



# OUR RIGHTS OUR FREEDOMS ALWAYS

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2015

## HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH CINEMATOGRAPHY

**05-13 December 2015**, Faisalabad, Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore



# HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH CINEMATOGRAPHY

is organized by



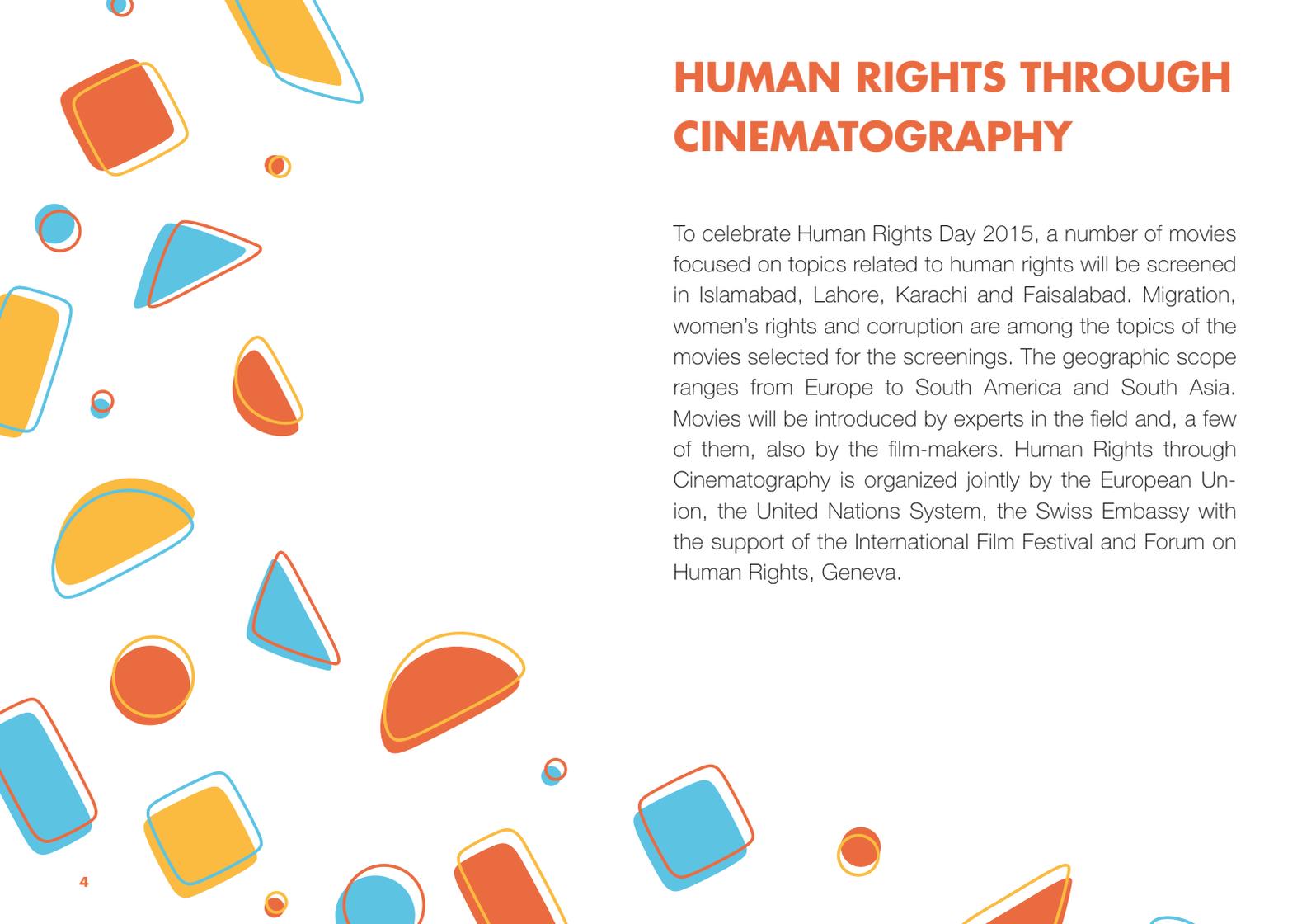
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra



# HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2015

On December 16 1966, the United Nations General Assembly adopted two international treaties that would forever shape international human rights: The International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Eighteen years in the making, the Two Covenants (as they are known today) along with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights created the International Bill of Human Rights and set out the civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights that are the birth right of all human beings. The Two Covenants have played a role in both raising awareness of human rights but also in changing the lives of people and changing government policies. The Two Covenants are legally binding treaties for the countries that have adopted them (168 for the ICECSR and 162 for the ICCPR so far). Each of the Covenants is monitored by a committee of experts, who review the progress of States who have ratified and implemented the laws. They also hear from individuals complaining of their rights being violated and assess if States need to remedy the situation.





# HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH CINEMATOGRAPHY

To celebrate Human Rights Day 2015, a number of movies focused on topics related to human rights will be screened in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi and Faisalabad. Migration, women's rights and corruption are among the topics of the movies selected for the screenings. The geographic scope ranges from Europe to South America and South Asia. Movies will be introduced by experts in the field and, a few of them, also by the film-makers. Human Rights through Cinematography is organized jointly by the European Union, the United Nations System, the Swiss Embassy with the support of the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights, Geneva.

# EUROPEAN UNION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The European Union was born out of WWII, which saw large-scale severe human rights violations among Europeans. For that reason the European Union is strongly committed to fostering human rights protection in Europe and around the world. While promoting human rights worldwide, the European Union and its Member States acknowledge that problems do still exist in Europe and that they must be tackled. The films selected to celebrate the 2015 International Human Rights Day show that in spite of good policies, it is not always easy to live up to one's own high standards and ideals. No country is exempt from doing its utmost to ensure that human rights are cultivated, protected and enforced at all levels and in all parts of the world. The EU supports Pakistan's efforts for protection of the human rights with special focus on freedom of religion and belief, gender equality, rule of law and access to justice.

# CALENDAR

**5 December**, 16:00

## **SABOGAL**

Juan José Lozano and Sergio Mejía, 2015, Colombia, 75', Spanish with English subtitles

Swiss Embassy,

**Islamabad**

**9 December**, 18:00

## **THE SHELTER**

Fernand Melgar, 2014, Switzerland, 100', French/Spanish with English subtitles

UN Information Centre,

**Islamabad**

**6 December**, 16:00

## **HO YAQEEEN**

Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy, 2014, Pakistan, Urdu with English subtitles

