The Global Campus of Human Rights Visual Contest

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2018

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About the Global Campus of Human Rights
The Global Campus of Human Rights is a unique network of one hundred participating universities around the world, seeking to advance human rights and democracy through regional and global cooperation for education and research. This global network is promoted through seven Regional Programmes based in Venice (for Europe), Sarajevo/Bologna (for South East Europe), Yerevan (for the Caucasus), Pretoria (for Africa), Bangkok (for Asia-Pacific), Buenos Aires (for Latin America and the Caribbean) and Beirut (for the Arab world).

These Regional Programmes offer high-level, specialised post-graduate education and training in human rights and democracy from a regional perspective and with interdisciplinary content, as well as a multiplicity of research, publications, public events and outreach activities.

In this context, cultural events and art are considered to have a key role, positively influencing civil society and encouraging activism and concrete social change.
About the Global Campus Visual Contest
The Global Campus Visual Contest is the contest of photography and video-making, organised by the Global Campus of Human Rights.

The goal of the contest is to create synergies between academia, Human Rights defenders and artists to reach a wider international public and foster a better understanding of the issues concerning human rights and their protection. Annually the Global Campus invites photographers and video-makers, professional and amateur, from all over the world to submit their work.

The competition has two category levels, for professional artists and amateurs to which students and Alumni from the Global Campus are particularly encouraged to apply. Also this year the international jury is comprised of renowned international photographers such as Nick Danziger, Maja Nydal Eriksen, and experts in media and social campaigns such as Una Bejtovic and from the academia such as Rod Stoneman, Emeritus Professor at the National University of Ireland, Galway.

A number of images and videos are selected to be displayed on a dedicated online gallery and in connection to GC events and Human Rights Festivals ensuring international exposure also thanks to different partners and social media channels. A special event and exhibition is planned to take place on 12 May 2018 in connection to the Human Rights Nights in Bologna.
This initiative, funded by the European Union, receives the patronage of the United Nations Regional Information centre for Western Europe (UNRIC) and has been organised in collaboration with different media partners including the Human Rights Nights Bologna, Culture2all Onlus, Ca’ Foscari short film festival.
The themes of the 2015, 2017 and 2018 editions of the Visual Contest
This catalogue displays some of the best pictures of the last three editions of the Global Campus Visual Contest centred on the themes “Freedom”, “Memory and Reconciliation”, “Diversity and Inclusion”.

The theme Freedom of the 2015 edition is at the very base of the concept of human rights: freedom from oppression, freedom of speech and belief, freedom from fear, freedom of thought, freedom of opinion and freedom of movement.

Memory and how do we envision the past has a potent impact on the creation of the present and future of a country and the current understanding of human rights concerns. The 2017 edition of the Contest thus fostered reflection on the various collective remembrances and experiences of the past and to which extent it is possible to establish conditions for crime recognition and forgiveness.

With its third edition, the Global Campus Visual Contest aims through photography and video-making to celebrate Diversity in all its forms. Our societies are increasingly diverse in terms of values, beliefs not to mention characteristics like gender, sexual orientation, culture, language, and more. Inclusion is how we try to bring out the unique strengths of individuals, groups and institutions. Evidence shows that by adopting and integrating inclusive practices and policies, and by managing them well, institutions and the people within them thrive.
They become more engaged, innovative and productive. Diversity through inclusion is thus a source and lever of innovation and growth. In contrast to this, people are and continue to be often discriminated because of ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, education and religion and that some governments and groups perpetuate ways and policies that exclude instead of including.

Through compelling images and videos, the Global Campus of Human Rights would like to further support initiatives and messages that promote diversity and inclusion in our societies. This is a call to everyone to dispel stereotypes and to build a society in which we nurture solidarity and inclusiveness instead of hate and fear.
2018
Photos Selection
Ritual
Author: Artem Markin (Russia)
Location: Russia Kalmykia

Annually, the Buddhists of the region gather in a sacred place by a lonely poplar in the steppe and conduct a ritual of offering the buddha. Russia Kalmykia.
Robert Kyagulanyi Sentamu a.k.a “Bobi Wine” standing on a boda boda with his supporters following him while heading to Kyadondo community ground to celebrate his victory in Uganda Politics. It was the first time a ghetto youth was allowed to take part in parliament elections winning widely, thus opening doors for other ghetto youth to also stand, rise and shine in whatever they do.
No Sound
Author: Htar Htar Thet
Location: Khamti, Sagaing Region, Myanmar

