dado and the whole gang are devoted to their team's success, carrying the fighting spirit of their ancestors, the miners.

The director explores the characters' lives with openness and genuine human curiosity, showing that there's never only black and white and that everyone, regardless of their environment, seeks a better life for themselves and their children.

FESTIVALS:

National Festival of Bulgarian Cinema — Awards of the Union of Bulgarian Filmmakers (May 2023) — 6 nominations: best documentary, best documentary debut, best documentary director, best documentary cinematography, best documentary screenplay, and best documentary editor



17.06.2023 (Saturday) ReBonkers



KLONDIKE (2022) Ukraine 112'

Director, writer: **Maryna Er Gorbach**
 Оператор: **Svyatoslav Bulakovskiy**
 Cast: С участието на: **Oksana Cherkashyna, Sergey Shadrin, Oleg Shcherbina, Oleg Shevchuk, Artur Aramyán, Evgeniy Efremov**

The story of a Ukrainian family living on the border of Russia and Ukraine. Irka refuses to leave her house even as the village gets captured by armed forces. Shortly after that they find themselves at the center of an international air crash catastrophe on July 17, 2014.

It is July 2014 in Eastern Ukraine, near the Russian border, and the couple is already antsy about mounting hostility in the region, though most of the aggression is at this point invisible and off-screen. When deflagration shakes the walls of the modest house, they assume that a bomb may have hit the couple's house. But when the couple emerges from the basement, they find outside their home fragments from the crash of the Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, which was shot down on 17 July 2014. This improbable but all too real development adds to the odd quality of the film, and one of the film's strangest scenes sees the couple drive two Dutch parents looking for their missing daughter, one of the plane's 283 dead passengers. The accident is the

second 'mistake' from the involved military forces — the first was the bombing of the protagonists' house. Klondike is a matter-of-fact an angry film about war seen from the inside.

AWARDS:

- 2022 Sundance Film Festival - World Dramatic Directing Award Winner
- 72. Berlin Film Festival - Ecumenic Jury Prize Winner
- 48. Seattle International Film Festival - Grand Jury Prize
- 28. Sarajevo Film Festival - Heart of Sarajevo Best Director
- 36. Fribourg Film Festival - Grand Prix Winner / Critics Best Film Winner
- 41. Istanbul Film Festival / National Competition - Best Film
- 63rd Thessaloniki International Film Festival / MNC - Golden Alexander
- 18. Santiago Festival Internacional de Cine; Best International Film,
- 48. Ghent International Film Festival / Jury Special Prize
- 23. Tbilisi Film Festival / EU Human Rights in Film Special Jury Award
- 16. Batumi Arthouse Film Festival / Best Film / Best Director
- 14. Priefest / Global Competition / Best Film & Media Award
- 22. goEast Wiesbaden Film Festival - 3Sat Broadcasting Award
- 17. South East European Film Festival - Outstanding Acting Achievement
- 19. NEISSE-NYSA-NISA FILM FESTIVAL / Jury Special Prize
- 35. Film Festival Freistadt / Jury Special Prize
- 4. Heimat Europa Film Festival / Best Film
- 24th. Film by the Sea / International Youth Jury Award

17.06.2023 (Saturday) FCC - Europe Hall



LAST DANCE (2022) Switzerland - Belgium 84'

Director, writer: **Delphine Lehericcy**

Cast: **François Berléand, Kacey Mottet Klein, La Ribot, Déborah Lukumuena, Astrid Whettnall, Jean-Benoît Ugeux, Sabine Timoteo, Anna Pieri, Lisa Harder, Dominique Reymond, Luc Bruchez**

The story told by Delphine Lehericcy in this film which was presented in the Piazza Grande during the 75th Locarno Film Festival is that of a 75-year-old retiree called Germain who spends his days cosseted in a "dolce far niente", middle-class lifestyle totally devoid of responsibilities. It's actually his wife Lise who takes care of everything, whilst also finding the time for charitable and artistic activities. Her most recent feat was taking part in a dance show created by Spanish-Swiss choreographer La Ribot (who plays herself in the film). When Lisa unexpectedly dies, Germain finds himself contending with all the things he's never had to take care of. But first and foremost, he must keep the promise he made to his wife: whoever outlives the other must bring the other's project to a conclusion.

AWARDS:

2022 Locarno International Film Festival / SPECIAL AWARD: BEST FILM



СОД-ВАРНА АД
СИГНАЛНО-ОХРАНИТЕЛНА ДЕЙНОСТ



16.06.2023 (Friday) FCC - Europe Hall



BACKWARDS (2022) Poland 112'

Director: **Jacek Lusiński**

Writers: **Szymon Augustyniak, Jacek Lusiński**

Cast: **Małgorzata Gorol, Andrzej Seweryn, Marta Malikowska, Filip Plawiak, Anna Krotoska, Tomasz Drabek, Natalia Lange, Wojciech Dolatowski, Agnieszka Cegielska, Wojciech Krupinski**

Inspired by real events, the story of a young mother of an autistic boy whose persistence and struggle with bureaucracy and human heartlessness have led to significant changes in the Polish education system.