German Embassy,

**Islamabad**

**10 December**, 14:00

## **AKIYAYA**

Fernando Casado, 2010, Spain, 50', Spanish with English subtitles

University of Agriculture,

**Faisalabad**

**8 December**, 18:00

## **SOMETHING BETTER TO COME**

Hanna Polak, 2014, Denmark/Poland, 110', Russian with English subtitles

UN Information Centre,

**Islamabad**

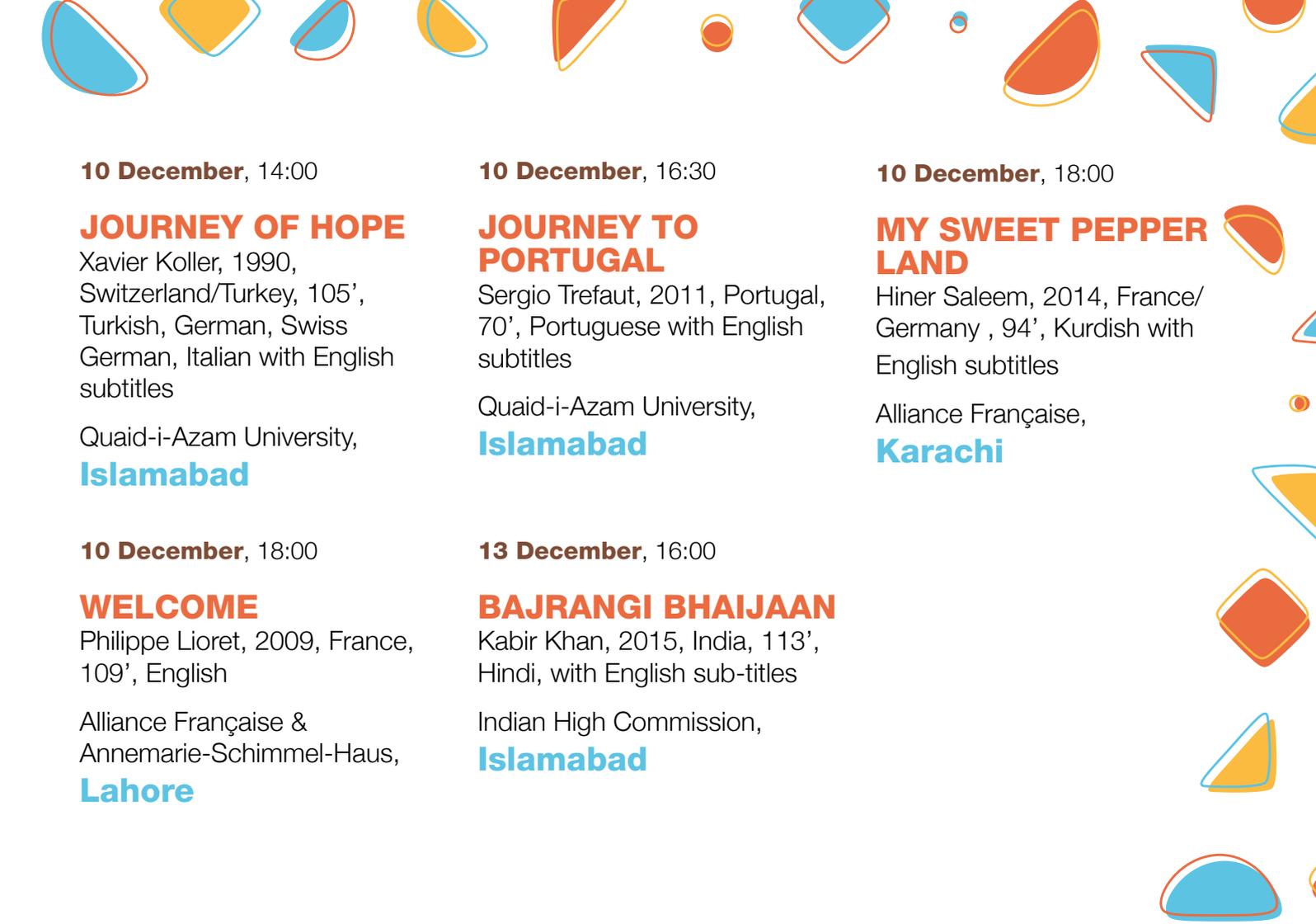
**10 December**, 16:30

## **THE SHELTER**

Fernand Melgar, 2014, Switzerland, 100', French/Spanish with English subtitles

University of Agriculture,

**Faisalabad**



**10 December**, 14:00

## **JOURNEY OF HOPE**

Xavier Koller, 1990,  
Switzerland/Turkey, 105',  
Turkish, German, Swiss  
German, Italian with English  
subtitles