Even though the country is recently supposed as a stage of political change or reform, the role of women in the country transitional period can’t be developed by it naturally for the country is actually ruled by the pro-military government and its undemocratic and military-favored state constitution. There are still numerous cases of violation on women, such as victims of sex and slavery and old tradition and prejudice have still also made women reluctant to take the leadership roles in society and most of them are still in gender-stereotype, less confident and lack of self-reliance to make decision or to serve as a policy maker.
Daughters of the revolution
Author: Maia Pauro
Location: Argentina

Picture taken at Pride Parade of the city of Cordoba. Argentina is a country of huge mobilizations fighting for more rights. Pride Parade is an instance of celebration but also protest, rising voices against discrimination, asking for working inclusion policies for Trans community and sexual education in schools. These are students of one high school of the city. In the current global feminist wave, teenagers are one of the most important actors.
“When I told my mother that I was gay, she put aside her religious beliefs, she hugged me and said she would pray for me to be happy, that love relationships are all the same, with lovely and difficult days.”
Samin
Author: Filippo Steven Ferrara
Location: Florence, Italy

Samin from Teheran moved to Florence by the age of 20 to study sculpture at the academy of fine arts and train martial arts. As she graduated, her student-residence permit was revoked and she now has to apply for a work permit every year. She finds herself stuck in a limbo made of uncertainty, illegal and underpaid working, suffocating bureaucratic issues, controversial nostalgia of her homeland Iran, love, despair and constant fight in an environment in which she, her nationality, gender and appearance aren't fully accepted.
Moulding Worker
Author: Krishnasis Ghosh
Location: India

Molder Ravi Chandra earns 120 rupees a day, not enough to properly support his family, yet he continues to sweat for their future.
2017
Photos Selection
This picture is part of the photographer’s project Possible Playgrounds, where she experienced Bucharest through the eyes of the young generation. The project visualizes their needs, fears, memories and dreams in relation to their immediate surroundings, in a city where their voice is almost completely missing. The title comments on the lack of playgrounds and urban life in many areas of the city, where the young residents are pushing for places to meet and play. The girl in the picture has named herself Shakira and is one of the estimated 150,000 unregistered Roma in the city. She lives in Giulesti Sarbi, a poor suburb, and has no legal rights, no social security number, and cannot go to school. The old train station where the picture is shot, is one of her many alternative and somewhat dangerous playgrounds. Few months after the picture was shot, Shakira moved to Western Europe with her family. The project is hosted by The Museum of Roma Culture, Bu, and AR-CUB, The City Institute for Culture and Arts, BU.
In 1984, hooded men in military vehicles entered Adelina’s house in Ayacucho (Peru) and abducted her 19-year-old son. That night, he entered the list of 15,000 desaparecidos left behind by the armed conflict between the Peruvian State and the Maoist group Sendero Luminoso (1980-2000). More than 20 years later, Adelina is the president of ANFASEP (Agrupación Nacional de Familiares de Secuestrados, Detenidos y Desaparecidos del Perú), an organisation comprised of Quechua women searching for their disappeared relatives.

In La Hoyada, a waste ground in the backyard of Los Cabitos’ military headquarters, human remains of more than a hundred people have been identified in the last two years. Every Sunday, the “Ayacucho’s mothers” of ANFASEP gather at this desolate sanctuary to remember their loved ones.
Nazism, fascism and their crimes must never be forgotten. Any display of sympathy or admiration towards these brutal ideologies can't be met with silence or acceptance, but with proud, fearless and vocal opposition. Never forget, never stop being vigilant and standing up for what is right. Be like Lucie.
The spirit of Srebrenica
Name: Marlin Dedaj (Italy)
Location: Srebrenica

The Srebrenica genocide is the worst human tragedy that has been consumed in Europe since the end of World War II. More than twenty years after that tragedy, we have the duty to keep our memory and question our consciences so that similar events are repeated. Only if there is justice will it be possible to soothe the enormous suffering of all those who have lost their loved ones. Only in the name of justice will it be possible to complete a path of genuine reconciliation between different ethnicities and religions. Moving in the most tragic moments of its history, Bosnia and Herzegovina is called today to look forward to its future. The whole of Europe must take on this historical responsibility today in the name of all the victims of those wars and the Balkan peoples.
Hearing the noise, feeling the pain
Author: Filippo Andreetta (Italy)
Location: Holocaust Museum, Berlin, Germany

Listen to the noise, to our feelings, understand to improve. The girl, walking on the iron faces of the million victims of the Holocaust, partly relives the pain of those people, while leaving behind the suffering. She is walking towards a better future and transforming a thunder of agony into a sweet symphony.
2015
Photos Selection
A Peasants Struggle
Author: Bastard Max, (South Africa) WINNER
Location: South Africa

“We make our living from these sweet potatoes and other crops. They say we will have to move if the mine comes. How will we make a living then? This is all we know.”
Mamdingi and Mqambose Dlamini.