Małgorzata Gorol, picks up on her son's extraordinary gifts but must also contend with the reality of the little boy's condition. She is left all alone, revising her personal ambitions and facing up to the inadequacy of healthcare, welfare and education services vis-à-vis autistic children.

This is a panorama of powerlessness, anger, joy, contentment and then bitterness and disappointment once again. It's a celebration of women who are faced with discrimination, exclusion and home confinement. Dedicated, in fact, to "all the mothers who are forced to fight for their children".

AWARDS:

2022 Polish Film Festival / BEST SCRIPT



ЕКО
ФУРАЖ ЕООД

15.06.2023 (Thursday) FCC - Europe Hall



MEN OF DEEDS (2022) Romania - Bulgaria 105'

Director: **Paul Negoescu**

Writers: **Radu Romaniuc, Oana Tudor**

Cast: **Iulian Postelnicu, Anghel Damian, Vasile Muraru, Crina Semciuc, Daniel Busuioc, Oana Tudor**

Ilie, a village policeman whose professional challenges seem (at least at first) to involve only the regular drunken conflicts at the local tavern and ignoring the questionable, off-screen deeds of the mayor who buys the benevolence (and silence) of the villagers by investing mysteriously-sourced money into the well-being of the community. But then, a man is murdered in the village. As Ilie and his new colleague Vali, who has just graduated from the police academy, have very different opinions on how the investigation should proceed, Men of Deeds sets the trap for a protagonist who will soon make the wrong decision. Or maybe it is right?

Aided by Ilie, the film explores a few interesting ideas: how many bad deeds turn us into a bad person? And can we be redeemed by a good decision?

AWARDS:

2023 Gopo Awards, Romania

- Best film
- Best director
- Best supporting role
- Best script
- Best editing

2022 LIFFE - Leskovacki Festival Filmske Rezije - Jury award for best director

2022 Namur International Festival of French-Speaking Film

- Best film
- Best actor

2022 FilmFestival Cottbus - Festival of East European Cinema

- Award for Outstanding Individual Performance to Iulian Postelnicu



17.06.2023 (Saturday) Radio Varna



DRIVING MADELEINE (2022) France 101'

Director: **Christian Carion**
 Writers: **Cyril Gely, Christian Carion**
 DOP: **Pierre Cottureau**
 Editing: **Loïc Lallemand**
 Produced by: **Christian Carion, Laure Irrmann**
 Cast: **Line Renaud, Dany Boon, Alice Isaaz, Jérémie Laheurte, Gwendoline Hamon, Julie Delarme**

Madeleine, 92, calls a taxi to reach the retirement home where she must now live. She asks Charles, a slightly disillusioned driver, to go through the places that have counted in her life, in order to see them one last time. Gradually, at the bend of the streets of Paris, an extraordinary past emerges that upsets Charles. There are taxi rides that can change your life. The close-ups on the eternal Line Renaud, she dives into the deep blue of her eyes and the immense humanity of her character, the mixture of carelessness and detachment, of lightness and sadness that emanates from her face give a real power to this story. Facing her, a bit like the spectator, Dany Boon listens and gradually transforms. Line Renaud brings radiant optimism, mischievous humor and touching sincerity to this farewell drama.

AWARDS: 2023 Beijing International Film Festival - Best leading actress

15.06.2023 (Thursday) ReBonkers

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MARCOS (2023) Brazil 80'

Director, writer, DOP: **Filipe Codeço**

Art Director: **Nina Monteiro**

Editing: **Tasso Dourado**

Sound: **Pedro Assumpção**

Animation: **Artur Botafogo**

Music: **Felipe Storino**

Cast: **Marcos Codeço, Jeannine Codeço, Marina Makhohl, Florencia Domínguez, Gabriel Galdino, Valentina Carcano, Vitor Tambelli, Antônio Carlos Pap, Márcio Machado, Rodrigo Codesso, Igor Codeço, Kalén Zárate Chabluk, Virginie Maus, Flávio Zárate Chabluk, Lara Salum**

MARCOS is a feature length based on the life of Marcos Codeço, built on the edge between fiction and fact. Marcos is a young man that suffers from a psycho disorder called dyscalculia, leading him to misunderstand everything that involves numbers. It's almost impossible for him to comprehend the passage of time, the price and the ratio of the things, the number of the addresses. Even his own age escapes from his knowledge.