Quaid-i-Azam University,  
**Islamabad**

**10 December**, 18:00

## **WELCOME**

Philippe Lioret, 2009, France,  
109', English

Alliance Française &  
Annemarie-Schimmel-Haus,  
**Lahore**

**10 December**, 16:30

## **JOURNEY TO PORTUGAL**

Sergio Trefaut, 2011, Portugal,  
70', Portuguese with English  
subtitles

Quaid-i-Azam University,  
**Islamabad**

**13 December**, 16:00

## **BAJRANGI BHAIIJAN**

Kabir Khan, 2015, India, 113',  
Hindi, with English sub-titles

Indian High Commission,  
**Islamabad**

**10 December**, 18:00

## **MY SWEET PEPPER LAND**

Hiner Saleem, 2014, France/  
Germany , 94', Kurdish with  
English subtitles

Alliance Française,  
**Karachi**

# PROGRAM



## SABOGAL

Juan José Lozano and Sergio Mejia, 2015, Colombia, 75', Spanish with English subtitles

### WHEN

5 December, 16:00

### WHERE

Swiss Ambassador's Residence, Diplomatic Enclave, St. 6,  
G-5/4, entry gate n.2, Islamabad



Sabogal, co-directed and written by Swiss-Colombian filmmaker Juan José Lozano and presented for its World Premiere at the FIFDH, is a major event. In a skillful blend of animated sequences and archive footage, this unique television series immerses the viewer

into a hybrid and fascinating visual universe in which Sabogal, lawyer and human rights defender, investigates the highest levels of corruption in 2000-era Colombia. Based on true facts, designed by a 140-person team in 5 different countries, Sabogal paints the picture of a corrupt and rotten country, while depicting a character in constant danger and yet obsessively committed in his fight for justice.

### Hosted by

Embassy of Switzerland,  
UN Information Centre

### How to participate

RSVP by Wednesday 2 December at [asma.tariq@eda.admin.ch](mailto:asma.tariq@eda.admin.ch)

Please note that: car's details and driver's name are mandatory to access the Diplomatic Enclave; for security reasons only registered participants will have access to the event; seating is limited.

# HO YAQEEEN

Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy, 2014, Pakistan, Urdu with English subtitles



## WHEN

6 December, 16:00



Ho Yaqeen is a groundbreaking six part documentary series that tells the stories of individuals who have spearheaded efforts for a brighter Pakistan. The series follows these trailblazers as they pursue their ideals, realize their aspirations and work for change.

## Episode 1: Sabina Khatri (22')

In many ways, the district of Lyari is a microcosm of the various afflictions that plague Pakistan today. Deeply divided along ethnic lines, Lyari is haunted by civil unrest, violence and cyclical poverty. Not one to shy away from adversity, Sabina Khatri chose to tackle the root of the problem by opening a Montessori in the heart of Lyari.

## WHERE

German Embassy, Diplomatic Enclave, Islamabad

Today, the Kiran School serves as an oasis for children and parents; it is a place full of hope, laughter and bright futures.

## Episode 4: Syeda Fatima (23')

Bonded labour in Pakistan is an undeniable reality. Abused, overworked and neglected, brick kiln workers in the Punjab are not much more than slaves to rich exploitative owners. Fatima is a civil rights worker who has dedicated her life to ensuring that bonded labourers gain access to equal rights and freedom. Fatima's story is embedded with passion, unrelenting motivation and a deep sense of empathy for her fellow citizens

## Episode 5: Ali Akbar (22')

The Thar desert in Sindh is known for its challenging living conditions; harsh terrains and extreme weather conditions are coupled with limited access to basic resources. It is common for people to walk for miles under the scorching sun to acquire a few pots of water. Unfortunately,

that is not where the ordeal of the Tharri ends. A lot of the water they have access to is contaminated with high amounts of fluoride, and this has resulted in numerous cases of dental and skeletal fluorosis as well as paralysis among the people of the region. Ali Akbar, who hails from Thar, is working to change this so that the people of Thar get access to clean drinking water - something that is their basic human right.

