Winners of the Overseas Press Club Awards
2022 ANNUAL EDITION

DATELINE

Battling Autocracy
CONGRATULATIONS!

Reuters salutes the 2021 Overseas Press Club Awards winners.

We are proud to support the Overseas Press Club and its commitment to advancing the highest standards in international news coverage.
WELCOME to the Overseas Press Club’s celebration in honor of its 83rd annual award winners. I’m pleased we are back on our regular schedule with an April event, having been forced by the COVID-19 pandemic to cancel the 2020 dinner and to postpone our 2021 gala for six months.

There is so much to celebrate, not least the award winners who represent the best of the best in global journalism. As their articles, broadcasts, photographs, podcasts, books and documentaries prove, international journalism is thriving. This year’s winners recount in compelling detail the U.S.’s ignominious withdrawal from Afghanistan and the suffering experienced by those left behind, the persecution of India’s Muslim minority, the humanitarian crises among refugees trying to enter Europe, the forces driving never-ending conflicts in West and Central Africa, and the willful destruction of the Brazilian rainforest.

Other award winners exposed the exploitation of workers harvesting sugar cane, the deadly flaws in the Pentagon’s remote warfare system, the pollution and corruption involved in extracting metals needed for the clean-energy transition, the brutal crackdown by Myanmar’s military rulers, and the real-life consequences of climate change. It’s all forceful, captivating and gripping journalism.

I believe the OPC can claim at least some of the credit for the continued robust state of global journalism. This year we launched a series of discussions between successful journalists and their editors to showcase top-notch foreign reporting. The goal of those “How I Did It” talks is to inspire and teach younger journalists to do similar work.

Last year, we made it our mission to financially support freelancers unable to travel and work abroad due to COVID. This year we did the same for Afghan journalists who became refugees after the U.S. withdrawal and are now living precariously in the U.S. In both cases, the Ford Foundation contributed generous sums beyond what we could ever raise from our members, and for that we are most grateful.

This year, we plan to support journalists working under duress in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia, so please take a look at the cards at your table explaining how you can contribute. I want to thank Sony Electronics Inc. for donating $25,000 toward this worthy cause.

One tradition at every awards dinner is to light a candle in honor of journalists who have been killed, lost, imprisoned, or harassed in the line of duty. This year’s ceremony is in honor of independent journalists in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia who have put their lives in danger to cover their repressive governments, corrupt officials and media crackdowns, not to mention Russia’s brutal war against Ukraine.

I especially want to salute Yuliya Shchitskaya, founder of Press Club Belarus, who was released from prison last August after being held eight months for writing about the disputed presidential election and human-rights violations in her country. I also want to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives while covering the Ukrainian war: documentarian Brent Renaud, Fox News cameraman Pierre Zakrzewski, Fox News reporter Oksana Dräi Kasykhinova and Kyiv Live TV cameraman Evgeny Sakun.

Journalism isn’t for the faint-hearted. For some of us, it results in great personal tragedy. Yet we carry on, because journalists are always going to be needed as a vital source of information — collected and produced without fear or favor. This seems to be true now more than ever as a growing number of governments churn out propaganda, turn away from democratic freedoms, and abandon civic institutions.

Nowhere is this more glaringly obvious than in Hong Kong, which was forcibly converted from a thriving democracy to mainland China’s totalitarian system in a few short years. As part of that crackdown, the government arrested Jimmy Lai, the owner and founder of Apple Daily, one of the most widely read newspapers in Hong Kong and a vocal proponent of a free press. Government officials also arrested Apple Daily’s chief editor and five other executives, then froze the paper’s assets, leaving it unable to pay staff or buy newprint. The paper closed for good last June. So I’m pleased to give this year’s President’s Award to Jimmy Lai and the entire staff of Apple Daily.

I want to thank OPC Executive Director Patricia Kranz for keeping the club running like clockwork through two years of pandemic and for making the awards dinner a shining success year in and year out. Her dedication is extraordinary. I also want to thank Chad Bouchard, the OPC’s technology specialist who produces the biweekly Bulletin and is the wizard behind our Zoom programs, social-media outreach and various competitions.

And finally, a huge thank you goes to OPC Vice President Scott Kraft, who has flawlessly conducted our awards program for six consecutive years. Thanks for reading this year’s Dateline, and I hope you enjoy your evening.

