

**WORLD PRESS PHOTO**

**JUDGING PROCEDURES  
2022 CONTEST**

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## A - INTRODUCTION TO THE 2022 CONTEST

World Press Photo has launched a new strategy that adopts a regional approach across all its work. By putting our focus on the “World”, while staying committed to photojournalism, accuracy, freedom of expression, and connecting people to the stories that matter, we are addressing the imbalance in representation in all our activities. In the 2021 Photo Contest, for example, only 7% of entrants came from South America, 5% from Southeast Asia and Oceania, and 3% from Africa, despite a lot of incredible talent in photojournalism and documentary photography across the world.

As part of the new regional approach across our activities, we have shifted to a regional contest model that creates a platform where a multiplicity of stories and voices can be seen and heard, and in doing so we hope to become an organization that reflects our world.

The 2022 World Press Photo Contest works with six worldwide regions – Africa, Asia, Europe, North and Central America, South America, and Southeast Asia and Oceania. Entries will be judged in the region in which they have been taken, for example a single photograph taken in Canada would be entered into North and Central America in the Singles category. The entries per region will be judged by a regional jury that, thanks to their knowledge of the region, is well equipped to judge the stories and be able to put them into a cultural, political and social context.

As part of the core motivation behind the new regional contest model is to give a platform to more diverse accounts of our world, at a certain stage of the judging process, the jury will be presented with relevant information about the photographer in order to facilitate a more comprehensive approach to understanding and judging entries. In doing so, the judging process emphasizes the importance of context and that means acknowledging accountability, transparency and positionality in image-making.

Also new this year are the four format-based categories we are working with: Singles, Stories, Long-Term Projects and Open Format. These categories welcome entries that document news moments, events and aftermaths, as well as social, political and environmental issues or solutions. These format-based categories encompass all thematic categories from previous contests – such as general news, spot news, contemporary issues, environment, nature, sports, portraits. It is the first time that entries to an Open Format category can be entered. This is aimed at more creative modes of photojournalism and documentary photography, as well as multimedia projects such as short documentaries and interactive productions that have still photography as their main visual content.

This year, the prize package includes monetary prizes for the regional and global winners, along with being featured in our exhibition, yearbook, online, a physical award and an invitation to a winners event in Amsterdam. Next to choosing the prize winners, the jury can appoint honorable mentions for work that deserves special recognition but did not meet all judging criteria.

## **B - STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The World Press Photo Contest rewards the best photojournalism and documentary photography of the past year. It acts as a platform that connects professionals and their work to a global audience through high quality, non-fiction reporting, and storytelling that can be trusted.

The criteria for entries is that they are accurate and visually compelling insights about our world. Entrants must ensure that all entered material has been created ethically and that it provides a fair representation of the stories and people photographed. It must also comply with World Press Photo's Code of Ethics (section F).

World Press Photo sets the contest categories and entry rules, requires entrants to accept the contest code of ethics, and selects the jury. Once appointed, the jurors are independent of the foundation, and it's staff members and other representatives have no vote on which entry wins.

Once the winners have been decided and announced, they are presented to the world via World Press Photo's website, social media channels, exhibition and yearbook. This means that millions of people around the world see the winning photographs and stories, often for the first time.

Being a global platform gives us the responsibility to present the most accurate and compelling work. As such, without restricting the jury's decisions, we would like the jury to consider the following when deliberating on the entries:

- Whether the photographs and stories under consideration reinforce or challenge stereotypes.
- Whether graphic and violent photographs are appropriate for the story presented, especially when they involve vulnerable people and/or groups.
- Whether consent seems to have been appropriately handled, with consideration for relevant local and international laws and for the ability of an individual to give informed consent, for example when working with vulnerable people and children. Consider the potential impact the use and distribution of photographs via the contest could have on individuals and/or groups photographed.
- Whether necessary measures have been taken to protect identity especially when photographing vulnerable individuals and/or groups and children.
- Whether the images and stories under consideration repeat well-known examples or are distinctive.

We recognize these are often matters of judgment, but they indicate some of the issues World Press Photo deals with as it presents the winning stories to the world.

## **C - ROLES IN THE JUDGING PROCESS**

The judging process for the World Press Photo contest involves six regional juries and a global jury. It takes place in several rounds over a six-week period in January-February of each year.

We are working with six regional juries for the remote judging process: Africa, Asia, Europe, North and Central America, South America, and Southeast Asia and Oceania. Each consists of five members and judges the first three rounds of entries submitted to their region.

Each jury has a chair responsible for maintaining the integrity of the process, ensuring the deliberations are conducted in accordance with the highest standards, and making certain that all jury members are fully involved in the judging process. English is the sole operating language of the contest and the juries (translation assistance will be provided where possible).

The global jury, consisting of the 2022 Contest global jury chair and the six chairs of the regional juries, then selects the winners. The global jury is assisted by a secretary. The secretary is responsible for all procedural matters and ensures the rules and procedures are fairly and properly applied. The secretary does not contribute to debate on the merits of any entry, and has no vote in the balloting.

Each jury is supported by a jury coordinator, who is a staff member of the World Press Photo Foundation. The coordinator is the principal conduit of information between the jury and the organization on all matters related to the judging. The coordinator does not contribute to debate on the merits of any entry, and has no vote in the balloting.

In case of illness or other exceptional circumstances, World Press Photo can seek replacements. The regional juries require a minimum of three members to take a valid decision, the global jury requires a minimum of five members to be attending the judging. When judging begins, members of the jury are required to sign a statement committing themselves to following the procedures laid down in these judging procedures. They are also required to sign a non-disclosure agreement ensuring both the confidentiality of jury debates and the details of the regional and global winners until the official announcement dates, and an anti-harassment policy.

## D - GENERAL PROCEDURES

The general procedures ensure a fair judging process and must be adhered to at all times.

- (i) Jury members cannot enter the contest in the year they are judging.
- (ii) Each jury member, whether an ordinary member or chair, has one equal vote.
- (iii) Jurors cannot abstain from voting at any stage of the judging process.
- (iv) Jurors have to do the judging themselves. No other person is allowed to do the judging on their behalf.
- (v) All proceedings and deliberations of each jury are conducted in confidence. Jurors are required to sign a non-disclosure agreement to ensure they do not reveal any details of the deliberations, or the identity of regional or global winners prior to the public announcement. This means jurors cannot discuss any aspect of the entries, debates or decisions, both during the process and after the announcement of the results, with anyone other than a fellow juror.
- (vi) During the judging process, caption information and information about the background of the entrant (nationality, where they are based, gender) will be made available to the jury at certain stages.

The jury members will not be given the photographer's name, or other personal information not listed above, during the judging process. This is to preserve the anonymity of the entrants as much as possible until winners are selected.

At no stage of the process - and in no discussion either in or outside the judging process - should jury members speculate on, or reveal, any names of participating photographers, agencies or publications.

