

VISA
POUR L'IMAGE
2022 PERPIGNAN

**27 AOÛT
11 SEPTEMBRE
2022**



AVEC LE SOUTIEN
DE LA DRAC OCCITANIE /
PYRÉNÉES-MÉDITERRANÉE

34^e FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU PHOTO JOURNALISME



Irpın, Ukraine, 28 mars 2022
© Daniel Berehulak pour *The New York Times* / MAPS

Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres

President of the Association

Visa pour l'Image - Perpignan

Yet another year where photojournalists have been prominent in tragedy. First there was Afghanistan, then Ukraine, not to mention so many other theaters of war, violence and atrocities standing as clear and often cruel evidence to prove that photojournalism is a leader in advocating human rights, condemning war crimes, and defending freedom of information, i.e. the right to critical information in a context of democratic debate.

Photojournalists, through their physical bravery and their quest for truth, in their investigations constantly pursuing facts and evidence, deserve our gratitude. They are soldiers of peace and deserve our active support so that they can carry out their professional duties under increasingly difficult and adverse circumstances.

Yet another year, and this time we shall be together in Perpignan, celebrating the city known internationally as the capital of photojournalism extending a welcome to photojournalists from across the world, with participation from French national authorities, the region of Occitania, the département des Pyrénées-Orientales, Perpignan Méditerranée Métropole, and the City of

Perpignan, together with all the partners from the private sector and the different teams working on the festival to make Visa pour l'Image - Perpignan the major event that it is. All parties concerned are pleased and proud to speak up, to speak out, for the 34th time, stating their admiration for photojournalism and reiterating their support for photography.

My personal ambition is for us to emerge from the crisis of the pandemic and have the festival renew ties and acquaintances with everyone involved in photojournalism around the world, with all the professionals who have chosen to work in photography and are doing so with such spirit across the globe.

I wish to invite not only the professionals in the world of photography, but also amateurs, and all advocates and supporters of freedom to come and explore the many exhibitions displayed in the city of Perpignan, and to come and marvel at the stunning evening programs on the giant screen in Campo Santo. Yes, come and applaud the work of photojournalists whose range of interests and commitments also go beyond the horrors of the world to perceive the delicacy and beauty of nature, the environment and the human soul.

Jean-François Leroy

Director-General, Visa pour l'Image - Perpignan

May 12, 2022

Vyacheslav Veremiy • Andrea Rocchelli • Andrei Mironov • Igor Kornelyuk • Anton Voloshin • Anatoly Klyan • Andrei Stenin • Serhiy Nikolayev • Pavel Sheremet • Vadym Komarov • Yevhenii Sakun • Roman Nezhyborets • Brent Renaud • Maks Levin • Oleksandra Kuvshynova • Pierre Zakrzewski • Oksana Baulina • Mantas Kverdaravicius • Vira Hyrych • Oleksandr Makhov.

Since 2014, the Committee to Protect Journalists has recorded the deaths of twenty journalists in Ukraine, twenty at the time of writing this editorial. Eight years have gone by since Crimea was annexed and fighting broke out in the separatist regions of the Donbas – eight years of war being waged in eastern Europe.

But Ukraine is not the only country where journalists are losing their lives. Since the beginning of the year, far from headline news stories, some ten reporters have been killed in cold blood in Mexico. And no one could forget the death of Shireen Abu Akleh, shot in the head, reportedly by Israeli forces. But this year Ukraine has been the main focus. So what should a festival of photojournalism such as Visa pour l'Image do in response to such an event? In September last year, pictures were screened at Campo Santo showing Afghans fleeing the return of the Taliban, scrambling over planes on the tarmac at Kabul airport. Who could have thought then that such images would be swept from world headlines? No one perhaps, but certainly we had not imagined the prospect. This year we will obviously be featuring Ukraine, giving the story the coverage it deserves, but we shall not be restricting the program to one single event, no matter how important it is.

What's more, this latest war has highlighted, yet again, so many of the issues confronting professional photographers, while also uncovering new developments in photography. Key reports have presented the news in the midst of the confusion of war, with substantial input from members of the visual investigation team of *The New York Times*, working together with their reporters in the field and presenting incontrovertible evidence to contradict the “fake news” spread by Russia on the Bucha massacre. And they have provided evidence of atrocities being committed on both sides, confirming the authenticity of a video showing Ukrainian soldiers executing a Russian soldier. Such developments should not be seen as yet one more nail in the coffin of “conventional” photojournalism, but rather as an additional tool in the news ecosystem providing even stronger backing for stories reported in still pictures and which, here at Visa pour l'Image, is what we have been acclaiming and encouraging for so many years.

Looking inside the ecosystem, credit must be given to the exemplary and essential work done by the news agencies (AFP, AP, Reuters, Getty and more). Their networks of reporters, fixers and sources, their logistics and know-how make it possible for media around the world to present day-to-day coverage of the war. In September, we will have the privilege of presenting these pictures, exhibited on the walls in Perpignan and on the giant screen at Campo Santo for all our visitors to see.

34^e Festival International du Photojournalisme

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Canon

Google



radiofrance

franceinfo:

la saif

Société des Auteurs
des arts visuels
et de l'Image Fixe

**la culture avec
la copie privée**

Scam*

**fotoware
E-gate**

CITROËN

**dupon
ART & FACTORY**

e-center

initial LABO



**CCI PYRÉNÉES
ORIENTALES**



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