17.06.2023 (Saturday) ReBonkers 16:00



SUNFLOWER SPACESHIP 2023 (2023) Bulgaria

Director: **Vasil Goranov aka Pepe George**

When a person wants to be the center of attention in a world where technology has torn apart time, emotions and information, then would we call that person crazy or is he just one of us, one of the many vloggers, influencers and stand-up comedians. And again, as in the first series of the Sunflower Ship, the psychiatrist Dr. Cosmos will try to decode the time in which we live.

Vasil Goranov aka Pepe George is a director with two names, the first coined by his parents and the second by his friend's child. Vasil studied business and finance and design, and this naturally led him to the field of cinema, as well as his passion for drawing and telling stories. In 2017, he won the Golden Rose Grand Prize with his first film, The Sunflower Ship. Until now, he has only made independent low-budget films, in which he is a director and cinematographer, an editor, and when necessary, an actor.

16.06.2023 (Friday) ReBonkers 20:00

ReBonkers
15.06.2023 (Thursday)



YOUTH IN THE SHADOW

(2022) France 27'

Director, screenwriter, producer: **Johanna Gayraud**

Adam, Alpha, Aris, Babadjan, Mamadou, Serge, Ibrahim... They come from Cameroun, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Congo. They've been playing their life on the world craziness' field since they left home. They are part of the more than 200 young people in underage recognition process who sleep in the streets of Paris everyday. They are waiting for their hearing before the children's judge. Last summer, the charity Utopia 56 organised a protest with the guys at Bastille in Paris that lasted 4 months. They were asking for the respect of children rights that should normally be guaranteed by the international children rights convention signed by France. In this documentary, the guys explain their situation and how they feel about it.



RAWA

(2021) France - Lebanon 12'

Director, screenwriter: **Camille Toulme**

DOP: **Camille Toulme, Omar Nassar**

Editing: **Baptiste Amigorena**

Little Rawa lives in a Syrian refugee camp on the northern border of Lebanon. With her brothers and sisters, she grew up in the camp like in a huge playground and no longer wants to leave. Through 5 years we follow her destiny marked by the war in Syria.



A MEDIC

(2023) Kyrgyzstan 24'

Director, screenwriter, producer: **Alizhan Nasirov**

This film tells the story of a young 22-years-old doctor, who decided to work in a valley with severe climate conditions, where no other doctor agreed to work.

Radio Varna
17.06.2023 (Saturday)



SAO MARINO

(2022) Brazil 20'

Director: **Leide Jacob**

Screenplay: **Leide Jacob, Cesar Sandoval Moreira Jr, Fabiana Kelly**

Producers: **Paula Pripas, Leide Jacob**

Cast: **Ariel Nobre, Daniel Veiga, Gabriel Lodi, Leo Moreira Sá, Omo Afefe, Rosa Caldeira, Father Júlio Lancellotti**

Priest Julio Lancellotti tells the story of Marino, a transmasculine person who lived in the sixth century, in Lebanon, and who, after his death, was canonized as Santa Marina, considered, by progressive sectors of the Catholic church, the protector of gender identity.

With scenes, reflections and interactions of a transmasculine group, the film promotes sensitive contemporary discussions about, for example, respect for the social name, resignifying Santa Marina into São Marino.



LIMBO

(2023) Bulgaria 30'

Screenwriter: **Aleksandar Hadzhiev**

Director: **Julia Pastrakova**

Director of photography: **Nikolay**

Yaramlakov, Sarah Morfova

Film editor: **Vasilena Lakova**

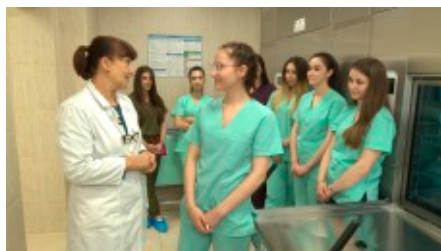
Sound designer: **Simeon Stefanov**

Dementia is a neurological disorder, characterised by deteriorating mental capabilities such as memory, thought, language, problem-solving, concentration, and others. In severe cases, it makes patients incapable of self-care. Globally, between 5-8% of people aged 65 and 20-50% of people over 85 are affected. Due to the increase in average life expectancy, in the next 20 years, the number of affected patients is expected to triple.

"Limbo" is a peek into everyday life in a dementia care centre in Sofia, Bulgaria. It examines the difficult work of the caretakers and the patients' struggles to live normally - to care for and express themselves. To remember...

Through the recounts of their caretakers and loved ones, the patients' stories unfold - who they were, who they became, and what impact did the change have on their entourage.

"Limbo" asks a humane question: Who are they? What are they feeling? Are they fighting or have they already lost the battle?



