

New8: Extends Partnership for Three More Years

As part of the TV Drama Vision at the Göteborg Film Festival on Wednesday, 28 January 2026, all eight public service broadcaster partners of the New8 collaboration— SVT (Sweden), DR (Denmark), YLE (Finland), RÚV (Iceland), NRK (Norway), VRT (Flanders/Belgium), NPO (The Netherlands) and ZDF (Germany) — announced that they will be co-producing drama for another three years. The decision follows critical acclaim and audience impact of drama productions across Europe, affirming New8 as a powerful model for modern public-service collaboration.

With the renewed commitment, this successful cooperation framework will be further refined and the editorial collaboration expanded, with the aim of strengthening the international competitiveness and overall impact of the drama series.

"The continuation of New8 confirms the strength of collaboration between public broadcasters. What began as an ambitious initiative has grown into a sustainable network that strengthens local creative industries and ensures that stories travel further. By joining forces once again, we continue to invest in bold, innovative fiction that embodies our public values and resonates with a broad European audience.", said Elly Vervloet, International drama expert at VRT and Chair of New8.

"'New8' demonstrates the high-quality programming that emerges when strong public-service partners join forces. The various nominations and awards for series like 'Other People's Money' and 'Elixir', as well as the impressive performance of titles on ZDF's streaming platform, showcase the international strength and creative potential inherent in this alliance," said Jasmin Maeda, SVP International Fiction Coproduction and Acquisition at ZDF.

"The greatest strength of New 8 is the ability to offer the industry a long-term partnership that can support producers with financing and help their projects reach a wider audience. The new three-year agreement is a renewed commitment to the industry and demonstrates a clear, stable, and long-term system that the industry can depend on." Said Johanna Gårdare, Head of Drama & Film SVT

Since its launch in 2023, the success of New8 has clearly demonstrated the power of European co productions. Going forward, the collaboration will continue to highlight pressing social issues – from racism and social cohesion ("After Benjamin"), as well as innovation and entrepreneurial power ("Vanguard"). Titles such as "Push" and "Queen of Fucking Everything" further expand the spectrum, foregrounding female perspectives, social inequality and questions of identity, while series like "This is not a murder mystery" excel in entertaining and bold storytelling.