## Hosted by

Embassy of Germany, UN Information Centre

## How to participate

RSVP by Wednesday 2 December at

[ku-100@isla.diplo.de](mailto:ku-100@isla.diplo.de)

Please note that: car's details and driver's name are mandatory to access the Diplomatic Enclave; for security reasons only registered participants will have access to the event; seating is limited.

# SOMETHING BETTER TO COME

Hanna Polak, 2014, Denmark/Poland, 110', Russian with English subtitles



## WHEN

**8 December, 18:00**



Filmed over 14 years, this film sees the little Yula grow up, become a teen, dye her hair, fall in love and rebel. A young girl like any other, apart from the fact that she lives in a strange place : the world's biggest dump, some 20 kilometers from Moscow. Her horizon is nothing but masses of litter, and her environment a community entirely abandoned by the

## WHERE

**UN Information Centre, ILO Building, G-5/2, Islamabad**

Russian government, undocumented, devoid of legal recognition, and therefore without any hope of ever leaving this hellhole. Polish filmmaker Hana Polek, who has previously directed the Oscar-nominated documentary Leningradsky's Children, brilliantly retraces the hopes and ambitions of a young girl who, despite the extreme life conditions, her head held high, and refusing any concessions, refuses to abandon her dream of a better life.

## Hosted by

Embassy of Poland, UN Information Centre

## How to participate

RSVP by Monday 7 December at [info.islamabad@unic.org](mailto:info.islamabad@unic.org)

Please note that for security reasons only registered participants will have access to the event.

# THE SHELTER

Fernand Melgar, 2014, Switzerland, 100', French/Spanish with English subtitles



## WHEN

9 December, 18:00



It is winter at an emergency shelter for the homeless in Lausanne. Every night at the door of this little-known basement facility the same entry ritual takes place, resulting in confrontations, which can sometimes turn violent. Those on duty at the shelter have the dif-

## WHERE

UN Information Centre, ILO Building, G-5/2, Islamabad

ficult task of “triaging the poor”: the women and children first, then the men. Although the total capacity at the shelter is 100, only 50 “chosen ones” will be admitted inside and granted a warm meal and a bed. The others know it will be a long night.

Confronting documentary about the immigration problem in Switzerland, which mirrors those of many European countries, it was selected by the Movies that Matter Foundation. Supported by several organizations, including Amnesty International, the Movies that Matter Foundation offers a platform for engaged cinema by inspiring filmmakers and promotes poignant feature films and revealing documentaries that stir

the debate on human rights and the fight against injustice. Since 2009, the Movies that Matter Foundation offers all embassies of the Kingdom of the Netherlands the opportunity to screen films on International Human Rights Day.

## Hosted by

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, UN Information Centre

## How to participate

RSVP by Tuesday 8 December at [info.islamabad@unic.org](mailto:info.islamabad@unic.org)

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# AKIYAYA

Fernando Casado, 2010, Spain, 50', Spanish with English subtitles

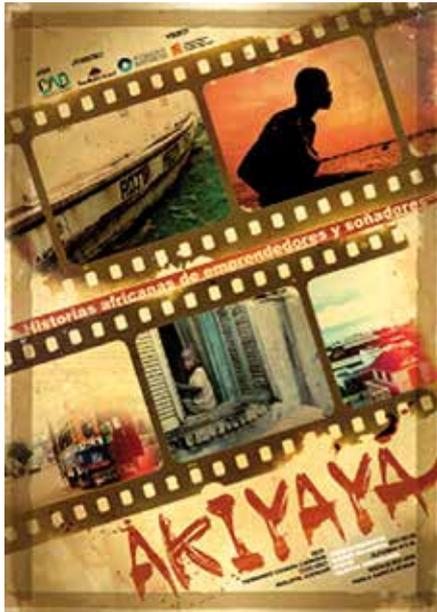


## WHEN

10 December, 14:00

## WHERE

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad



Akiyayá narrates the stories of young African entrepreneurs living between Europe and Africa, showing how they are changing the world as they follow their dreams. The documentary, filmed in Barcelona and Senegal, analyses the concept of access to opportunities for young Africans who have decided to stay in Senegal and others who have decided to make the journey to Europe. It offers a critical and lucid look at the myths, beliefs and preconceptions that feed prejudices and dreams on both sides. The film also shows examples of young people who have decided to take their life in their own hands to achieve their dreams.

