

English version

WE WON'T BE GOING TO ANGOULÊME!

For several months, we, comics professionals, artists and workers of this industry, have been calling out the FIBD's Association in Angoulême, about its contract's toxic practices, which has been tying the festival's association to the 9eArt+ company for almost 20 years. Several outlets have written about this 9eArt+'s questionable practices, one in particular by the Humanité newspaper, which unveils for instance that an employee had been fired after having spoken about a rape during the 51st festival edition.

During the last ADBDA (association for the development of bande dessinée in Angoulême) meeting, on April 3rd, the Festival's Association claimed they might revoke their contract with the 9eArt+ company. However, the Association didn't express its wish to submit it to an impartial call to tender. And it looks like they wish to merge with the 9eArt+ company, in a simplified joint-stock company.

We want to remind very steadfastly the Festival's Association that if, for over 50 years, the Angoulême Festival has been a major comics festival, it's thanks to all the workers that make it live: artists, publishers, editors, translators, journalists and critics... and of course, readers, through their fidelity to this event. This event belongs to the community and therefore, it is of public interest for the survival of our medium. It would be out of line to bind it to personal interests or authoritarian choices.

It would be unacceptable to entrust once more this event administration for a decade, and without consulting any parties that constitute it, while making it lively and diverse, to a company that raises many questions about its prerogatives.

Regarding this blindness and this tenacity, regarding this insufferable appropriation and regarding the contempt shown in reaction to our remarks, WE, comic workers, inform the Festival's Association and its partners, public and private, that if they don't revoke the contract properly and go for a call to tender, we will call for a massive boycott during the 2026 edition.

Without us, the festival will be a hollow shell!