ОТДАДЕНОСТ

(2023) България 12'

Филм на **MU-Vi.tv**

Автор: **Геновева Донкова**

Оператори: **Лазар Еленков, Евтим Христов**

Монтаж: **Волен Войнов**

За една тежка, но много хуманна професия – професия, за която е нужно сърце. За хората, които са най-близо до пациентите, когато са уплашени, когато ги боли, когато имат нужда от успокоение и топла дума. За съпричастността, за сбъднатите мечти, за удовлетворението от това да правиш добро - за медицинските сестри и тяхната отдаденост.

16.06.2023 (Friday) Radio Varna

LIVE ACTION SHORTS PROGRAMME

**WHEN THE WAR ENDS** (2022) Italy 5'

Director: **Simone Massi**
Production: **Emergency ONG Onlus**
Voice-over by **Gino Strada**
Editor: **Alberto Giroto**
Music & sound: **Lorenzo Danesin**
Stories and drawings: **Simone Massi**
Camera: **Julia Gromskaya, Achille Massi**

A world without war is another utopia that we cannot wait any longer
In this short film, Simone Massi takes his inspiration from scenes of wars that really happened – from World War II to the refugee camps.

**ABOUT ME** (2022) Netherlands 15'

Director: **Ali Asgari**
Producer: **Maryam Tarami**
Production Company: **Damondi Works**
Writer: **Ali Asgari**
Cinematographer: **Yavuz Selim Isler**
Editor: **David Heemstra**
Sound: **Ruud Bouma**
Sound Designer: **Camiel Povel, Coen Bruins**
Music: **Áron Gunst**
Cast: **Mayra Pitambersingh, Alan Yadegarian, Winnie Augustus**

The 15-minute short is the latest in a series of films made by Iranian director Ali Asgari in which women deal with tough and sometimes humiliating events in their private lives. The 17-year old, sad-eyed, hijab-wearing Fatima (Mayra Pitambersingh) is rushed by her father to the hospital. Fatima holds a secret that could change her fate so she must place her trust in a doctor to make a tough decision between cultural tradition and medical ethics. The tension builds. What will the doctor say to her father?



THE MIDWIFE (2021) France 29'

Director: **Anne-Sophie Bailly**

Writer: **Léna Mardi**

Producer: **Pauline Lamy**

Cast: **Pauline Lorillard, Romane Parc, Grégory Gagnol, Emilie Incerti Formentini, Juliette Savary, Maité Castella, Gérald Michaud**

In the French Jura mountains, at the end of fictitious Middle Ages, Else is an herbalist and a midwife. With Nicole, her young apprentice, they are disturbed during their daily practice: a stranger riding a horse demands to gather all the women of the village in its small church.



LIFE GOES ON

(2020) Bulgaria 12'

Director: **Maxim Petrov**

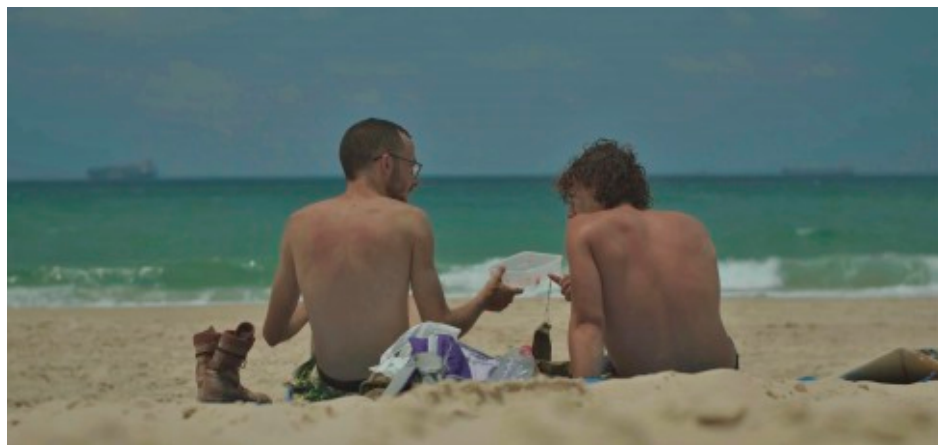
Screenwriter: **Ludmil Stanev**

Cinematographers: **Danil Kiradzhiev, Ivan Alexie**

Producer: **Petar Zhelev**

Cast: **Simeon Lyutakov, Petya Boncheva, Ivaylo Ivanov, Neli Valkanova, Samuil Ivanov, Milena Kaneva**

Fear may come first. After him despair. Time seems to stop... The road after the discovery of the lump or the first examination may not be short, nor very easy. But it is important to know that there is a way. That life goes on. Because breast cancer is being treated - more successfully today than ever before. And a timely meeting with a specialist and making a diagnosis can be decisive for the fate of every patient!