However, in the case of Open Format entries, this information might be included in the product (for example in the embedded credits at the end of videos and webdocs), which is unavoidable.

- (vii) If jury members recognize they are personally involved in submitted work, through either a personal or professional relationship, they must declare their interest openly at the beginning of any discussions on the work.
- (viii) In the global jury, the chairs represent their regional juries and present to the rest of the global jury why their regional jury has selected the entries in their region. The global jury will take into account this information when deliberating on the entries they forward to the later rounds and choosing the winners.

- (ix) The global jury must award 24 regional winners, one per category (Singles, Stories, Long-Term Projects and Open Format) per region (Africa, Asia, Europe, North and Central America, South America, and Southeast Asia and Oceania).
- (x) The global jury must award four global winners: the World Press Photo of the Year, the World Press Photo Story of the Year, the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award, and the World Press Photo Open Format Award. The global winners will be chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.
- (xi) During the final round, the jury will also identify a first and second runner-up per category, per region, in case the manipulation review leads to the exclusion of entries that were chosen as the category winners.
- (xii) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.
- (xiii) Work submitted to the contest undergoes a rigorous verification process in order to prove its authenticity, during and after judging, and before announcing the winners. This includes entry checks, manipulation review, fact-checking, and story text checking.

The manipulation review is only applicable for entries in the Single, Stories, and Long-Term Project categories, as the Open Format category welcomes a range and/or mixture of storytelling mediums. More information about the manipulation review is detailed in appendix 2 and 3.

- (xiv) The winners of the contest will be announced in two stages. First of all, the regional winners will be announced on 24 March 2022. The global winners of the World Press Photo of the Year, the World Press Photo Story of the Year, the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award, and the World Press Photo Open Format Award, will be announced on 7 April 2022.
- (xv) In situations for which the judging procedures do not provide, the secretary, in close consultation with the jury chair, the jury coordinator and the contest director, will decide how to proceed. If no agreement can be reached, the World Press Photo Foundation, in the person of its executive director, will decide on the proper procedure.

# E - JUDGING CRITERIA AND REPRESENTATION REQUIREMENT

## Judging criteria

The World Press Photo Contest rewards accurate and visually compelling photojournalism and documentary photography of the past year that share a multiplicity of relevant stories and voices.

During their deliberations the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Visual quality:** this can include creativity, technical skill and visual style, and the edit of the story (where relevant)
- **Story:** this refers to the story and/or issues covered in the photographs, its relevance or significance, and the way in which the photographer has chosen to approach the story
- **Representation:** this refers to the importance of awarding a diverse range of stories and photographers

## Representation Requirement

The core motivation behind the new regional contest model is to give a platform to more diverse accounts of our world. In order to adequately represent and contextualize stories, World Press Photo will present the jury with relevant information about the photographer in order to facilitate a more comprehensive approach to understanding and judging entries. In doing so, the judging process emphasizes the importance of context and that means acknowledging accountability, transparency and positionality in image-making. The jury is made up of industry professionals who respect the work of each entrant, and have extensive discussions in order to award the best and most insightful work.

During the judging process, information will be made available to the jury at certain stages. To ensure that judging is as fair and efficient as possible, the following information will be given in the respective rounds:

### **Round 1: No photographer information given.**

This is to ensure that the entries progressing to Round 2 are selected for their visual quality.

### **Round 2 onwards: Information about photographer nationality, where they are based, and gender will be given.**

From Round 2 onwards, jury members will be able to view and discuss remaining entries considering the nationality, location and gender of entrants.

### **Round 4 onwards: Relevant additional information given.**

From Round 4 onwards, jury members will be able to discuss additional information relating to how and why the story was made, such as motivation, the type of project (assignment/personal project) and funding. This information will be requested from the entrants left in the contest prior to Round 4.

The jury members will not be given the photographer's name, or other personal information not listed above, during the judging process. This is to preserve the anonymity of the entrants as



much as possible until winners are selected. However, in the case of Open Format entries, this information might be included in the product (for example in the embedded credits at the end of videos and webdocs), which is unavoidable.

In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:

- At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.
- \*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

This is the first year that we will provide additional photographer information to the jury, so this is a learning process, which will be thoroughly evaluated at the end of the 2022 Contest.

## **F - CODE OF ETHICS**

Jurors should be aware that entrants are required to accept the photo contest code of ethics as a condition of entry.

### **World Press Photo Contest Code of Ethics**

The World Press Photo Contest rewards the best photojournalism and documentary photography of the past year. The criteria for entries is that they are accurate and visually compelling insights about our world.

World Press Photo connects high-quality and trustworthy non-fiction reporting and storytelling with a global audience – through digital channels, exhibitions, and the yearbook. Millions of people around the world see the winning photographs and stories, often for the first time. Being a global platform gives us the responsibility to present the most accurate and compelling work.

Entrants to the World Press Photo Contest must ensure that all entered material has been created ethically and provides a fair representation of the stories and people photographed. Entrants must comply with the following code of ethics:

1. Must be aware of the influence the photographer's presence can have on a scene they photograph.
2. Must not intend to mislead by recreating or staging events. In certain cases, deliberate reenactments can be acceptable if they serve a clear purpose for the story and/or issue being documented, and the photographer must be transparent about their motivation and process. Any direct influence over the scene, such as reenactments or posed portraits, must be included in the captions.
3. Must ensure that individuals and/or groups photographed are treated with dignity and respect, and that the photographer causes no physical and/or psychological harm.
4. Must ensure that consent has been appropriately handled, with consideration for relevant local and international laws and for the ability of an individual to give informed consent, for example when working with vulnerable people and children. Consider whether individuals and/or groups are adequately informed about the potential use and distribution of photographs via the contest, and what impact that could have on them. Information about consent should be indicated in the caption.
5. Consider whether measures need to be taken to protect identity especially when photographing vulnerable individuals and/or groups and children—either when photographing or in the caption.

6. Must ensure that independence is upheld and must not pay individuals and/or groups for information or participation, or accept any form of compensation—such as gifts, money or favors—from those who may seek to influence the story.
7. Must ensure that the personal safety of everyone involved – including the photographer, fixers and individuals and/or groups photographed – is appropriately handled. Avoid taking unnecessary risks that can result in dangerous situations.
8. Respect the work of other photographers and do not plagiarize. Consider whether work repeats well-known examples or is distinctive.
9. Must ensure that the content and edit of photographs and stories present an accurate and comprehensive representation of individuals and/or groups. Consider whether graphic and violent photographs are appropriate for the story presented, especially when they involve vulnerable people.
10. Avoid reinforcing stereotypes and be aware of biases that can result in misrepresentation.
11. Ensure captions, and any other textual elements, are accurate.
12. Must be open and transparent about the entire process through which their photographs are made, and are accountable to the World Press Photo Foundation for their practice.