Sincerely,

Paula Dwyer

OVER MORE than eight decades, the Overseas Press Club Awards for international reporting have honored work from every continent and thousands of outlets. Our winners this year are in exalted company. Past honorees have included legendary journalists, including Edward R. Murrow, LIFE magazine photographer Lisa Larsen, Sydney Schanberg, Flora Lewis and James Michener, to name just a few. The awards are notable for the excellence of the winning work but also for the dedication and discernment of our deciding juries. Every year, about 100 of our colleagues from across the profession, divided among 22 judging categories, pore over hundreds of entries. (This year, we received more than 300 entries.)

The jurors bring a wealth of experience to the task. Many have themselves won Pulitzer Prizes and OPC Awards and guided the award-winning work. The judges begin reviewing the entries in early February and meet in early March to debate and decide on a winner in each category. They volunteer their time because they believe, as we do, that recognizing the exemplary achievements of colleagues is vital to maintaining the highest standards of our profession and to inspiring new generations of journalists.

Every year, our jurors tell me how inspired they are by the work they have the honor of reading and viewing. The quality of the entries this year again proved that international reporting is alive and well. But it also was a reminder that reporting the truth around the globe is not just important but vital. It can be risky, arduous and expensive. But it’s a linchpin of our society, especially in an era when the truth must fight disinformation and misinformation on the battlefield of free expression.

Congratulations to the winners for the year 2021 and thank you for setting high standards for all of us. And a special thank you to our jurors, whose wise and careful deliberations make winning an OPC Award an achievement to celebrate.

Scott KRAFT is managing editor of the Los Angeles Times and a Vice President of the OPC.

Letter from the President

Letter from the Awards Chair

Dateline 2022
Led by relatives of a slain Palestinian, residents of Gaza City protest continued Israeli air raids. At least 250 Palestinians and 13 Israelis were killed in air raids and retaliatory rocket attacks in May before a ceasefire ended the violence.

ON THE COVER: YANGON, MYANMAR: Protesters test a Molotov cocktail in preparation for a confrontation with security forces in March 2021. Hundreds were killed and thousands arrested in the wake of the coup that deposed Aung San Suu Kyi.

PHOTO BY ANONYMOUS/GETTY IMAGES
THE HAL BOYLE AWARD
Best newspaper, news service or digital reporting from abroad

Staff
The New York Times
“The Collapse of Afghanistan”

The New York Times
Earlier than most news organizations, the Times reporting detailed the precarious hold the Ghani government had on the country and foretold the quick collapse of the Afghan security forces. Importantly, it also was at the forefront of holding the Biden administration to account for its botched exit — particularly its high-impact, forensic investigation that showed a U.S. drone strike on a suspected ISIS bomber was nothing of the sort. All of this was accomplished against the background of an unprecedented effort to exfiltrate Times reporters and Afghan staff from Kabul as the capital fell. Taken together, it was a model of covering a complex story in a dangerous environment, bringing two decades of journalistic expertise in Afghanistan to bear at the most crucial time.

Citation for Excellence:
Staff
Reuters
“Shattered Ethiopia”

Sponsor: Norman Pearlstine
in memory of Jerry Flint

Judges:
Peter Spiegel (head), Financial Times
Jamil Anderlini, Politico Europe
Julian Barnes, The New York Times
Heather Timmons, Reuters
Nancy Yussef, The Wall Street Journal

THE BOB CONSIDINE AWARD
Best newspaper, news service or digital interpretation of international affairs

Neil Munshi
Financial Times
“The Consequences and Drivers of Conflict in West and Central Africa”

Munshi’s series combined the best of explanatory writing with meticulous on-the-ground reporting from a sorely under-covered part of the world. He explained complex layers of power and the personal impact of the conflicts in Mali, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic. At considerable personal risk, Munshi traveled to dangerous and remote places. He located and interviewed first-hand sources — among them migrants, gold miners, kidnapping victims and others caught in the turmoil that few casual readers have been able to comprehend.

