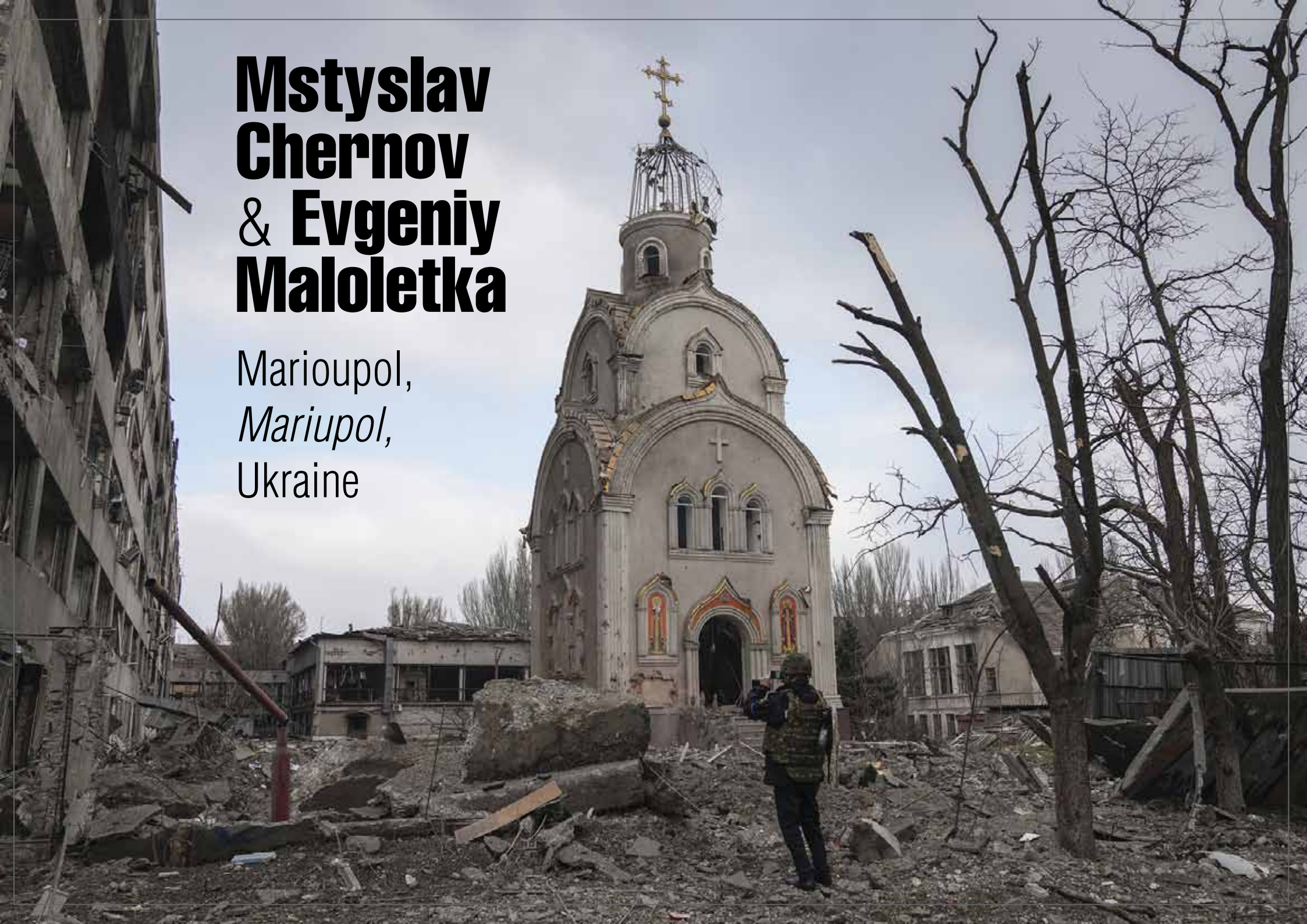


# Mstyslav Chernov & Evgeniy Maloletka

Marioupol,  
*Mariupol*,  
Ukraine



# Mstyslav Chernov & Evgeniy Maloletka

Associated Press

## Marioupol, Ukraine

La plupart des morts étaient abandonnés dans les rues. Il n'y a pas eu d'enterrements. Aucune cérémonie. Aucun rassemblement public pour pleurer les victimes des frappes incessantes de la Russie contre la ville portuaire devenue le symbole de la résistance farouche de l'Ukraine. C'était trop dangereux.