World Press Photo's code of ethics is in line with journalistic and documentary practices and standards. The organization reserves the right to seek clarification or explanation should concerns arise during or after the judging process.

## G - ENTRY RULES

In order to facilitate a fair entry and judging process, it is important that every entrant reads these entry rules and agrees to them when submitting their entry. These entry rules outline who can enter the contest and what can be entered.

### World Press Photo Contest Entry Rules

#### General Entry Rules

1. The World Press Photo contest is open to professional photographers working in the field of journalism and/or documentary photography. Every entrant needs to provide a document with a valid date that confirms their current professional status. Examples of documents include, but are not limited to:

- press card, stating you are working as a photographer;

OR

- at least 1 proof of publication (for example a tearsheet) from 2020 or 2021, with your name visible as credit, in either online or print format from a recognized media organization or publication;

OR

- journalism union membership card;

OR

- membership document from a recognized photographic association that shows the photographer is a professional member;

OR

- a recent letter of reference (must be from 2020 or 2021) from a photo agency, photo editor, media organization or publication, stating you have worked for them as a photographer;

OR

- if you are not able to provide proof that meets the above criteria, you may register with alternative (multiple) documents so that we can gain a better understanding of your professional status.

The organization reserves the right to ask for additional information to help clarify the entrant's professional status.

2. Team entries of two or more photographers are allowed. Proof of professional status must be provided for each team member.
3. The photographer(s) must be the author(s) of the photographs submitted in their name.
4. The photographer(s), agent or representative entering on their behalf, must be the copyright holder(s) or have been authorized by the copyright holder(s) to submit the photographs.

5. Entries must comply with the categories, as described [here](#).
6. Entries must meet the technical requirements. [Read the technical requirements for the different categories here](#).
7. Photographs can be submitted whether or not they have been published.
8. Photographs taken at restricted events are not accepted (i.e. events where only photographers commissioned by those organizing the event have access, for example photographers commissioned by governments, political parties or corporations).
9. All entries must have accurate captions and descriptions, written in English. If the captions have been translated, please also provide the original caption. Captions must contain all the information described in the [guidance on captions](#).
10. All entries must comply with the World Press Photo Code of Ethics. [Read the Code of Ethics here](#).
11. In the later rounds of judging, entrants may be required to provide additional information about their remaining entries.
12. Entries can only be submitted via Picter, the official contest entry platform.
13. The deadline for creating an account on the contest entry platform Picter, completing registration and for submitting entries to the 2022 Contest is Tuesday 11 January 2022, 12.00 (noon) Central European Time.
14. Members of the World Press Photo staff, Supervisory Board, International Advisory Committee and 2022 Contest jury are not permitted to enter the 2022 Contest.

#### **Additional entry rules for the Singles, Stories and Long-Term Projects categories**

15. A photograph can only be entered once, either as a single or as part of a story, or as part of a Long-Term Project.
16. Photographs must not show the name of the photographer, agency, or publication, or any other information (these details can be included in the metadata of the photograph but must not be visible on the photograph itself).
17. Photographs entered to Singles, Stories and Long-Term Projects must comply with our rules on manipulation and must not be altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame. [Read the rules on manipulation here](#).
18. Entrants must provide file(s) as recorded by the camera for all images that proceed to

the final stages of the contest. These file(s) will be requested and studied confidentially from 14-28 February 2022. Failure to provide these files when requested will lead to the exclusion of the entry.

### **Additional entry rules for the Open Format category**

19. Entries containing video must either have English-language audio and/or text or have English subtitles.
20. Projects entered to the Open Format category can contain photographs that have also been entered to the Singles, Stories or Long-Term Projects categories.

### **Terms and Conditions**

21. Copyright holders retain copyright of their work. For awarded entries and honorable mentions, copyright holders grant the World Press Photo Foundation unlimited non-exclusive use of high-resolution photographs and Open Format entries for activities in all media, including social media, online and print, in relation to the contest, the exhibition, the yearbook, the public archive, and all promotional and educational activities for and under the auspices of the World Press Photo Foundation, without any remuneration being due.
22. For all entries except awarded entries, copyright holders grant the World Press Photo Foundation non-exclusive use of low-resolution photographs and Open Format entries in a non-public archive for its educational and research activities, without any remuneration being due.
23. The copyright holders represent and warrant that submission of the entries does not breach any law, and further that no third party can hold any claims or any objections regarding the rights granted to the World Press Photo Foundation specified in articles 21 and 22. The copyright holders will hold the World Press Photo Foundation harmless of any claims from third parties related hereto.
24. The Entry Rules and any dispute, proceedings or claim of whatever nature arising out of or in any way relating to the Entry Rules (including any non-contractual disputes or claims), shall be governed by Dutch law.
25. Any dispute arising from the Entry Rules (whether contractual or non-contractual) shall be decided solely and exclusively by the competent court of Amsterdam.
26. The conditions set out in the Entry Rules are binding, and the World Press Photo Foundation reserves the right to refuse or exclude any entry at its own discretion.

## H - CATEGORIES

All submitted entries were entered in one of the following categories:

### **Singles**

- Single frame photographs.
- All singles must have been shot in 2021.
- All singles will be eligible for the World Press Photo of the Year award.

### **Stories**

- Stories can contain between 3 and 10 single frame photographs.
- All photographs entered into the stories category must have been shot in 2020 or 2021. At least one photograph in a story must have been shot in 2021.
- All stories will be eligible for the World Press Story of the Year award.

### **Long-Term Projects**

- Projects on a single theme containing between 24-30 single frame photographs.
- An entry must contain photographs from at least three different years, and a minimum of four photographs must have been shot in 2021.
- All projects will be eligible for the World Press Photo Long-Term Project award.

### **Open Format**

- The Open Format category welcomes a range and/or mixture of storytelling mediums (including but not limited to): Polyptychs; multiple exposure images; stitched panoramas; photographic collages; interactive documentaries (for example AR, VR, web-based etc); short documentary videos of up to 15 minutes.
- The main visual content of the project must be still photography, but can be presented in combination with (but not limited to) video, animation, graphics, illustrations, sound or text.
- Entries in this category must have been produced or first published in 2021.
- All projects that include text or audio elements must either have English-language audio and/or text or must be subtitled in English.
- Entries in this category must be accessible online.
- All projects will be eligible for the World Press Photo Open Format award.

# I - PRIZES

For the 2022 World Press Photo Contest, the winners will be chosen by regional and global juries. Regional juries, made up of five professionals from and/or working in that region, will first prepare a selection of entries per region. From this selection, the global jury, made up of the six regional jury chairs and one additional member, will then award the regional and global winners.

## **Regional winners**

24 regional winners will be awarded, one per category (Singles, Stories, Long-Term Projects and Open Format) per region (Africa, Asia, Europe, North and Central America, South America, and Southeast Asia and Oceania).