LET'S TALK

(2022) Izrael 18'

Director, Writer: **Elad Mukades**

Producer: **Elad Mukades**

Edit: **Yoav Landau**

Photographer: **David Orian**

Music: **Oren Sela**

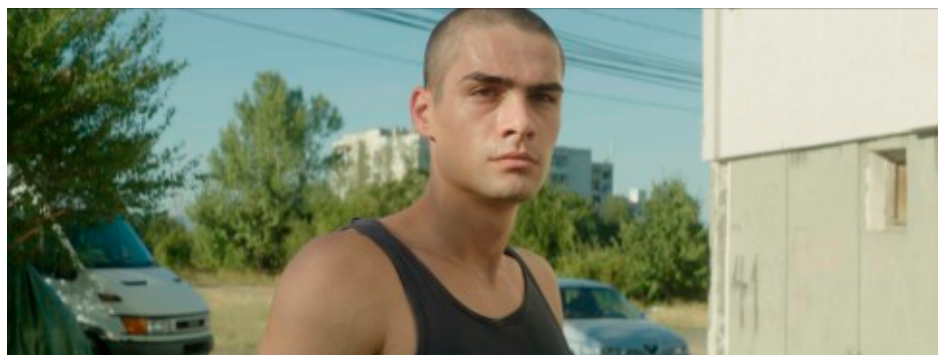
Sound designer: **Yossi Gal**

Cast: **Avner Zion Jazz, David Ohayon**

When Ori picks up his soldier brother for a day at the the beach, he is horrified to see that his brother has become religious.

In addition to that aggravation, the car's tire goes flat.

As the sun sets, Ori is forced to choose between his "new" brother who is planning to make shabbat in a deserted place, and going to be with his sick mother.



AUGUST 13th (2022) Bulgaria 30'

Director, screenwriter: **Ventsislav Sariev**

Cinematographer: **Dimitar Tenev**

Music: **Evgeni Genchev – Gena**

Cast: **Alexander Tonev, Boryana Simeonova, Zahari Baharov, Bogdan Bukhalov**

Producers: **Siyana Nedyalkova, Ventsislav Sariev, Alexander Alexiev, Nikolay Stoichkov**

AUGUST 13th is a film inspired by actual events of the recent past. The story follows Victor and Tanya's meeting at the end of the 11th grade school year. The two grow closer in the midst of summer vacation, despite the danger looming all around them.

15.06.2023 (Thursday) 10:00 / Radio Varna - Concert Hall

ROUND TABLE: The role of the Bulgarian Red Cross in providing psychosocial support to vulnerable groups and mental health

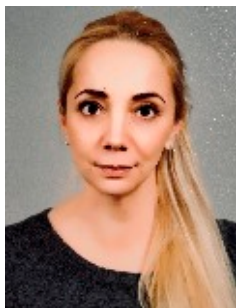
Providing effective psychosocial support and mental health programs at an early stage in humanitarian emergencies is one of the most important activities to reduce the lasting suffering of the population.

The Bulgarian Red Cross has been providing psychological first aid and psychosocial support to vulnerable groups during disasters, accidents and catastrophes/crises since 1999. The organization works actively to increase the qualifications of its volunteers to provide quality and timely psychosocial support to vulnerable groups, thousands of volunteers have been trained, teams of professionals have been created to provide first psychological aid and psychosocial support, trained according to the methodology of the IFRC/PE.

The Bulgarian Red Cross is constantly looking for opportunities and new ways to reach and benefit people, and especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, various innovative activities were launched to support the mental health of the population. As very good examples, we can point out: the construction of a Support Contact Center, located in the District Council of Red Cross - Plovdiv, the creation of a National online chat for psychosocial support, the conduct of free psychological consultations for people in need by Bulgarian Red Cross psychologists under various programs and projects.

Conference with [REGISTRATION](#), which will be broadcast on the website of Radio Varna and on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@RadioVarna>



moderator Dessislava Ilieva, psychologist

Referent in mental health and psychosocial support of the Bulgarian Red Cross





20.06.2023 (Tuesday) 18:00
Radio Varna - Concert Hall



20th JUNE - WORLD REFUGEE DAY

World Refugee Day was celebrated for the first time in 2001 with a resolution of the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the signing in 1951 of the Geneva Convention on Refugees, which entered into force in 1954. The date June 20 coincides with the entry into force in 1974 of the African Refugee Convention adopted by the Organization of African Unity.

World Refugee Day honors the strength and resilience of millions of people around the world driven from their homes by military conflicts, natural disasters, economic crises.