## Hosted by

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, European Union

## How to participate

Please contact:

[delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu)

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Fernand Melgar, 2014, Switzerland, 100', French/Spanish with English subtitles



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University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, European Union

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# JOURNEY OF HOPE

Xavier Koller, 1990, Switzerland/Turkey, 105', Turkish, German, Swiss German, Italian with English subtitles



## WHEN

**10 December, 14:00**

## WHERE

**Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad**



Journey of Hope (German: Reise der Hoffnung; Turkish: Umuda yolculuk), narrates the story of is the story of a Kurdish family. The story is centered on a poor farmer in Turkey, and his family. He has received a postcard from a relative who emigrated to Switzerland, telling him that Switzerland is sort of a “paradise over the mountain”. He is determined to go to Switzerland, to find a better life, at any cost. To this end, he sells his cattle, sheep, and land to get the money he needs for false passports and to pay the smugglers. For Haydar, his wife, and young son (the remainder of the family is left behind), the journey of hope becomes one of despair. Unscrupulous smugglers cheat them of

their money; immigration officials block their path at every step; and the snow-covered Italian-Swiss border presents an obstacle overwhelming in its primal magnitude.

## Hosted by

Quaid-i-Azam University, European Union

## How to participate

Please contact:

[delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu)

# JOURNEY TO PORTUGAL

Sergio Trefaut, 2011, Portugal, 70', Portuguese with English subtitles



## WHEN

10 December, 16:30

## WHERE

Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad



Based on a true story, 'Journey to Portugal' is film about European procedures at airport border control and the inhuman treatment that has become totally accepted nowadays. Of all the passengers on her plane, Maria is the only one to be detained and interrogated by the Immigration Police. The situation turns into a nightmare when the Police officers realize that the man waiting for Maria at the airport is Senegalese. Illegal immigration? Human trafficking? Anything is possible.

## Hosted by

Quaid-i-Azam University, European Union

## How to participate

Please contact:

[delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-pakistan@eeas.europa.eu)

# MY SWEET PEPPER LAND

Hiner Saleem, 2014, France/Germany , 94', Kurdish with English subtitles

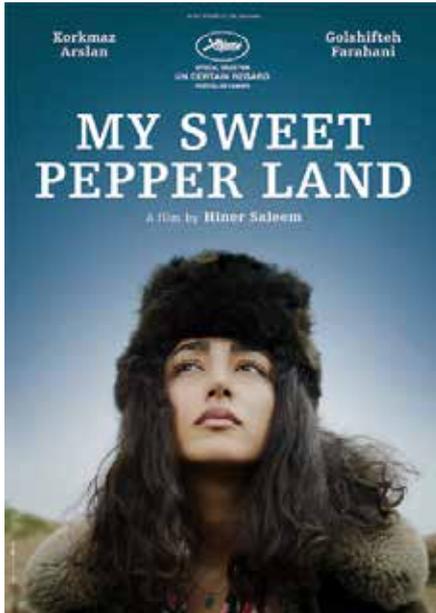


## WHEN

10 December, 18:00

## WHERE

Alliance Française, Plot/St-1, Block 8, Kehkashan, Clifton, Karachi



Baran, a Kurdish independence war hero, is now sheriff in Erbil, the capital city. No longer feeling useful in this society now at peace, he thinks about quitting the police force, but instead agrees to be stationed in a small valley, at the very borders of Iran, Turkey, and Iraq. It is a lawless territory, right at the heart of illegal drug, medication and alcohol trafficking. Having arrived in the small village, he refuses to bow down to Aga Azzi, the seriously corrupt tribal chief and absolute ruler of the area. Baran meets Govend, the village school teacher, who is also rejected by the villagers. Like Baran, she represents another law. Govend is all the more vulnerable as she is not a married woman.