Every regional winner of the contest receives:

- A monetary prize of €1,000
- Inclusion in the annual World Press Photo year-long worldwide exhibition
- Inclusion in the annual collectible yearbook, available in multiple languages with a worldwide distribution of more than 30,000 copies
- Publication in the online collection and a personal profile on World Press Photo's website
- Promotion on World Press Photo's platforms
- Invitation to a winners' event
- A physical award

In addition, winners are often featured in major publications and invited to speak at public events, exhibition openings, and lectures throughout the year.

## **Global winners**

The global jury selects the four global winners: the World Press Photo of the Year, the World Press Photo Story of the Year, the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award, and the World Press Photo Open Format Award. The global winners will be chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.

In addition to their regional prizes, global winners will also receive:

- An additional monetary prize of €5,000
- An additional physical award

## **Honorable Mention**

In addition to the regional and global prizes, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.



## **J - JUDGING ROUNDS**

The contest has six voting rounds: the first, second, third, fourth and fifth rounds and the finals.

### **(I) Specific responsibilities of each jury**

Each of the juries is assigned a specific responsibility in this process:

- a) The six regional juries will judge the first three rounds of all categories of their respective regions until a certain number of entries are left in the contest: 20 for the Singles and Stories, and 12 for Long-Term Projects and Open Format.

If the Long-Term Project and Open Format categories in a region should contain fewer than 12 entries to start with, the regional jury will view and judge them until at least six entries remain in the contest.

- b) The global jury will judge all categories as of the fourth round until the winners are chosen.
- c) Entries voted out by the regional juries cannot be reintroduced by the global jury.

## **(II) Round: 1**

**Categories: all**

**Jury: regional juries**

*The goal of the first round is to vote on all entries in the judged category and select what to forward to round 2. There is no specific number that the entries in this round have to be reduced to.*

- a) An entry needs at least one vote in order to remain in the contest.
- b) Entries in the Open Format category in round 1, should be viewed for a maximum of four minutes.
- c) Voting will be done anonymously.
- d) At this stage, caption information and information about the background of the entrant (nationality, where they are based, gender) cannot be consulted yet. This is to ensure that the entries progressing to round 2 are selected for their visual quality.
- e) At this stage, entries may not be transferred to a different category or region. Transferring to another category, within the same region, will be possible from round 2 onwards.

If the jury finds a particularly strong entry made in multiple regions that they want to transfer to another region, they will keep it in their region. After the third round, the chair will report proposed transfers to the global jury, and they can decide whether they want to transfer the entry.

- f) At this stage, if a juror wants to promote an individual photograph from a story to the next round, the whole story needs to be promoted. In round 3 it will be possible to select singles from stories voted out and transfer them to the singles category (or in case of Long-Term Projects to one of the singles categories).
- g) There will not be a call after the first round, the first call will be after the second round.

### **(III) Round: 2**

**Categories: all**

**Jury: regional juries**

*The goal of the second round is to reduce the number of entries in the judged category to a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 45 entries.*

- a) An entry needs at least two votes in order to remain in contest.
- b) Entries in the Open Format category in round 2, should be viewed for a maximum of six minutes.
- c) Voting will be done anonymously.
- d) During the call concluding the second round, the jury can request specific information concerning the who, what, when, where or why in an entry if this is crucial for the understanding of the story. At this point, a summarized edit of the caption is not available yet (will be from round 3 onwards). Specific questions will be looked up in the original caption that the entrant submitted only if the jury deems this crucial to the understanding of the story.
- e) From round 2 onward information about photographer nationality, where they are based, and gender will be available, for the jury to consider during their discussions.
- f) In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:
  - At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.

*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*
- g) At this stage, if the jury wants to transfer an entry to another category, it is possible to transfer within the same region. An entry needs at least two votes in order to transfer categories.

If the jury finds a particularly strong entry made in multiple regions that they want to transfer to another region, they will keep it in their region. After the third round the chair will report proposed transfers to the global jury, and they can decide whether they want to transfer the entry.

- h) At this stage, if a juror wants to promote an individual photograph from a story to the

next round, the whole story needs to be promoted. In round 3 it will be possible to select singles from stories voted out and transfer them to the Singles category.

- i) At the end of the round during the online call, each jury member may propose to re-introduce one entry per category that has not been promoted on to the next round. Re-introduction requires at least two votes.
- j) At the end of the second round, a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 45 entries must remain in the contest.
- k) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.

## **(IV) Round: 3**

**Categories: all**

**Jury: regional juries**

*The goal of the third round is to reduce the number of entries in the judged category to a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 22 entries in the Singles and Stories categories, and to a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 14 in the Long-Term Projects and Open Format categories.*

- a) An entry needs at least two votes in order to remain in contest.
- b) Entries in the Open Format category in round 3, should be viewed for a maximum of 15 minutes.
- c) Voting will be done anonymously.
- d) The who, what, when, where and why in a single or story will be available on the judging platform Pictor (the 'override' of the single caption or story description).

Please note: this is an edit by World Press Photo based on the entered caption that summarizes the basic information of good journalism to facilitate a clear and fair judging process.

Please also note: for singles that have been taken out of stories, an edit of the caption will not be available. The jury administrator will read out the who, what, when, where and why from the caption of the entrant.

- e) Information about photographer nationality, where they are based, and gender is available, for the jury to consider during their discussions.
- f) In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:
  - At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.

*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*
- g) At this stage, if the jury wants to transfer an entry to another category, it is possible to transfer within the same region. An entry needs at least two votes in order to transfer categories.

If the jury finds a particularly strong entry made in multiple regions that they want to transfer to another region, they will keep it in their region. After the third round the chair will report proposed transfers to the global jury, and they can decide whether they want to transfer the entry.

- h) If a story has been voted out, single images from stories can be promoted into the Singles category with two votes, with a maximum of two singles that can be transferred from the same story in total.

For Long-Term Projects, from projects voted out, singles from 2021 can be extracted. At the end of the round, an additional vote will be held for all the extracted singles. A transfer to the singles category requires two votes.

- i) At the end of the round during the online call, each jury member may propose to re-introduce one entry per category that has not been promoted to the next round. Re-introduction requires at least two votes.
- j) At the end of the third round a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 22 entries in the Singles and Stories categories, and a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 14 in the Long-Term Projects and Open Format categories, must remain in the contest.
- k) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.

**(V) Round: 4**  
**Categories: all**  
**Jury: Global Jury**

*The goal of the fourth round is to reduce the number of entries in the judged category to a minimum of six and a maximum of nine entries.*

- a) Round 4 starts with a preview of the entries still in the contest.
- b) Entries in the Open Format category in round 4, should be viewed for a maximum of 15 minutes.
- c) Voting will be done anonymously.
- d) An entry needs at least four votes in order to remain in contest.
- e) In the fourth round the jury will alternate between negative and positive voting – starting with a round of negative voting.