Film screening:
Childhood 2.0
Bulgaria, 2023, 45'
Director:
Atanas Christoskov



Operators:
**Martin Balkanski,
Boyan Dechev,
Dragomir Dimchev, Simona Georgieva**

Editing: **Atanas Christoskov, Boyan Dechev**
Photographer: **Nikolay Stoykov**

Producers: **Alexander Alexieva, Borislav Borislavov, Nikolai Stoichkov**

The documentary "Childhood 2.0" by UNICEF Bulgaria, produced by No Blink!, is dedicated to the new beginning and tells four human stories of Ukrainian families who sought refuge in Bulgaria after the start of the war.

What challenges do refugee children face in the new environment? What unusual roles and responsibilities do they have to take on? How successfully do they cope with the adaptation, as well as their parents? These are some of the questions we seek answers to through the eyes of our heroes.

Characters: **Anastasia Petrenko, Zlata Petrenko, Lyubov Sorokina, Valentina Braila, Elena Voloshina, Timur Voloshin, Maxim Voloshin, Anton Voloshin, Tetyana Tsvareva, Tete Shekhin Serdar, Eva Shakhova, Fani Davidova, Georgi Bozhilov, Alexander Alexiev**



Photo: Nikolay Stoykov / UNICEF Bulgaria



SILVER SCREEN

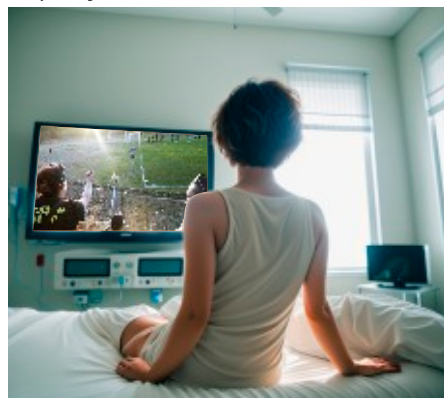
"Silver Screen" by the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films (IFRCHF) is a film program designed for people in their third age. At a time when aging is often perceived as a time of limitations and solitude, the IFRCHF is rewriting the script with a unique program. By showcasing films with positive portrayals of active and healthy aging, the festival inspires new perspectives and behaviors, encourages intergenerational dialogue, and guides a new approach to well-being. Promoting healthier and happier aging, solidarity, and support within communities are increasingly seen as cornerstones of improved quality of life.

Cinema is the ideal platform for bringing together older and younger generations, for appreciating and learning from each other, and for strengthening community bonds. This new film program can have a positive impact on the mental and physical health and well-being of older adults. The use of cultural activities as a tool for health promotion is a new interdisciplinary concept introduced by the IFRCHF.

"Silver Screen" envisions regular screenings of a selection of films for the elderly audience in nursing homes, pensioner clubs, and other places of interest.

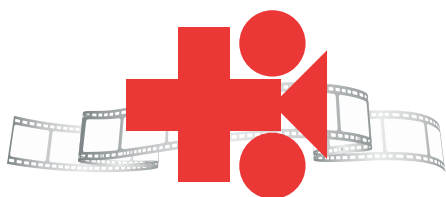
CINEMA IN BED

"Cinema in Bed" is another approach to reaching the audience, which the IFRCHF piloted in 2020 due to the pandemic, broadcasting a selection of films through the local television network of St. Marina Hospital in Varna. In this way, the hospital patients (with 1,500 beds) followed the Festival daily. The feedback was for more films, a longer period, not just during the festival days, and advance program announcements. In 2022, we further developed this service at the IFRCHF Academy, which in 2023 we will see on a national scale, as well as through an online platform, allowing any sick person free access to quality cinema.





„GOLDEN SHIP“ - GRAND PRIX OF THE CHAIRMAN OF BULGARIAN RED CROSS



POSTER OF THE 10th FESTIVAL (1983)

The **JUBILEE 20-th** edition of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films in Bulgaria, Varna will be held in June 14th – 18th 2023.

This edition is a review of the rich history of the Festival and its role in revealing the international contribution of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies members with their devotedness to help the people all over the world. The International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films proves its role as **international forum of humanity and solidarity and a place to exchange experience. Untill now, the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films is an unique event of its kind in the world.**

In **1965** the Bulgarian Red Cross celebrates its **80th** jubilee. One of the events to mark this jubilee is the founding of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, with the help of the Bulgarian Cinematography and the League of Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies, presented by Marc Gazay. The second Festival in 1967 is organized under the patronage of the League and UNESCO, and later the World Health Organization aslo joins.