À défaut, les autorités ont chargé les corps dans un camion du mieux qu'elles ont pu et les ont enterrés dans d'étroites tranchées creusées dans la terre gelée de Marioupol.

Ces fosses communes racontaient l'histoire d'une ville assiégée. Il y avait le bébé de 18 mois touché par un éclat d'obus, l'adolescent de 16 ans tué par une explosion alors qu'il jouait au football, la fillette d'à peine 6 ans transportée en urgence à l'hôpital dans son pyjama orné de licornes et maculé de sang. Il y avait la femme enveloppée dans un drap, les jambes soigneusement liées aux chevilles avec un morceau de tissu blanc.

Tous furent jetés dans les tranchées. Il fallait faire vite pour se mettre à l'abri avant la prochaine série de bombardements.

Le monde n'aurait rien vu de tout cela, n'aurait quasiment rien vu de Marioupol au début du siège, sans le travail de Mstyslav Chernov et Evgeniy Maloletka, l'équipe de l'Associated Press qui a rejoint la ville dès le début de l'invasion et qui y est restée longtemps bien qu'elle soit devenue l'un des endroits les plus dangereux sur terre.

Pendant plus de quinze jours, ils ont été le seul média international présent dans la ville, les seuls journalistes en mesure de transmettre des vidéos et des photos au monde extérieur. Ils étaient là quand la petite fille au pyjama à licornes a été

transportée à l'hôpital. Ils étaient là après le bombardement de la maternité et pendant les innombrables frappes aériennes qui ont ravagé la ville. Ils étaient là quand des hommes armés ont commencé à sillonner la ville pour traquer tous ceux qui pourraient prouver que la version de la Russie était fausse.

Leur travail a rendu le Kremlin furieux. L'ambassade de Russie à Londres a publié des photos de l'AP barrées du mot «FAKE» (mensonge) en rouge. Au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU, un diplomate russe de haut rang a brandi des photos de la maternité, affirmant qu'elles étaient truquées.

L'équipe a finalement été incitée à quitter la ville. Un policier a expliqué pourquoi: «S'ils vous attrapent, ils vous mettront devant une caméra et vous feront dire que tout ce que vous avez filmé était un mensonge. Tous vos efforts et tout ce que vous avez fait à Marioupol auront été vains.» Partir a été un déchirement. Ils savaient qu'une fois partis, il n'y aurait pratiquement plus d'information indépendante depuis l'intérieur de la ville. Mais ils savaient qu'ils n'avaient pas le choix. Ils sont donc partis, discrètement, un jour où des milliers de civils fuyaient la ville, passant les barrages routiers russes les uns après les autres.

Leur travail et les personnes qu'ils ont rencontrées témoignent de l'agonie de Marioupol. Comme ce médecin qui a tenté de sauver la vie de la petite fille en pyjama. Alors qu'il luttait pour la réanimer, il a fixé l'objectif de l'AP. Rempli de rage, il a hurlé: «Montrez ça à Poutine! Les yeux de cette enfant et les médecins en larmes.»

LIEU

**Caserne Gallieni**





# Mstyslav Chernov & Evgeniy Maloletka

Associated Press

## Mariupol, Ukraine

The dead were largely abandoned in the streets. There were no funerals. No memorials. No public gatherings to mourn those killed by Russia's relentless attacks on the port city that had become a symbol of Ukraine's ferocious resistance. It was too dangerous.

Instead, authorities collected the bodies in a truck as best they could and buried them in narrow trenches dug into the frozen earth of Mariupol.

The mass grave trenches told the story of a city under siege. There was the 18-month-old hit by shrapnel; the 16-year-old killed by an explosion while playing football; the girl no older than six who was rushed to a hospital in blood-soaked pajamas patterned with unicorns. There was the woman wrapped in a bedsheet, her legs neatly bound at the ankles with a scrap of white fabric. Workers tossed all of them into the trenches, moving quickly to get back to shelter before the next round of shelling.

The world would have seen none of this, would have seen next to nothing at all from Mariupol as the siege set in, if it had not been for Mstyslav Chernov and Evgeniy Maloletka, the Associated Press team who raced to the city when the invasion began and stayed long after it had become one of the most dangerous places on earth.

For more than two weeks, they were the only international media in the city, and the only journalists able to transmit video and still photos to the outside world. They were there when the young girl in the unicorn pajamas was rushed to

the hospital. They were there after the maternity hospital was attacked, and for countless airstrikes that pulverized the city. They were there when gunmen began stalking the city in search of those who could prove Russia's narrative to be false.