Negative voting means it requires four votes from the jury to take an entry out of the contest. Positive voting means it requires four votes from the jury to keep an entry in the contest.

- f) Compact descriptions of the who, what, when, where and why in a single or story are available and can be requested by the jury at any time.

Please note: this is an edit by World Press Photo based on the entered caption by the entrant. The captions are summarized in line with the basic information of good journalism, to facilitate a clear and fair judging process for all entries left in the contest. The original caption by the entrant is available and the jury can ask for specific additional information from it.

- g) From round 4 onwards, additional information relating to how and why the story was made, such as motivation, the type of project (assignment/personal project) and funding, will be available for jury members to discuss.
- h) In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:
  - At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.

*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they*

*have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

- i) If the jury wants to transfer an entry to another category, it requires at least four votes.
- j) If the jury finds a particularly strong entry made in multiple regions that they want to transfer to another region, the jury may transfer an entry to a different region with four votes, including the vote of the chair of the region the entry will be moved to.
- k) If a story has been voted out, each jury member may nominate one photograph from the story to be entered into the singles section of that same region. This transfer requires four votes.
- l) At the end of the round each jury member may propose to re-introduce one entry per category that has not been promoted to the next round. Re-introduction requires at least four votes.
- m) At the end of the fourth round a minimum of six and a maximum of nine entries per category need to remain in the contest.

If after the round of negative voting a minimum of six or a maximum of nine entries remain, the fourth round is finished. If less than six entries remain, the jury will revert to a round of positive voting on only those entries taken out of contest by the previous round of negative voting. If more than nine entries remain, the jury will revert to a positive vote on these entries still in contest.

If after the round of positive voting a minimum of six or a maximum of nine entries remain, the fourth round is finished. If less than six entries remain, the jury will revert to a round of negative voting on only those entries taken out of contest by the previous round of positive voting. If more than nine entries remain, the jury will revert to a negative vote on these entries still in contest.

If after the round of negative voting a minimum of six or a maximum of nine entries remain, the fourth round is finished. If less than six or more than nine entries remain, the jury will follow the same alternating procedure of positive and negative voting until a minimum of six or a maximum of nine entries remain.

- n) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.



## **(VI) Round: 5**

**Categories: all**

**Jury: Global Jury**

*The goal of the fifth round is to reduce the number of entries in the judged category to three entries per category, per region. The winners will be determined in the following and last round.*

- a) In the fifth round, the jury will view all entries and discuss them before voting.
- b) Entries in the Open Format category in round 5, should be viewed for a maximum of 15 minutes.
- c) Voting will be done anonymously.
- d) An entry needs at least five votes in order to remain in contest.
- e) Compact descriptions of the who, what, when, where and why in a single or story are available and can be requested by the jury at any time.

Please note: this is an edit by World Press Photo based on the entered caption by the entrant. The captions are summarized in line with the basic information of good journalism, to facilitate a clear and fair judging process for all entries left in the contest. The original caption by the entrant is available and the jury can ask for specific additional information from it.

- f) Additional information relating to how and why the story was made, such as motivation, the type of project (assignment/personal project) and funding, will be available for jury members to discuss.
- g) In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:
  - At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.

*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*
- h) If the jury wants to transfer an entry to another category, it requires at least five votes.
- i) If the jury finds a particularly strong entry made in multiple regions that they want to

transfer to another region, the jury may transfer an entry to a different region with five votes, including the vote of the chair of the region the entry will be moved to.

- j) If a story has been voted out, each jury member may nominate one photograph from the story to be entered into the singles section of that same category. This transfer requires four votes because the singles have yet to be voted on in this round.
- k) At the end of the round, each jury member may propose to re-introduce one entry per category that has not been promoted to the next round. Re-introduction requires at least five votes.
- l) At the end of the fifth round, three entries per category need to remain in the contest.

If after the first round of voting three entries remain, the fifth round is finished.

If after the first round of voting less than three entries remain, the jury will revert to a round of positive voting on only those entries taken out of contest by the previous round of voting.

If after the first round of voting more than three entries remain, the jury will revert to a round of negative voting on these entries still in the contest. Negative voting means it requires five votes from the jury to take an entry out of the contest.

After three rounds of voting that leads to less or more than three entries, the vote will be decided by a simple majority of four votes.

- m) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.

## **(VII) Round: 6 (finals)**

**Categories: all**

**Jury: Global Jury**

*The goal of the finals is to choose one winner per category, per region. A first and second runner-up per category, per region, will also be identified, in case the manipulation review leads to the exclusion of entries that were chosen as the category winners.*

- a) All finalists are presented to the jury with a time allowance to discuss the choices made and to check whether themes and quality of finalists are in balance.
- b) Compact descriptions of the who, what, when, where and why in a single or story are available and can be requested by the jury at any time.

Please note: this is an edit by World Press Photo based on the entered caption by the entrant. The captions are summarized in line with the basic information of good journalism, to facilitate a clear and fair judging process for all entries left in the contest. The original caption by the entrant is available and the jury can ask for specific additional information from it.

- c) Additional information relating to how and why the story was made, such as motivation, the type of project (assignment/personal project) and funding, will be available for jury members to discuss.
- d) In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:
  - At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.

*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*
- e) Each jury member may propose to re-introduce one entry per category that has not been promoted to the finals. Re-introduction requires a unanimous vote.
- f) In categories where the finals have not taken place yet, the jury may transfer entries made in multiple regions, to another region with at least five votes, including the vote of the chair of the region the entry will be moved to. In categories where the finals have already taken place, a transfer requires a unanimous vote.
- g) If a story has been voted out, each jury member may nominate one photograph from the story to be entered into a singles category. If a single is transferred to a category

that has not yet been voted on in this round, the transfer requires five votes. If a single is transferred to a category where the winner has already been selected, a transfer requires a unanimous vote, and a re-vote to select a new winner.

- h) Ranking: for each category in each region the jury must allocate 10 points to the three shortlisted entries to identify the winner, the first runner-up, and the second runner-up. The first place may be given no more than 7 points and the second place may be given no more than 4 points. Therefore the following combinations are possible (in any order):

7 3 0  
7 2 1  
6 4 0  
6 3 1  
6 2 2  
5 4 1  
5 3 2  
4 4 2  
4 3 3

- i) During the online ballots the jury members are not permitted to discuss their votes.
- j) The admin team will declare the results to the jury.
- k) In the case of two or more winning entries receiving the same number of votes, an online ballot between the equal finalists will take place, which requires at least five votes. This procedure will be repeated twice and should they receive the same number of votes for a third time, the simple majority will decide the vote.
- n) The reversal of the jury's decisions in the final round of a category can only occur by unanimous decision of the jury in an online secret ballot.
- o) In addition to the regional and global winners, the jury may choose to draw attention to an entry that deserves special recognition but that did not meet all of the judging criteria by awarding it an Honorable Mention. The jury may give a maximum of one Honorable Mention per region.
- p) To remember: The winners of the contest will be announced in two stages. First of all, the regional winners of all categories will be announced on 24 March 2022. The global winners of the World Press Photo of the Year, the World Press Photo Story of the Year, the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award, and the World Press Photo Open Format Award, will be announced on 7 April 2022.

