

Press release
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Locarno Festival
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Carlo Chatrian to leave Locarno after the 71st Festival edition

The Supervision Board of the *Kulturveranstaltungen des Bundes in Berlin (GmbH)*, chaired by Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media Monika Grütters, today officially appointed Carlo Chatrian as next Artistic Director of the Berlinale after 2019. Chatrian is to leave the Locarno Festival at the closing of the forthcoming edition.

"We congratulate Carlo Chatrian on his brilliant appointment in Berlin," declared Marco Solari, President of the Locarno Festival. *"Building on the secure foundations laid by his predecessors, the current Artistic Director, supported by Nadia Dresti as Deputy Artistic Director and by the Selection Committee, has strengthened the identity of our Festival worldwide during his fifteen years working with us, including his six year tenure as Artistic Director. We express our gratitude on behalf of the Board of Governors, the Director's Office and all our staff and wish him the very best for the new and undoubtedly demanding task that awaits him in the German capital."*

The Executive Board of the Locarno Festival, chaired by Marco Solari, will meet soon to discuss suitable candidates. Recent days have seen a number of intriguing names put forward, with a range of impressive profiles from both Swiss and international backgrounds, and the President intends to present the Executive Board with an wide range of possible candidates. The next session of the Executive Board is scheduled for July, with the follow-up being held only after the Festival itself.

"Today I am very excited and keen to take up what promises to be a fascinating challenge, but from tomorrow I will turn all my efforts back to the 71st edition of the Locarno Festival, so as to make sure I bring to the best possible conclusion what for me has been a fantastic experience both professionally and personally," commented Carlo Chatrian.

Carlo Chatrian will retain his mandate until the close of the 71st Festival, which will take place from 1 to 11 August 2018.