ПЕТИ МЕЖДУНАРОДЕН ФЕСТИВАЛ
НА ЧЕРВЕНОКРЪСТНИ И ЗДРАВНИ ФИЛМИ

ДВОРЕЦ НА КУЛТУРАТА И СПОРТА

18 юни - вторник	20:30 ч.	ОБИЧ	България
19 юни - сряда	17:45 ч.	ЧЕЛОВЕКЪТ : ПРИСАЩАНИЯ ИЛИЗ	Франция
	20:30 ч.	НИКОИТЕТ ПО 18-ТЕ	СССР
20 юни - четвр	17:45 ч.	СЪНЩЕВАТО ИМА И СМЪРТ	Канада
	20:30 ч.	САЩЕНО	Полша
21 юни - петък	17:45 ч.	НАЩЕХАТА	СССР
	20:30 ч.	Франски връзки	САЩ
22 юни - събт	17:45 ч.	ДЕТ ПО ВЪЗРАСТ	Италия
	20:30 ч.	БЕДАТА	ЮАР
23 юни - неделя	17:45 ч.	Парадокси	Франция
	20:30 ч.	Семейн живот	Литва
24 юни - понеделник	17:45 ч.	ТРИСТАНА	Канада
	20:30 ч.	ПЪТНИ КЪЛЪТ И ДЪЛЪТ СЪРЦЕ	Чехия
25 юни - вторник	17:45 ч.	ТРАКОИНСКИ ВЪЗРАСТ	Канада
	20:30 ч.	ВЪЗРАСТ НА ПОКОЛЕНИЕ ВЪЗРАСТ	Франция
26 юни - сряда	17:45 ч.	ВЪЗРАСТ НА ПОКОЛЕНИЕ	САЩ
	20:30 ч.	ЛЮБОВ	Унгрия
27 юни - четвр	17:45 ч.	ВЪЗРАСТ НА ПОКОЛЕНИЕ	СССР
	20:30 ч.	ПОДЪЛЪТ ДЪЛЪТ	България

PROGRAM OF THE 5th FESTIVAL (1973)

GOLDEN MEDAL OF THE 10th FESTIVAL (1983)



In 1973 /June, 18-27/ at its fifth edition, the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films is inscribed among the great world film festivals by reason of its recognition to "A" Category by the International Federation of Film Producers' Association and the International Film and Television Council.

Its tenth edition, the former JUBILEE of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, was held from 16 to 25 June 1983.

The Festival was attended by the International Committee of the Red Cross. President Mr. Alexander Hay, the President of the League, Mr. Enrique de la Mata and the Chairman of the Standing Commission, Dr. Ahmed Abu Qura. Mr. Hans Hoegh, Secretary



OFFICIAL CLOSING OF 5th FESTIVAL (1973)

General of the League, Dr. Kiril Ignatov, President of the Bulgarian Red Cross.

Mr. Enrique de la Mata considers the extreme importance of the Festival to call for the respect and defense of human values; the Festival contributes to humanism in the world, to the preservation of peace and life; the Festival is an expression of the ideas of the international Red Cross movement.

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 17th FESTIVAL (2017)





11th FESTIVAL POSTER (1985)

Mr. Alexander Hay emphasizes the role and perseverance of the Bulgarian Red Cross, despite the difficulties, for the creation and transformation of the International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films into one of the most important centers for communication between the representatives of the Red Cross movement.

Participants and guests of the Festival during the years have been : José Barroso Chávez, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Alexandre Hay, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Pär Stenbäck, General secretary of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Alain Modoux, Head, Communication Department, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, Mario Enrique Villarreal Lander, President of the International League of Red Cross and Red

9th FESTIVAL OPENING (1981)





1975 - Vith INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF RED CROSS AND HEALTH FILMS

Crescent Societies, Henrik Beer, Secretary General of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Marcel Naville, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Since 2014, the Bulgarian Red Cross revived of the Festival together with the Medical University of Varna, supported by the Municipality of Varna, under **the patronage of**

the Vice-president of the Republic of Bulgaria and with the assistance of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

JUNE 12 AND 13, 1979 - INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEETING ON AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS IN "BLACK SEA HOTEL" WITHIN THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND HEALTH FILMS FESTIVAL





BULGARIAN RED CROSS

The Bulgarian Red Cross carries out its activities in pursuit of its main objective to alleviate and prevent human suffering with impartiality and neutrality, without discrimination as to nationality or race, gender, social status, religious belief or political stand.

The Bulgarian Red Cross is a voluntary organization, part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and is guided by its Fundamental Principles: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality.

Through its countrywide network of volunteers, the BRC renders assistance to the vulnerable people in situations of disaster and crisis. By means of training programmes and activities for the benefit of the public, the National Society contributes to alleviating and preventing the suffering in all its forms, it

protects health and life and ensures respect for the human being.

In compliance with its humanitarian mission, the Bulgarian Red Cross implements various activities to alleviate vulnerability, prevent the social exclusion of the most marginalized people and improve the quality of their life. It provides services and carries out various initiatives and campaigns related to protecting the human life and health, including promotion of health culture, first aid, road safety and others.