## K - WORLD PRESS PHOTO OF THE YEAR

*The World Press Photo of the Year award honors a visually creative and skillfully made photograph that documents and represents an important event, moment or issue of 2021.*

During their deliberations the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Visual quality:** this can include creativity, technical skill and visual style
- **Story:** this refers to the story and/or issues covered in the photographs, its relevance or significance, and the way in which the photographer has chosen to approach the story
- **Representation:** this refers to the importance of awarding a diverse range of stories and photographers

The Photo of the Year is chosen after the jury has determined all regional winners, and is chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.

In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of global winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:

- At least one local\* winner per region;
- At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.  
*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

The World Press Photo of the Year is decided according to the following process:

- a) Jurors will vote for the World Press Photo of the Year and the World Press Photo Story of the Year in the same session with the shortlists for both awards considered at the same time. The results of the votes for each award will be concluded together.

The selection of the Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award will take place the next day of judging. When selecting the Story of the Year and the Photo of the Year, the jury will take the shortlist for Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award, which are the regional winners for Long-Term Projects and Open Format, into consideration.

- b) Jurors are presented with the eligible entries and select their shortlist.
- c) The total number of eligible entries is reduced to two photographs through a series of voting rounds requiring five votes to keep photographs in the contest, followed by a voting round requiring five votes to eliminate photographs from the contest. This vote can be done by a show of hands.
- d) The final vote between the last two photographs will be done by written, secret ballot.

- e) Each member of the jury can only vote for one of the two remaining photographs.
- f) The World Press Photo of the Year award requires a supermajority of five votes.
- g) The jury will deliberate and, if needed, successive secret ballots will be held until five votes are cast for one of the two photographs under consideration.
- h) After the results of the votes for Photo of the Year and Story of the Year have been announced, the vote can be reopened with a unanimous vote of the jury. In this case, each juror may re-introduce a maximum of one entry and the judging will be restarted and be revoted according to procedure.

## L - WORLD PRESS PHOTO STORY OF THE YEAR

*The World Press Photo Story of the Year award honors a visually creative, skillfully made and edited photo story that documents and represents an important event, period or issue of 2021.*

During their deliberations the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Visual quality:** this can include creativity, technical skill and visual style, and the edit of the story
- **Story:** this refers to the story and/or issues covered in the photographs, its relevance or significance, and the way in which the photographer has chosen to approach the story
- **Representation:** this refers to the importance of awarding a diverse range of stories and photographers

The Story of the Year is chosen after the jury has determined all regional winners, and is chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.

In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of global winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:

- At least one local\* winner per region;
- At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.  
*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

The World Press Photo Story of the Year is decided according to the following process:

- a) Jurors will vote for the World Press Photo Story of the Year and the World Press Photo of the Year in the same session with the shortlists for both awards considered at the same time. The results of the votes for each award will be concluded together.

The selection of the Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award will take place the next day of judging. When selecting the Story of the Year and the Photo of the Year, the jury will take the shortlist for Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award, which are the regional winners for Long-Term Projects and Open Format, into consideration.

- b) Jurors are first presented with the eligible stories.
- c) The total number of eligible entries is reduced to two stories through a series of voting rounds requiring five votes to keep stories in the contest, followed by a voting round requiring five votes to eliminate stories from the contest. This vote can be done by show of hands.
- d) The final vote will be done by a written, secret ballot.

- e) Each member of the jury can only vote for one of the two remaining stories.
- f) The World Press Photo Story of the Year award requires a supermajority of five votes.
- g) The jury will deliberate and, if needed, successive online ballots will be held until five votes are cast for one of the two entries under consideration.
- h) After the results of the votes for Story of the Year and Photo of the Year have been announced, the vote can be reopened with a unanimous vote of the jury. In this case, each juror may re-introduce a maximum of one entry and the judging will be restarted and be revoted according to procedure.



## M - WORLD PRESS PHOTO LONG-TERM PROJECT AWARD

*The World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award honors a visually creative, skillfully made and edited photo project that documents and represents an important story encompassing at least 3 years.*

During their deliberations the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Visual quality:** this can include creativity, technical skill and visual style, and the edit of the story
- **Story:** this refers to the story and/or issues covered in the photographs, its relevance or significance, and the way in which the photographer has chosen to approach the story
- **Representation:** this refers to the importance of awarding a diverse range of stories and photographers

The Long-Term Project Award is chosen after the jury has determined all regional winners, and is chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.

In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of global winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:

- At least one local\* winner per region;
  - At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.
- \*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

The World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award is decided according to the following process:

- a) Jurors will vote for the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award and the World Press Photo Open Format Award in the same session with the shortlists for both awards considered at the same time. The results of the votes for each award will be concluded together.

The selection of the Photo of the Year and the Story of the Year will have taken place on the previous day of judging. When selecting the Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award, the jury will take the winners of the Photo of the Year and the Story of the Year into consideration.

- b) Jurors are first presented with the eligible entries.
- c) The total number of eligible entries is reduced to two entries through a series of voting rounds requiring five votes to keep entries in the contest, followed by a voting round requiring five votes to eliminate entries from the contest. This vote can be done by show of hands.

- d) The final vote will be done by a written, secret ballot.
- e) Each member of the jury can only vote for one of the two remaining entries.
- f) The World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award requires a supermajority of five votes.
- g) The jury will deliberate and, if needed, successive online ballots will be held until five votes are cast for one of the two entries under consideration.
- h) After the results of the votes for Long-Term Project Award and the Open Format Award have been announced, the vote can be reopened with a unanimous vote of the jury. In this case, each juror may re-introduce a maximum of one entry and the judging will be restarted and be revoted according to procedure.

## N - WORLD PRESS PHOTO OPEN FORMAT AWARD

*The World Press Photo Open Format Award honors a visually creative, skillfully made and edited photo-based project that documents and represents an important story.*

During their deliberations the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Visual quality:** this can include creativity, technical skill and visual style, and the edit of the story
- **Story:** this refers to the story and/or issues covered in the project, its relevance or significance, and the way in which the photographer has chosen to approach the story
- **Representation:** this refers to the importance of awarding a diverse range of stories and photographers

The Open Format award is chosen after the jury has determined all regional winners, and is chosen from the regional winners in their respective categories.