## How to participate

Please contact:

Alliance Française de Karachi,  
Tel:(021)35873402/35862864,  
Email: [admin@afkarachi.com](mailto:admin@afkarachi.com)

Goethe-Institut, Tel. +92 21  
35661633-6, email:

[info@karachi.goethe.org](mailto:info@karachi.goethe.org)

# WELCOME

Philippe Lioret, 2009, France, 109', English

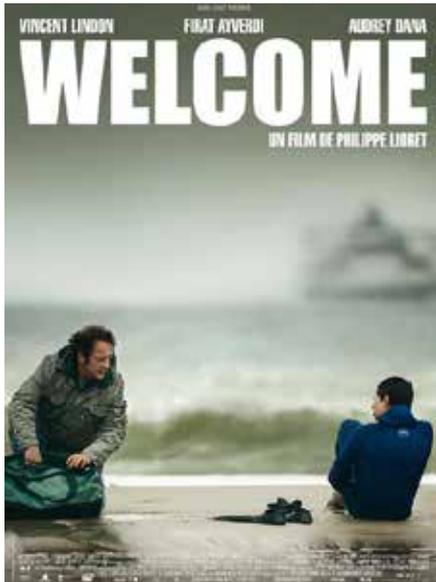


## WHEN

10 December, 18:00

## WHERE

Alliance Française & Annemarie-Schimmel-Haus, 155 - Scotch Corner, Street # 3 Upper Mall, Lahore



Bilal, a 17-year-old Kurdish boy has travelled through the Middle East and Europe to join his girlfriend, freshly immigrated to England. But his journey comes to an abrupt end when he is stopped on the French side of the Channel. Having decided to swim across, Bilal goes to the local swimming pool to train. There he meets Simon, a swimming instructor in the midst of a divorce. To impress his estranged wife and win back her heart, Simon decides to risk everything by asking Bilal under his wing and give him shelter and swimming lessons.

An ode to the abandoned immigrants trapped on the shores of Calais (France) and the good Sa-

maritans who take risks to help them.

## How to participate

French Centre:

Tel no: +92-42-35874301-03,

email: [info@aflahore.org](mailto:info@aflahore.org)

German Centre:

Tel no: +92- 42-35762257,  
35761257,

email: [info@schimmel.com.pk](mailto:info@schimmel.com.pk)

HRCP:

Tel no: +92-42-35864994,

email: [hrcp@hrcp-web.org](mailto:hrcp@hrcp-web.org)

# BAJRANGI BHAJJAAN

Kabir Khan, 2015, India, 113', Hindi, with English sub-titles



## WHEN

13 December, 16:00

## WHERE

Indian High Commission, Diplomatic Enclave, Islamabad



A 5 year old girl from Pakistan gets separated from her mother at an Indian railway station. Lost and hungry she finds shelter at the home of Pavan, an ardent devotee of Hanuman, hailing from a robust wrestling family. Bajrangi Bhaijaan is the moving story of Pavan's quest to unite the child with her parents against all odds. Set against the backdrop of colorful Chandni Chowk, the film travels from the heartlands of Punjab, through the deserts of Rajasthan, over the snow-capped mountains of Kashmir. Bajrangi Bhaijaan tells the story of how Pavan moves heaven and earth to fulfill the promise he made to the girl from across the border.

## How to participate

Please contact:

Dr. Piyush Singh, First Secretary  
(Political & Culture), High Commission of India, Islamabad, E-mail:

[pol1.islamabad@mea.gov.in](mailto:pol1.islamabad@mea.gov.in)

Seating is limited



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UNITED NATIONS  
Information Centre  
I S L A M A B A D