Citation:
Nicholas Pelham
The Economist’s 1843 Magazine

Sponsor: William J. Holstein and Rita Sevell

Judges:
Barbara Demick (head), author
Gady Epstein, The Economist
Razia Iqbal, BBC
Carlos Rajo, Charter Communications
Keith Richburg, Hong Kong University
OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA
ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS 2021

3
THE ROBERT CAPA
GOLD MEDAL AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise published in any medium

Anonymous
Getty Images
“Myanmar in Turmoil”

The photographer, who must remain anonymous as protection against retaliation, showed exceptional courage and dedication while documenting brutal military violence and large-scale unrest in Myanmar. Despite facing great risk as a member of the press, the photographer stayed in Yangon as the junta cut lines of communication to the outside world, arresting and killing civilians who protested the return of military rule. With powerful, sensitive coverage of fellow citizens facing the consequences of a military coup, the photographer proved the value of local expertise and vision amidst conflict.

Citation:
Anonymous
The New York Times
“Myanmar’s Coup”

Sponsor: Getty Images
Judges for all three photography awards:
Daniella Zalcman (head), freelance photojournalist
Jovelle Tamayo, independent photojournalist
Sana Ullah, National Geographic Society
Andrea Wise, ProPublica
Cengiz Yar, Rest of World

4
THE OLIVIER REBBOT
AWARD
Best photographic news reporting from abroad published in any medium

Fatima Shbair
Getty Images
“11 Days of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in Gaza”

Shbair’s unflinching reportage creates an important historical record of the physical, emotional, cultural, and psychological devastation of war for Palestinian families and communities in Gaza. Her raw report on the brutality of war is punctuated with tender moments of connection and mourning, serving as an exceptional example of the importance of an empathetic and tender eye for the quieter moments that speak to our collective humanity during times of conflict.

Citation:
Nicole Tung
The Washington Post
“Syria: War of Attrition”

Sponsor: David Ake

5
THE FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY
AWARD
Best feature photography on an international theme published in any medium

Dan Balilty
The New York Times
“Inside Ultra-Orthodox Jewish Communities During COVID-19”

Balilty’s coverage of the impact of COVID-19 on an ultra-Orthodox Jewish community stands as the pinnacle of Feature Photography in 2021. Balilty was able to gain intimate access to the Haredim community in Jerusalem and spent weeks documenting their lives through the pandemic. His images portray moments of tenderness and sorrow with empathy and respect. It’s a truly immersive essay on one of the year’s most difficult topics.

Citation:
Muhammad Fadi
National Geographic
“Indonesia is a New COVID-19 Epicenter. The Peak has Yet to Come.”

Sponsor: Sony Electronics Inc.

6
THE LOWELL THOMAS
AWARD
Best radio, audio or podcast coverage of international affairs

Lauren Frayer, Sushmita Pathak, Didrik Schanche and Nishant Dahiya
National Public Radio (NPR)
“India’s Spring 2021 COVID-19 Wave”

In their sustained COVID-19 coverage, reporter Lauren Frayer and producer Sushmita Pathak took listeners into the everyday anguish of Indians living through a pandemic made worse by massive health care shortcomings. Their very human stories also illuminated the politics and scientific issues affecting India’s response. Despite living under extraordinary lockdown conditions, the NPR journalists regularly delivered deep, nuanced stories, told through the voices of ordinary Indians and the health care professionals seeking to help them.

Citation:
Staff
Bloomberg Podcasts
“Foundering: The TikTok Story”

Sponsor: Deborah Amos

Judges:
Ann Cooper (head), Columbia Journalism School
Ibby Caputo, independent journalist
Lisa Cohen, duPont-Columbia awards
Anne Garrels, former NPR senior correspondent
Anti-coup protesters hurl stones and other objects at approaching troops on March 28, 2021. The crackdown was so violent, with as many as 1,700 killed by one estimate, that the protests have devolved into armed conflict, as protesters have formed militia groups and joined with ethnic rebels to fight the government.
Top: Riot police take protesters into custody during a February rally.

Bottom: Mourners in Yangon carry the body of a 15-year-old boy killed by junta forces on March 21, 2021.