Moscow hated their work. The Russian embassy in London tweeted images of AP photos with the word "FAKE" superimposed in red. At a U.N. Security Council meeting, a top Russian diplomat held up photos of the maternity hospital insisting they were fake.

Eventually, the team were urged to leave. A policeman explained why. "If they catch you, they will get you on camera and they will make you say that everything you filmed is a lie. All your efforts and everything you have done in Mariupol will be in vain."

It was terrible to leave. They knew that once they were gone, there would be almost no independent reporting from inside the city. But they felt they had no choice. So they left, slipping away on a day when thousands of civilians were fleeing the city, passing Russian roadblocks, one after another.

Their work and the people they met speak for the agony of Mariupol. Like the doctor who tried to save the life of the little girl in her pajamas. As he pumped oxygen into her, he looked straight into the AP camera. He stormed with expletive-laced fury: "Show this to Putin: the eyes of this child and the doctors crying!"

VENUE

**Caserne Gallieni**







## Mstyslav Chernov

Mstyslav Chernov is a Ukrainian multi-award winning visual journalist and writer born in Eastern Ukraine in 1985.

For the past 8 years, he has been working on all major stories in Ukraine, Iraq, Syria, Gaza, and Europe as a freelance and later as a staff journalist for Associated Press.

His activity ranges from current affairs to long-term projects related to conflicts, social issues and environmental crises in all formats: Video, photo, text, and VR.

His photos were published by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Guardian*, *Independent*, *Telegraph*, *Le Monde*, *Die Zeit*, *BBC*, *Forbes*, *Vice News*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Dailymail*, *Deutsche Welle*, Pulitzer Center, Cosmos photo agency, -. The videos were aired on BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera, EuroNews, Sky News, Fox News, Rai 24 and many more.

He was born in Eastern Ukraine in 1985 and started his journalistic career in Kharkiv, working for Ukrainian media outlets “Mediaport”, “Ukrainian news”, “Unian”.

His documentary projects on social and health care issues in Ukraine, Myanmar, and Cambodia were first published on Unframe in 2012-2013.



## Evgeniy Maloletka

Evgeniy Maloletka is a Ukrainian freelance photojournalist based in Kiev, Ukraine, originally from the city of Berdyansk, the Zaporizhzhya region in the eastern Ukraine.

Before trying his hand at other things, he discovered photojournalism. Maloletka started his career in 2009 as a staff photographer for local news agencies UNIAN and PHL.

He spent a month working on a photo project called House of Hope about a child cancer centre in the capital Kiev. The photographs were auctioned off at a charity event, helping to raise \$5,000 sick children whose families could not afford treatment.

Maloletka was deeply involved in the coverage of the Ukrainian revolution since the beginning before moving to cover the conflicts in Crimea and eastern Ukraine for various international media.

Beyond that, Maloletka is also working on his personal projects:

the Hutsul project about the ethnic Hutsul community in western Ukraine, their traditions and daily life, and Donbass about the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, which brought grief to the families of killed civilians and soldiers, destroyed the economy and wreaked havoc in the entire country.

Maloletka graduated from the Kiev Polytechnic Institute in 2010 with a degree in electronics.

In 2015, he was selected to participate in the Eddie Adams Workshop in New York.

His work was published in numerous prominent media: *TIME*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Der Spiegel*, *Newsweek*, *The Independent*, *El Pais*, *The Guardian*, *The Telegraph* and others.

He spent most of his time in eastern Ukraine working on assignment for The Associated Press, also contributing video content. My footage was widely aired on the BBC, Euronews, NBC and other international TV stations.



Après le bombardement d'une zone résidentielle, un militaire ukrainien prend une église en photo. Marioupol, Ukraine, 10 mars 2022. © Evgeniy Maloletka / Associated Press

A Ukrainian serviceman taking a photograph of a church in a residential district after shelling. Mariupol, Ukraine, March 10, 2022. © Evgeniy Maloletka / Associated Press



Une femme devant un camion de pompiers détruit par des tirs d'obus. Marioupol, Ukraine, 10 mars 2022. © Evgeniy Maloletka / Associated Press

A woman next to a fire truck after shelling. Mariupol, Ukraine, March 10, 2022. © Evgeniy Maloletka / Associated Press



Pendant les bombardements, les habitants s'abritent dans la cave. Marioupol, Ukraine, 12 mars 2022. © Mstyslav Chernov / Associated Press

People shelter from shelling in the basement. Mariupol, Ukraine, March 12, 2022. © Mstyslav Chernov / Associated Press