In order to ensure that the jury awards a diverse group of global winners, World Press Photo has established the following representation criteria:

- At least one local\* winner per region;
- At least one winner identifying as female or non-binary per region.  
*\*Local is considered as a photographer who is from the country (and/or community) in which the story is being covered. This can either mean that they have a nationality, or have been living and working in the country for at least ten years.*

The World Press Photo Open Format Award is decided according to the following process:

- a) Jurors will vote for the World Press Photo Open Format Award and the World Press Photo Long-Term Project Award in the same session with the shortlists for both awards considered at the same time. The results of the votes for each award will be concluded together.

The selection of the Photo of the Year and the Story of the Year will have taken place the previous day of judging. When selecting the Open Format Award and the Long-Term Project Award, the jury will take the winners of the Photo of the Year and the Story of the Year into consideration.

- b) Jurors are first presented with the eligible entries.
- c) The total number of eligible entries is reduced to two entries through a series of voting rounds requiring five votes to keep entries in the contest, followed by a voting round requiring five votes to eliminate entries from the contest. This vote can be done by show of hands.
- d) The final vote will be done by a written, secret ballot.

- e) Each member of the jury can only vote for one of the two remaining entries.
- f) The World Press Photo Open Format Award requires a supermajority of five votes.
- g) The jury will deliberate and, if needed, successive online ballots will be held until five votes are cast for one of the two entries under consideration.
- h) After the results of the votes for Open Format Award and the Long-Term Project Award have been announced, the vote can be reopened with a unanimous vote of the jury. In this case, each juror may re-introduce a maximum of one entry and the judging will be restarted and be revoted according to procedure.

## O - VERIFICATION PROCESS

The World Press Photo Contest has a verification process with four elements to ensure compliance with its code of ethics and entry rules.

### (I) Entry checks for:

#### Single, Stories and Long-Term Project entries

Our team conducts several checks to ensure entries are in line with the entry rules, including: as only single frame photographs can be entered to these categories, we check to see if there are multiple exposures, polyptychs, stitched images or photographs with added texts or added borders; we also check whether creation and publication dates are according to the rules; and to spot any other problems that might have occurred when uploading to our entry platform.

#### Open Format entries

As stated in the [entry rules](#), entries containing video must either have English-language audio and/or text or have English subtitles.

### (II) Manipulation review for Single, Stories and Long-Term Project entries

Entry rule 17 states photographs “must not be altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame.” For full details please see the entry rules on manipulation on the [what counts as manipulation page](#) which describes and shows what alterations to the content of a photograph are not acceptable.

There are two exceptions to this: (i) cropping that removes extraneous details is permitted; (ii) sensor dust or scratches on scans of negatives can be removed.

The process for ensuring compliance with this rule takes place later in the judging process. Entrants whose photographs remain in the contest and are eligible to progress are contacted between 14-28 February 2022 and required to provide the file as recorded by the camera. These files could be:

- RAW file(s)  
OR
- Full format JPEG file(s). These must be as delivered by the camera, and provided in a series showing at least seven frames (three frames before the contest entry, the frame of the actual contest entry, and three frames after the contest entry)  
OR
- For smartphones, the unedited photograph emailed directly from the phone to [contest@worldpressphoto.org](mailto:contest@worldpressphoto.org) including three frames before the contest entry, the frame of the actual contest entry, and three frames after the contest entry

OR

- Unprocessed unedited positive scans of film negative(s), plus a contact sheet to show a series of at least seven frames (three frames before the contest entry, the frame of the actual contest entry, and three frames after the contest entry).

Failure to provide these files will lead to the elimination of the entry, making it ineligible for a possible award.

Two independent digital analysts compare original files with contest entries to determine whether the content of any photograph (either a single photograph or frame in a story) has been altered.

The exact process of the manipulation review for the jury is detailed in appendix 2 and 3.

### **(III) Fact-checking**

During the judging process, independent analysts will check the context in which each remaining image or story was produced, distributed and/or published. This could include (but is not limited to): if the persons named in the caption are in the photo; if an animal is depicted, is the correct species named; is the location accurate; is the date correct; etc.

Entry rule 9 states “all entries must have accurate captions,” and the guidance on captions (see Appendix 1) details what information must be provided in captions.

The process for ensuring compliance with this rule takes place after the jury decides on the winners. An independent fact-checking team will review all captions to verify the completeness and accuracy of the information given. They will also examine the metadata in the photograph files.

The fact-checking process will be where clause 2 of the code of ethics (that entrants “must not intend to mislead by recreating or staging events”) is handled. Captions must explain the circumstances in which a photograph was taken. If the photographer influenced the scene in any way, or gave directions to a subject to pose in any way for a portrait, this must be disclosed in the caption.

### **(IV) Story text**

Once the jury has selected the winners, the World Press Photo Foundation will deploy a research team to gather background information on each photograph and story. While we rely on the photographers for the basic captions, which are lightly edited for accuracy and clarity, we often need additional information. This is so we can provide - in the yearbook, exhibition and on the website - the full story that gives the context for each photograph and story. The foundation is

responsible for the content of this text. If required information is missing or incorrect, photographers will be contacted and asked to provide the correct information.

## **P - PROCESS FOR ISSUES ARISING AFTER PRIZES HAVE BEEN AWARDED**

From the conclusion of the 2022 Contest onwards, if, at any time after a winner is announced, an entry is alleged to have broken one or more of the entry rules, or contravened the code of ethics, or an entrant has allegedly engaged in discrimination or harrasment, the allegation will be considered.

The process for determining the status of an award in these circumstances is as follows:

- (i) The allegations must be presented to the World Press Photo Foundation, in the person of the executive director, in a written statement containing supporting evidence. The executive director can seek legal and other advice, and will determine whether the allegation warrants either an investigation or a decision. The World Press Photo Foundation, in the person of the executive director, can also initiate an investigation.
- (ii) If an investigation is considered necessary by the World Press Photo Foundation, the foundation will convene an independent fact-checking team and ask it to conduct an investigation of those allegations, and present the foundation, in the person of the executive director, a written report.
- (iii) A post-award review panel will be convened, comprising four members - the executive director of the World Press Photo Foundation, the chair of the global jury, the chair of the regional jury the award was won in, and a lawyer specialized in the field of the allegation to review the case.
- (iv) The post-award review panel must reach a unanimous decision on whether or not the entry should be disqualified.
- (v) In the event the post-award review panel cannot reach a unanimous decision, the World Press Photo Foundation, in the person of the executive director, will decide whether or not the entry should be disqualified.
- (vi) Once a decision has been reached, the World Press Photo Foundation will publish a statement on the investigation and the decision.

If a winner is disqualified, the award will be revoked and the entry will be removed from the World Press Photo website and if applicable from other output.



## APPENDIX 1 - CAPTION GUIDANCE

Jurors should be aware that entrants are required to provide accurate captions.