Demonstrators are confronted by military police backed by water cannon vehicles.
THE DAVID KAPLAN AWARD
Best TV or video spot news reporting from abroad

Matthew Chance, Zahra Ullah and Jeffrey Kehl
CNN “Belarus — Inside a Manufactured Migrant Crisis”

The CNN team brought us into the midst of a simmering migrant crisis fueled by Belarus and its autocratic leader, Alexander Lukashenko, that quickly boiled over into a full-scale humanitarian emergency. Camped against razor wire fences, more than 2,000 people, largely Kurds from Iraq, seeking refuge in Europe, found themselves marooned, in desperate conditions, in a political no-man’s land. Chance scored a rare interview with Lukashenko. As the crisis neared its peak, Chance, his cameraman and producer were live on CNN as violence erupted at the border checkpoint, capturing chaotic scenes — crowds of desperate migrants throwing rocks at Polish border guards, the Poles responding with tear gas and water cannons that hit Chance, who continued broadcasting, soaked and struggling to breathe. CNN, which stayed with the story until its final denouement, succeeded in putting a human face on a violent geopolitical crisis and humanitarian tragedy.

Citation: Adam Desiderio, Ben C. Solomon, Amel Guettatfi, Nelson Ryland and Andrew Pattison VICE News Tonight “The Fall of Kandahar”

Judges:
David A. Andelman (head), author
Jim Bitterman, CNN
Steve Kroft, former 60 Minutes
Jim Laurie, former ABC
Scotti Williston, former CBS

Sponsor: ABC News

THE EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD
Best TV, video or documentary interpretation of international affairs with a run time up to 30 minutes

Isobel Yeung, Amel Guettatfi, Javier Manzano and Ahmed Baidar
VICE News “Yemen’s Children of War”

VICE captures a complex, brutal war with deep humanity and moving storytelling. In a country where journalists face major obstacles, the team conveys the tragic cost of the conflict in just 18 minutes, portraying characters with insightful understanding. The correspondent’s empathy succeeds in getting people on both sides of the war to open up to her. The dogged investigation into one boy’s death includes skillful use of drone footage and geolocation technology, while the background explanation about the war does not slow the piece. A small former child soldier describing his trauma provides the poignant ending to the film.

Citation: Mark Scialla, Laila Al-Arian, Monica Villaniz, Neil Brandvold and Warwick Meade Fault Lines “Al Jazeera English – Exit Honduras”

Judges:
Vivienne Walt (head), TIME magazine
James Graft, The Wall Street Journal
Nevine Mabro, Channel 4 News
Steven Mufson, The Washington Post
Clive Myrie, BBC Television

Sponsor: CBS News

THE PETER JENNINGS AWARD
Best TV, video or documentary about international affairs with a run time over 30 minutes

Jane Ferguson, Sara Just, Morgan Till, Emily Kassie and Zach Fanimin
PBS NewsHour, with support from the Pulitzer Center “The Fall of Afghanistan”

In years to come, students of history will be able to look back at these PBS NewsHour segments from Afghanistan by Jane Ferguson and team to understand what happened in the final year of America’s longest war. Throughout 2021, as most Americans’ attention had turned away, the team returned again and again to capture the final arc of the story — from the futile effort of Afghan government troops to defend their country, to the targeted assassinations of educated elites, to the desperate scramble to depart from Kabul airport, and to the humanitarian crisis once the Taliban took over. Just as important, they relayed these events from the perspective of the Afghan people and the fighters on the ground, not the safe confines of an American TV studio.

Citation: Martin Smith, Marcela Gaviria, Brian Funck and Scott Anger
FRONTLINE PBS “The Jihadist”

Judges:
Paula Dwyer (head), author
Josh Fine, HBO’s “Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel”
Patricia Guerra, former CBS 60 Minutes
Abi Wright, Columbia Journalism School

Sponsor: The Jennings Family

THE ED CUNNINGHAM AWARD
Best magazine-style, long-form narrative feature in print or digital on an international story

Anand Gopal
The New Yorker “The Other Afghan Women”

Anand Gopal’s article is a brave and beautifully wrought tale, written with clarity and humanity, that challenges readers to think more broadly about the complicated interlacing of war and women’s rights. By speaking plainly about complex characters and the truth of their lives under U.S. occupation, Gopal introduced new, important and sometimes uncomfortable dimensions into the U.S. discussion of how Afghan women have been affected by waves of war.

