



### **Echoes of Ji.hlava IDFF in Brusel 2022 / foreword**

It would have been amazing to be back in the screening halls, greeting and cheering with friends, having conversations with partners, enjoying being together, getting to know more about the world around us through the lenses of accomplished, courageous, innovative and cutting-edge documentary filmmakers. It would have been a joyful start of a long awaited regular cultural season. But almost the same day as the “code jaune” was announced in Belgium (i.e., a color code for a low level of pandemic risk), the “code bleu-jaune” - a blue-yellow code - emerged. Ukraine was attacked by Russia, and suddenly, there is a bloody, unjust war right at the border of the European Union. The festival will continue bringing screenings, debates and masterclasses to multiple film academies across Belgium, while providing a platform also for Ukraine-related themes. The documentarist’s landscape is ever-changing – for better and for worse.

Jitka Panek Jurkova  
Director of Czech Centre Brussels