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# What's happening in European Commercial and VOD Broadcasting 24-28 February 2025

Policy & business developments go hand in hand. This quick snapshot is designed to help EU media stakeholders to keep up with the innovative world of commercial broadcasting

- Canal Hollywood celebrates the Oscars with a colossal marathon of award-winning and nominated films
- CANAL+ extends exclusive broadcastiing rights to NTT INDYCAR Championship
- ABC, PBS and ITV Studios partner for groundbreaking new natural history series Ages of Ice
- Paramount+ Italy announces that 'BFF Best Friends Forever' will be exclusively available on the platform in March
- 'Locos por los Óscar' launched on Mediaset España's Be Mad to celebrate Oscar week
- An interview with David Whigham, Editor-in-Chief of NTV
- Season two of the Sky Exclusive drama series 'The Last of Us' debuts 14 April
- "Best men" win over Hungary: Another Croatian drama series triumphs internationally
- The ultimate home of cycling unveils its immense coverage offer ahead of the 2025 season



<u>Canal Hollywood celebrates the Oscars with a colossal marathon of award-winning and</u> nominated films

From March 1 to 7, Canal Hollywood, produced by AMC Networks International Southern Europe, is broadcasting 'A Very Oscar Marathon', a colossal 24-hour special for 7 days with great films nominated and awarded in previous editions of the awards, on the occasion of the 97th edition that will be held in the early hours of March 3 in Los Angeles.



#### CANAL+ extends exclusive broadcastiing rights to NTT INDYCAR Championship

CANAL+ announced a multi-year extension of its broadcast rights to the NTT INDYCAR SERIES. The 2025 championship begins Sunday, March 2 at the St. Petersburg Street Circuit in Florida. The race will be broadcast live on CANA L + SPORT at 6 p.m. The NTT Indycar Series broadcast rights for CANAL+ are for France, Switzerland, Sub-Saharan Africa, Vietnam and Myanmar.





## ABC, PBS and ITV Studios partner for groundbreaking new natural history series Ages of

ABC, PBS, ITV Studios, Screen Australia and Screen NSW are thrilled to announce production has commenced on the groundbreaking new three-part natural history series, Ages of Ice. From the Emmy-Award-winning Northern Pictures, Ages of Ice follows the brave scientists pushing the boundaries of exploration and human endeavour in Earth's coldest corners to understand the changes of ice and what this means for our planet's future.

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#### 'Locos por los Óscar' launched on Mediaset España's Be Mad to celebrate Oscar week

From February 23 to March 2, Be Mad, Mediaset España's thematic channel, will broadcast a selection of 60 films that have won or been nominated for this prestigious award. Be Mad was launched in September 2022 as the Group's digital channel dedicated to film. Since then, its audience share has grown significantly and was recorded among the ten most viewed thematic channels in January 2025.



#### 'BFF - Best Friends Forever' will be exclusively available on Paramount+ Italy in March

Paramount+ announced the arrival on the platform of 'BFF - Best Friends Forever', a film directed by Andrea Fazzini and Alessandro Pavanelli, starring Ambra Angiolini and Anna Ferzetti. The release date is set for March 14th.



#### An interview with David Whigham, Editor-in-Chief of NTV

In a recent interview with DWDL.de, David Whigham, Editor-in-Chief of NTV, talked about the channel's approach to independent news, how they tackle fake news and how they deal with populist parties.



#### Season two of the Sky Exclusive drama series The Last of Us debuts 14 April

The seven-episode second season of the Emmy®-winning exclusive drama series 'The Last of Us' debuts Monday, 14 April on Sky and streaming service NOW. Five years after the events of the first season, Joel and Ellie are drawn into conflict with each other and a world even more dangerous and unpredictable than the one they left behind.



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#### "Best men" win over Hungary: Another Croatian drama series triumphs internationally

After holding the title of the most-watched drama series in Croatia for three consecutive years, Best Men is now achieving success on the international stage. The Hungarian adaptation of the series, titled Pokoli rokonok began airing in January 2025 and has since recorded excellent viewership results, surpassing the average and confirming the success of the original Croatian series.



## The ultimate home of cycling unveils its immense coverage offer ahead of the 2025 season

Warner Bros. Discovery Sports Europe unwrapped its bumper cycling package for fans ahead of the 2025 season. Collectively engaging more than 100 million cycling fans in Europe across all platforms, in 2025 it will deliver 3,900 hours of content including 2,500 hours of live action from the world's biggest races.

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#### About the Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe

The Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe represents the interests of leading commercial broadcasters across Europe and beyond. The ACT member companies finance, produce, promote and distribute content and services benefiting millions of Europeans across all platforms. At ACT we believe that the healthy and sustainable commercial broadcasting sector has an important role to play in the European economy, society and culture. Our role is to protect and to promote the interests of the European private broadcasters. We engage with the EU institutions to achieve a balanced and appropriate regulatory framework which will encourage further investment and growth in our sector. This will allow the commercial audiovisual industry to continue to do what we do best – getting great content to viewers.