Bulgarian Red Cross supports the State in situations of disasters, accidents, crises and armed conflicts. The organization is part of the Unified Rescue System in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian Youth Red Cross, through its thousands of volunteers, carries out activities throughout the country, for promotion of humanitarian values, prevention of violence and socially significant diseases, disseminating healthy lifestyle practices among children and young people, training in first aid, first psychological aid and psychosocial support.

Through its Mountain Rescue Service, the Bulgarian Red Cross assists the victims of mountain incidents and its Water Rescue Service ensures the training of qualified lifeguards and works towards prevention of water traumatism.





MEDICAL UNIVERSITY VARNA

The Medical University of Varna was established in 1961 and is named after Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov – the person who laid the foundations of the surgical school in the history of medicine in Bulgaria.

The Medical University of Varna offers high quality education. It is the first and only university in the country which in 2008 introduced the model of Business Excellence of the European Foundation for Quality management. The diplomas issued by the University are recognized in all European countries.

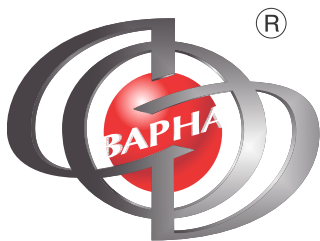
The attractive multinational environment, the hi-tech methods and means of training, education in real and simulation learning environment, the wonderful conditions for

sports in the sea capital are only some of the reasons for which for which the Medical University of Varna is chosen for their studies by students from Bulgaria and 53 countries around the world.

Over 5000 students, postgraduates and PhD students are currently trained at the Faculties of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy and Public Health, at the Medical College and the affiliates in Sliven, Veliko Turnovo and Shumen. The higher school has more than 80 international partners from 5 continents.

The University is proud of the sports achievements of its disciples in swimming, football, volleyball, basketball, tennis, handball and boxing. It has a team in sailing which takes part in competitions with its own wind sailing boat. The theatre group "Infarct" and the students' dancing group "Diana" at the Medical University win numerous prizes at national and international competitions.

The University is also developing activities to the benefit of society by initiating and conducting a number of social, health and information campaigns organized by students and members of the academic staff such as blood donation, the campaigns "Diabetes" and anti-aids, the students' campaign "Without cigarette smoke" promoting oral health and many others.



СОД-ВАРНА АД
СИГНАЛНО-ОХРАНИТЕЛНА ДЕЙНОСТ

Menthol



АСАРЕЛ МЕДЕТ АД





SOLVAY SODI

With a commitment to sustainable development
in a business that brings value
to people in a better world

We connect with people and society

Solvay Group Volunteering Day 2020:

We teach children to safety and save children lives

Solvay Sodi's initiative "With a seat belt in the back seat" started in 2015. In 2016, we conducted a large-scale campaign with more than 200 volunteers, which reached about 15,000 children.

Since 2017, the initiative has been under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria. The campaign enjoys the support of various institutions and many partners. Our goal is to teach children (from 1st to 4th grade) safe behavior in the car: always sit in the back seat, on a specially designed seat, with a properly fastened seat belt.

The project continued in 2020, as part of the international volunteering day of the Solvay Group. We organized it in an innovative, digital way: 4 days, 24 online presentations, 3300 children, 17 schools in Varna and the region.

All of these 3,300 kids are now proud seat belt inspectors and know that seat belts save lives!



New investment

Solvay Sodi has received a Class "A" Investment Certificate from the Bulgarian Investment Agency for its "Bicarbonate of Soda Production, Packaging and Storage Facility" project, which will increase the production capacity of this product to 200,000 tons at the plant in Devnya. The implementation of the project will meet the increased needs for bicarbonate used in animal feed (Bicarez), flue gas cleaning (Solvaire) and other applications.

Solvay Sodi is one of the largest investors in Bulgaria, a two-time winner of the prestigious national award "INVESTOR OF THE YEAR" in 1997 and 2007.

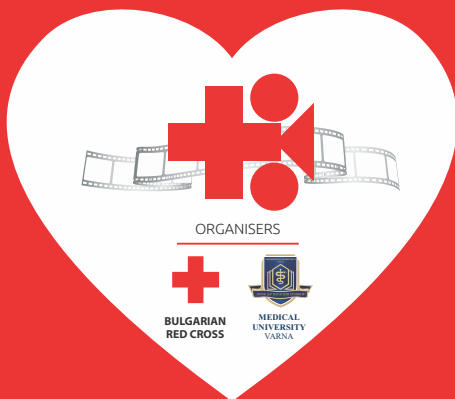


With health and safety in mind

Health and safety is our core value.

We work with the utmost care for the health, safety and well-being of our employees.





redcrossfilmfest.org