Plot Twist! The TV and film industry's big shake up A guide for translators.

Rebecca Nicholls



About Me

- Twenty + years in Film & TV
- Specialist in international distribution
- Writer
- Translator





When do filmmakers think about localisation?



Getting paid... or not.



2025 Whickers Cost of Docs

• 13% of English-speaking documentary makers were able to take a wage from their production fund.

• 34% of English-speaking respondents say that they need mental health support but cannot afford to access it.

 Commissioners are funding fewer and fewer projects – more films are selffunded.



Production Companies

Freelance filmmakers – TV and film

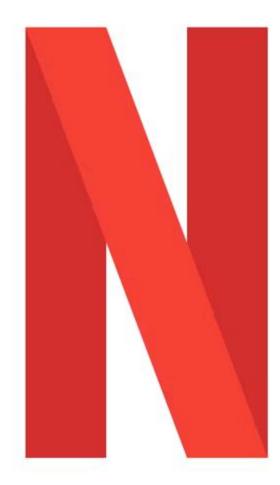
Independent producers – TV and film

Groups (e.g. Endemol Shine, All3)

In-house production

Streaming Platforms

There is life beyond Netflix!



Distributors and Agents

Sales

Acquisitions

Markets

Development

Co-productions





Broadcasters

- National FTA broadcasters
- FAST channels niche interests
- Broadcasters who acquire finished content
- Specialists sports, film, news

My TV clients want you to know....

- > Check formatting needed before you start the project
- Foreign language versions are produced in layers v/o, dialogue, maps and on-screen text, so everything must be translated and clearly marked
- Research compliance regulations in your target language
- > The director has the final word even if you are correct

What do they need?

Production Companies – co-production pitches, funding applications, scripts, synopses, subtitles

Film festivals – subtitles, funding applications, publicity materials

Streaming platforms and aggregators in target language – subtitles, synopses, localization.

Distributors and agents – catalogues, pitch documents, scripts, subtitles

Broadcasters – scripts, post-editing, news and current affairs



rmnichollsauthor@gmail.com

Rebecca Nicholls on LinkedIn

R M Collis Author Page on Amazon