Citation: Staff
The Washington Post “In the Shadow of the Towers: Five Lives and a World Transformed”

Judges:
Megan Stack (head), author
Melissa Chan, The Global Reporting Centre
Michael Serrill, Past OPC President
Tim Sullivan, The Associated Press
Tim Weiner, author, former New York Times

Sponsor: Michael S. Serrill

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS 2021
11 Days of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in Gaza

Rockets lit up the sky over northern Gaza in May 2021 as Palestinians hurled missiles to retaliate for Israeli air strikes. The new violence was touched off by clashes near the al-Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem.
Palestinians in the rubble of their homes after a May 24 Israeli air raid in the town of Beit Hanun in northern Gaza. Right: Children huddle in the wreckage after a strike in Beir Lahia. The two sides exchanged rockets and bombs for 11 days before a ceasefire ended the fighting, leaving 250 Palestinians and 13 Israelis dead.
OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA
ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS 2021

11 THE BEST CARTOON AWARD
Best print, digital or graphic journalism on international affairs

Michael Ramirez
Las Vegas Review-Journal

Michael Ramirez masterfully employs the full arsenal available to the visual satirist. He wields sharp caricature, pointed commentary, and slicing artistry with equal abandon. It is rare to find a cartoonist who deftly creates both dark moods and light humor with such skill and intelligence. His work effectively eviscerates sacred cows and makes us laugh, even as we sometimes grumble.

Citation:
Mike Thompson
USA TODAY

Sponsor: Mercedes-Benz
Judges:
Rob Rogers (head), freelance
Kevin Kallaugher, The Economist
Tony Norman, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Jenny Robb, Ohio State University

12 THE MORTON FRANK AWARD
Best international business news reporting in TV, video, radio, audio or podcast

Sandy Tolan, Euclides Cordero Nuel and Michael Montgomery
Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting, PRX and Mother Jones, with support from the Pulitzer Center
“The Bitter Work Behind Sugar”

This comprehensive investigation took listeners deep into the sugar cane harvesting camps manned by Haitian immigrants in the Dominican Republic. Piecing together information from visits to 10 work camps (batayes), more than 100 interviews and numerous documents, the team traced sugar from the fields to American ports, sugar refineries and candy manufacturers. Their narrative was a strong, engaging probe into Central Romana Corporation, a privately held company controlled by the Cuban-American family, the Fanjuls. The story helps illustrate how the Fanjuls obscure, through offshore corporations, their ownership of the Dominican Republic’s largest employer and the largest importer of sugar to the U.S. The reporting, which has prompted scrutiny from Congress and the Department of Labor, documented workers enduring wages of $4 a day, staggering debt, substandard housing and woeful medical care while enhancing the company’s profitability.

Citation:
Robin Amer, Debbie Cenziner, Will Fitzgibbon and Ted Muldoon
The Washington Post and the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists
“A Tax Haven in America’s Heartland”

Sponsor: Marc Lemcke
Judges:
Allan Dodds Frank, former investigative correspondent, ABC and CNN
Susan Antilla, independent journalist
Kathleen Campion, independent journalist
William Holstein, OIP Foundation

13 THE MALCOLM FORBES AWARD
Best international business news reporting in newspapers, news services, magazines or digital

Staff
International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, The Washington Post, Miami Herald and nearly 150 media partners
“The Pandora Papers”

Another tour de force by ICIJ, “The Pandora Papers” brought together journalists from dozens of news organizations to rummage through a treasure trove of more than 11 million leaked documents showing how money and power operate in the 21st century. Their work looked at how hundreds of government officials and wealthy individuals, including King Abdullah of Jordan and the president of the Czech Republic, hid their assets in offshore havens from the British Virgin Islands to, more surprisingly, places like South Dakota. The judges were impressed by the scope, depth and impact of the project, which toppled politicians and inspired legislation to crack down on money laundering.

