

# INCLUSION CHECK PART 1 SELF-REFLECTION

## FICTION FILM

The project commission has committed itself in its mission statement to promoting a diversity of topics and stories that reflect a variety of lived realities, providing a contemporary, critical, and entertaining reflection of our society. Our structural goal is to ensure the representation and inclusion of all people living in Austria, both in front of and behind the camera.

Gender equality is also of paramount importance to the Film Institute, aiming to fully harness the potential of domestic filmmaking and its audience.

Therefore, members of the project commission are regularly provided with inclusion checks for the submitted projects. These inclusion checks consist of two complementary parts: Part 1 involves the self-reflection of the applicants, while Part 2 includes expert evaluation based on standardized gender and diversity criteria. These criteria are available on the AFI website. Upon request, applicants may receive the expert evaluation after the project commission meeting for review.

The self-reflection is intended to give you the opportunity to consider the diversity sensitivity of your filmmaking practice, engage with issues of inclusion and representation, and give clarification on your decisions related to these topics. The inclusion checks do not include any ranking or funding recommendation.

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## Film Content

**1. Does the narrative directly address one or more of the following topics?**

- Yes
- No

**PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:**

- daily life in the third stage of life
- gender roles
- people of color<sup>1</sup>
- living with a disability<sup>2</sup>
- migration or displacement<sup>3</sup>
- religion or belief<sup>4</sup>
- sexual orientation and/or identities
- socioeconomic status<sup>5</sup>
- multigenerational living

**2. Is the narrative significantly influenced by one or more of the mentioned topics?**

- Yes
- No

**3. Are the main characters directly involved in the mentioned topics?**

- Yes
- No

**4. Are genders equally represented in the narrative?**

- Yes
- No
  - If not: **Please elaborate on this decision.**

*[open text]*

**5. Are characters represented who belong to any of the following groups?**

- Yes
- No

**PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:**

- LGBTIQ+
- people in the third stage of living
- people with disabilities<sup>2</sup>
- migrants or refugees<sup>3</sup>
- people of color<sup>1</sup>
- underprivileged socioeconomic background<sup>5</sup>
- other marginalized groups: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Narrative Positioning**

**6. Are underrepresented groups depicted in the film involved in the development of the project's narrative?**

- Yes
- No
  - If not: **Please elaborate on this decision. If you are taking other measures for an authentic and respectful representation, please specify.**

*[open text]*

**7. Are there approaches in character development to avoid reinforcing stereotypical role images?**

- Yes
  - If Yes: **What are they?**
- No
  - If not: **Please elaborate on this decision.**

*[open text]*

*[open text]*

**8. Are there any ideas or specific approaches in casting to avoid reinforcing stereotypical role images?**

- Yes
  - If Yes: **What are they?**  
*[open text]*
- No
  - If not: **Please elaborate on this decision.**  
*[open text]*

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**Additional comments and suggestions:**

*[open text]*

<sup>1</sup> "People of Color" is a term from the Anglo-American context, used as a self-designation by groups of people who experience various forms of structural exclusion due to racism. The term is used here in a broad sense to refer to non-white individuals.

<sup>2</sup> In a 2015 survey by Statistics Austria, the number of people with long-term disabilities, meaning those lasting at least six months, was recorded. This includes, for example, physical impairments, sensory problems, mobility impairments, as well as mental health issues and learning disabilities. In 2015, the disability rate among the Austrian residential population was 18.4%. Source: Statistik Austria (2016). Menschen mit Beeinträchtigungen. Ergebnisse des Mikrozensus-Zusatzfragen 4. Quartal 2015.

<sup>3</sup> According to the Statistical Yearbook of Statistik Austria, an average of 26.4% of the Austrian population had a migration background in 2022. This includes all individuals who have immigrated to Austria or whose both parents were born abroad, regardless of their own nationality or place of birth. Source: Statistik Austria (2023), Statistisches Jahrbuch. Migration & Integration. Zahlen Daten Indikatoren 2023.

<sup>4</sup> According to a press release from Statistik Austria in 2022, 68.2% of the Austrian population identified as Christian. Islam accounted for 8.3% of the population, Buddhism 0.3%, and Hinduism 0.1%. Overall, 77.6% of the population identified with a religion, while 22.4% identified with no religion. Source: Statistik Austria (2022), Press Release from 25.05.2022.

<sup>5</sup> In 2022, 15% of Austria's population earned a "low income." The share of the population with a "middle income" was 76%, while 9% of the population had a "high income." Income segments are defined by Statistics Austria as follows: Low income: < 60% of the median annual equivalized income. Middle income: 60% to < 180% of the median annual equivalized income. High income: ≥ 180% of the median annual equivalized income. The annual equivalized income is the needs-weighted disposable household income per capita. In 2022, it was €27,844. Source: Statistik Austria (2023). Einkommen und Lebensbedingungen. Tabellenband EU-SILC 2022.

<sup>6</sup> The abbreviation LGBTIQ+ stands for "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer". The "+" symbolizes additional sexual orientations, gender identities, and physical sex variations that do not conform to a heteronormative worldview. There are no nationwide statistics on sexual orientations or identities in the Austrian population.