Peasants Struggle has its core placed firmly in the AmaPondo people's decades old struggle to maintain custodianship over their heritage and land, and to be free to choose their own destiny. This image forms part of an ongoing larger body of work which comprises a collection of natural portraits and observations of the AmaPondo people and their environment, unchanged from their day-to-day routines, except for the wearing of gas masks as an act of protest against their exploitation and potential loss of way of life. The use of gas masks is highly symbolic. In popular iconography it has come to represent both oppression and defiance.
The Masked Woman
Author: Jenevieve Aken (Nigeria)
Location: Nigeria

It is a self-portrait series that explores representation of gender in Nigeria society through a performative lens. It attempts to avert the overarching male gaze by facing it head on with the artist’s own actions and choices. The images portray the solitary lifestyle of the “super femme fatale” character, choosing to achieve pleasure and contentment through self-fulfillment that not dictated by the subservient role as a house wife or defined through a man’s affection. While depicting a confident and sexually free woman, the subject’s mask and body language also suggest a nuanced tone of isolation which speaks to her stigmatization in a society that has limiting and strictly defined roles of what the proper woman should be.
God Loves Gay  
Author: Jean-Jérôme Destouches, (Argentina)  
Location: Argentina

This photo represents the basis of « Freedom ». It deals with faith freedom and sexual liberty. Both of the people shown in the photo fought for their rights to be who they are. Roberto Gonzalez is an argentinian gay pastor who suffered from discrimination and was not allowed to work for evangelical church. The transgender faithful stands for the right to be part of the LGBT community and at the same time to believe in God. Despite of centuries of discrimination by catholic church many gays and transgenders have faith in God and want to be accepted. So far Vatican won’t consider it.
You are Special
Author: Bruno Pereira, (Brazil)
Location: Lisbon, Portugal

In 1976, the first Drag Queen’s burlesque show was opened in Lisbon, Portugal. Idealizing the dream of expression and sexual freedom. In the backstage of this show it's possible to find every single detail of the freedom to be yourself.
A dream called Europe  
Author: Myriam Meloni, (Italy)  

Sarah, a young sub-Saharan migrant tries on the lifejacket she will use in her attempt to cross the Mediterranean. Since the start of the year, more than 1,750 migrants perished in the Mediterranean, more than 30 times higher than during the same period of 2014. The tightening of European migration policies, the construction of fences more and more highest, and the inhumane treatment received by border police forces, makes their journey increasingly dangerous. Cross by boat, has different prices, depending on the boat, and the presence or not of an engine. Most of the migrant women, try to cross by this way.
2018
Videos Selection
Coffee for all Nations
Author: Wafa Espvall
Location: Palestine, Sweden, United Arab of emirates

One man in a cave resists the theft of his land. Abed has gone back to his father’s land to stand in the way of Israeli confiscation. In the year of 1948, Abed and his family were forced by the Israeli army to abandon their home in (Al-Walaja) village near Bethlehem and move to Dheisheh Refugee Camp. Resilient, Abed decides to go back to his land and live in a Kanani cave that he discovered until the end of his life.

He plans to turn his new home into a coffee shop and transform his own tragedy into a project that will provide him an income and allow him to share his one true possession and a stunning view. Abed’s brother, who spent 30 years at an Israeli prison was released. Despite of the good news, Abed was devastated by the Israeli demolition of his 5000 years old cave.

https://vimeo.com/150840668   Password: coffeeforallnations
I AM FREE
Author: Laith Al Ramani
Location: Jordan

“Al Hijab” does not forbid LIFE, but it allows you to live and achieve whatever you want with the feeling of peace and relief. Wearing something different doesn’t mean you’re different inside, we’re all the same!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrmQFjek_Ec&feature=youtu.be
Elina is a 7-year-old daughter of a Russian immigrant in Israel. She wants to feel like she belongs among her classmates but her mom does not understand the logistics of the new environment so she is unable to let her daughter feel the way she wants.

In “Elina” I tried to depict the identity conflict. Elina is trying to do her best to fit in this Israeli pattern, but no matter what she would do or how would look, she will not be 100 percent Israeli.