Citation:
Staff
The Wall Street Journal
“Inside China’s Corporate Crackdown”

Sponsor: Forbes Magazine
Judges:
Robert Friedman (head), Bloomberg News
Amanda Bennett, former Voice of America
Hannah Dreier, The Washington Post
Mary Rajkumar, The Associated Press

14 THE CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD
Best non-fiction book on international affairs.

Joe Parkinson and Drew Hinshaw
HarperCollins
Bring Back Our Girls: The Untold Story of the Global Search for Nigeria’s Missing Schoolgirls

Bring Back Our Girls is a tour de force of reporting, insight and clear and compelling writing. It tells the story of the search for 276 Nigerian teenage schoolgirls kidnapped in 2014 by Boko Haram Islamic extremists, and features revealing individual accounts by the girls themselves. But the book is about much more: the power of social media to galvanize international attention around a single crisis; the lengthy global negotiations needed to free the girls; and the cultures and motivations of Boko Haram and Nigerians themselves. This book highlights the crushing repression of women and girls in parts of the developing world and the resilience with which they pursue their hopes. The work is bolstered by extensive field reporting, by the reporters’ expertise in African politics and culture, and by the diary of one survivor.

Citation:
Geoffrey Cain
PublicAffairs, Hachette Book Group
The Perfect Police State: An Undercover Odyssey into China’s Terrifying Surveillance Dystopia of the Future

Sponsor: Friends of Richard Threlkeld
Judges:
Daniel Hertzberg (head), retired
John Bussey, The Wall Street Journal
Jean Guerrero, Los Angeles Times
Jennifer Siebens, retired
Amy Wilentz, author
Esteemed Rabbi Yitzchok Sheiner, a victim of COVID-19, is carried to his grave by congregants in January in Jerusalem. Vast crowds of ultra-Orthodox brazenly violated Israeli law to attend weddings, funerals and prayer meetings.
THE MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD
Best international reporting in the print medium or digital showing a concern for the human condition

Annalise Jolley and Zahara Gomez Lucini
Atavist Magazine
“A Feast for Lost Souls”

“A Feast for Lost Souls” is a visceral journey through the interminable sorrow and astonishing resilience of Mexican women who dig for their missing relatives and confront loss through lovingly prepared meals. The writing and videography are stunning, with an ethereal quality that makes this story unforgettable.

Citation:

Sponsor: Linda Fasulo
Judges:
Hannah Allam (head), The Washington Post
Graham Lee Brewer, MSNBC
Tina Susman, The Atlantic
Phillip W.d. Martin, The Atlantic
Graham Lee Brewer, MSNBC

THE DAVID A. ANDELMAN AND PAMELA TITLE AWARD
Best international reporting in any medium dealing with human rights

David Mora, Jika Gonzalez, Jose Flores, and Craig Thomson
VICE News Tonight
“After the Flood”

VICE News devoted a full year to following the journey of Renato, a Guatemalan who had lost everything in two back-to-back hurricanes in the mountainous region of Alta Verapaz. In 2020, Renato and three other migrants embarked on a thousand-miles long trek to the United States. VICE tracked their harrowing path through Mexico, where they endured kidnapping and the demands of corrupt police officers and violent cartels. Only three of the migrants made it to the United States. Renato was forced to return home. “After the Flood” portrays global climate migration at its most intimate level, documenting migration and its devastating intersection with violence and organized crime.

The result is a powerful and intimate portrayal of the real-life consequences of climate change.

Citation:

Sponsor: David A. Andelman and Pamela Title
Judges:
Deidre Depke (head), Past OPC President
Hendrik Hinzel, VICE News
Anup Kaphle, Rest of World
Derek Kravitz, Columbia and Stanford’s Brown Institute for Media Innovation
Minky Worden, Human Rights Watch

THE JOE AND LAURIE DINE AWARD
Best international reporting in any medium showing a concern for the human condition

Ian Urbina
The New Yorker, in collaboration with the Outlaw Ocean Project
“The Secretive Prisons That Keep Migrants Out of Europe”

At great personal risk, Ian Urbina exposed the horrors of Libyan detention camps where African migrants are held as they attempt to travel to Europe. Through a tacit and unsavory agreement, the European Union essentially pays Libya to catch and imprison the migrants so that Europe does not have to face problems on their borders. The result is a network of semi-hidden camps run by different Libyan militias where migrants are beaten, tortured, sexually abused, sometimes randomly shot at and denied basic rights that should be guaranteed under international migration agreements. Urbina’s arrest, described in the middle of the article, adds drama to his searing and unforgettable long-form piece.