This is the guidance provided to entrants on what information has to be in a caption:

Captions must be accurate and answer the five basic questions of good journalism (who, what, where, when, why). All entries must have accurate captions and descriptions, written in English. If the captions have been translated, please also provide the caption in the original language.

The first part of the caption must:

- Describe who is in the photograph(s) and/or project and what is going on within the photograph(s) and/or project.
- Name the city, region or state, and country where the photograph(s) and/or project was made.
- Provide the date the photograph(s) and/or project was made.
- Captions must give attribution for actions not seen (e.g., the scene of an accident where more than 10 died, according to police).

The second part of the caption is used to give context to the news event or describe why the photograph(s) and/or project is significant. Any information that is included must be sourced.

The final part must explain the circumstances in which a photograph was taken. If the photographer influenced the scene in any way, or gave directions to a subject to pose in any way for a portrait, this must be disclosed. Information about consent should be indicated in the caption as stated in article 4 of the code of ethics.

## APPENDIX 2 - MANIPULATION GUIDANCE

Many things can count as manipulation in photography, but for the World Press Photo Contest, the Code of Ethics and Entry Rules focus on two important issues. Entrants are advised about these criteria when they submit their photographs.

### Entry rules on manipulation

Photographs entered into the Singles, Stories and Long-Term Projects categories must comply with our rules on manipulation. The Open Format category welcomes a range and/or mixture of storytelling mediums, hence the following rules are not applicable (for more information about the Open Format category, see [here](#)).

Only single frame photographs will be accepted. The following are not accepted:

- Multiple exposures, polyptychs (diptychs, triptychs, and so forth).
- Stitched panoramas, either produced in-camera or with image editing software.

The content of a photograph must not be altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame. There are two exceptions:

- (i) Cropping that removes extraneous details is permitted;
- (ii) Removing sensor dust or scratches on scans of negatives is permitted.

Adjustments of color or conversion to grayscale that do not alter content are permitted, with two exceptions:

- (i) Changes in color may not result in significant changes in hue, to such an extent that the processed colors diverge from the original colors.
- (ii) Changes in density, contrast, color and/or saturation levels that significantly alter content by obscuring or eliminating information in the photograph are not permitted. The jury determines which changes are significant, following the video guidance below on what counts as manipulation.

See below for details on what is, or is not, acceptable.

### 1. The first thing that counts as manipulation is intending to mislead by staging events.

The code of ethics says photographers must not intend to mislead by recreating or staging events. In certain cases, deliberate reenactments can be acceptable if they serve a clear purpose for the story and/or issue being documented, and the photographer must be transparent about their motivation and process. Any direct influence over the scene, such as reenactments or posed portraits, must be included in the captions.

- Staging means arranging something in order to mislead the audience.
- Setting-up or recreating a scene means directing the individuals and/or groups being photographed to do things, or asking them to repeat things they were doing prior to the photographer's arrival.

Staging and recreating events are different from deliberate reenactments and posing for portraits. Portraits are a special genre of photography. They are made through a relationship between the subject and the photographer in which the subject poses for the photographer. However, for the contest, portraits must not present subjects doing things they would not ordinarily do. Portraits must not mislead viewers by faking a scene, meaning they cannot present scenes that appear as something other than they are.

For any portrait, whether entered as a single or as part of a story, directions given to a subject must be disclosed in the caption. Portraits are subject to the same rules on manipulation stated in the entry rules. This means, for example, the face and body of the subject(s) cannot be altered through the addition or removal of physical marks.

## **2. The second thing that counts as manipulation is adding or removing content from the photograph.**

It is important to note that processing by itself is not manipulation, therefore adjustments of color or conversion to grayscale that do not alter content are permitted.

Visual examples are provided on the [website](#).

There are two types of color adjustment that count as manipulation:

- Changes in color may not result in significant changes in hue, to such an extent that the processed colors diverge from the original colors.
- Changes in density, contrast, color and/or saturation levels that significantly alter content by obscuring or eliminating elements in the photograph are not permitted. The jury determines which changes are significant, following the video guidance (provided on our [website](#)) on what counts as manipulation.

Altering the content of a photograph by “adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame” is manipulation and makes an entry ineligible for an award.

The examples given here come from alterations in previous contests. They do not specify every imaginable form of manipulation. Alterations that count as manipulation include, but are not limited to, the following.

It is not acceptable to remove things such as:

- physical marks on body
- small objects in the photograph
- reflected light spots
- shadows
- extraneous items on photograph’s border that could not be removed by crop

Visual examples are provided on the [website](#).

It is not acceptable to add things. This includes, but is not limited, to:

- cloning in highlights, enhancing body, or costume size
- painting in object details
- photo montage
- replicating material on the border of a photograph to make a neat crop possible.

Visual examples of altering content of a photograph are provided on our [website](#).

### **3. The consequences of detecting manipulation in an entry.**

Entrants whose work has been identified during the verification process as having content altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame, will be excluded and, if applicable, all other entries from that entrant will be excluded from the contest and the entrant will be informed after the winners have been announced.

Entrants whose work has been identified during the verification process as having content altered through changes in color (resulting in significant changes in hue, to such an extent that the processed colors diverge from the original colors), or changes in density, contrast, color and/or saturation levels that significantly alter content (by obscuring or eliminating information in the picture), will be contacted for an explanation before the jury makes a final decision on whether to exclude the entry. Once contacted, entrants have 24 hours to respond. The entrant will be informed of the final decision after the winners have been announced. If the jury decides to exclude a photograph that is part of a story, the remaining photographs in the story that are free from manipulation can be transferred to the Singles category.

## APPENDIX 3 - MANIPULATION REVIEW

The manipulation review is only for the Singles, Stories and Long-Term Projects categories. The Open Format category welcomes a range and/or mixture of storytelling mediums, hence the following process is not applicable (for more information about the Open Format category, see [here](#)).

- a) The manipulation review will be conducted by two independent forensic analysts retained by the World Press Photo Foundation.
- b) The workflow of the analysts is described on the World Press Photo website [here](#).
- c) Entrants are contacted and required to provide file(s) as recorded by the camera for their entry. If entrants can not or do not provide these files, their entry will be ineligible for a possible award.
- d) After following the workflow, the analysts present a technical report to the jury identifying which, if any, photographs have had content altered, noting the details of the alterations.
- e) Entrants whose work has been identified during the verification process as having content altered by adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing people and/or objects from within the frame, will be excluded and, if applicable, all other entries from that entrant will be excluded from the contest and the entrant will be informed after the winners have been announced.
- f) Entrants whose work has been identified during the verification process as having content altered through changes in color (resulting in significant changes in hue, to such an extent that the processed colors diverge from the original colors), or changes in density, contrast, color and/or saturation levels that significantly alter content (by obscuring or eliminating information in the picture), will be contacted for an explanation before the jury makes a final decision on whether to exclude the entry.