Citation:

Sponsor: Philip Dine
Judges:
Raffi Khatchadourian, Ben Mauk, Sam Wolson and Matt Huynh
The New Yorker with support from the Pulitzer Center

THE WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD
Best reporting in any medium on international environmental issues

Staff
The New Yorker
“Race to the Future”

The New Yorker
In a competitive year for international environmental journalism, many stories explored the causes and effects of a warming climate. The New York Times took a different approach. It sent more than a dozen reporters and photographers around the globe to document the little-known human and environmental costs of the race to find a solution. They found a frenzy of mining underway in Africa, South America, the Caribbean, the western Pacific and elsewhere for lithium, cobalt, nickel and other rare minerals and metals needed to produce batteries for electric vehicles. The disturbing series showed how a key element of the so-called clean energy revolution — the push to phase out gas-guzzling cars and trucks — relies in part on child labor, government corruption and deadly pollution in some of the world’s poorest countries. The seven stories — crisply written, vividly photographed and extensively documented — drew attention at the White House and led to the ouster of an allegedly corrupt senior official in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Citation:

Sponsor: Robert Serio
Judges:
Eric Weinrib, Alzo Slade, Andrea Davis, Chris Iversen and Bernardo Garcia Elguezabal
VICE Media
“Jamaica for Sale”

THE WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD
Best reporting in any medium dealing with human rights

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Sponsor: Robert Serio
Judges:
Eric Weinrib, Alzo Slade, Andrea Davis, Chris Iversen and Bernardo Garcia Elguezabal
VICE Media
“Jamaica for Sale”
**THE ROBERT SPIERS BENJAMIN AWARD**

Best reporting in any medium on Latin America

Jake Spring, Stephen Eisenhammer, Ueslei Marcelino and Reuters colleagues

*Reuters*

“The Brazilian Rainforest”

The seven-part package is an effective blend of investigative reporting, vivid writing, data analysis and explanatory journalism, enhanced by compelling graphics. It not only exposed Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro’s signature response to destruction of the Amazon rainforest — sending in the army — as a costly failure. The series also documented his work to incapacitate the country’s system for fining environmental offenders. Reuters journalists delivered a nuanced portrayal of the Amazon’s indigenous tribes as they choose between conservation and development. Like the runner-up for this award, the Reuters series underscores the outsized impact that Brazil’s management of its rainforest has on the global challenge of climate change.

Citation:

Jessica Brice and Michael Smith

*Bloomberg BusinessWeek with support from the Pulitzer Center*

“The Amazon Is Fast Approaching a Point of No Return”

Sponsor: Laurie Hays

Judges:

Richard Boudreaux (head), *The Wall Street Journal*

Tony Cavin, *NPR*

June Carolyn Erlick,

*Ricardo Sandoval-Palos, PBS*

Paulina Villegas, *The Washington Post*

**THE KIM WALL AWARD**

Best story or series of stories on international affairs using creative and dynamic storytelling techniques

Max Bearak, Dylan Moriarty and Júlia Ledur

*The Washington Post*

“Africa’s Rising Cities”

The series is a beautiful interplay of writing, photography, video, and interactive data graphics that give immediacy and urgency to an overlooked subject without falling into easy tropes about Africa. The stories and presentation were unique, ambitious, and inspiring in scope. It resonated with those who lived in Africa and those no have what cities on the continent are like. Between the existential threats caused by climate change and current and future global pandemics, understanding the projected population growth of these five African cities is fundamental to the future of public health and climate security.

Citation:

Rhiona-Jade Armont, Ali Fowlie, Drew Ambrose, Aun Qi Koh and Nick Olle

*Al Jazeera English*

“101 East — Myanmar: State of Fear”

Sponsor: Marcus Rowan

Judges:

Sarah Cohen, *Arizona State University*

James B. Steele (head), *Inside Climate News*

Vernon Loeb,

*Princeton University*

Joe Stephens, *Bloomberg Television and Radio*

Jodi Schneider, *The New York Times*

Rana Ayyub, *The Associated Press*

**THE ROY ROWAN AWARD**

Best commentary in any medium on international news

Rana Ayyub

*The Washington Post*

“The New, New World”

Democracy is under attack around the world, not least in the country that likes to bill itself as the world’s largest democracy. At grave personal risk, Rana Ayyub of The Washington Post has called out Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s systematic persecution of the Muslim minority. As one juror noted, “Her stories are truly frightening, and India’s slide into religious nationalism does not get nearly enough attention.”

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